









PLEASE note there may be some images of





... ALSO INSIDE ... Mayors meet mayors, State and Opposition MPs in Brisbane

PICTURED: Mayor Alf Lacey, Queensland Premier Steven Miles and Wujal Wujal Mayor Alister Gibson. "We particularly wanted Cr Gibson to know that Wujal Wujal had Palm Island's full support in terms of getting back on their feet and back into their community in the wake of Cyclone Jasper and the rain events that followed," Mayor Lacey said.





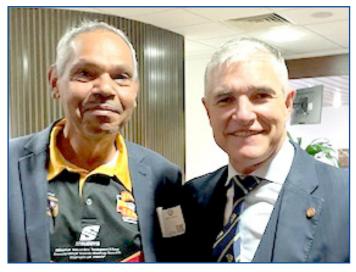
The 2024 Palm Island Junior Rugby League footy season has kicked off with a trip to Townsville for nearly 60 kids — boys and girls from 6–15 years old! About 20 volunteers joined them and everyone was very excited. Thanks and shout out to our 2024 sponsors: SeaLink North Queensland, Palm Island CDP (RainbowGateway), CEQ- Bwgcolman Supermarket and Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.



The Palm Island Voice is published by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and is free and online @ www.chowes.com.au









Mayors meet mayors, State Government and Opposition MPs in Brisbane

Queensland Premier Steven Miles met all 77 local government mayors in Brisbane earlier this month, including the 19 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Council heads.

"We spent two days training and meeting in a sort of round table," Mayor Alf Lacey said.

"We had a chance to talk to not just the government, but the opposition as well.

"We took the opportunity to have the same conversation with the Premier as we had with the Prime Minister, and that was to put housing at the top of our agendas.

"We also spoke to the Housing Minister and the Treasurer." He said their main message was prefab homes "off the back of trucks" didn't work for every community.

"It doesn't make sense," he said.

"It goes against the grain in terms of economic opportunity and jobs for our people, whether that's in apprenticeships or labour.

"Our main issue was to ensure most of the money is spent on the ground in our communities."

He said for communities such as Palm and the Torres Strait Islands, freight had an impact.

"But at the end of the day, a quick fix like that doesn't do anything for the long-term economy in our communities," he said.

"It has to be about more money on the ground, and we have to keep our voices front and centre in terms of getting what we want for our communities.

"We can only do that as a collective rather than individually."

He said some of their training highlighted where their focus should be.

"Concentrating our focus on the strategic direction of our community, rather than the day-to-day running of council was highlighted through the training course," he said.

"That was interesting, and one of the things I got from that was we should never forget about our community and our People, that's the bigger picture for us."

Trainees keen!



Henry Mossman and Costa Sam have been busy TAFE training in Townsville – Henry for his Certificate III in Engineering – Mechanical Trade (Fitter) and Costa for his Certificate III in Engineering – Fixed & Mobile Plant Mechanic.

Jeanie McIntosh from the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training called in to offer her support and see how they were doing.

They have already been away for two weeks and said they were looking forward to coming home.

Sealink comp for local artists closes soon

SeaLink North Queensland are inviting Indigenous locals from the Townsville, Hinchinbrook, Palm Island, Magnetic Island and Cape Cleveland regions to share their artistic talents.

Competition entries close on the 6 May 2024. The winner will be announced on the 27th of May. For more information regarding entry conditions, see our website: http://bit.ly/ LocalIndigenousArtistCompetition_

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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 5,400 'followers' on Facebook!!!