



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Trouble fig to be removed

August 9, 2017
COOKTOWN

A fig tree threatening to damage the older building on Charlotte Street, and boring roots into nearby buildings and paths, will be removed this month.

The far reaching roots of the fig had caused damage to footpaths and the structure of the Boathouse, home to the not for profit Cooktown Re-enactment Association. The roots were also threatening the neighbouring Cooktown History Centre, which was built in 1875 as Cooktown's first post and telegraph office, and is the oldest surviving building on Cooktown's main street. "Although we would prefer not to see the tree go, they have very invasive roots and the damage already caused to the Boathouse and footpaths, and the potential for damage to the History Centre is too great," Cook Shire Council Parks and Waste Operations Manager Jim Doidge said. "As long as the tree is there, the building will continue to be affected, and poisoning individual roots is not possible due to the number of roots affecting the building, and the proximity of other large trees which could be poisoned."

The tree removal is expected to be done later this month, with no disruption to visitors to the Cooktown History Centre or the neighbouring Boathouse. The History Centre, run by the Cooktown and District Historical Society, offers a unique insight into the intriguing history of the area with stories, photos, interactive displays, murals and oral histories. The Cooktown Through The Years exhibition is open from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Saturday. For more information on the Cooktown History Centre, or enquiries regarding your family history in the Cooktown region, visit the History Centre's website at www.cooktownhistory.org.au or phone 4069 6640.

For more information contact Council's Parks and Gardens team via email at mail@cook.qld.gov.au or phone on 4069 5444.

~ end ~