

FREE!

**ISSUE 404**8 July 2024

PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.

Councillors court Canberra



The new Palm Island Councillors went to Canberra for their first time last week, for the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) conference and a series of meetings to lobby for the community.

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey said it gave them some exposure to the national scene and how they could go about pursuing the issues that were important to Palm Island as a community.

"We were there with a good

contingent of First Nations councils from Queensland, including Hopevale Mayor Bruce Gibson, Kowanyama Mayor Terita Dick and Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor Phillemon Mosby," he said. "We met up with Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney and a smaller delegation met with the Prime Minister's office, including his Chief of Staff Tim Gartrell, and the Speaker of the House Milton Dick." Continues ->

#### FULL NAIDOC PROGRAM INSIDE!



From page 1 ... "We also took the opportunity to see Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter, local MP Federal Member for Herbert Phil Thompson and Victorian Senator Lidia Thorpe," Mayor Lacey said.

"In terms of history, and including the history of our own community, we followed in the footsteps of many Palm Island activists by also visiting the Aboriginal Tent Embassy on the lawns of the Old Parliament House."

He said himself and Terita were the first ever Indigenous Mayors from Queensland to sign the Speaker's guest book.

"I think the trip highlighted that Palm is not afraid to speak up in terms of the issues that are most important to our community," he said.

"It also allowed us to lobby and partner up and network with people who have influence, particularly at that national level, in terms of getting things done that are important to us - and housing is still our number one ticket item.

"And I have always made it a strong point that unless there is a conversation about the economic outcomes, rather than just social services, in our community, we don't want to waste our time being there.

"It is also important that whilst we deal with day-to-day issues in our community, there's this other work that also has to happen off the community.

"So I think it was certainly an eye-opener for the four young councillors in terms of really what happens when you go to those national gatherings — that you have to speak up and put your community on the map because the silver platter doesn't come to us unless we do.

"We have to go and lobby for as much as we can in terms of for a better outcome for our community."

Cr Lacey said he was pleased to have the opportunity to pass his knowledge on to the Councillors.

"They are the new generation of leaders in our community, so it's very much about passing on and sharing that knowledge," he said.

10/	hen	What	where	
	10-11am	Combined Church Service, Blessing & Acknowledgment of NAIDOC Week	Mall Area	
Sunday 7/7	10-midday	Clean Up Palm Island	Mission/Foreshore Fred Cl	
	Midday	Light Refreshments	PI Indigenous Community Church, St Anne's Catholic Church	
	12pm	Ferry Departs Townsv		
	2:15pm	Ferry Departs Palm Island		
Monday 8/7	9-11am	Children's Activities	IKC	
	9-10am	Community breakfast	Fred Clay Park	
	9-10am	Flag-raising & Smoking Ceremony	Monument Park	
	10.30am	Official Opening-PIASC & Invited Guests	Fred Clay Park	
	11am-3pm	Traditional Performances-Various Local Dancers	Fred Clay Park	
	7.30am	Ferry Departs Townsv	ille	
	9am	Ferry Departs Palm Island		
	10.00am	Elders Morning Tea-PICC, PCYC,		
	3pm	Elders Arts & Crafts -IKC, HACC, PICC Elders Group		
	5-8pm			
		EVENT CLOSES AT 4PM		
	9am-2.30pm	Market stalls open	BCS School Oval	
		School Tribal Banner March		
		Children's activities-Facepainting, Balloons,		
		Children's Workshops-	BCS School Oval	
Tuesday		NAIDOC Relay -Tribal Groups, race,	egg & spoon race	
9/7		NAIDOC Weaving & Workshops	School Oval	
9/1		NAIDOC Best Design Poster Competition	BCS	
		Traditional dance	BCS & St Michaels School	
	12pm	Community BBQ-PICC		
	EVENT CLOSES AT 3PM			
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Friday 12/7	8am	Ferry Departs Townsville		
	8-9am	PALM ISLAND COMMUNITY OPEN DAY		
	10am-4pm	Market & Information STALLS / WORKSHOPS OPEN		
	10am-4pm	Community Concert-See performance Guide for details		
	Midday-1pm	Boxing Weigh-in for Clash at Challenger Bay	Main Stage, Fred Clay Park	
	4.00pm	Ferry Departs Palm Island		
	6pm-12pm	NAIDOC Dinner	PCYC, Bistro	
Saturday 13/7	9.15am	Ferry Departs Palm Island		
	9am-2pm	Junior Rugby League Home Games, Community Rugby League Grounds		
	12:30pm	Ferry Departs Townsville		
	6:30-11pm	Clash at Challenger Bay Boxing	Palm Island PCYC	
	7-11pm	Extended Trading Hours		
Sunday 14/7	8am	Ferry Departs Townsville		
	10.15am	Ferry Departs Palm Island		
	midday	2024 NAIDOC Closing Ceremony and combined church service	Fred Clay Park	
	12:30pm	Thank you volunteers Community BBQ	Fred Clay Park	
	1.15pm	Ferry Departs Townsville		
	3:30pm	Ferry Departs Palm Island		

#### A Big Thank you to all our Sponsors for our 2024 NAIDOC WEEX!!!

NIAA National Indigenous Australians Agency



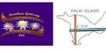
This National NAIDOC Week Activity is funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency.



V & J DAISY





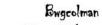




**PB Party Hire** 













selectability











Joe Geia Band





**And other** performers

When: FRIDAY 12TH JULY 2024 Doors Open at 5.30pm

Where: Palm Island PCYC Arena TIME: 6PM-11PM

Entry Fee: \$25.00 for a Buffet

Come in for a Deadly Night



















### PUNQ OPENING EVENT - I AUGUST



PUNQ OPENING EVENT // Save the date 1 August 2024, for the official PUNQ Opening Event: 'Gundil Released' by Big Eye Theatre and Wulgurukaba Walkabouts.

This major new dance work illuminates a site of Cultural significance located on 'The Strand Promenade' where, precolonisation, a series of lagoons existed.

Through this work, the Wulgurukaba people intend on sharing true name and history of the lagoons which were a ceremonial and gathering site where fresh water was in abundance. It is here where

their ancestors performed the brolga (gundil) dance and song, which is recorded in early colonial sketches. In recent years, Wulgurukaba Walkabouts have been performing this dance once again.

'Gundil Released' will see this First Nations' history and connection to the water and land performed for the first time on this site in over 100 years. This work has been commissioned by PUNQ and supported by Regional Arts Services Network - RASN NQ.

Image: Mason Saltner, Charmaine Koroi,
Ashley Saltner & Akira Barney, 'Gundil
Released', 2024, Performance and
installation. PUNQ 2024 Commission.
Photograph: Nicole Zicchino.

WHERE: Blak Arts Markets. Strand Park, Gurambilbarra / Townsville. WHEN: Entertainment from 5:30pm. Find out more: www.punq.org.au

## THE NEXT Palm Island Voice DEADLINE\*

# (Issue 405\*) will be Thursday 18 July for publication on Monday 22 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 howeschowes@gmail.com 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 5,400 'followers' on Facebook!!!