

Palm Island Voice



FREE!

Issue 355

11 July 2022



NAIDOC IS HERE!

Our NAIDOC teams from CDP, Council and Elders have been working hard with the community to bring you this year's NAIDOC events, some of which have been delayed for different reasons.

We'll have full coverage in our next issue, including pics!

NAIDOC = community working together!!!



GET UP! STAND UP! SHOW UP!
3-10 JULY 2022

Living with RHD

The Cathedral School
by Carcia Nallajar

I have had Rheumatic Heart Disease for the past ten years.

I was diagnosed at the age of eight years old.

I will have monthly bicillin injections until I am 21 years of age, then I will stop having the injections.

I visit the Townsville University Hospital to have yearly consultations with my cardiac doctor and to have yearly ultrasounds of my heart to make sure that everything is running smoothly.

I have changed my outlook toward my disease, I now view it as a blessing in disguise as it has taken me to different and exciting places and I have met many amazing people along the way.

I have managed my disease to the best of my ability.

I understand the risks, as

I have lost a close family member of mine from a heart-related issue.

I recently met Queensland Health Minister Yvette D'ath at a media conference at The Townsville University Hospital in Term 2.

In 2021 I also had the privilege to attend the national symposium for RHD which was held at The Ville hotel in Townsville.

I think it is extremely important to educate people on the effects of ARF and RHD as they are common diseases.

I would encourage everyone to take five minutes out of their day to read about the symptoms and early signs of ARF and RHD, and to learn how to prevent it and what



to do if you are diagnosed with the disease.

It is also important to get scans to check if you have the disease.

I am really passionate about the cause and cannot encourage people enough to educate themselves on these diseases and to have regular checkups.

FULL ARTICLE HERE: <https://cathedral.qld.edu.au/living-with-rhd>



17 fire mitigation clearing sites on Palm Island have now been completed by PIASC workers with the help of Department representatives, who visited Palm and met our local teams. Well done to all!



The Queensland Government is committed to reframing the relationship with Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Bringing decision-making closer to community

This commitment includes Local Thriving Communities (LTC), which delivers the *Queensland Government's Response to the Queensland Productivity Commission's Inquiry into service delivery in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities*.

LTC is a long-term, holistic reform that is about a different way of Government and community working together.

It requires a high expectations relationship between Government and community so that service design and delivery better meets the needs of each community.

The Queensland Government has committed to better support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to:

- make decisions about their own future
- build on their strengths as a community
- invest in the things that will make communities stronger and make a difference to people's lives.

How will LTC help?

Together, we will:

- **Increase community involvement** in the design of services to ensure services align to community needs and priorities
- **Empower communities to have greater control** of their lives through self determination and local decision-making
- **Provide support for local leaders** for their expertise and commitment
- **Ensure greater accountability** of service providers and coordination of government services
- **Create local employment and business opportunities** to improve service delivery
- **Address any identified gaps** in decision making by strengthening community voice
- **Build government and community capacity** to share decision-making and embrace local authority.

Photo: Local Thriving Communities community consultation session, Cherbourg

www.qld.gov.au/thriving



**Queensland
Government**

PALM ISLAND LOCAL DECISION MAKING BODY

Want to be on the Palm Island Local Decision Making Body?

The Palm Island Local Decision Making Body is an initiative under Local Thriving Communities and is a direct connection between your community and government. As a representative on the Palm Island Local Decision Making Body, you will be making decisions on behalf of community about the design and delivery of services for your community. Sounds interesting?

About you?

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Expression of Interest

Why do you want to be on the Palm Island Local Decision Making Body?

List your role/s in local or community organisations

Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

- EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



What skills do you bring to the role?

Do you identify as:

- ☐ Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Aboriginal and Torres Strait ☐ None

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Which of the following best describes your gender identity? *You may tick more than one*

- ☐ Woman ☐ Man ☐ Another term (*please specify*)
- ☐ Non-binary (*an umbrella term describing gender identities that are not exclusively man or women*)

Nominated support from your community (please seek endorsement from community member/s for your application):

Please e-mail this form to reception.-@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au or drop it into the council office directly.



**Queensland
Government**



What is Local Thriving Communities?

Local Thriving Communities (LTC) is a holistic reform that reframes the relationship between the Queensland Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

By embracing local leadership and facilitating a community-led approach LTC brings decisions about service delivery and design closer to your community.

Why is LTC being delivered?

LTC is being delivered to improve the design and delivery of services in communities.

Through LTC implementation the Queensland Government is delivering its response to the Queensland Productivity Commission's *Inquiry into service delivery in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities*.

LTC is part of the Queensland Government's commitment to 'working with' communities rather than 'doing things to' communities and is improving coordination of Government activity.

LTC steps out a pathway so community and Government work together to create this change.

Where is LTC up to in your community?

Every community is different.

The Queensland Government has engaged with each remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, including councils, to hear how LTC might work for them.

If you'd like to know more about what's happening with LTC in your community, please contact your local regional service centre (contacts below).

What are the next steps for your community?

The next steps will be different for each community.

What's most important is that your community leads discussions on local decision-making and the purpose of LTC. If your community decides it wants to opt-in to the LTC reform, the next step will be for your community to discuss community aspirations and possible leadership models.

Establishing a Local Decision Making Body

A 'Local Decision Making Body' will be your community's key point of contact and coordination for engagement on Queensland Government service design and delivery.

Who will be on the Local Decision Making Body?

That is up to your community to decide. LTC will support existing community decision-making practices and processes.

For some communities, LTC is considered to be anchored in the work of Council. This is one example of how LTC could work.

As each community is different, the LTC model adopted by your community may be different to the LTC model adopted by another community.

Will your community sign an Agreement?

Yes. A Community Agreement will be signed by members of the 'Local Decision Making Body' and the Queensland Government to ensure effective progress.

It will set out the community's priorities and how the Queensland Government and the community will hold each other to account.

Where can you find out more?

The LTC team is available to meet with you and answer any further question you might have on what's best for your community.

Also take a look at the other information and resources that can help you understand LTC better on our website.

- **Email us:** lrc@dssdatsip.qld.gov.au
- **Contact your local regional service centre:** www.qld.gov.au/regional-centres
- **Visit our website:** www.qld.gov.au/thriving



David Doyle was awarded the National Emergency Medal in recognition of his service during Tropical Cyclone Debbie in 2017 at a Road Safety Awareness Workshop hosted by PIASC. The National Emergency Medal provides recognition for the committed and courageous efforts of frontline responders, volunteers and community supporters during nationally-significant emergencies in Australia.

PICC to develop youth training program

Palm Island youth who have disengaged from the formal education system are the target of program to be delivered by the Palm Island Community Company in partnership with the State Government.

The Bwgcolman Youth Program will support local 13-to-17-year-olds by linking them with training, education and employment opportunities.

Palm Island Community Company Chief Executive Officer Rachel Atkinson said the program underlined their commitment to making the local community safer, stronger and more prosperous.

“Our program will create two part-time traineeships in youth work for local young people who will lead youth activities and mentoring delivering significant benefit

to our community,” she said.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Minister Craig Crawford said the project supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to improve mental health, emotional wellbeing, and social outcomes.

“The Program supports First Nations peoples to make decisions about their own future, build on their strengths, invest in things that will make their communities stronger, and make an enduring difference

to people’s lives,” Mr Crawford said.

Member for Townsville and Minister for Resources Scott Stewart said the program would divert young people from harmful behaviours, including alcohol and drug use, and criminal activities.

“Education is incredibly important for young people and helps them build their futures,” he said.

More information about the Local Thriving Communities initiative can be found at www.qld.gov.au/thriving.



Last Tuesday a convoy of rolling beds filled Mango Avenue from the hospital to the Sandy Boyd Aged Care centre for our elders.

The new beds – which can't be dismantled – were donated by Joyce Palmer Hospital with the help (and initiative!) of Judith & Veronica. Many thanks!



Annique from ICAN is in town Tuesday and Wednesday this week, if you want *FREE* Financial Counselling. You can catch her at the Rainbow Gateway between 9-3pm on both days, or give her a call on 0428 866 891



OUR next DEADLINE* (Issue 356) will be Thursday 21 July for publication on MONDAY 25 July!

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 2,815 '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 5,115 'followers' on Facebook!!!

