

# Palm Island Voice



**FREE!**

## Issue 342

10 January 2021



# Stay at home!



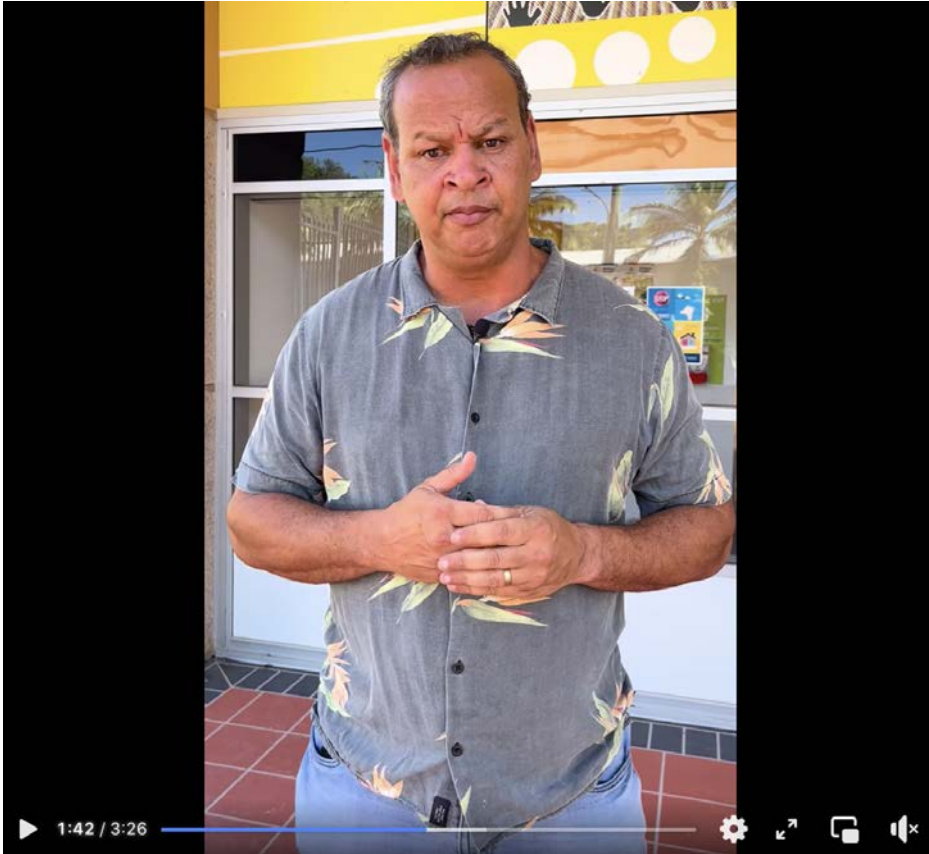
**If you need help in isolation you can call Palm Island's own COVID support line on 0473 923 089**

# **IF YOU HAVE TESTED POSITIVE YOU MUST:**

- YOU and ALL MEMBERS of your HOUSEHOLD MUST STAY AT HOME for the next SEVEN DAYS.
- Immediately tell everyone else at home you are positive and tell them they need to stay home for SEVEN days – even if they don't feel sick.
- Health will support you medically through their 'virtual ward' which means they will call and visit you.
- You can order and pay for food from CEQ on the phone. Call Rob on 0458 820 202.
- If you feel sick or get worse call the ambulance on 000.

**There is a special Palm Island COVID support line. Do not call PICC directly. If you need extra support (that family and friends can't help with) please contact the Palm Island COVID Support Line on **0473 923 089** between 8am and 5pm.**

# Sandy Boyd residents to move for their safety



For their own safety, and after agreeing with their families, Sandy Boyd residents will be moved, Palm Island Mayor Mislam Sam says.

“It’s in their best interests, we don’t have the staff to keep them safe,” he said.

“This virus is running rampant through out community – we’ve had a couple of close calls and we are at high risk right now.

“So we went out and spoke to the families and we all agree – the move will be for everybody’s benefit.”

## Kids eligible for vaccination now

Children aged from 5–11 are now eligible to be vaccinated, and should be before they return to school, Indigenous health experts say.

They said getting it done before the school year started was essential.

“The vaccine is one third of the dose for adults and will help to protect all of us,” they said.

“Vaccinations are available at Palm Island Community Company PICC health centre from Tuesday and teams will be visiting families at home as well

“Don’t miss out what

so many Australians are struggling to get access to.

“School is delayed so kids don’t start school during peak sickness and have a chance to get protected.”



The State Government said “add a job to your back-to-school checklist”.

“From today, children aged five to 11 are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination,” they said.

“The last thing we want to see is Queensland children sick in hospital with COVID-19.

“Parents are being urged to get their children vaccinated as soon as possible.”



# Rapid tests on the table for all incoming visitors

Rapid testing prior to travel on Plane or Ferry or Barge for Palm visitors is in place, Palm Island LDMG says.

They said the testing was optional for residents. All flights, ferries, barge trips now have Rapid Antigen testing available.

“We are very fortunate to have access to these tests – can’t buy them anywhere yet,” they said.

“If you are not a resident of Palm Island and you are visiting for any reason you should be tested before you travel.”

They said if you tested positive on Palm as a visitor you would generally need to isolate where you are tested.

“Find out before you leave, this protects anyone accidentally coming when they are positive but don’t know it,” they said.

“You won’t be allowed back on Hinterland or the Ferry if you are positive.”

If residents would like to test before they travel that option is available to them as well.

They said the test took 15 minutes and to therefore arrive early.

“Remember you are the most contagious before you show any signs of symptoms,” they said.

“Everyone is working together to provide this service including our wonderful Aboriginal Health Workers, SES volunteers, Council staff, Transport operators and our health services, just to name a few.”

## ENROL NOW FOR KINDY IN 2022!



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**OUR next DEADLINE\* (Issue 343) will be  
Thursday 20 January  
for publication on **MONDAY 24 January!****

The **Palm Island Voice** is published \*weekly if we have paid advertising, or otherwise fortnightly by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council. For advertising rates and/or more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at chowes@westnet.com.au Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor, Christine Howes. You can also follow us on Facebook! We have 2,778 ‘likes’!

The **Palm Island Voice** is free and online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

**Operating Hours for Palm Island Council are Monday–Friday 8am – 5pm**

If you have any questions please contact Reception on 4770 1177 or 4770 0200  
Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 4,738 ‘followers’ on Facebook!!!

