

Waamta

NEWSLETTER

December 2018

Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council

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LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL COUNCIL

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



Keeping our kincha strong



Pics with thanks to Jan Life Photography - more inside!



A word from...

Mayor Wayne Butcher

Firstly Merry Christmas to everyone in Lockhart Community and our other Indigenous Communities in Cape York and the Torres Strait throughout Queensland, Cr Wayne Butcher writes...

Hopefully everyone will have a good Christmas with their lovely families, workmates and friends.

Christmas to me, is about reflecting on the year gone by.

We have had a good year for the Council work wise, we managed to build more infrastructure to further develop the community, which I will talk about a bit more below.

It has also been a very sad year for the community, we

have lost too many of our families and good friends, including three great Council workers and a team leader from Puuya Foundation.

These workers were incredible hard working people, who were leaders in their own right.

The difficulty with losing good people out of the workforce is you can never replace them.

Some people are born with leadership skills that one cannot train – in a small Community such as ours, it

is critical to have leadership throughout the community, in all facets of our social structure (health, education, culture, sports, etc).

In addition, we have lost Elders this year who have sadly passed on and again, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

Lockhart River community will miss your wisdom.

The Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council had another productive year.



CEO David Clarke and Mayor Wayne Butcher at the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Annual Conference in October. Pic thanks to LGAQ.



We have built more infrastructure in the Shire's community areas including the water park; a new two lane bridge on the main access road; a concrete helicopter pad; parking space for extra planes; airport carpark reseal; the footpath to the beach; two new play grounds (Twin Peaks and the water park); and seven new houses plus several major upgrades to houses.

We have also done more roadworks on the Old Site Road to Wachee where we have built

a new crossing, we've upgraded Chuulaganu and the Pascoe Farm Roads, and several others around the Community.

We have also had a big year constructing, developing and maintaining community infrastructure we are looking forward to enjoying next year including the Old Canteen development, the new fence line and airport terminal, BBQ sheds for the beach, outdoor gym set, more solar lights, water fountain and more roads.

I'm also pleased to

congratulate Alistair Bowie, who has just completed his carpentry apprenticeship, and Mikey Macumboy and Tristan Elu, both of whom completed their Certificate IIIs in Civil Construction Plant Operation this year.

The Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council had another 'Unmodified' Audit result, which was a good administration result to ensure all our books are in order and we are accountable to Government Grants and Funding operations.



LEFT TOP to BOTTOM: Michael Macumboy & Tristan Elu both achieved Cert III in Civil Construction Plant Operation, while Alistair Bowie has completed his Cert III in Carpentry. Business Development and Training Officer Noleen Clark (pictured above with work experience volunteers Leighanna Pascoe & Justine Omeeny) says eight traffic controllers qualified this year, there were nine First Aid Certificates. "We also have two plumbing apprentices and two diesel fitting apprentices at the moment," she said.





The Cairns-based and Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council office workers have done a tremendous job in managing the Council Administration (our books), and I believe consistency has been the key to managing our finances.

Our Administration team has proven their capability – job well done!

In terms of capital work this year, there has been a few improvements.

I must also thank our key

Senior Managers: David Clarke – Chief Executive officer and Stanley Mugwiria – Finance Manager.

The jobs they do are critical to managing the Council as a fairly large organisation on a day to day basis.

The Council's Civil Works and Building Teams have performed very well in 2018, meaning our infrastructure programs have achieved some great results.

And our local businesses communities have done

extremely well, they are just building in strength every year, which is great to see – it is so very important for our local economy to build our local small businesses.

Finally, it's a pleasure to welcome Councillor Karen Koko into her new role, and thank her for putting her hand up to take on the job.

Once again, I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas for 2018 and Happy New year for 2019.

Wayne Butcher



LEFT: Our new Councillor Karen Koko.

BELOW: the walking path to the beach, under construction!





A word from the CEO...

We've come to the close of another, very busy, and very sad year – I think everyone is taking a big deep breath and hoping next year we'll continue the work but back off on the sadness.

Our hearts and thoughts and prayers go out to all those families that have been affected this year.

But we can only look forward, and look forward we will, to a positive year coming up.

2019 will be a year of new opportunities, a year of new life for the new ones we welcome into the world, and the many new job opportunities we're creating.

We already have several submissions in place for a range of things that will improve our township.

We can all look forward to more shade, more barbecue areas, more recreational facilities – a stronger sport and recreation focus.

The water park is probably our highlight for most people now, and will be completed very shortly.

This month and next we'll be finishing up the underground irrigation and putting in some seating, some shade, and two barbecue areas.

There's still some solar lighting to do around the community and the new bitumen walking track down to the beach is also about to be finished.

Our new bridge is also just about finished as is what we call the 'missing link' – a patch of dirt between the two bitumen stretches out near the truck stop on the Portland road.

They are all joined up now.



TOP RIGHT: CEO David Clarke

ABOVE: concreting the base for the new bridge on the airport/main road.



Particular congratulations go to our Queensland Reconstruction Authority contractors after inspectors came and said their workmanship was top class from the management down.

Good work Mark Spencer, and thank you for the leadership you've shown on that job. Excellent work to all of

our small business contractors who have actually done the delivery.

Job well done, and you should all be proud of what you've done and there's more of that to come next year.

I think that's the most important thing – every year we're doing more and more of the work ourselves, and less and less

we're putting out to external contractors, outside contractors.

The work itself provides more job opportunities, more small business opportunities, and more role models for our kids to look at and see what can be done.

And when we're focused on what we're doing, and all working hard, we can do anything and achieve anything.

CHRISTMAS PERIOD CLOSURE & OPENING HOURS

**CLOSE OF BUSINESS
21 DECEMBER 2018
OPEN FOR BUSINESS
7 JANUARY 2019**

**OPENING HOURS for the
POST OFFICE, BANK,
CENTRELINK and GARBAGE
TEAM are as follows:**

Monday 24 December 2018: 9am – 3pm

Thursday 27th December 2018: 9am – 3pm

Friday 28 December 2018: 9am – 3pm

Wednesday 2 January 2019: 9am – 3pm

Thursday 3 January 2019: 9am – 3pm

Friday 4 January 2019: 9am – 3pm

PLEASE NOTE: EHO (MORGAN on 0400 305 718)

or the Plumber (PAUL on 0488 796 735) WILL

BE ON DUTY FOR URGENT JOBS





In other news, Paul Jensen and his team have been guiding some water bore drillers (*pictured left*), after we brought in a water expert to look for more water for the town.

We had bores that were making 18 litres a second of water but that wasn't enough with all our new buildings and new houses.

We felt we needed more, so we went looking, and we found another 60 litres a second.

We just need to put out the bores and run the pumps from them to the big ground reservoir now – that's one job for next year.

So our water security is good, the only thing we couldn't find was something down at the beach.

We tried, but we could only get one litre a second, which is not worth developing.

The best thing is that extra water will let us make an independent irrigation system for the footy field and that sort of thing, so we'll be able to have a

real splash next time, especially after the wet, and we'll be able to keep it going through the dry football season.

With a little extra care, take out all the weeds, pick up the glass, fertiliser and all that silly stuff, we're looking to put in untreated water with no chlorine in it, so we're not wasting good treated water, for irrigation.

So that's something to look forward to.

The other thing I understand people are looking forward to is the new pub.

We still need people to put their hand up to join the new organisation to run the pub.

In the meantime, the engineering has been done on the new structure and all the beams and everything are being manufactured now.

They will go up over the wet season.

It needs to be clear the management of the new venue will be separate to Council.

Council is going to be the

owner of the facility, but we'll lease it to the new organisation.

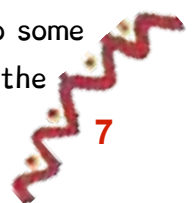
We want to see a new regime here in Lockhart, where we have good people drinking good way, instead of silly way.

The end result will be a lot like what they have in Pormpuraaw.

That means everyone has a membership card, you'll be put on a bag before you can go in the door, so if you've already been drinking you won't be allowed in, and there will be limits on how much you can drink.

We're looking forward to having somewhere to drink properly in a friendly atmosphere, somewhere to have a game of darts or pool or whatever.

One of the best things about it will be a few extra jobs available – bar staff, catering and security means extra training opportunities in things like Responsible Service of Alcohol, so some job opportunities in the entertainment industry.





I'd like to thank Margaret Barnes for her leadership and hard work in our social services and community development area. There's no stopping her and her commitment to making sure things happen the way they should, and the rest of

her team as well.

Thanks to everyone for their hard work, to all our teams, everyone has been working hard and we are seeing the results of that as our lifestyle improves, bit by bit by bit from year to year.

So thank you for your work over the year, I am very proud of you all – stay safe and have a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Dave Clarke



Bradley Paii (pictured above left playing Santa with Manager Bob Brown) has been working as Aerodrome/Cabins Assistant, just outside of town, for the past three months, keeping busy with a range of activities such as building and yard maintenance, and loading and unloading flights.

Mr Paii has made a big impression on Airport Manager Bob Brown, who says he is a great employee.

"We are lucky to have him," he said.

"He is a regular – he shows up consistently and keeps on going all day and he is a great worker.

"Work at the new terminal is ongoing and also keeping

everyone busy, and the second half of the new helicopter pad slab was poured recently."

"A bit of roadwork has also commenced around the terminal, which has been cemented and resurfaced."

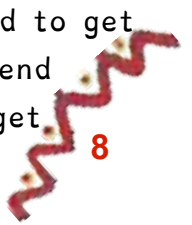
He said Christmas was fast approaching, so it was time to get organised now.

"On Christmas Eve, which

is Monday, there is a flight out doing all stops back to Cairns," he said.

"The next one is going on Thursday, after Boxing Day."

"And there are flights still available over Christmas but seats are hard to get at the start and end of the week, so get in here early if you can."





Corporate Services

Payroll processing for Christmas period

The Xmas break this year will commence on 24 December and end on 4 January 2019, dates inclusive.

There will be six working days and three days of public holidays.

All Council employees are requested to apply for annual leave during this period but subject to availability of sufficient accrued leave.

The final pay run of 2018 will be processed on 20 December 2018 and the first pay run of the new year 2019 will be processed on 3 January 2019.

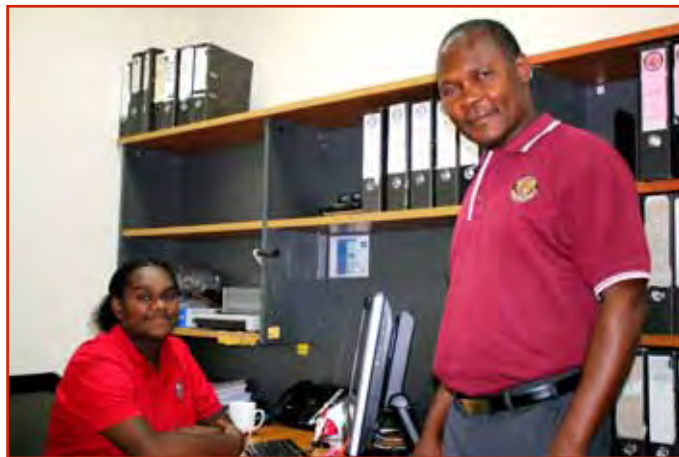
Please ensure that your time sheets and leave applications forms are ready and approved before we close for business on 21 December.

The last working day will on Friday 21 December and all departments will open for business on 7 January 2019.

During this closure period all the finance team members will not be on duty except for Centrelink and Australia Post services on selected days.

If caught up in finance matters emergency, you may contact Stanley Mugwiria on 0447 070 649.

Centrelink and Australia Post will be open for limited hours on the following days: 24, 27, 28 and 31 December 2018 and 2, 3 and 4 January 2019.



Jennifer in Cairns Office

Jennifer Hobson joined the Cairns Office team few weeks ago and am sure she is enjoying this different working environment with new team members.

She will be working with us during the inter-semester breaks as and when she is available.

We welcome her to the team where she will learn more skills in finance and administration areas of the Council.

Christmas is here again

I wish members of Corporate Services team a Merry Xmas and Prosperous New 2019.

May you have very joyful celebrations with your families and friends.

I am humbled by your dedication to the finance tasks that you perform every day in this team and the role you play in every achievement. Stay safe and happy and we look forward to coming back to work on 7 January 2019.

Stanley Mugwiria



TOP: Work Experiencer Jennifer Hobson & Director of Finance Stanley Mugwiria; ABOVE: Deputy Mayor Norman Bally, Leighanna Pascoe, Justine Omeeny, Bank & Post Office Agent Marie Hobson & Centrelink Officer Greta Accoom; RIGHT: Work Experience Celeste Accoom and Leighanna Pascoe with Office Manager Deanka Omeeny (standing) with customers Shakeem and Kyiesha. Missing from pics is Zali Hobson.





Building Services

We're coming to the end of the year now, so everything is quieting down and slowing down, as everyone prepares for Christmas, writes Building Services Director Regis Edmond...

Over the past six months or so we have achieved and completed quite a lot of work in Lockhart including the last house built by our apprentices in our subdivision, which makes our subdivision complete – a full house, you might say.

All our apprentices have done a great job, particularly Alistair Bowie, who is now a fully qualified carpenter, having completed his Cert III.

Well done, and we all look

forward to celebrating some more next year as the rest of them go through.

We have also nearly completed our new airport terminal.

All we can really do now is get ready for the wet which means doing a lot more inside work.

We have quite a few renovations which our young apprentices will keep going on.

And we also have a lot of carports that need to be built in the community.

So even though we don't have any more builds at this stage we have enough work to keep us going for some time into next year.

Thanks to everyone I've worked with, including Cal Clarke, for picking up the reins for us while I was on holidays and to Council for their support over the year.

I hope everyone has a beautiful Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Happy Holidays!

There have been a few absences over the past month or so but we're happy to say both Matty and Regis are back with us, Matty is pictured above left with his lovely Mum at Angkor Tom in Cambodia; while Regis is sharing some special time with his new friend in Bohol in the Philippines!



PICTURED: Plant Operator Coco Namoa, Carpenter Craig Stevenson, and Labourers Raymond Namok & Richard Piva at the old canteen/new club; Carpentry Apprentice Les Zaro & Carpenter Alistair Bowie with Cal Clarke; Council Stores Assistant John Wasaga; Ross Mackay & James Macumboy; Contractor Jyren Kyle with skilled tradesman Gary Warradoo repairing church; Apprentice carpenter Paddy Hobson with carpenter Jess Davies.



What do our young people want?

...at the request of Deputy Mayor Norman Bally, *Waanta* took to the streets and asked our mob, 'what would you like to see in Lockhart River?'...here is what they said! See page 14 for your 'official' chance to tell our community leaders your vision for your home town...

"A swimming pool near the main office."

"I'd love to see a swimming pool, and a water park."

"A disco every Friday night."



"Golf buggies, or mini cars. Like a transport system."

"A little junior rugby league club, or junior AFL club."

"A gym."

"A new BMX track, the old one is a bit boring, we need some hills and that."

"A shop that sells better products, with better brands and better food."

"I want the school to be much bigger – bigger buildings and classrooms with more people."



“Games.”

“Drive-In Theatre.”

**“A shop like
Woollies.”**

**“I’d like more
shade.”**

**“I want the
waterfalls running.”**

“More shops.”



**“An Outstation, or a Cattle Station
– with horses and cattle. The boys
really love horses and that, so
to go out and learn properly,
I would love to see that.”**



Chance for youth take to their ideas to the top!

Lockhart Aboriginal Shire Council Community Development Manager Margie Barnes says planning is underway for a Youth Camp in the third week of February next year.

“We are working in partnership with My Pathway and the Preston Campbell Foundation and we are really excited about it,” she said.

My Pathway Regional Manager Les Robinson said the idea came about because they wanted young people to feel more involved in the community.

“It is important to us that youth have the opportunity to give direct feedback to the Council, and to participate in the My

Pathway activities,” Mr Robinson said.

“It means you have to be a part of Centrelink, but this means more money coming in to town which helps relieve poverty.

“For instance if we had 50 people who aren’t getting money, Centrelink would help with \$250 a week for each person. That makes a big difference to the town.

“I want to help young people get this level of support, and help them be more able to be

a part of our community.”

They said activities over the week would include leadership exercises, beach sports and a ‘speak-up’ challenge, and they were also planning several workshops on health, early childhood, education and future directions.

“Youth will be putting together a list of things they would like to see in town and discussing it on a one-on-one basis with the Mayor and CEO,” Mr Robinson said.





Community Development

It has been another busy, and at times sad, year for our Community Development team here in Lockhart River. Community Development Manager Margie Barnes writes...

There has been too much 'sorry business', of course, and everyone has felt the impact of that.

I think we're all looking forward to a break and a fresh start for 2019.

We are planning several end of year celebrations and events including a Christmas lunch with our HACC clients – we have 18 at the moment.

They told us they wanted a bit of seafood this year, so we are planning some prawns and oysters, and maybe a little ham as well, for them.

We will be operating on a skeleton staff over the Christmas period so we're also going to sort out some 'care packages' for them, just to make sure they are well-stocked.

The Women's Shelter is also



planning a 'pamper' day for our women, and that will be before Christmas as well.

And we are gearing up for our Vacation Care program as well, in the September holidays we found combining the younger ones with the youth for some of the events worked very well, so we intend to repeat that over these coming holidays.

There will be lots of activities and entertainment to keep people well-occupied over the festive period.



TOP: HACC workers Leila Clarmont and Beverley Hobson with Community Development manager Margie Barnes; ABOVE: Broadcaster Johanne Omeenyo who says everyone should tune into 107.7 on their radio for a local National Indigenous Radio Service (NIRS) broadcast; and LEFT: Reniat Sandy with Women's Shelter Coordinator Ethel Singleton.



In other news, IKC Coordinator Greita Pascoe and I went to the 2018 Indigenous Knowledge Centre workshop in Cairns last month, which was a great event and a good opportunity to network with other IKCs.

We both found it very valuable. Greita is pictured above, bottom left, at the Yarrabah IKC with her colleagues, and myself at the workshop dinner with IKC workers from as far afield as the NPA, Hopevale, Yarrabah and Woorabinda.

We also successfully applied for some grants from the Gambling Community Benefits Fund. With one of those we've purchased some outdoor seating and shelters for the water park area which are in production at the moment and due to arrive in the community before Christmas.

We were really happy with that, and the council will also contribute, in kind, with some landscaping and some installation work with the equipment that we've been able to buy.

They're also looking into some suitable BBQs to go into the shelters, so the park can be a place families will be happy to come to and we may even be able to hold different events there.

I think some more seating and some shade will make a lot of difference.



We are excited for our youth, there's so much happening Youth Centre Youth Coordinators Krystal Dean and Steven Bally (pictured below) say.

"During the school holiday month, we are having Christmas themed activities and programs, so Christmas Movie Night, Christmas Arts & Craft like Christmas Card making for youth to make for family and friends or who ever to send Christmas Cards to," Krystal said.

"We will have Disco on Fridays.

"We have so many things our young people can do, we are going to try and fit in swimming trips to the waterfalls or one of those swimming holes, or go down to the water park.

"We are going to do team

building programs as well, and Pool Comp on Thursday's – weekly now."

"And more, there are so many things to be involved in.

"I want to encourage youth to come in to the Youth Centre, between 9am and 5pm we are here, just pop by and find out what we are up to.

"If there are programs at night, we will send the word out."

"Like if we are going to keep the Youth Centre open on Thursday night, for youth to drop by, from around 6pm to 8pm so they have something to do, we will send the word out telling everyone to come down.

"In the new year we will also have great activities and program, so just keep an eye out."

Krystal also said she has met with the Sexual Health Nurse to help with planning the next Youth Health Check-Up.

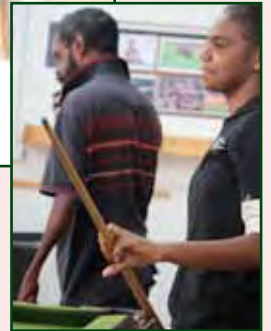
"We have planned for Monday 17 to Friday 21 December to have the Youth Health Check-Up for both boys and girls," Miss Dean said.

"Please drop by the Youth Centre between 9am and 5pm to have the health check – it's really important and will help you reach your fullest potential."





Youth Centre pics below with thanks to Shaznae Kennell (pictured left with the camera!)



And finally we have held two Women's Yarning Circles to date, which have been a great success, Margie continues...

At our first meeting we had some clothing donated to us from Weipa Community Care, so that was out for people to take their choice from – definitely a talking point!

The Women's Shelter catered for us for the day, and the next

meeting was held at the IKC.

On that day we had a nutritionist from Apunipima come and cater for us.

We are keen to hold another and the women have indicated there are a few things they would like to do with these sessions, one of which was a 'quit smoking' workshop and there are quite a few other activities planned in the New Year from their suggestions.

Those Yarning Circles have been really good fun and we are hopeful the Men's Group might adopt something similar.

We are taking their lead and they have come up with some really good ideas we are happy to follow up wherever we can.

I hope everyone has a very Merry and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us to all of you.




**WOMEN'S
YARNING
CIRCLE**

INVITATION TO ALL
WOMEN

COME AND HAVE A YARN ABOUT WHAT IS
IMPORTANT FOR **YOU**

AT THE **LIBRARY** **0000**

TUESDAY 27/11/18 11.00AM

LUNCH AND AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED





Engineering Services

New Engineering and Services Director Dr Rodney Phillip Taylor has just joined the Council and comes well-qualified to take on the task.

“I hold a doctorate in Civil and Structural Engineering, a master’s in Environmental Engineering, and a master’s in Project Management,” he said.

He said he hoped to bring his past experience to the council work program, and was “looking forward to a long and happy relationship with the Council and community”.

A list of works in progress at the moment include:

- The replacement of the bridge just outside of Lockhart River township which will be complete at the end of the dry this year.
- Extensive work has been done at Old Site Road up to Wachee Creek and I believe it is excellent condition now.
- We are replacing the Missing Link, as it is called locally, which is the 800 metre section near Truck Stop which has been sealed.
- The Wachee Creek Restoration job has been completed as per funding. We now have an all-weather crossing across Wachee Creek and the road has been realigned.



MEANWHILE, it’s been a great season for the boys, Queensland Reconstruction Authority Supervisor Casper (*pictured top left with grader driver Herbert Pitt*) writes...

It’s been long, and sometimes they have worked up to 78 hours in a week.

Contracting with machinery always has obstacles and frustrations, but we are on target to achieve our goals for the year, and leaving our roads better and safer for everyone.

We have enjoyed great support from the Council, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and Engineers, and the feedback has been tremendous.

The boys have every reason to be very proud of their efforts and we look forward to doing it again next year.



*PICTURED: TOP LEFT: Herbert Pitt & Mark Spencer;
MIDDLE LEFT: Raymond Young & Michael Williams;
BELOW LEFT: Dennis Claudie*



*FACING PAGE: Workshop Supervisor Allister White,
Apprentices Brandon Piva and Richard
Omeenyo with Engineering and
Technical Services Director
Dr Rodney Taylor*

New Engineering and Services Director Dr Rodney Phillip Taylor (*pictured below with some of the workshop crew*) has an interesting and diverse background.

“I am originally from Brisbane and my last job was with Southeast Asia, for the World Bank,” he said.

“It was the biggest dollar job I have done with a budget of about \$10.5 million a week.

“The area I covered was from Northern Australia through part of Papua New Guinea, up into Southeast Asia and into East Timor.

“It was extremely remote work, and very, very difficult logistically to manage crews up to 1,000 kilometres away from you and we are doing works in places, regions, that haven’t seen a machine since World War II.

“We found all sorts of lovely things like aerial bombs that haven’t exploded.”

He said he started his studies many years ago at Monash University in Melbourne, Victoria, and he has kept his studies up to date over the years through Griffith and Queensland Universities in Brisbane, Queensland.

“I also did earth sciences at Cambridge University in

England,” Mr Tyler said.

“I am involved in several projects – paid and unpaid – for the university where I am studying the earths atoms and the composition of the earth. And rebuilding the genetic building blocks of an earth atom.”

He said he came from a farming and civil contracting family and his passion for engineering spanned generations – he said his father first put him on a dozer on his knee when he was only 18 months old.

“He had me doing earthworks on the dozer when I was eight,” Mr Tyler said.

“And I still own the original dozer that Dad had, it started with a shotgun cartridge.

“I’ve been in it all my life.

“I left school at thirteen and went to work, but I wouldn’t work for the old man, I quit.

“I went and worked for a family by the name of Joe Kelly’s, and Joe Kelly came to see me and put me through University the first time.

He now guest lectures at both Queensland and Griffith

Universities, and is involved in post-course studies for their students.

Asked what he would tell his students about Lockhart River if he was giving a lecture tomorrow, he said, “If I came to tell my students about Lockhart River, I would tell them that it is an excellent place if you wish to learn how to do it the proper way – where you have to source the materials from natural resources, and you must be able to define the material that you are going to use for its specific use.”

“In other words, what we call ‘burrow pits’, we go into the bush and (with the right permissions) we find the gravel for the material that we require.

“And the ability to use that material in the correct manner is a necessary skill for an engineer who wishes to progress his career.

“Lockhart River is a good place to come and learn.

“You never stop learning. I’m sixty-two years of age and I’ve been doing it for over forty years, and I learn something new every week.”





Municipal Services

Please look after your animals and pets this Christmas holiday, and be water-wise, Animal Management and Environmental Health Officer Morgan Hobson says.

"It would be great to see everyone be responsible for their animals this Christmas holiday by locking their dogs up, keeping them in their yards, and well fed," said Mr Hobson.

"It is very hot, so make sure they get a lot of water and enough shade because a good, healthy dog is a happy dog.

"If you are a horse owner,

please be responsible for your horses by keeping them away from any bins around the community, and don't let them enter other people's yards or property."

He said while animals needed all the water they could get, it was also important to be 'water-wise' around the house.

"Don't turn your sprinklers on

all day, instead go for one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon – from 7am to 8am and then again from 6pm to 7pm," he said.

"And if you have any water leaks, please report it to Housing (Blue Phone) because Housing will come see us so we can get on top of leaks and any other water issues."



TOP RIGHT: EHO
offsider Peter
Giblet with Parks &
Gardens worker Alan
Warradoo; ABOVE:
Plumber Paul Jensen
& T-Rex (Patrick
Hobson); LEFT: Parks
& Gardens crew –
Billy Sandy, Stanley
Butcher, James
Bally, Andy
and John
Butcher.





There's something really special about Lockhart River community, My Pathway Office Manager Lee Brown says.

"I started as Office Manager in August but my first visit to Lockhart was in May," he said.

"I kept coming and going and I decided I preferred to spend longer up here because I love it.

"When the position of Office Manager became available, I immediately took it up and the week after I moved to Lockhart.

"My role here is to get My Pathway engaged and involved with community as much as possible, and to keep the CDP and government contract side of things happy on both sides."



MEANWHILE it has been a busy few weeks for Community Owned Enterprises, helping small businesses and recruiting labourers for the airport fencing project, Business Admin Specialist Amba Tipton says.

Community Owned Enterprises assist communities like Lockhart River to establish or grow small businesses by helping with things like payroll, preparing quotes, purchase orders and invoicing, stock control and recruitment.

"Recruitment is the reason I am here in Lockhart River this week, I am assisting with the recruitment process for the airport fencing project," Amba said.

"I am recruiting labourers for the position as well as making sure they are compliant and workplace health and safety.

"I am also assisting Les Robinson, My Pathways Regional Manager in Lockhart, and Derek Carter, Group Regional Manager from Western Cape and Central Cape, with organising materials for the project."

"I'll probably be back in January next year to make sure that everything's ready to go – making sure the materials have arrived and everyone has their uniforms and they're happy and ready to go," she said.



*ABOVE: My Pathway participant Shekira Sandy;
LEFT: Lee Brown & Amba Tipton*



Lorraine Warradoo (pictured next page with Montessori trainer Emily Nelson) started work as a Kuunchi Kakana Worker in our Montessori Early Years Program in October.

She has two sons, two daughters, two foster children and three grandsons.

"I like working at the Kuunchi Kakana program to spend time with the young children in this community," she said.

"I enjoy seeing the adults working together with their children and doing different activities, I think this program is important to prepare children for school".

This month the Puuya Foundation will celebrate the graduation of eight women who have completed their Montessori Assistants Certificate 0-3 Years at the Kuunchi Kakana Centre during 2018 with our wonderful trainer Julia Hilson (pictured).

"I hope you will use your learnings and confidence to help the children of Lockhart River to learn, to thrive, to build their self esteem through their experiences in Kuunchi



Kakana , in their homes and in their life," Julia said.

Congratulations to Barbara Bally, Lena Bally, Nakiya (Shay) Graham, Belinda Dean, Chelsey Dean, Lynn Layton, Yuki Nakajima and Sophie Frame.

Puuya Foundation Chair Dottie Hobson said they were proud to have sponsored and supported these women to gain their early years qualification.

Director Veronica Piva said having parents, grandparents and carers involved in their

children's education gave them the best start to life.

Veronica often attends the program with her great grandchildren.

Diana Pascoe, Esmay Butcher, Asau Tamway, Shay Graham and Yuki Nakajima were given certificates in recognition for their continuous participation in the Kuunchi Kakana early years program this year, bringing their children and/or grandchildren and learning together.

Well done all!!

Puuya



foundation



Our Kuunchi Kakana Centre and programs won a Queensland Play Your Part Award during Child Protection Week in September – a huge honour!

The award was sponsored by National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN), whose purpose is to prevent child abuse and neglect and we were fortunate to be nominated by education consultant Kay Boulden. Selection criteria included:

“People who are doing inspiring work to build stronger communities and families As this type of work is really important in the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect”.

Gina Fairfax attended the ceremony in Brisbane with CEO Denise Hagan.



Lynn Layton has been working as a Family Wellbeing Worker at the Kuunchi Kakana Centre this year.

“Puuya Foundation has a strong commitment to building an empowered community and I am happy to be part of the organisation,” she said. Lynn is passionate about her job promoting the well being of families, so that children in the community are safe and well. She brings a wealth of health experience to the role.





*Pics with thanks to
Jan Lile Photography*





A Christmas message from Father David Thompson...

After a sad time at Lockhart River, we come to the joys and hopes of new birth at Christmas time.

The story of Jesus' birth at Bethlehem is a story of new life and hope for the future. This Christmas is a time to lift our spirits.

Join David and Margaret Thompson for a happy and joyful celebration of Christmas at St James Church at 9am on Christmas Day for a service of carols, baptism and holy communion. Bring a plate of food for sharing afterwards.

Pictured below is Lockhart River State School students Cornelius Durilla & Nyouni Tavilinu-Valu with Christmas trees made by our high school students that were shared around the community.

The Meaning Of Christmas

Far away in Bethlehem, a Baby Boy was born;
Born with neither riches nor with fame,
Yet Wise Men came from all around to bring to Him their gifts,
And peace was felt by all who heard His name.
Angels watched Him as He slept, and gently rocked His bed;
Their voices singing softly in His ear;
His Mother and His Father both gave thanks to God above
For the greatest gift of all, their Son, so dear
They knew His life upon this earth would not be filled with wealth,
But most of all, they knew that He would be a loving Child,
And teach the love of God throughout His life.
At Christmas, as we celebrate this Birth of Jesus Christ,
Let's keep in mind the truth of Christmas Day;
For it's not the Christmas wrappings, nor the gifts that lie within,
But our gift of love to others in every way...

A little child,
A shining star,
A stable rude,
The door ajar.
Yet in that place,
So crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all the world was born.
Poet Unknown

