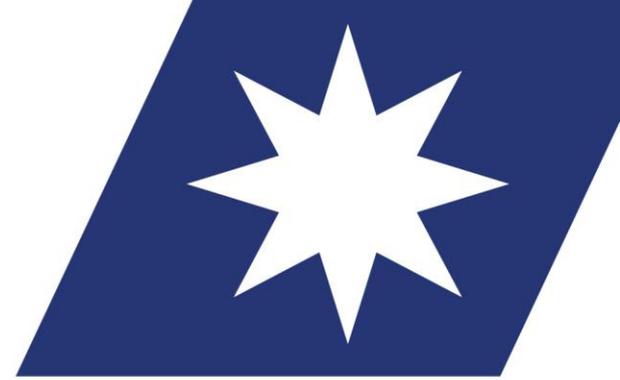


BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party

Federal Member for Kennedy



MEDIA RELEASE

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Katter applauds Mayfair 101 for keeping spirit of Dunk Island alive

"The isle of peace and plenty is absolutely one of a kind. The people who visit this island experience something very special. It's like a bit of the Island entrenches itself into the souls of all those who visit this spectacular place"

KAP Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter swapped his RM Williams for a pair of thongs as he stepped onto Dunk Island today in celebration of Mayfair 101 investing in the coastal paradise after nearly a decade of neglect.

Otherwise known as 'Coonanglebah' by the Traditional Owners, the Dijru people, Dunk Island is located 4km off Mission Beach and is recognised as the "father" island in the Family Group of islands and has long been a major economic drawcard for the Far North since its first resort was established in the late 1930's.

Mr Katter, who had the honour of speaking at an information-sharing event thrown for the local community and stakeholders today, recalled a host of renowned people that had visited the region off the back of the island's popularity and beauty.

"Members of our office staff, like so many of our young people in the greater Mission Beach-Innisfail area, had got their little start in life from working at this legendary resort.

"This is the home of the renowned great Australian artist Helen Wiltshire. The great actress, Dame Helen Mirren, filmed the highly controversial 'Age of Consent' on this island and the little one just off Dunk - Purtaboi Island. Dame Zara Bate and her husband, the Prime Minister made it their home away from home and Peter Jackson one of Australia's greatest ever five eighths would often drift in and out of Mission Beach – the area where his wife lived.

"Dunk Island, at its peak, employed more than 120 people. The Tam-O-Shanter employed 53 people. These and 23 other businesses were shattered by Cyclone Larry and then the second hammer blow of Yasi.

"But nowhere else in the world do you find 15 metre wide golden sand beaches and some of the world's most brilliant coral which can be seen at low tide. Nowhere else will you find serious jungle all the way down to the beach with cassowaries walking around and wallabies hopping everywhere and waterfalls tumbling down in our hinterland."

Mr Katter said the investment announcement of Dunk Island followed a stint of development on the mainland.

"The rock wall harbour at Mission Beach will provide safe all-weather access to the sea and with its completion will not just have Mission Beach restored but allow the town to move forward into a glamorous future.

"Bedarra has completed their upgrading program and Castaways has some exciting proposals in the pipeline.

"But in all of this, we pay great tribute to the foresight of our new developers Mayfair 101".

—ENDS—

Two photos have been supplied of Bob with James Mawhinney of Mayfair 101 and Shane Knuth, KAP Member for Hill. Photo credit to Louise Smith.