

# Palm Island Voice



FREE!

## Issue 372

27 March 2023



## Containers for Change a success!

In just over two weeks Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council's Containers for Change facility has taken on – and paid for – more than 27,600 empty, lidless and rinsed eligible bottles and cans, PIASC CEO Michael Bissell says.



*Krystoff, Tajah and Phillip help to unload a flat bed truck of containers for a very happy Thaddeus, who opened Palm Island's new depot with 3,000 cans.*

He said they were still keen for more people to register their details so they too could cash in on the opportunity.

Mayor Mislam Sam dubbed the new scheme a success.

“An incredible success and exceptionally well received by community,” he said.

Civil, Open Space and Training Manager Janelle ‘Nugget’ Whitehead said their storage area was already overflowing.

“We’re looking forward

to getting this first lot of containers off Island early next week,” she said.

She said the only issue was food scraps and other rubbish finding their way in, which meant the bag couldn't be counted.

“We can't accept contaminated bags,” she said.

“We have seen some food scraps and rubbish in some of the bags which means we can't count them and they have to be taken to the dump.

“We need clean, separated product.

“That means rinsed – no food scraps, no butts and no lids.”



*Krystoff shows PIASC fencing team Len and Nathan how easy it is to sign up on the spot!*

The Save Sorry Business coalition will hold a National Day of Action tomorrow, Tuesday, to demand the Federal Government provide compensation and culturally appropriate options to people who have been harmed by the closure of Youpla (also known as ACBF).

The Federal Government committed to provide a resolution for those harmed by Youpla but the Save Sorry Business coalition believes the Federal Government's final scheme must include these four key important components:

1. First Nations people have been listened to and given a chance to meaningfully shape the final scheme
2. All policyholders that were harmed are provided with a fair and proportionate response to their financial losses
3. Culturally appropriate options that recognise diversity within households and communities are included, such as refunds, replacement funeral bonds and savings plans
4. The final scheme is designed with a low barrier to participation and proactively communicated to First Nations communities, making use of liquidator data on policyholders and payments

Save Sorry Business has asked as many people as possible voice these demands by:

- 1) Sharing a photo on social media holding the #SaveSorryBusiness sign and share these on your social media channels with a short statement of support.
- 2) Emailing Linda Burney – linda.burney.mp@aph.gov.au stating your support for a fair and culturally appropriate resolution for those harmed by Youpla and the associated regulatory failures.  
For more information see <https://ican.org.au/preparing-for-a-national-day-of-action/>



## Queensland Treaty Bill under discussion

After a welcome from Aunty Daphne Cummings, a swag of MPs including Cynthia Lui (Cook), Corrine McMillan (Mansfield), Stephen Bennett (Burnett), Dr Mark Robinson (Oodgeroo) and local MP Scott Stewart, who attended via phone, heard some Palm Islander views on the Queensland Government's *Path to Treaty Bill 2023* last Wednesday.

The previous day Mick Gooda came to workshop with community members in an informal setting prior to the Public Inquiry.

The Bill was introduced to Parliament last month and now goes through a process of consideration by a Community Support & Services Committee, who have called for submissions in writing or via a series of public hearings, briefings and forums.

Attendees to the Palm Island forum included Mayor Mislam Sam, Lex Wotton, Alf Lacey, Robert Friday,



Marina Coutts and David Bulsey.

The results of the Committees work was expected to be tabled on Friday 21 April.

The meeting was transcribed and proceedings are available online at:

<https://tinyurl.com/3jx7sk7w>

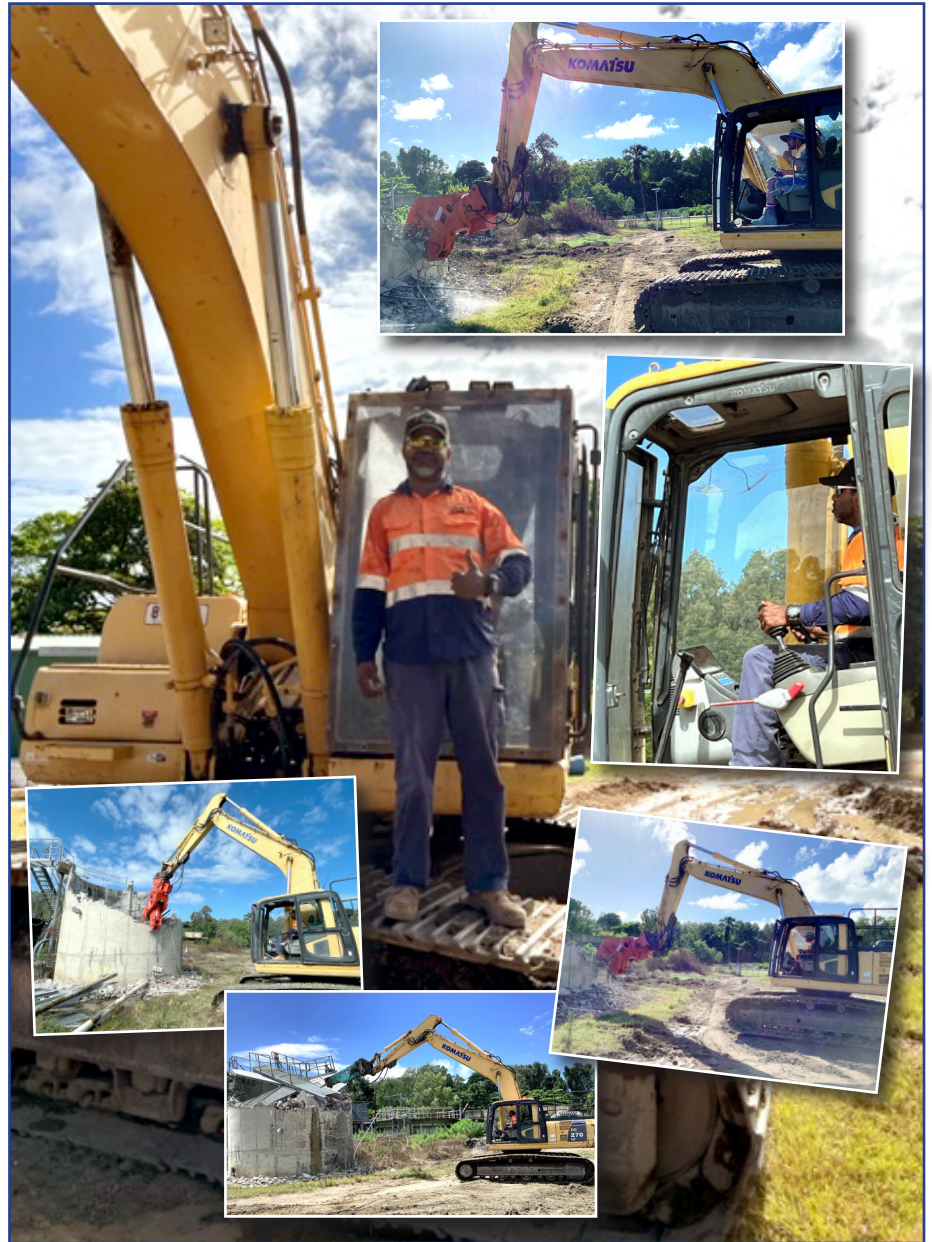
# Council workers 'crushing it' at treatment plant

Storage tanks at the old Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) is in the process of being demolished with the help of the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council's concrete pulveriser, operated with some expertise by Lenin Yassarie and Billo Wotton.

"This work, and other demolition works, are needed prior to commencing our upgrades to the STP to create space and a level site," CEO Michael Bissell said. "Big thanks to Micah, Steve, Marc and Nugget for coordinating this work being done by Council staff with Council plant.

"Len and Billo are putting their recently gained excavator tickets to use in this demolition work.

"Thanks also to the Department of Environment team for supporting the project with their investment in the pulveriser and crusher."



*Lenin (main pic) & Billo at work*



# Thanks!



**Big thanks to Nugget and the team she has pulled together to make it happen and the rest of Council staff who have built and developed the site (concrete team, building team, IT team etc etc).**

**Big thanks to the team at Containers for Change and helping us get up and running.**

**Big thanks to the team at DES for your support and investment.**

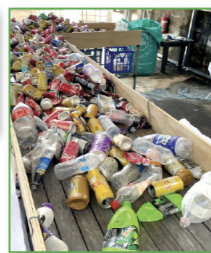
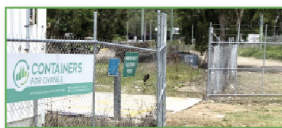
## Containers for Change open now!

Manbarra Road Depot (turn off at Council Yellow Shed)

### 8am-1pm Monday to Thursday

#### What you need to know:

- There is **NO CA\$H**
- You need a **Container Scheme ID number**
  - o For registration and bag drop please have ID
  - o Help is available for those not yet signed up
  - o You need your bank account details
  - o All transactions will be directly deposited into your bank account



- Please make sure you only bring containers eligible for refund
  - o cans, plastic bottles and fruit poppers are ok
  - o no milk, spirit, cordial or orange juice bottles

- There is a **LOT** of plastic and aluminium on the Island, please be **patient** with staff as we work through each bag drop!



- To find out more see the **Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council's Facebook page** or <http://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/>



## Request for Tender

PIASC are calling for Expressions of Tender for the Lease of the Palm Island Bistro.

Please call into the office for a Tender Document.

Please forward to your relevant contacts who may be interested in applying.

Reception number: 4770 0200.

Request for Tender (RFT)	Lease of the Palm Island Bistro
RFT Number	202301
Tender Closing Time	4pm, Friday 28 April 2023.
Contact for Tender Documents	Greg Constantine - Manager Finance, Governance and Administration, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Greg.Constantine@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au

## THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE\*

(Issue 373\*) will be **Thursday 6 April** for publication on **Monday 10 April.**



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@hotkey.net.au](mailto:chowes@hotkey.net.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 2,900 'likes' and more than 3,000 followers! 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 5,200 'followers' on Facebook!!!