

Waadanta



Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council
Web: <http://www.lockhart.qld.gov.au>
c/- Post Office, Lockhart River Q 4892
Ph: 4060 7144 Fax: 4060 7139

PO Box 1037, Cairns Q 4870
Ph: 4031 0155 Fax: 4031 5720
Email: ceo@lockhart.qld.gov.au

November 2024

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

Bringing our community together



Pic by Jaz Ford



Lockhart River will celebrate 100 years of the community when it hosts the Paytham Malkari Festival this week. Photo: CHRISTINE HOWES

Century's up for Lockhart

By CHISA HASEGAWA

THIS year's Lockhart River Paytham Malkari Festival will celebrate 100 years since the eastern Cape York community was established.

In 1924, Aboriginal people from of the Kuuku'Ya'u, Wuthathi, Umpila, Kaanju and Uuthalganu clans were brought into a new Anglican mission at Orchid Point, the Putchiwu'chi (Old Site).

Lockhart River Aboriginal

Shire Council chief executive officer David Clarke said the festival was a "tangible expression of our cultural continuity".

"Lockhart has a very proud creative tradition, be it dance or art or music, and our festival is an opportunity to showcase who we are as a people," he said.

"The event celebrates who we are as a community; our dance tradition has been part of our culture since time immemorial."

Mr Clarke said the event was set to be larger than previous

years, with the festival being held earlier to avoid the wet season. The festival will start today (Tuesday) with a cemetery meet-up and official opening, and will continue over four days.

It will be followed by a church service on Wednesday, a day at the Putchiwu'chi (Old Site) on Thursday, and dancing on Friday and Saturday nights.

"[This year], we will have historical presentations and film on show representing the stages of our community development.

Dance teams from Bamaga and Pormpuraaw are coming, along with many guests," Mr Clarke said.

He said dance was a huge part of Lockhart River's culture and history.

"We are the people of this land, our connection run deep into time," Mr Clarke said.

"Our dancing today represents this connection, and tells the story of how we belong here; these are the stories of our Elders who came before us."

The Paytham Malkari Festival is fast becoming the highlight of our community's year, even making local and national media as the event continues to bring our People together. Plans for next year are bigger and better than ever, as our committee, council, community partners and volunteers recover – and start planning for 2025!

Century celebration sets platform for future events

RESIDENTS of Lockhart River have used last month's Paytham Malkari Festival to mark 100 years of the eastern Cape York community and look towards the next century of its evolution and growth.

About 300 visitors made the journey to Lockhart River to join the community in its celebration, with the earlier date proving a recipe for success, according to Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council CEO David Clarke.

"The festival was great," he said.

"It was probably a step up from last year, admittedly though, that was in mid- to late-November last year, so there were more tourists here for it. It's sort of a balancing act at the moment – we're trying to work out where our capacity is numbers wise."

With visiting dance groups from Pormpuraaw and Bamaga adding to the centenary celebration, Mr Clarke said the festival had been a "vantage point" to look back at the community's history and determine what the future held for it.

"It gave a vantage point to look back and see where they've come from," he said.

"We've had about 50 years at the old [Lockhart River Mission] site and 50 [years] or so at the new site,



Lockhart River residents used this year's Paytham Malkari Festival as a "vantage point" to look back on 100 years of the community and focus on the next century, according to council CEO David Clarke. Photo: Black Star Radio

so it's a different vantage point to look forward and see where we're going for the next 100 years.

"Now as a mainstream local government, we're in charge of our own destiny."

As the community focuses on its future and unlocking economic development opportunities, Mr Clarke said next year's festival would return in September to capitalise on dry season tourists and

the school holidays. "The target date will be the last week of September," he said.

"Next year it may very well be a dance and music festival; we'll see what the committee wants to do."

Cape York Weekly

Editor Lyndon Keane: 0419 891 666 | editor@capeyorkweekly.com.au

FREE – #205 | Tuesday, October 8, 2024





A word from ...

Acting Mayor Alistair Bowie



Acting Mayor Alistair Bowie chose to take a low profile in the community as he and his team worked to support those who needed it, he says.

My team and I worked alongside the Council teams to help make it a success for the community, he writes.

And it was a great success for Lockhart River.

Just keeping our culture strong, showcasing our dances, teaching all the young ones and sharing all of that with outsiders.

It was also great to see the other community's cultures,

how they perform and how they share their stories through dancing.

Me and my team volunteered to help where we were needed, so we were doing things like setting up the marquees and cleaning up the festival sites, working with the others such as the Men's Group and the Puuya Centre.

We were also helping with the cooking and doing a lot

behind the scenes. There were many others who also did a lot of that work.

It was a special time, it seems like the only time we can feel good about ourselves is when we are expressing our culture.

Overall I think it has brought our community together and that's really important for all of us.

Alistair

Acting Mayor June-October 2024

news

News article titled "Celebrating 100 years with a dance festival". The article discusses the 100th anniversary of the Lockhart River Shire and the 2024 Paytham Malkari Dance Festival. It mentions the involvement of the Puuya Centre, the Men's Group, and other community members. The article is written by CHRISTIE HOWES.

By CHRISTIE HOWES

"There was a massive crowd!" she said. "It was a good way to start the week and get everyone out the 100-year jubilee."

"That was my area (Dance Day) and I'd like to see the highest turnout for the festival."

"I was glad to see the Puuya Centre and the Men's Group were part of it," she said. "We were really happy to see the other community's cultures and traditions being shared through their dancing."

The article continues to describe the festival activities and the community's pride in the event.

Lockhart River 100 Years Celebrations

news

News article titled "All the dancers gathering for the 100th anniversary of the 2024 Paytham Malkari Dance Festival in Lockhart River". The article reports on the success of the festival, mentioning the participation of various dance groups and the support from the community.

From previous page

Single Day Dance (Malkari) had the most of their 100th anniversary dance on the festival stage. "We had a great day and it was a good way to start the week," he said. "I was glad to see the Puuya Centre and the Men's Group were part of it."

"We were really happy to see the other community's cultures and traditions being shared through their dancing."

The article continues with more details about the festival.

Koori Mail
The Voice of Indigenous Australia

THE NATIONAL INDIGENEOUS NEWSPAPER - 100% ABORIGINAL-OWNED 100% SELF-FUNDING

See pages 11-36 for more pics and all the action from this year's Paytham Malkari Dance Festival ...!





A word from ...

CEO

David Clarke

Well how good was our 100 year celebrations and Paytham Malkari Festival eh? CEO Dave Clarke writes ...

Everyone was on such a high after it it was like medicine for our town and our culture. Congratulations to everyone who came and made it the outstanding success it was.

Our Bamaga and Pormpuraaw dancers really made it a Cape York family event and we really appreciate their efforts to come and join with us for our festival.

Special thanks to the Committee for your guidance and tireless effort to keep us all focused and structured.

Thanks also to our on ground lion hearts who made sure we were all fed and looked after whether it was a lift to Old Site or a Marquee at the dance ground, no one was left out.

Our dancers were magnificent and made us all proud of who we are and what our culture means to us.

Seeing all our gangs join up to hold the

cultural spotlight was very special. The great fireworks followed by our Lockhart Choir sing our Ya Wo song to all our visitors just made the night.

It was our town at its best.

Thank you to everyone.

As we head into the wet season, the race is on to get our building and roadworks complete.

Let's hope the wet season gives us a break and sleeps in a bit. We have done a record amount of roadwork already but it would be good to finish all our planned work.

Great work from all our teams.

I hope you are as proud of your work as we are of the way you get stuck into it and get the job done.

Solly and Tristan seem to like our new grader.

It's a big investment for Council but gives our team the opportunity to get access to the latest machines with their computer technology.

It's a bit of a space ship but will serve our town well going forward and will let us bid on Main Roads work going forward.

I'm personally pleased that the small business opportunities Council is creating are being taken up.

We have to make sure the work is done properly, on time, on budget, and built to the right standard. If we keep doing that we can keep delivering the work and keep the money in Lockhart.

It can be a long and hard season but we have to push on get our program finished or the work will go to outside people. No one wants to see that happen so it's up to us to smash him properly.

The new sub-division is nearly finished and ready to start building houses on.

Council is working with Department of Housing on a 10-year housing development plan which will mean we



Business Hub doing good business



The Ngaachi Nyi'ilama Business Hub has had another round of funding which will keep the doors open for another year.

The money came from the Indigenous Workforce and Skills Development Grant project, which was funded by the Queensland Government.

“We have just about to start a new funding round and now we're looking forward to another year,” Development and Support Officer Jermaine Thomas said. “We are doing the language numeracy, literacy and digital skills and using qualified local adult educators to support training once again.

“We can also support people do the White Card course.”

Mr Thomas said he was impressed with the number of participants last year as they reached their Key Performance Indicator measures.

“We had a good year last year,” he said.

“We got the required 16 participants, which was our KPI, so we did well.



“Our Admin Assistant support played a major role in the success and many of those participants will be continuing with their training program. Hopefully this year we'll pick up some more new people.”

He said their recently advertised position has been filled.

“The Admin Assistant position was filled by Latoya Butcher,” he said.

“Latoya will work from the Hub and bring a fresh approach to communicating the benefits of the program, helping us to motivate people to participate and improve

their lives and the lives of their families and community.

“Our job here is about creating awareness and attracting more people to enrol and participate in the program – eligible participants can benefit a lot from it.”

Mr Thomas said there were many reasons to join.

“Our clients are keen to join for their own reasons, from starting their own business or just improving on their numeracy and literacy,” he said. “There are a lot of things we're going to be organising for the wet season so watch this space.”

can fund the construction of new houses and future development areas soon.

This gives us the chance to start an intake of new apprentices across the building trades so a great chance coming up for our boys and girls who want that kind of career.

We will sing out when things are happening with this.

We've had some sad times recently and have had to say goodbye to our loved ones.

It is very sad and we thank them for who they were, the guidance they gave us all and the time they spent with us.

We will have many

challenges coming our way but I know, like the festival, when we work as one we can do anything.

Stay strong. Stay proud and look after each other.

Dave

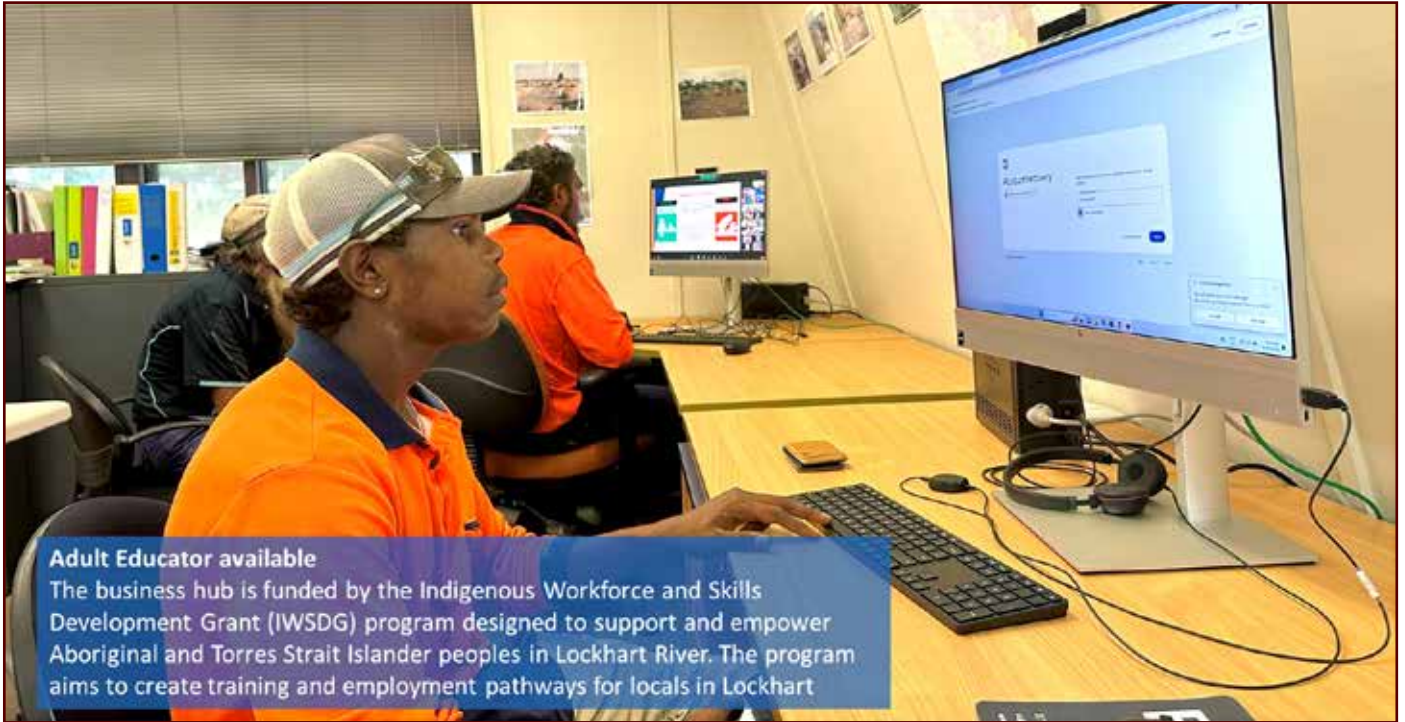
Chief Executive Officer

Waanta November 2024





Ngaachi Nyi'ilama (One Place) Business Hub and Cape York Employment offer White Card Training Course, free for jobseekers



Adult Educator available

The business hub is funded by the Indigenous Workforce and Skills Development Grant (IWSDG) program designed to support and empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Lockhart River. The program aims to create training and employment pathways for locals in Lockhart

Corporate Services

*Faye Hobson – Traffic Control &
Anthony Carlesso – Road Crew Quality
Assurance with Office Manager Deanka
Omeeny & Governance & Training
Coordinator Noleen Clark*



Building Services



The staff houses, up on Blady Grass Street, Residence 1 and Residence 3 have their foundations done and are on their way, Building Services Director Regis Edmond writes...

We are looking forward to having some more labour and skilled workers on site, if you are available go see the council.

They should take us through the wet and we should be able to get them finished by mid-next year.

Our carpenters and maintenance crews have also been busy around town to complete maintenance Work Orders.

We always encourage people in the community to report their maintenance on time, so it doesn't get worse as time goes on.

Our paint crew have quite a bit of work coming up,



which is either already in the pipeline or in the process of getting approved, and at the moment, they're doing some of the other work around town and some of the council buildings.

In renovation work, we have completed quite a few house upgrades, there are two or three of them in progress and some new ones are coming through.

Council has also decided to take on two young men to be carpentry apprentices and we are hoping to find someone interested in taking on a plumbing apprenticeship – that would be great.

Overall we are doing quite okay for now and soon we'll be cleaning up and getting ready for the wet season.

The best of the season to you all.





Building Services: helping to build our community



The zen of house painting



Zefha Butcher (*right*) has only been painting for a short time, but says he's thrilled with his new job.

"I love painting," he said.

"It's a really patient job and it's really, really awesome to paint."

Zefha has been learning the ropes from James Macumboy (*below left*), another local who has been painting Lockhart River for nearly 20 years.

"He's a good fella," Zefha said. "He loves to show us a bit of his experience painting the walls."

Before painting, Zefha was a construction worker for HC Construction.

"We were building some brick houses at Pormpuraaw, like slab houses," he said. "I was working as concreter."

Zefha said he has always loved to work.

"I love working, work is my lifestyle," he said.

"I was really young when I started to work," he said.

"Dad used to tell me, 'No, you're too young to start work yet. Wait till you grow

up a bit'. But since I started work, I was like, 'oh, this is my lifestyle now till I get old'."

He said he used to play footy before he was bitten by a crocodile in the Northern Territory.

Attacked from behind while fishing with his family on Groote Eylandt, he escaped by poking the crocodile in the eye.

He made the news and still has the scars on his leg.

Zefha paints with another newcomer to the trade, Dennis Pascoe (*above*).

"He's a good painter," he says of Dennis.

"Me and him love to work painting around the place here.

"Working at Lockhart River is really good, helping the community and providing for everyone, it's very good, and I love it."



Painting Supervisor Thomas Abraham (*below right*) said he was very happy to have his two new painters on board and he loved they were local. "I think it's very important," he said.

"I'd like to see someone just take my job – but they've got to do it properly.

"The town doesn't look the way it looks by people just taking half-goes at it.

"There's a lot of work, there is infrastructure getting built, housing, the new subdivision will be online soon.

"There's always work for painters here, always.

"I've been here a long time, and I've done some houses three times now, and yeah, it's good.

"But you've got to be committed to it and understand that you just have to show up every day and get the job done – it keeps the community happy.

"It's a good job and I enjoy it."





Municipal Services

As Municipal Services Director Edward Bobongie and his team are keeping busy to make sure Lockhart River's water testing, animal management, environmental health, garbage management, sewer management and parks and gardens are all well-maintained.

"We test the water every day to make sure that it's safe to drink," Mr Bobongie said. "We do regular flushing for sediment and stuff that gets in there to get them out."

Black & More director Greg O'Brien said the upgrade/ replacement of Councils Water Treatment plant to ensure the correct flow and water pressure to the community was in planning.

"The existing SCADA system, generator and automatic changeover switch for the Water Treatment Plant have/will be getting replaced/upgraded," he said.

"With this work complete, the SCADA system will be able to monitor power outages and ensure the backup supply is available even during outage events."

Mr Bobongie said he and his team was also responsible for the community's animal management.

"We've got a regular vet visit every quarter, and our next visit is coming up," he said. "Our job

in the meantime is to get around and get a vet list ready for when they come in.

"Then they can do the work without mucking around and waiting for people or waiting for dogs and stuff like that.

"So, we'll line that up – come and see us if you want to be on the list."

In the area of environmental health, he and his team had also completed several food safety inspections.

"We've got food outlets around including one at the canteen.

"We've done one at the festival too, just to ensure that food is safe for people to eat."

Among his crew were Elijah Boseun, Gary Warradoo, Mark Getawan and Kenneth Namok.



They also maintained the dump and the sewage system. "The dump is a lot better than it was," Mr Bobongie said.

"It's looking pretty good. "We make sure the sewage system is safe and operational."

Finally, he said, Harley Nathan and the Parks & Gardens gang were also busy, especially in the lead-up to the 100-year celebrations and Paytham Malkari Dance Festival.

Mr Bobongie, who was originally from the Torres Strait, said he loved living in Lockhart River.

"My kids grew up here and I love it and enjoy it," he said. "Everybody knows me, it's a good feeling right now."



Paytham Malkari



proudly presents
our 2024 Dance &
Cultural Festival



Five BIG days
of celebration,
culture, dancing,
singing,
camping and
food next to
the beach at
Lockhart River.

100 Years 1924-2024



Tuesday 24 –
Saturday 28
SEPTEMBER

- Tuesday 24: Community Opening
- Wednesday 25: St James Church Day
- Thursday 26: Old Lockhart Celebrations (at Old Site)
- Thursday Night: Paytham Malkari Dance & Cultural Festival Opening (6pm)
- Friday 27: Paytham Malkari Dance & Cultural Festival
- Saturday 28: Dance Teams Community March (4pm), Festival (6pm) and Closing Ceremony (9pm)





Lockhart River's Elders, young people, women and men worked together for several months in the lead-up to the 100th anniversary and the second annual Paytham Malkari Dance Festival. It was a community-wide effort, which paid off in a successful week.



Pics on this page thanks to Elaine Williams



"The Justice Group supported the Women's Group, the Youth Group and the Men's group. The Elders have done a lot of work making costumes for the festival. One of the elders had a ball teaching the younger people how to do things." Justice Group coordinator Douglas Williams.

"It was good everyone chipped in." Store Manager Benny Macumboy.



Festival organising committee member Wayne Butcher said it was one of the best weeks of his life. "Everybody embraced a good, happy week of celebrating our history and our culture," he said. "We had Tuesday to Saturday of good, solid activities and everything fell into place. Everyone helped too as well, I think that's the important part, a lot of people volunteered and you just can't thank them enough."



Men's Group Coordinator Greg Omeenyo said it was a team effort.



“From the start, we got together with the women and the youth, and we all worked together to see how those responsibilities were going to look,” he said. “We all worked together and we kept up to date with each other, making sure everything was done as we went. From the operation and the management side of things, I also want to credit all the volunteers who put their hands up for the festival. Our Community Development workers formed a great team and we also worked with Municipal Services, Eddie Bobongie’s crew as well. And there were other agencies, such as CYE (Cape York Employment) and the Puuya Centre.”



Women's Shelter Coordinator Ethel Singleton knows all too well the hard work that went on behind the scenes preparing dancing outfits. As a grass skirt maker and clothing provider for the festival, which was led by the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council and the Puuya Foundation, Ethel was involved in making the grass skirts and dyeing them for both males and females and also making the pandanus the dancers needed for their headbands and armbands. “Everything fell into place in the five days that it was running,” she said. “I thought it turned out really well.”



Pics by Elaine Williams & Wayne Butcher

Pics on this page Elaine Williams





“I think the Festival was everything that Puuya is about in terms of how we supported it and how we assisted the council and the community to put on such a successful event. It created space for families together, and that’s what the Kuunchi Kakana – which means ‘families together’ is all about. It was a lot of hard work but we’re very happy with the outcome, especially showcasing the special culture that is embedded throughout the whole community of Lockhart, and sharing that experience with our visitors.”
Puuya Foundation CEO Emma Schuh.

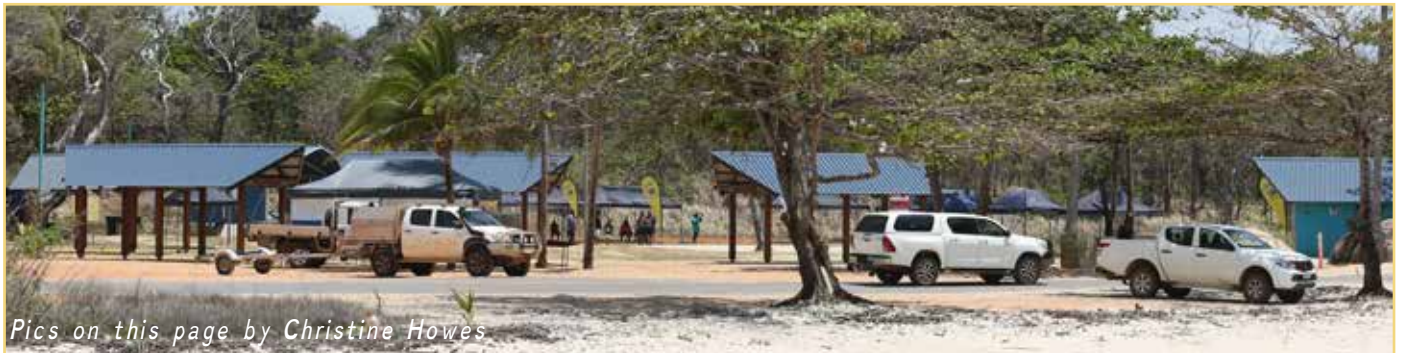


Pics on this page by Christine Howes





“Being part of the week was a privilege and I was so proud of my team where they committed themselves to assist Gregory at the Men’s Shed to get everything organised. It was a team effort that came from everybody. It was a unique week.” Cape York Employment team leader Maria Zaro.



Pics on this page by Christine Howes

“The Building Services crew, including Alistair’s team, worked closely with the organisers to do whatever needed to be done, starting with the installation of the flags you can see were from one end of town to the other, working with Jamie and the Com Dev team. We set up all the sheds, which we built last year, put the stage together and connected the water for the cooking van. We also helped to set up and maintain the campground.” Building Services Director Regis Edmond.

Pics by Christine Howes





The week started with an opening ceremony at the cemetery followed by a march to the community hall and the Lockhart River Kawadji Wiimpa Dancers.



Pic thanks to Cynthia Lui & Leanne Enoch



Pic by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio



Pic by Wayne Butcher



Pic by Wayne Butcher



Pic by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio



Pic by Jaz Ford



Pic thanks to Cynthia Lui & Leanne Enoch





Pic by Wayne Butcher



Pic by Molly Hiti,
thanks to Black
Star Radio



Pic thanks to Cynthia Lui & Leanne Enoch



Pic by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio



Pic by Jaz Ford



Pic thanks to Cynthia Lui & Leanne Enoch



Pic by Jaz Ford



Pics thanks to Cynthia Lui & Leeanne Enoch



Pic by Jaz Ford



Pic by Jaz Ford

Pic by Jaz Ford



Pic by Jaz Ford



Pic by Jaz Ford





The next day was Church Day, and that was about the Anglican Church that brought the community together in 1924 at the Old Lockhart Mission, which they ran until 1967 when the state government took over management of the community. So Church Day was to remember the role the Anglican Church played in the community, it was the foundation to a lot of our Elders. "We had a small march around the community, a great church service and some more dancing." Mayor Wayne Butcher.



Pics on this page by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio





Pics left & below by Jaz Ford



Pics above by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio





Pic by Wayne Butcher



Pic by Wayne Butcher



Pics by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio



Pic by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio



Pic by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio



Pic by Molly Hill, thanks to Black Star Radio

Anglican Church of Australia
**Church of St James
 Lockhart River**
 Consecrated 25th of July 1974
 by Bp. Eric the 6th Bishop of Carpentaria



Holy Communion
 Sunday - 9am
 Thursday - 5:30pm

Morning Prayer
 Mon to Thurs - 6:30am

Evening Prayer
 Mon to Thurs - 5:30pm

Enquiries at the Church H

Pic by Wayne Butcher





Mayor Butcher said one of the highlights of a week of highlights was taking several hundred people 70 kilometres southeast of the community for a celebration out at 'Old Site'.

"Everyone was out there and you could feel the spirit of our old people joining us for the day," he said. "Some of the Elders spoke about their experience living there, and then after being moved and coming back, some were pretty emotional."

Pic thanks to Warwick Agnew



Pic by Wayne Butcher



Pic thanks to Warwick Agnew



Pic thanks to Warwick Agnew



Pic by Jaz Ford

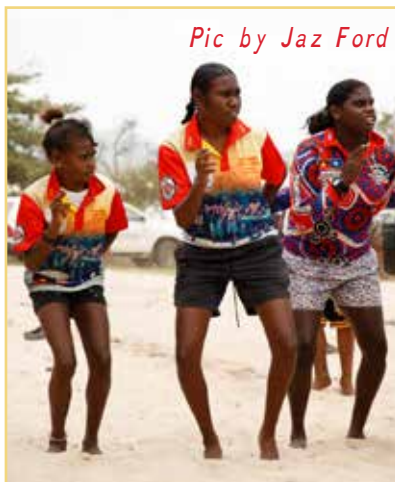




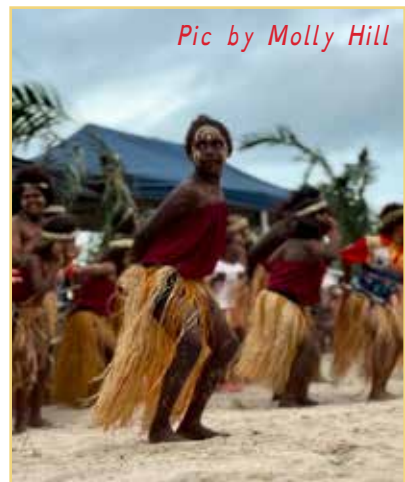
Pic by Molly Hill



Pic by Jaz Ford



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Pic by Wayne Butcher



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Pic by Jaz Ford



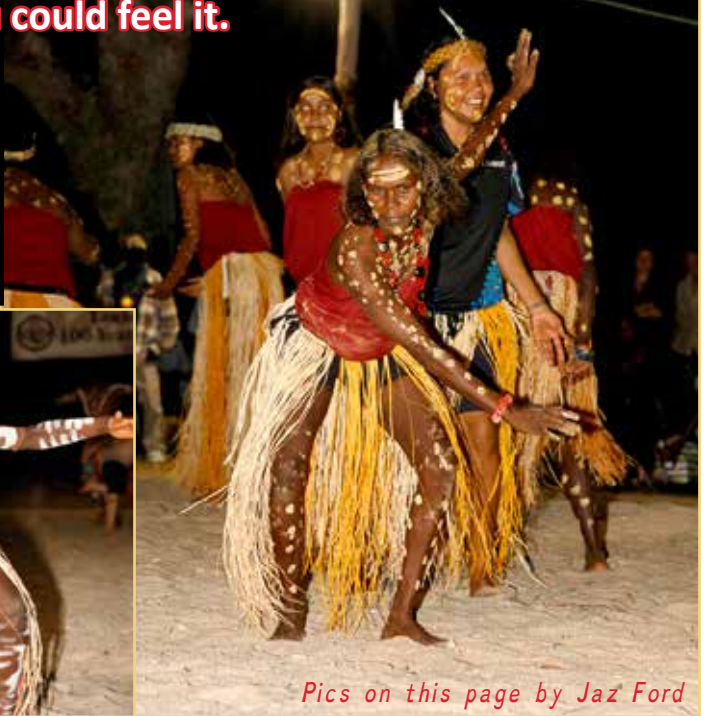


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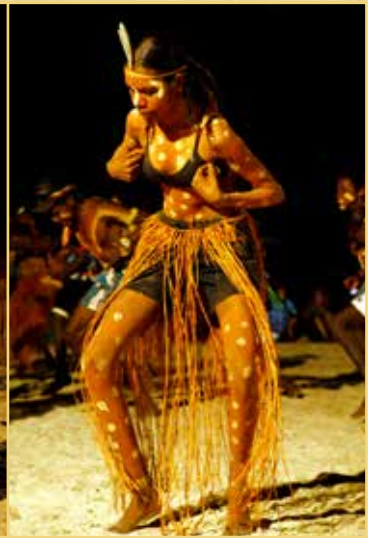




On Friday and Saturday nights there was the Paytham Malkari Dance Festival. "The festival is always a highlight, the kids just love dancing, you'll never stop them dancing," Mayor Butcher said. "But the atmosphere and the crowd, it's just one of those things that the dancing culture is something that brings Lockhart community together – and you could feel it.



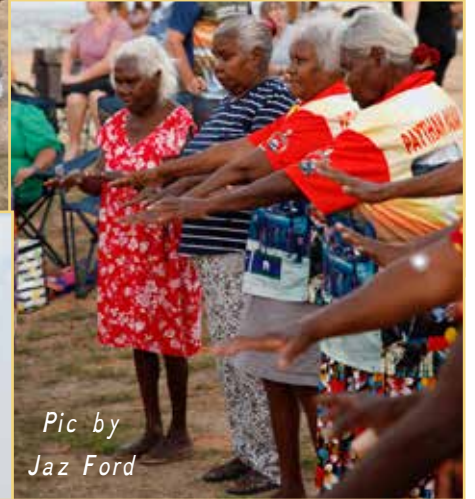
Pics on this page by Jaz Ford





*Pics on this page by
Christine Howes*





*Pic by
Jaz Ford*



*Pics on this page by
Christine Howes*



Pics on this page by Christine Howes





Pics on this page by Christine Howes





Bamaga brought a huge team of dancers – six cars from home, one from Cairns and two from Weipa – to this year’s Paytham Malkari Festival. “It was good last year and it was good this year,” Guba Markai manager Clifford Wasiu said. “I believe next year will be a bit bigger.”



Pics on this page by Christine Howes





Pics on this page by
Christine Howes



Lockhart River 100 Years Celebration

1924 to 2024



Pics on this page by
Christine Howes

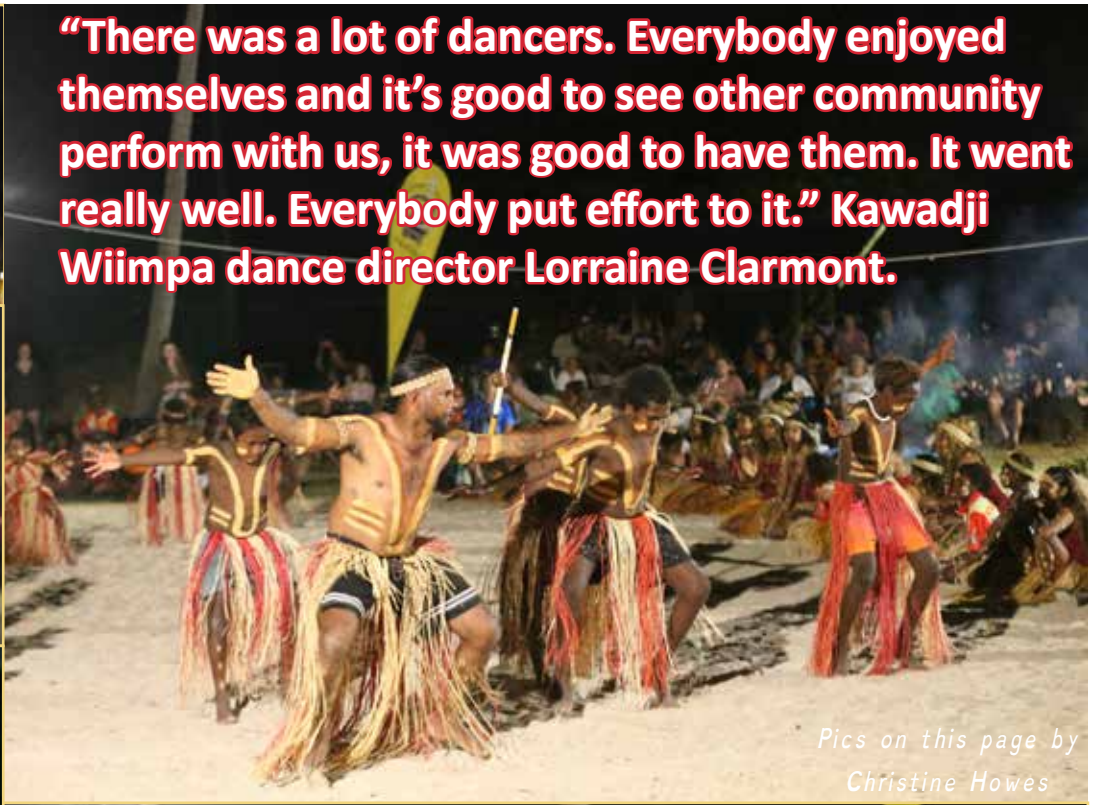


"I enjoyed it, it's really exciting for everybody, especially when everybody joined in together as one. I enjoyed myself here and with the dancers and extended family that's here looking after us." Pormpuraaw dancers singer Syd Bruce Shortjoe.





“There was a lot of dancers. Everybody enjoyed themselves and it’s good to see other community perform with us, it was good to have them. It went really well. Everybody put effort to it.” Kawadji Wiimpa dance director Lorraine Clarmont.



*Pics on this page by
Christine Howes*





Pics on this page by Christine Howes





*Pics on this page by
Christine Howes*







*Pic above
by Michelle
Partridge*

“It all went to plan and people pulled together, as they do in Lockhart. A lot of people got involved. Special thanks to Building Services’ Reggie Edmond and Benny Macumboy at the Council store, Eddie Bobongie and the crew from Municipal Services, John Pritchard, the Women’s Shelter’s Ethel Singleton and the Youth Centre’s Elaine Williams put in a lot of work when it came to costume and material collection and creation. The Men’s Shed and Gregory Omeenyo did some great work with Douglas Graham and the Justice Group, as did CEQ, the local store, who catered for our needs for after hours. The Puuya Foundation managed the food van with volunteers, and did a great job there. Their CEO Emma Schuh is highly organised and that’s certainly reflected in how the food van was operated. Cape York Employment was also great, they provided a lot of the guys for the lead-up labouring work as well. Ultimately it was a good overall team effort by multiple people including all of the Councillors, who all got right in there and got their hands dirty as well in regards to supporting some of the frontline operations. And Father Mathias did his part with the church to support the week and overall it was a great community effort.”

Community Development Director Jamie Love



Community Development



Community Development Services have been busy delivering our many programs and supporting key events including the Lockhart River 100 Celebration and Paytham Malkari Dance Festival, Director Jamie Love writes...

For myself as Director, I have been living in Lockhart River for over a year and during this time I have built on my understanding of the community and the local and regional service providers that operate alongside the Shire.

Community Development Services is fortunate to have some very dedicated and proactive staff and coordinators.

Our programs continue to be refined and we will soon have a new addition of wellbeing officers, who will work with the community on mental health and suicide prevention.

This important service will not only support those experiencing mental health challenges



Com Dev Director Jamie Love @ the Paytham Malkari Dance Festival

but also raise awareness around these sensitive issues.

Leading into Christmas our focus will be the school holiday activities and wet season programs.

We will also start planning some of our first overnight bush camping trips, which we hope to grow further into the future to assist community dialogue and involvement in the areas of justice, domestic violence, alcohol and other drugs and culture.

Community Development continues to move from strength to strength and our services continue to grow for the betterment of the community overall.



HACC staff Bella, Bessie & Eleanor

Sewing machines back in action



Women's Shelter Coordinator Ethel Singleton is excited to report the shelter has two sewing machines operating again after years of not working, so women are free to come in and use them.

"I'm going to start doing some curtains, so I've got

curtain material there," she said.

"Nothing flash, but it's still good enough to put up for your windows."

Ethel said she wanted to encourage women to visit the shelter and use the machines.





New furniture and fun at library

Library Coordinator Lorraine Warradoo says things are looking up at the library.

“Before we had a few kids coming in and now we have more,” she said.

“And we have new furniture.”

Lorraine, who will be travelling to Cairns in November for more training, said the library was open for everyone to use.

“Everyone is welcome to use the computers to go on the internet, and the Archive Room,” she said.

“The kids in the afternoon use the computers for games.”



PAMA NGAMPULANA
WATANGKANANA MALNGKANKU

WALKING AS ONE AGAINST MENTAL HEALTH – PROMOTING AWARENESS AND THE VOICE OF THOSE WHO ARE SILENT
YOU ME, MAATE'S EH.../PUUYA KUNTHA PAMA KUNTHA

Men's walking group every Tuesday:
Starts Tuesday 12 November 24
Where: Beach
When: 5.00pm

Proudly supported by the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council in collaboration with Royal Flying Doctor Service.
Come along a support an important cause towards mental health awareness.

Please contact Patrick Butcher if you have any queries.

LOCKHART RIVER KAMPINU PATHAMANA
(MENS WALKING GROUP)
Motto: YOU ME, MAATES EH

BBQ AT MEN'S SHED – 10.00AM

THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2024

KAMPINU NGAMPULA
WATUNGKANANA MALNGKANKU
KAMPINU KUNTHA
(STRONG MEN)
KUNTHA PUUYA
(STRONG HEART)
NGAMPULA KAMPINU
(WE, US, MEN)
WATANGKANANA NYILAMA
(WALKING TOGETHER AS ONE)

WALKING AS ONE AGAINST MENTAL HEALTH – PROMOTING AWARENESS AND THE VOICE OF THOSE WHO ARE SILENT - PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THE CAUSE
Please contact Patrick Butcher if you have any queries.



Justice Group hard at work



Wulpumu Justice Group Coordinator Douglas Williams says the group's members are working hard which has paid off.

"They turn up every court day to assist people and help with submissions," he said.

"We just had some good news - I have some money to buy a bus and a boat for the group to do some on-country activities.

"So, it will take a little while to get I suppose, but we've got the approval together, so that's a big win.

"The Justice Group will use them to take elders on-country, to take offenders, to take victims, to take people who in danger of offending and get them out of harm's way."

In other good news, Mr Williams said the government



was also looking at changing the membership rules.

"They've realised that the rules that they had when originally set up are no longer working," he said.

The new proposals included allowing people with criminal records to join the Justice Group.

"Even in remote communities, just as in the city, people

seem to pick up records, which I was sad to hear happened here as well as elsewhere," he said.

"A change to those rules would be good, it will make it easier for people, especially those who might have thought they weren't eligible previously.

"They need to keep an ear open next few months."

The Justice Group continued to support the Women's, Youth Group and Men's Groups and assist them with functions and events.

Mr Williams said the group was still looking to fill the female support worker position to work with Father Mathias, who holds the male support position.

"We are still trying to find someone," he said.

Men's Group busy working together

The Men's Group is continuing to follow up on getting on-country programs back on board and continues to help men going through the court system.

"We keep trying to keep the boys going through the court system out of it," Men's Group Coordinator Greg Omeenyo said.

"We are trying to get some programs out on



country and we've got the resources we need. We can start using those resources and getting bodies out on country and start doing

programs out on country."

He said the Men's Group was also focused on the town and working with the Justice Group.





After school and school holiday fun!



School Disco fun



Engineering Services



The road crew has called in for a little extra help as they work on five kilometres of a culvert on the Pascoe River side of the main road in, Roads Inspector John Mansbridge says...

Rock is the problem.

“Presently, we’re bringing up the sub-grade and doing the rock protection,” he said.

“Hopefully, we’ll get it finished this year, only to the stage of gravel, it won’t be sealed.

“But it needs rock protection because it’s quite high and quite wide.”

He said the Council’s acquisition of a new grader was a big help.

“It will be used for final trim with the new Trimble Earthworks program,” Mr Mansbridge said.

“It’s very much updated and different, very sophisticated.

“In the machine, the operator can see exactly

where the machine is on the road, how far off level it is and then they can just move themselves around.

“It’s a touchscreen so the driver can look at where they are from above or the side and know exactly where the blade is.

“Once they get down to the final trim, they just click it into auto and it will finish it.

“It still takes a good operator to be able to do it all, but it is information that’s right there.

“So we don’t need pegs anymore, it’s pegless, and it doesn’t need anybody to say ‘come here’ or ‘come there’ – it’s all on the screen.”

He said they could always



John Mansbridge

use more workers even though there were already quite a few already out there in traffic control, water trucks and rollers.

“On this job we need more,” he said.



The Old Site Road Crew





BELOW: In August, road teams, rangers, and volunteer fire crews joined forces to help the Rural Fire Service's Bushfire Mitigation Unit complete some of its dry season work in the district.

Officer Chris Wegger described the team as the best crew he had 'come across in a long time'.

"Great team, really appreciate everything and everyone's help, can't thank you both and your team enough," he said.





The 2024 construction program is in full swing and keeping the Council's civil crews and subcontractors busy with the completion of projects and restoring the damage caused from Ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper.

Over 20,000 tonnes of raw material has been delivered to Portland Road South. Materials are being stockpiled where necessary along the road edge until these materials are included in the restoration works by the

Council's construction team.

Works were expected to be completed by Christmas.

Please take care while driving through this area.

The restoration of the sidetrack at Culvert 117 has been completed minimising delays for travellers and road users while enhancing the safety of the workers.

The road shaping works were near completion and the road formation and embankment protection works for Culvert 117 were underway.

These works were to be substantially completed by Christmas and then the adjacent culverts 117AB and 117C and associated approaches, drainage and pavement works were to be completed.

The airport security fencing and roadside clearing north of the Pascoe River was also to be done with the project Works along Wattle Hill Road were done and Pascoe Farms Road was about 60 per cent completed.

Works were also progressing rapidly on the restoration of Old Site Road with works between the Wachee River and Old Site programmed to be finished before the wet.

Works for the Piiramo Street Subdivision were near completion with the finalisation of the main contract.

Chuulungan Road restoration works will be completed with the balance of Pascoe Farms Road in 2025.



Beach life in Lockhart River



Congratulations to U12 AFL Cape York Crusaders Award Winner Grayson Norman for picking up first goal scorer and Most Valuable Player on the Sunshine Coast earlier this year!

Grayson is making his mark in AFL circles with his selection for various rep teams in the far north.

AFL Cape York Development Coordinator Kieran Sciberras said Grayson played in the AFL Cape York Crusaders program for U12s and U14s, which were made up of the best AFL footballers from across Cape York, Gulf Savannah and Torres Strait.

“He stays at AFL Cape York House for Boys and is a great footballer who shows strong leadership qualities on and off the field,” Kieran said.