

Waauinta

NEWSLETTER

August 2018

LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL COUNCIL

Please note there may be images of
deceased persons within this publication.

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WE STAND AS ONE!

LOCKHART RIVER SCORPIONS
2016 + 18 CAPE CUSTER GRAND
FINAL WINNERS! 2017 FINALISTS!



Pics thanks to Cape York News



A word from...

Mayor Wayne Butcher

Our Construction (Roads and Building) season is kicking off now, as it does every year, Mayor Wayne Butcher writes...

The CEO and I have interviewed for a new engineer to head up our Engineering and Civil Construction division.

Solly (see page...) has been doing a great job organising the men to keep delivering on their work program, they just need some technical help there.

Council has also delivered traffic control training, which has led to job opportunities with the civil construction team (road works).

Already a few newly skilled and qualified traffic controllers are employed within the Council road works (QRA and CIMA).

Many of you may have noticed we are currently renovating the old canteen, the aim of which is to rebuild a sociable and educated drinking environment where people can gather socially for a few nights each week and enjoy a drink and maybe some entertainment.

The Council owns the building, but we can't hold the liquor license, the Community must establish a new organisation, to operate and manage the business.

Council has also worked hard on reviewing our finances for

the year and working on our Corporate and Operational plans.

There's always paperwork, but this helps us to set our direction for the next year and up to five years.

There are so many levels to what we have to do as a Council - we need to maintain our relationships with local, state and federal governments and their agencies, it's always good to have a road map of what we hope to achieve through our business with them.

And it's not just government, we maintain many relationships with all sorts of organisations such as schools, universities and many different types of NGOs from all different sectors.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Scorpions on their second Grand Final win in a row this year.

Their hard work has paid off and our community should be proud of those boys for what they have achieved together - we stand as one!



ABOVE: Crs Butcher and Bally with Lockhart River's new government champion, Warwick Agnew, inspecting an old WWII bunker; TOP RIGHT: Cr Butcher with Ministerial champion Mark Bailey at the Puuya Foundation art auction at the Brisbane Club & RIGHT: with Shadow Indigenous Affairs Minister Senator Pat Dodson



In June I visited the Gold Coast Titans Club to discuss sponsorship opportunities for the 'Lockhart Scorpions' (pictured right). The Titans were happy to help us out with some tackling bags, footballs, strapping tapes and water bottles. I also met up with another of our sponsors, Greg Young from Body Science. He has offered our women some softball gear, and it would be great to see that competition started up again.

On the same trip I had the chance to yarn up about working with our Community Schools (early childhood and primary), asking the question: How can we build a long term relationship that could value add or assist Lockhart Community advance in our Education Vision?



In May this year Bishop Bill Ray, from Townsville, visited Lockhart River with Rev David Thompson to assist with no less than 15 baptisms and 31 confirmations. "It was a great night of coming together in celebration following a sad time of funerals in recent months," Rev Thompson said. "Mayor Wayne Butcher's daughter Maria was one of those baptised."





Over the past five years we have worked hard to build a relationship with Bond University and I'd like to thank them, particularly Lee Urquhart, Laura Harvey and Jerome Donovan, for taking the time to come and visit

Lockhart Community for the third time in August. Bond University have been bringing members from Education Institutes and Corporate sector to our Community with their biannual visits.

The visits gives us the opportunity to show case our success and challenges. Previous visits have led to our having the Orange Sky Mobile laundry, a small cleaning business (supported by ISS) and a shipping container which



A word from Deputy Mayor Norman Bally...

I'd like to see Lockhart River restore itself back into the once strong, beautiful and enjoyable community it has been before.

We need to pull ourselves together and help each other to make it happen.

Back in the old days we had very strong old people who supported each other no matter what.

They were from different clan groups but worked very hard trying to keep the community together.

They upheld the culture and customary lores of our community with pride and passion.

They taught us the importance of respect for each other.

Remember those old people blo you-me had very limited

education, let alone reading or writing, but they still had the willpower to teach us what was right from wrong, and steer us in the right direction.

Our old people taught us important lessons and lifeskills that benefitted us in building a better future for our community.

Those old people had pride and passion in their hearts, feelings we don't seem to have for ourselves and our community today.

We all need to pull ourselves together and think about what sort of future we



**PRIDE.
PASSION.**

want for our community. We all need to start working as one.

We all need to start helping each other to transform Lockhart River Community back into a clean, beautiful and enjoyable place we can all be proud of.



is a modified cafe, due to arrive sometime soon.

Staff from Downslands College (*right*) in Toowoomba, where we have several students, also travelled with the Bond University group.

Visits like these give the school an insight into our Community and where our focus is on education, and also mean the college understands the environment which their students come from.



LEFT: Wildlife Biologist-Ecologist Christina Zdenek & Photographer Kerry Trapnell, who have been working with Kuku Ya'u on a doco about the Palm Cockatoo (kila), pictured here with Cr Wayne Butcher

There are some more things I'd like to say about alcohol.

Sly grogging, or selling alcohol, has become a big issue in our community.

There has been a big increase of people selling grog on the black market.

The sale of expensive alcohol is affecting all of us in a big way.

None of us can afford expensive alcohol, and low income workers – especially parents and carers – end up spending their children's money.

When a large quantity of alcohol is sold all at once it has a devastating effect throughout the whole Community.

Kids stop going to school, workers stop coming to work and people start fighting in public.

In effect, the whole town turns upside down.

There is an urgent need to address those people who are selling alcohol in our Community, and the Council and Community Justice Group are working with the Queensland Police towards tackling this issue.

This year school attendance has been very poor at all levels –from the early childhood centre to the primary school and secondary school.

If the school attendance doesn't improve in the last term of 2018 we will need to look for alternative measures to protect our children and reinstate the importance of education back in our community.

If that means introducing the cashless card system into the Community then so be it. We have too many of our

secondary students back in the community which is not an education environment for them. Our children must leave the community to gain good quality education, boarding schools are the only strategy in place right now to advance our children's education.

Parents, carers and the whole household must revalue the importance of education, and we must send our kids to school everyday.

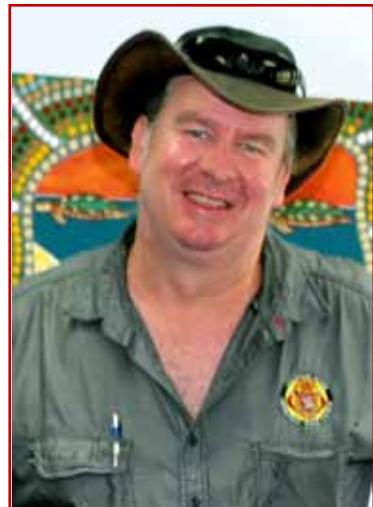
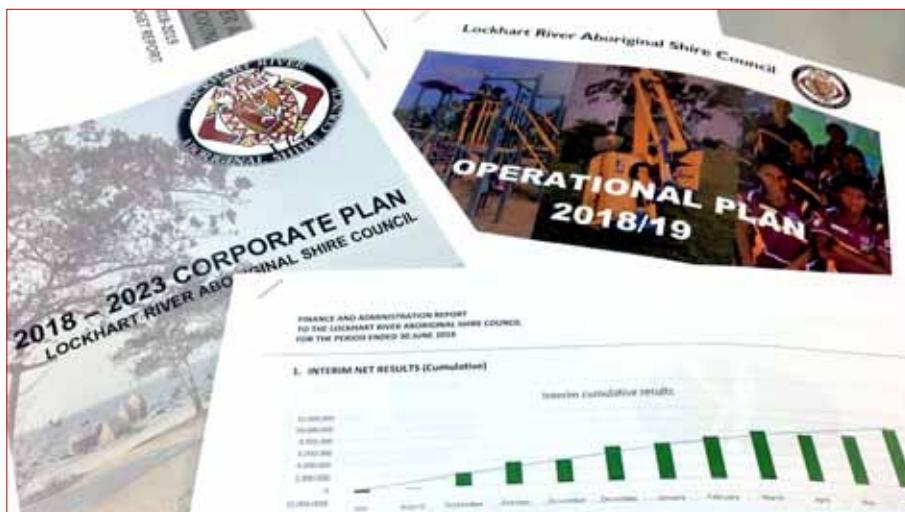
A child with good or plenty education will have many choices in life, a child with limited or no education will have no choices in life.

Wayne Butcher





A word from the CEO...



Earlier this year Council met in Cairns to go through, essentially our budget for the 18–19 financial year and our the five-year strategic plan.

In other words, what are the goals, hopes and even dreams for the Council over the next five years?

Some of those hopes are around health and education – things that might seem to be largely outside of Council's direct control – but the question was: 'how can Council contribute to those who are providing those services to make those services better?'.

The end result of that is we get the outcomes for our town we're all looking for.

We all want better education for our kids, we all want better health outcomes.

So far this year has been too sad and no one wants to see a repeat of that, we're losing too many of our own.

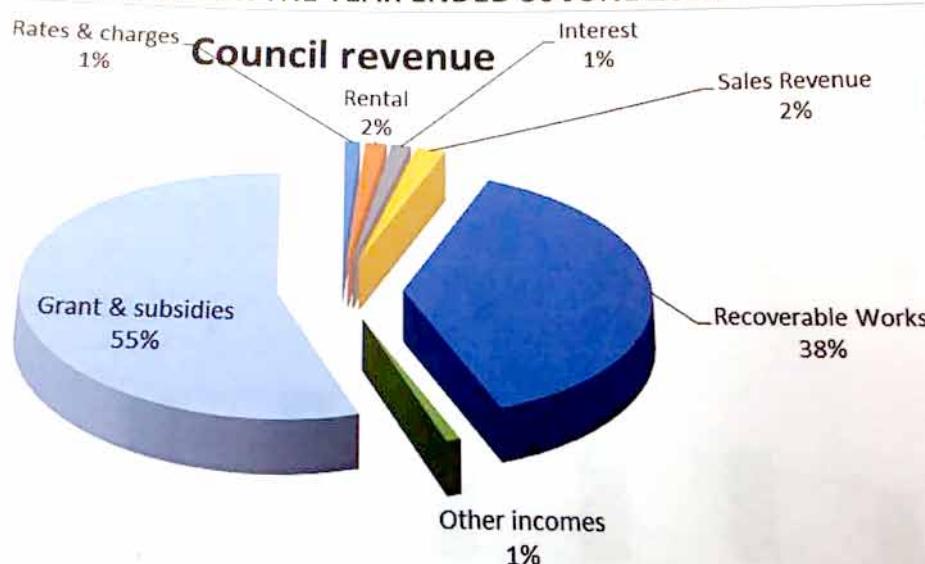
So we've worked on that five-year vision and then we worked out a one-year operational

plan, as we do every year.

That means we know what we want and what we need to do this financial year towards that five-year plan and from that we put together the budget.

Of course, the budget only has a certain amount of money so we had to match up each thing we wanted to do with the money associated with it. That's how we work it all out.

OPERATING PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018



Overall our financial position is coming together largely because our finance manager Stanley and his team have done a great job. They are looking after the financial management engine room, you might say – in other words how we account for all of our money.

You've got to remember, Council's got lots of people looking over its shoulder making sure that we spend the money proper ways, and that we can account for every dollar that comes in and is spent the way it's supposed to be spent.

That's the big difference between Councils and other mobs. Our documents are all public, which means anyone can get access to our annual financial statements.

That's the law.

It's not the same with everybody else, we have to be able to account for all of our money, which we do.

This year was our eighth, what they call unqualified audit, or

unmodified audit in a row.

In other words, we've passed with flying colours.

We get outsiders come in and review our book to make sure that we're not telling fibs.

So our books, for eight years in a row now, have all been squeaky clean.

And we're more than happy to provide everybody in our town or Shire access to our books so they can check that for themselves.

The other thing to remember, too, is all our Council meetings are open by law.

That means we're open for anybody who wants to come and listen.

And we have to make that available unless we're discussing commercial-in-confidence matters, what they call, you know, private business matters.

And you know, we take minutes



The Indigenous Driver Licensing Unit spent a week at the Puuya Centre in August. In the picture is Jenny Adams, Daisy Gigiba, Daryl Fisher & Barry Lea.

of all of these minute meetings as well, and those minutes are always available on Council website, so anybody can get on there and read what the decisions are made in Council.

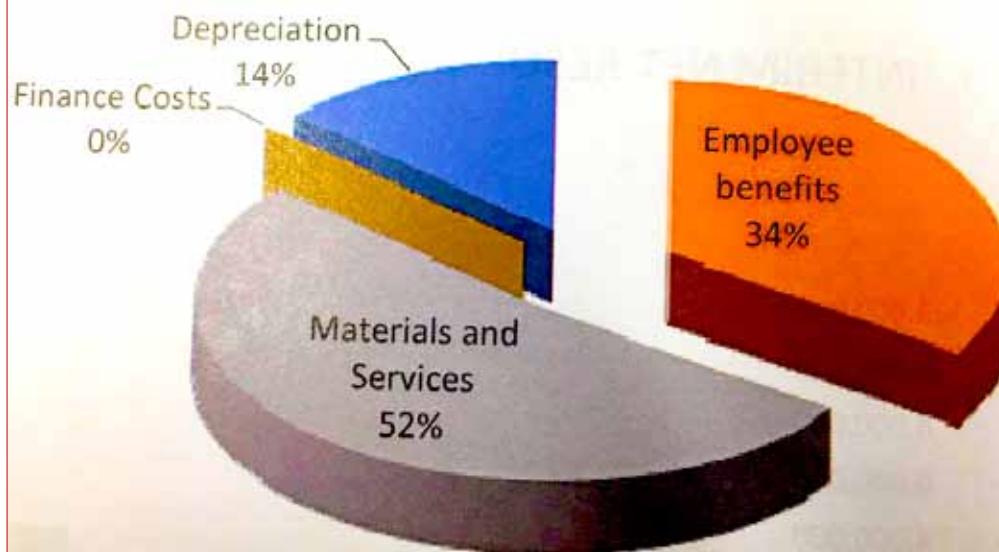
That's another part of the law. I think a lot of people don't do that, but it is there and available.

Anyone can get on our website or ask for a paper copy, and we can provide that to you as well. No closed doors with us here in the Council, so we're all in our town together, and everybody's got access to the same information.

Dave Clarke



Council expenditure





Corporate Services

Welcome to new staff

The Cairns Office team was joined by two new members Rose Hall and Elvira Marticio and both possess very good experience from previous local government employment. Rose is in the Accounts Payable Officer while Elvira is all-rounder support person for the implementation of the new accounting software.

Their contribution to the team and Council community is extremely impressive.

They have settled down very quickly and their impact to the team's efficiency is on record.

We are now responding to issues quicker and learning to be more proactive to our customer service.

We welcome them to this new working environment and experience and we would like to request for your support to these new members.

Corporate plans update

The Council revised the 5 Year Corporate Plan for the period 2018–2023 and

Operational plan for 2018/19 updated accordingly.

The current year annual budget was also prepared and adopted within the legislative deadlines.

The Council approved a capital budget of \$8.03m and operating expenditure of \$18.96m with corresponding budgeted revenue of \$24.5m including capital revenue of \$5.5m.

We are now on schedule implementing the new budget.

New website and new accounting software

The Council and Aerodrome websites are being redeveloped by Realised Technology.

Recently you might have come across some website development mob visiting the community conducting some interviews and taking photos. Soon they will return to complete that task including



shooting good quality videos to give our websites new look.

We are scheduled to accomplish this before start of Xmas break.

Also the implementation of the new accounting software is on course and preparations are underway to 'Go Live' from end of February 2019.

Big congratulations to the Corporate Services team for undertaking this task.

Final Audit Visit

The final audit visit for Council and Aerodrome Company commenced on 17 September 2018 at Cairns Office.

The finance team has put a



TOP: Corporate Services

Manager Stanley Mugwiria and Cr Wayne Butcher in the Cairns office with new staff Rose Hall and Elvira Marticio;

LEFT: Our Lockhart River team Faye Hobson, Simone Accoom, Deanka Omeenyo & Maree Hobson.

Airport terminal building local labour and pride

Airport manager Bob Brown and assistant Gareth Hobson say they have been thrilled to see their new airport terminal becoming a reality over the past few months.

Mr Brown said a lot of unseen faces had input into the project in terms of chasing up funding and organising the new building.

"We're hoping the old building will be refurbished into a new toilet block and perhaps a bit of a museum, because there's a lot of history attached to it," he said. "We feel strongly that it should be maintained."

Mr Hobson said he was still enjoying his role as assistant manager.

"We've been doing some burning off around the strip this past month, to keep it all safe," he said.

"We're also looking forward to being in the new terminal, and hopefully that will be completed before the wet season."

Building Services Manager Regis Edmond said the community's own apprentices would be working on the project.

"We'll be looking at putting the roof on before the wet comes and then we will start working under cover," he said.



Mayor Wayne Butcher said the new Airport terminal was funded by the Department of State Development's Building our Region program.

"It's currently under construction and will give a visitors a fresh welcome to our Lockhart Community," he said. "The old terminal is historic and will continue to play a vital part in showing the history of the airport."



lot of effort preparing working papers for the audit.

The audit is in progress and hoping that audited financial statements will be signed by the due date of 12 October 2018.

Annual Report

Every year, the Council is obliged to prepare annual report that communicates to the public and community members about activities carried out and their outcome

during the year.

The 2017/18 Annual Report is due by end of October and the Corporate Services team has commenced the process of preparing this annual report.

We will post it on the Council website by mid-November and hard copies will be made available upon request.

Stanley Mugwiria



*Training Coordinator
Noleen Clark in our
Lockhart River Office*





Engineering Services

Interviews for a Council Engineer are in progress but for now the Council has three different Road building or construction teams operating CEO David Clarke says.

"They are the LRASC Road Gang, Lockhart Community Sub-contractors (upgrading the Old Site Road) and NSC sub-contractors (building bridge and culverts)," he said. "The new bridge on the airport road is currently under construction, it will be two lanes and is going to be much safer.

"Please use the bypass in place, it follows the old road, and drive slowly and carefully." Road Gang Supervisor Solomon Hobson said sealing work out on the Portland Road was progressing well. He said within the next few weeks he expected his crew

would grow from four to about a dozen as work started again on the road.

"That will include traffic controllers as well as road crew," he said. "We're also looking foward to working on the new airport road bridge, which we hope will be finished by the end of the year."



*ABOVE: Council Road Gang Tristan Elu, Darcie Boungi & Solomon Hobson;
LEFT on the Airport Road – what was and what will be...*



Opportunities for road work contractors are increasing every year, which is directly related to the amount of effort being put into the job, Council's Queensland Reconstruction Authority supervisor Mark Spencer says.

"The Council has delivered an opportunity the boys have seized," he said.

"We're developing on spec, on budget and on time, and they're starting their days by getting up at 4 o'clock in the morning and getting to work on time.

"We have a 98% turn up rate, or higher, which means the machines are being utilised to the max, which you wouldn't even see in the city.

"Out here nothing is easy, if you have a breakdown you can't go to the local store, but these boys are putting in 13 days straight with one day off and we couldn't be prouder of them."

ABOVE: contract worker Mick Williams.

BELOW: Workshop staff Alec Omeenyo, Napoleon Short, Brandon Piva & Josh Hubbard



The LRASC workshop has recently signed up new apprentice Brandon Piva to the crew, who were excited to have the opportunity to look after a new tractor.

"The new tractor is good," acting-supervisor Josh Hubbard said.

"Napoleon has gone from our tyre bay to tractor operator, slashing the sides of the road where the trees have made corner vision a bit dangerous.

"It's built for handling the kind of terrain we have up here, which is good because it's a big job."



*LEFT: Solly & the Mayor overseeing the laying down of Community Hall carpark bitumen;
BELOW: Steve Mills and his crew with the road crew.*

The road contracting crew is always happy to share what they know and recently took the opportunity to share some of that knowledge with some of the community's secondary students and their teacher, **Steve Mills**.

The group met up with the crew around mid-morning to have a look at the machines and the work being done before a quick swim and lunch.

"The guys were fantastic," Mr Mills said.

"We had a quick chat about

their jobs, their expectations around things like starting times and smoko, etcetera.

"I really appreciated the way the crew answered the boys' questions, it was a great learning experience for us all.
"I hope the boys take on

board the info they were given, it was a great day."

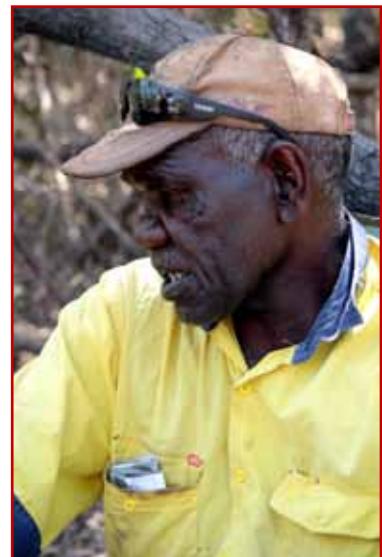
Council CEO David Clarke said the men were doing great work.

"Our road gang did a good job showing the lads the pride they take in their work," he said.





Working on the Pascoe Farm Road as contract workers are: Ronald Motlop, Mickey Macumboy, Casper, Mick Williams, Gordon Bally, Kym Baker, Donny Moses & CB (Chris Bally)



ABOVE: Chris Bally keeping an eye on that fire; and LEFT smoko on the roadside

Lockhart River Scorpions



2018 Grand Final Winners!



July 2018



GRAND FINAL PICS WITH THANKS TO CAPE YORK NEWS





Building Services

Carports and renovations are keeping a skeleton crew of the builders busy while the apprentices are away, Building Services manager Regis Edmond says.

He said the roof of the Women's Shelter, the Community Hall and the new sports club were on the agenda.

"The canteen, or sports club, building materials have been ordered," he said.

"And we hope to have that on the road soon, the demolition work has been done, it's just a matter now

of building around that."

Mr Edmond said Rodney Accoom was currently contracted to fence the five new houses were finishing last month.

"I've offered a few boys jobs and we've had a good couple of days," Mr Accoom said.

"It's hard labour, but it's good, and it's good Council is able to give locals the

opportunity to do work like this inside the community."

Laborer Paddy Hobson said he was also happy to play a part in building around the community.

"I haven't started my apprenticeship yet," he said. "It's good to know I can do things but it's good to have the other boys around too. "I'm loving it."



ABOVE: Justin Cabrall, Jess Davies, James Casson & Paddy Hobson

FACING PAGE: TOP LEFT: Regis Edmond; RIGHT COLUMN: Paddy Hobson; painters James Macumboy & Ross Mackay; and storemen John Wassaga & Matt Redman; BELOW LEFT: Fencing contractor Rodney Accoom with Quentin Mattisey, Herman Butcher, Jerome Accoom, Gregory Pascoe and Abraham Hobson.



LEFT: Looking after some of our MUNICIPAL SERVICES is Local Law Officer Cecil Macumboy, who was standing in for Morgan Hobson while he was on study leave; and ABOVE: Stanley Short & Peter Giblet doing their rounds.



Community Development

Community Development staff spent an informative day in ‘YPAD’ (Young People and Drugs) training delivered by Dovetail, in conjunction with YETI, earlier this year.

The full-day workshop was an introduction to youth Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) work.

The training provided an overview of youth AOD use including:

- History, context and background to AOD policy in Australia
- Stats, figures and current trends in youth AOD use
- Understanding youth AOD use
- Risk vs Protective Factors
- Engagement and Assessment
- The Transtheoretical Model (Stages of Change)
- Motivational Interviewing
- Practical hints, tips and tricks for working with young people with AOD issues.

“It was very interactive so people shared a lot of experiences and stories and journeys,” Com Dev Manager Margie Barnes said.

“So it was quite emotional but very rewarding and I think staff gained some good skills, particularly in different ways of approaching and dealing with situations that might be a little bit tough.”

Ms Barnes said Council was keen to keep looking at continual development for staff and finding meaningful training to purpose fit the roles they held.



ABOVE: Com Dev staff at the YETI training

MEANWHILE LRASC’S After School Care programs staff have participated in three training sessions, supported by Inclusion Support delivered by Raindrops of Diversity within their Cultural Framework.

The After School Care program runs daily at the Community Hall and other venues such as the Water Park or basketball area.

The training enabled staff to gain skills, new ideas and confidence and were delivered using hands on experiences with local materials, sites and language.

Community Development Manager Margie Barnes said it was a program that was very well received and all enjoyed the experience.

“The June/July school holidays delivered a really great vacation care program as well as a full two-week program for our young children and youth,” she said.

“The program included several events which mixed the two groups together and that was really successful.

“Those events were a joint barbecue on the Tuesday morning of each week at the basketball courts at the school, with bacon and eggs and juice to kick the day off before they broke into their respective groups and did other activities.

“We also had movie nights on Wednesdays, which the younger children and the youth enjoyed together, and on the Friday nights we had a joint disco.

“Great fun was had by all and there were some really good sessions delivered by our staff.”



AFTER SCHOOL CARE: ABOVE: L-R Danielle, Michelle, Margie, Janice and Emily; TOP RIGHT; Janice practising her reading; BELOW: Read-to-Me day.

Earlier this year Lockhart River School hosted a ‘Read-to-Me’ day event which was well-celebrated in the community with eight volunteer readers for eight groups of avid listeners.

The reading groups rotated between the store, MyPathway and the IKC.

LRASC supported and hosted the lunch for the event and also acknowledged the store, CEQ, for donating water on the day.

“Traditional dance was performed later in the day for all and it was great to see all the children in traditional dress,” Com Dev Manager Margie Barnes said.

Meanwhile IKC coordinator Greita Pascoe said the computers in the library were getting more use than ever.

“We can help people with their GMail accounts, Centrelink, Queensland Transport or MyGov,” she said.



Ms Barnes said the IKC provided a valuable resource for the community.

“It’s great to see community members accessing the services and utilising the veranda area with its new tables and chairs,” she said.



Throughout July and August up to 20 or more young people have been enjoying a couple of hours a week playing volleyball at the school's court, Youth Workers Krystal Dean and Stephen Bally say.

"We'd still rather see most of our young people back in school," Stephen said.

"I don't see anything happening for them other than coming down and having a game with us a couple of times a week.

"But we need to look past that and see them as our younger generation, who are actually our future."

Krystal said the question was how we could come together as a community to tackle the problem.

"More and more kids are coming out of school, how can we come together and help them," she said.

"We talk about it all the time, we need help here in Lockhart River, we want help from here, not from outsiders."

They said they were keen to put together a Youth Committee who would know how to get young people supporting each other.

"They need to back each other up, tell each other to go to school, stay in school, don't wag," Krystal said.

She said they were already busy working on a vacation program, which would hopefully include a camp, in the September holidays.

"Last vacation program we had a bit of a grooming session with the boys and girls, I went with the girls and Steven went with the boys," she said.

"It was just about personal care and hygiene – girls doing facial cleansing, hair and styling; and the boys had hair cuts.



"It was a great success and enjoyable."

The two also said they were very happy to have the new Council position of Sport and Recreation Officer, which was filled for two months by Lynette.



Every year in May we acknowledge Domestic Violence Prevention Month, so key staff within the Community Development team took the opportunity to undergo some domestic violence alert training.

The training, which was delivered by Lifeline, was held over two days and was well-received by staff.

Community members were also invited to participate in a preliminary two-hour workshop about what the signs of domestic and family violence are, how people can help others and where help can be found. The members that attended the

session found it very informative. At the same time a session called 'Brothers Standing Tall', also delivered by Lifeline, was held at the Men's Shed.

This was followed by a BBQ and good reports were received from the men who attended.

At the end of that month a good percentage of our community joined in the annual March Against Violence, which

started from the Women's Shelter and finished with a BBQ at the store. Key messages were about looking after one another and that violence is unacceptable to us in Lockhart River.

Women's Shelter staff have also worked hard to make sure those who will dance on Thursday Island in September will be well-dressed!



In June this year HACC staff Bessie Hobson, Beverley Hobson and Leila Clarmont graduated from their Certificate III TAFE courses.

A small celebration was held to note the occasion where certificates were presented to all.

Noella Clarke was invited along to share in the celebrations for work which was mostly completed during her tenure as the HACC Coordinator. “We were very grateful to Noella for her all her support and efforts with the HACC team,” Com Dev Director Margie Barnes said.

“Thank you.”

TAFE trainer Cheryl Reid was also acknowledged by Ms Barnes and the staff for her work.

“It’s been a team effort,” Bessie, Beverley and Leila said.

Ms Reid said she missed her former-students.



“I want to say that I’m proud, not only of them achieving their certificate, but of their dedication to the service and their clients,” she said.

“I wish them well and I miss them.”



Tara Accoom holding baby Edward Dean, Greita Pascoe holding baby Nardoo Namok with Franzista Omeenyo & Yvonne Sandy enjoying the IKC steps together.



Male role models in focus at Kunnchi Kakana Centre

The Puuya Foundation's focus is to develop everyday leaders and empower the local community.

The Kuunchi Kakana Centre is a great place to do this through our early learning programs and activities and the parenting and family well-being programs.

This includes a focus on creating male role models in the community, helping them to gain employment and better parenting skills.

Our vision is to implement men's empowerment initiatives

to increase the skills, knowledge, confidence, and experience of men as fathers, carers, parents, grandparents, uncles etc. and to assist them in gaining employment, through creating sound work habits.

The men will become positive role models in the community & positively impact the children & people to achieve the best future for the community.

CEO Denise Hagan said,

Puuya
foundation

"We're really happy to have men here. We always want men to be here being role models and the children seeing them working and being part of things. Not just women's business. And the men are doing a great job here, keeping the centre beautiful."





Orange Sky Australia was a proud finalist in the Queensland Reconciliation Awards ceremony held in June at the Tanks in Cairns this year. Grants Manager Stacy Cunningham and CEO Jo Westh are pictured above with Deputy Premier Jackie Trad while the machines keep rolling here in Lockhart River under the management of My Pathway workers.



2018 MY PATHWAY ACTIVITIES



A WORD FROM JOSH AT THE LOCKHART RIVER PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CLINIC

It's a year since I came to Lockhart as the DON (Director of Nursing) – I can't believe how fast the time has gone and how much I'm enjoying living and working in the beautiful community.

I'm very much looking forward to the next year!

It feels like most of our staff at the clinic have been on holiday lately and I've just come back from visiting China.

I'm very grateful to David for being in charge while I was gone. Vikki is currently over in Spain with her son.

She's going to take another year off while she does some work in Africa and we'll miss her terribly. The good news is that Noella is now working with us permanently. She's back from her cruise around the Pacific and looking very refreshed.

Michael has come back from his trip to Vietnam and has lots of stories to tell if anyone is interested.

And Denise has returned to us as the Child health nurse and midwife.

It's fantastic to have her back with the team.

We have started offering some services out of the Kuunchi Kakana Centre – the physiotherapist and speech therapist have been making time



Keep an eye out in February for Foxtel's "Coast Australia" who filmed the clinic and RFDS hard at work. In the photo here is Dr Sherri, Josh, Dobby the 3 legged Dog, Erika, Teah and the presenter from the series. The piece on Lockhart will be a really great way to showcase the beauty of the community and the dedication of the staff who work there.

to see children there, and the collaboration between our two organisations is getting stronger every day.

We are also continuing to visit the school on Mondays and Fridays to check any children with sores or minor complaints. We're finding this is a very, very busy hour but it's also getting the children looked at quickly.

Karen has been very busy with the Cairns Men's and Women's team to address the threat of a Syphilis outbreak reaching the Cape.

One initiative she will be working on is installing condom vending machines in the clinic

toilets.

The free condoms will be available 24 hours a day and high enough that children won't be able to reach them.

It's very important that we try and stop the spread of syphilis becoming an issue for us.

Finally, Lockhart reached 75% coverage for flu immunisations this year.

It's an amazing result and means we can be comfortable knowing that if the bad flu does reach the Cape, the majority of us will be protected from it.

Until next time,

Josh Stafford





Lockhart River Life

2018





Pama Futures has held several meetings across the Cape, including in Lockhart River, to talk about future directions for the community, working with our regional facilitors Jasmine Accoom and Greg Omeenyo. Here is what Jasmine had to say about it:

“I’m going to have to talk about One Claim as well,” she said. “One claim is all about native title.

“Pama Futures is about the whole movement.

“We are going to use the Kapay Kuyan structure.

“We’ve got three things that we are talking about.

“Empowerment: To empower the people, the community.

“Land dealing: If we move back on to homeland, there’s 75% of Indigenous Affairs funding is just waiting there for people to go back to home, and to build houses.

“And the other one is economic development: It’s about infrastructure.

“Go back to country and do the work and go build that home, build a homestead.

“The kids: It’s about kids these days. I’m looking at kids that need to go back on country.

“We’re losing our lore.

“Culture is still there, but our lore we are losing it.

“The idea of getting involved with Pama Futures was to try and get everyone from the eight

apical clan groups to come together and be as one: United. Harmony.

“Because in 1990, our old people, they started the Cape York Land Council, here in Lockhart River.

“And we know their journeys are the way, and we’re trying to carry on their journey. Them fighting about land want to move back on land, on home land.

“We’re moving to that stage, but we have 50/50.

“50% that said no more about this Pama Future.

“50% wants to go ahead with everything, and have a meeting.

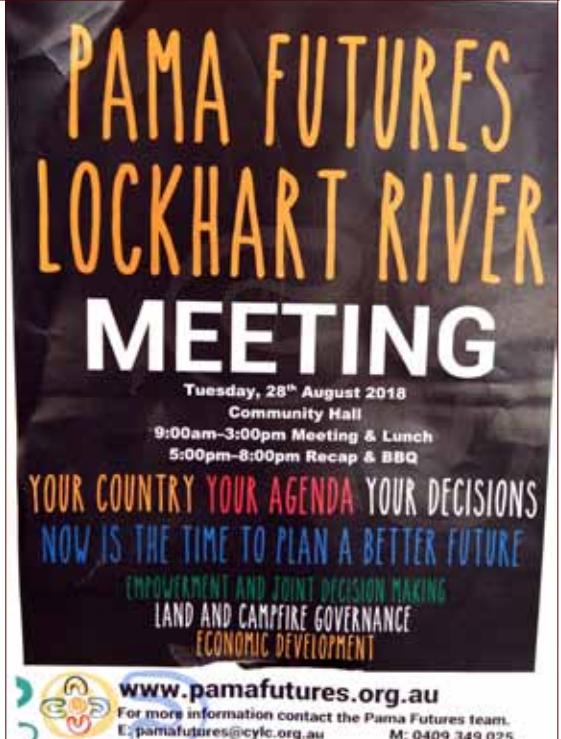
“I think there is something in there for Lockhart.

“We’ve got a campfire model as well.

“If there’s something going on with family groups they would light a fire.

“Then the family group will go, talk about their issues, instead of arguing about it.

“They will stand together and light the fire and they talk about their issues.



“It’s all about family groups that want to go to that clan group.

“If this is what you want, if this is what the family wanted, then the clan group of Kapay Kuyan come to me and Greg as facilitator.

“We’ll go, but they will come with us, the Board of Directors of Kapay Kuyan.

“They will come with us and we will meet with the government.

“And we’ll be talking directly to the government.

“I want my people to come together, talk about things.

“Talk about what they want for their country and keep moving on.

“Lockhart River will be always here.”

THE ROAD TO OUR FUTURE...



ABOVE LEFT: Tara Accoom and baby Edward Dean ABOVE RIGHT: Proud dad Amos Wilson with baby Angejazayna Wilson.