

## Dog pack attack terrifies township at Yarrabah

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Article from: 

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**WITNESSES have told how a pack of eight dogs tried to eat a woman alive in an attack in the Aboriginal township of Yarrabah, near Cairns.**

Ruth Davidson, 39, suffered multiple bite wounds to the face, head, arms and legs when the pack turned on her while she was walking about 5.30am.

Neighbours told how they heard screaming, barking and the sounds of "someone being eaten alive".

Bruce Salmon ran to the woman's rescue and fought off the frenzied pack with a broom handle.

Neighbour Devina Ambrym said she ran outside to find the woman in the gutter, covered in blood and not moving.

"She had a huge open gash on her forehead, and bite marks all over her arms and legs," she said.

"It looked more like a shark attack. It was something out of a horror film."

Relative Ada Davidson said the victim was in a "bad way" in Cairns Base Hospital. "She's survived being eaten alive, she's lucky she was not killed, those dogs are just so vicious," she said.

Rangers destroyed the pack of mixed-breed dogs – six from one house and two from another.

Yarrabah, like many other indigenous communities in the state's north, has numerous half-starved dogs roaming the streets in packs.

Sally Wayne said she does not allow her children, aged 8 and 3, outside her front gate.

"They should have culled out all the bad ones a long time ago," she said.

"They are very savage."

Police and council are working with the two families who owned the dogs in what they described as

"sensitive negotiations".

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