



Waaanta

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013

Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council

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

New Alliance working in unity for stronger Cape York communities



L-R: Kowanyama Mayor Robert Holness, Aurukun Mayor Derek Walpo, Mapoon CEO Leon Yeatman, MP David Kempton, Napranum Mayor Philemon Mene, Napranum & CIMA CEO Amos Njaramba, Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher and Northern Peninsula Aboriginal Regional Council's Cr Trevor Lifu, Mayor Bernard Charlie & Cr Anthony Mara

Community development is firmly on the agenda of a new independent alliance of Mayors and CEOs from across Cape York and beyond, Mayor Wayne Butcher says.

“CIMA – the Cape Indigenous Mayor’s Alliance – is an in-house community strategy,” he said.

“Our agenda is our communities – that’s where we need to be; that’s where we need to talk, and that’s where we need to make decisions. It’s about community-driven agendas and about practical outcomes.”

To date, he said, there had been four meetings with another three planned between now and the end of the year.

“We’re thinking of forming an incorporated body with the aim

of looking at regional economic development,” he said. “As leaders we share the same common goals, so we network first and then when we do speak to government or private sector we’re all speaking the same language and we have a united leadership front. All our Shires get 90 per cent of our funds from the State and Federal Governments, so we’re all receiving the same programs and it’s only commonsense that we all share.”

...CONTINUED PAGE 2...



Enjoying a day of football in Lockhart River in August were Elders Lawrence (Leffy) Omeenyo and Father Brian Claudie, above and Phyllis Hobson Snr, below.

MORE footy pics inside!





Mayors find strength in numbers

...From previous page...



CIMA Mayors Richard Holness, Derek Walpo, Philemon Mene, Wayne Butcher & Bernard Charlie

Lockhart River hosted the Cape Indigenous Mayor's Alliance (CIMA) meeting the day before the third round of the Central Cape football comp was played in August.

"Each community will have the opportunity to host CIMA," Mayor Wayne Butcher said.

"Our turn was in August and I think the other Mayors were most blown away that our whole office is all local staff, from office manager to payroll clerk.

"That really stood out for the other Mayors and they said that was where they wanted to be – 'we want to get where our whole community is managed by our local people,' they said.

"And I was really proud to say Dora has been there since the 1990s. There's also Jasmine and Deanka, and then we have Natasha at the airport as well, so even for them to rock up and book into a cabin was with a local.

"I also had a chance to have a really good yarn to the Mayor of Pormpuraaw about the principal contracting arrangements.

"They've got some capacity building happening already around that area and that's information we should all be sharing." (*For more on housing see pages 3 & 6.*)

Aurukun Mayor Derek Walpo said he had visited Lockhart "many years ago".

"Things have changed here," he said.

"Where I am staying in the HACC building used to be the old garden.

"So working together and strengthening ourselves to move forward in regards to timber, tourism, roads and, further down the track, we're buying and selling from each other is why we are about pulling together as a team.

"I think it's going to be good, I see positive stuff happening, mainly based around economic development in our

communities, and we're working as a team and supporting each other."

Napranum Mayor Philemon Mene agreed.

"The value I see within this group of Mayors is the attitude – making sure we have strategic support in community development and carrying our people with the changes that are upon us in the 21st century."

Mapoon CEO Leon Yeatman, who attended in his Mayor's absence, said getting together regularly was also about making sure they were on track.

"There's a whole bunch of regional economic issues which are currently on the periphery," he said.

"So the Mayors have actually decided that it's the right time to come together to show solidarity and, most importantly, speak with one voice on matters which affect all of us."



Left: CIMA member Pormpuraaw Mayor Richard Tarpencha, who was unable to be in Lockhart in August. Mapoon Mayor Peter Guivarra was also unable to attend.



A word from...

Mayor Wayne Butcher

If we want to build an economy here in Lockhart River we must attract new dollars and we must keep that money in the community, Mayor Wayne Butcher writes.

One of the main things we've achieved with CIMA – the Cape Indigenous Mayor's Alliance – for Lockhart is coming together on the issue of principal contracting in the delivery of new houses on our communities. I think every community is fed up with Government housing being tendered out and money being lost to us.

We're leading the charge here, but this will be for all Indigenous Shires throughout Queensland, including the Torres Strait.

The result is the Government now acknowledges our Shires are going to be the principal contractors in delivery of the houses.

Housing allocations, major renovations and upgrades are also on our agenda.

Once we get the principal

contractor in our role, the ball will finally be in our court.

Building a house or renovating houses is only a by-product; the real thing is that people are going to get real employment; we're going to have an opportunity to build an economy and we're going to have the opportunity to skill our people as well.

So there is more to it than just a house itself.

In Lockhart we have six houses planned to get built this year, this financial year.

The Council is going to build two and we are going to sub-contract the other four out, but there will all be conditions attached to the sub-contractor arrangement.

Another big thing is the community is going to be involved in designing the houses

as well, and that means getting the type of houses we want.

Overall the community is going to have a lot more input, from designing right up to the finished product.

Just building two extra houses ourselves actually creates five new jobs in the community, so there's extra employment straight away, up front.

We want to hold that principal contracting position too because we want the contract to deliver the rest of the housing funds from the Federal Government, so it's actually over the next five years.

That gives us the chance to put a few apprentices on and get some professional tradies out of the program over the next few years.

Wayne Butcher
Mayor, Lockhart River



Working together – the Lockhart River Scorpions in August this year



**MORE SCORPION
PICS INSIDE!**





Puuya Foundation hosts GG visit to Lockhart

In July this year the Puuya Foundation and community welcomed the Governor-General, Her Excellency the Honourable Quentin Bryce AC CVO, and Mr Michael Bryce AM AE to Lockhart River.

It was Ms Bryce's first visit as Governor-General and her third to the community in less than 10 years.

Puuya Foundation Chair Dottie Hobson said she was thrilled.

"I was so excited that Ms Bryce came to Lockhart River again," she said.

"The Puuya Foundation is extremely privileged to have her as our Patron and supporter, she has been walking with us for a long time.

"A lot of people worked well together for this visit. I really thank all of you who helped with meetings, food, transport, dancing and attending events – you made this a success!"

Since 2008 Ms Bryce has actively supported the Foundation, which was formed in Lockhart River. Puuya Foundation Founding Director and CEO Denise Hagan said she had been a valuable help.

"Ms Bryce has been a wise guide, mentor, inspiration

and friend to women in the community and to me personally," she said. "I have known Ms Bryce since she was the Queensland Governor and Lucy Hobson and I were honoured to attend her swearing in as Governor-General."

Puuya Foundation Director Veronica Piva said Ms Bryce's visit was the second important visit this year.

"The Puuya Foundation and the Lockhart River community have been treated to two special visits this year – the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation and the Governor-General's visit, both within a few short months," she said. "Our community has taken much pride and strength from the Governor-General's visit."

The Governor-General and accompanying party – many of whom had not been to Lockhart River before – experienced a great visit with a



Top: Her Excellency Quentin Bryce with Lorraine Warradoo & Cr Paul Piva, in the middle with Morgan Hobson and above with Rebecca Elu and family. Below left: The Governor-General with her staff and representatives from Puuya and Lockhart River Council.



community BBQ where the Lockhart River dancers performed, attended a Church service and visited the Lockhart River Art Centre, Health Clinic and Lockhart River State School. The weather was great so they were also able to get to Chilli Beach, Portland Road and Quintell Beach.

Puuya Foundation and Council members including Mayor, Wayne Butcher, Deputy Mayor Norman Bally and Councillors Veronica Piva, Rebecca Elu and Paul Piva participated in a Learning Circle with the guests and shared their vision for Lockhart River. Senior students and the Senior Coordinator Sandy Marshall, from the Lockhart River State School were able to demonstrate their hospitality skills by preparing refreshments for the Learning Circle. The Puuya Foundation also took the opportunity to have Ms Bryce present Puuya Foundation Achievement Awards to Lawrence Omeenyo, Paul Piva and Lanie Warradoo, Julie Warradoo, Morgan Hobson, Anthony Pascoe and Gary Warradoo for their great contributions to the community.



EDUCATION LEARNING CIRCLE

The most recent Education Learning Circle was held in Lockhart River in July. Participants travelled from far and wide, including Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville, Hopevale and Weipa to attend. The Circles continue to have a strong focus on Early Years Learning and Parenting; School Attendance/Truancy, Secondary School, Improving Learning and Education Outcomes and Staff Cultural Awareness. Learning Circles have proved to be very successful in

engaging the community and partners as well as providing the opportunity to develop relationships between government and non-government partners.

There were 23 participants at this Learning Circle, and there was a strong push from participants to continue as people see issues and challenges being addressed through collaborative action. The next Learning Circle is scheduled for Lockhart River next month.

For more information on the Education Learning Circle contact Denise on 0419 681 025 or email via denisehagan@puuyafoundation.com.au





Engineering Services

On the road with the road crew...



New subdivision home for 28 new houses

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs (DATSIMA) has allocated funding for the construction of a 28-lot subdivision.

The new subdivision will be located at the intersection of Line Hill Road and Kuttini St. Designs for the subdivision have been completed and tenders were called in August 2013.

Final negotiations between tenderers and DATSIMA regarding local employment and training are currently taking place with a construction contract expected to be awarded sometime this month. The successful contractor will be providing training and

employment opportunities for local community members during construction, which will be carried out with involvement from the Council workforce. Construction of new housing by the Council workforce is expected to commence once the subdivision has been completed.

Council Store Upgrade

The contract for the construction of the new shed at the Council Store was awarded to ESW Constructions in early February

with construction works commencing on site mid March 2013. Works on the new shed a concrete apron (car park) were substantially complete earlier this month.

ESW worked with Council to maximise the training and employment opportunities offered to local community members as part of this project.

Renovations to the existing store will be carried out by the Council workforce and should be completed by Christmas.





Blady Grass/Cemetery Rd Upgrade
Council has also secured R2R funding to upgrade the road between the end of Blady Grass Street and the Cemetery. This will provide all-weather access to the Cemetery area and help to control drainage in this area.

The design has been completed with Council to commence construction in the coming months with completion in 2013.

Illa and Wachee Streets Upgrade
Council has secured R2R funding to upgrade the Connection Road between Illa and Wachee Street to facilitate access to the newly constructed shed at the Council Store. The designs are done with Council to commence construction in the coming months and finish by the end of the year. NDRRA Works Restoration works on local road networks are being carried out throughout the Lockhart River Council area in partnership with local contractors which provide

employment and training for members of the community. Currently rectification works are being completed between the Wenlock River and Threeways on the access road into Lockhart River from the Peninsula Development Road (pictures above and previous page). These works were approved by the Qld Reconstruction Authority after Cyclone Oswald. The Authority has also approved additional works on Old Site Road, Line Hill Road and Pascoe Farms Road, which are expected to commence following the works on the access road.

...More next page...



Black & More Partner/Principal Project Manager Greg O'Brien is the Partner responsible for the Project Management Division of Black & More. With more than 20 years' experience, he is an expert in the management of civil projects including water, sewerage, roads, drainage and storm water. He is a member of the Institution of Engineers Australia and the Australian Institute of Project Management.





...From previous page...

Lockhart River Drainage Master Plan

Council has secured funding from the State Government for a Drainage Master Plan to be prepared for the Lockhart River Community area.

The Drainage Master Plan seeks to identify and investigate existing flooding issues at Lockhart River and inform of upgrades to address the flooding issues.

It will also identify the scope of drainage improvements and upgrades required and give Council a tool to prioritise these works and manage Community drainage upgrade works.

Works have commenced with collation of available data.

The Drainage Master Plan is programmed to be completed late December 2013.

Iron Range Airstrip Maintenance

Council submitted a funding application for the upgrade to the Iron Range Airstrip in August 2013.

Negotiations with funding bodies are currently taking place.

Works on this project will commence as soon as the funding has been secured.

Lockhart leading the way

Lockhart is leading other communities in safety audits, housing and maintenance works, enterprise development and building services Manger Colin Ford says.

"We had the Deputy Director-General and the new Regional Manager of BASS, which is the old Q-Build, Netbuilding and Asset Services here last month," he said.

"They had a look at us and we're currently leading some of the communities.

"We are kicking a lot of goals." He said over the past few months they had been working with training organisation, Goldacove, on some joint training exercises.

"Rod Miller and Clare Blackman are the two partners in it," he said.

He said Council was also a partner in building the first six houses of 33 to be delivered and built over the next five years.

"We've got 33 houses over the five years, from 2014 on, and we've got eight houses that we've got left over from 2013 allocation, and we intend to build those as well," he said.

"We're the nominated suppliers for the sewage and water infrastructure on that project, so that's also good.

"There's a new Projects Manager for Engineering coming on board soon as well, and we're all looking forward to that."

Cape York Tree Service has undertaken a joint venture project with Council to trim back a number of trees, helping to make the community a safer place to be in the event of storms and cyclones, Director Clare Blackman says.

"Basically all our cutters and all pullers are locally trained and employed," she said. "The work we're doing is to do with Workplace Health and Safety and is about securing communities against further accidents and injury. After a tragic precedent was set in Woorabinda



recently, Workplace Health and Safety, in conjunction with the local Shire Councils, have declared communities need to be made safer in a number of ways. We're doing the tree side of it, which is to do with cyclone mitigation work. Some houses have a lot of looming very old trees over the buildings and they're structurally destroying the buildings. As a result, our job is to make the buildings safe and clear the trees away."



SCORPIONS 2013

Were you there? Action pics next page!



LOCKHART RIVER



R SCORPIONS 2013





Community Development Team

Different Lockhart organisations work together to improve things for our kids.

Community Support Coordinator Cate Adams meets with Kids Club workers Emily, Margie and Bettina (who also works for Playgroup in the mornings), Family Together worker Tanya Koko and Christina Butcher from Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) every Monday morning at Kids Club to organise activities for the week and discuss what is working and what is not. The team have also been working with other groups including Cassie Creek, Moira Macumboy and Bettina Macumboy from Playgroup Queensland, and Raylee Singleton from PCYC, who has since left her position.

Kids Club, Family Together, PaCE and Playgroup all worked with PCYC on the kids' activities at the football carnival last month, where activities included a Jumping Castle, printing, painting and face painting. PCYC has also organised sport activities with the kids and social activities such as the Chili Beach visit during the school holidays.

After School Care Worker Margaret Hobson says numbers coming to their after school Kids Club activities tends to vary from 20-30 but sometimes they have had up to 60 kids. She said new renovations were much better.

"The change, more better than the first place," she said. "This time we got more space to walk around and a lot of toys and things to do for kids."

Her colleague Emily said they enjoyed it.

"We do all activities with the kids after school care, painting and arts and crafts, reading and colouring." she said.



L-R: Margaret Hobson, Emily Pascoe, Tanya Koko, Cate Adams (front) & Moira Macumboy





Keeping things busy for everyone!

Community Development team Family Together worker Tanya Koko rarely has a boring week with everything on her list from Playgroup to making books with mums and bubs.

“Mondays is preparation and organising for the rest of the week,” she said.

“On Tuesdays I work together with Playgroup Queensland and at the moment we’re working with their 10-week Healthy Eat and Get Physical program and that’s working really well.

“We have started doing internet sessions on Tuesday afternoons from 1pm up at the Library.

“That includes things like getting logged on to PayPal so we can do bulk internet shopping with the mums and things like that.

“On Wednesday mornings we have FAFT (Families as First Teachers) down at the school in the pre-prep classroom, where the secondary students come and cook for us and that’s really good.

“I work together with Miss Julia who runs that program and I get to go around in the community bus to pick up all the mums and bubs.

“Thursdays is Family Together day where we’ve started making Creole books for mums to be confident reading to their children, and we’ve been making photo albums with their children and families so it’s an arts and crafts session day. Now we have joined with the Women’s Group to make things for the Monthly Markets.

“And we do the other things as well, such as beach outings.

“Finally, Fridays is reporting and reflecting on what worked, what didn’t work, what will work.”

She said there were many families in the community and room for more to be involved.

“More attendance would be

very good, there’s heaps more we can do,” she said.

“We need more engaging activities, last year I put on a big fashion parade and it was excellent, so we want those kinds of things. I’m thinking of doing a costume party next as a big event – we have a lot of ideas. I always tell the mums to say what they want and then we try and make it happen.

“I think it’s the best program going in Lockhart.”





Family Together activities



*Plcs on the Comm Dev pages
are with thanks to the
Community Development Team
and Christine Howes*

Women's Shelter open to drop-ins

Women's Shelter Coordinator Ethel Singleton (*pictured on the left*) is working with a full staff at the moment, even though things have been fairly quiet.

She said she would like to encourage women to come in and get to know her and her team.

"We have a full staff, which is three full-time workers," she said.

"And we all wear different hats in the community and that keeps us busy. We're all on the Justice Group and we're Health Action Team Members. Women have been coming in to the shelter for incidents that have all have been alcohol-related. We have activities here and we've invited the women to come and join us – that's an open invitation for women to come to the shelter. They can come in here if they want to and sit down and have a cup of tea with us during the day, instead of just coming here in a crisis situation. One of the activities that we do here is making baskets and we just keep them for ourselves."

MEANWHILE Women's Shelter Worker Marian Kranabetter (*pictured above right*) said Lockhart River's first Health Expo, organised by Mookai Rosie Bi Bayan Project Officer Adeline Chong, was held in early July and included talks and participation by the Lockhart River Health Action Team (Ethel Singleton), Apunipima Cape York Health Council, Queensland Health (David Manning, Karen Koko and Lisa Wallace) and the Royal Flying Doctor Service (Karen Drury).

"For us, it was a success," Ms Kranabetter said.

"We spoke on what we do, what our role is in the community and we had the staff at the clinic doing health checks on the day, which was good."

RFDS Nurse Karen Drury said the main messages of the day were about eating healthy, getting active, the affects of drugs and alcohol on unborn children (FASD), the importance of regular health checks, including the State School health screens every year, and managing chronic disease.

The dolls in the photograph (*right*) are used to help illustrate that drinking alcohol while pregnant can cause permanent brain



damage and affect kids differently – some kids might seem okay physically, but find themselves in trouble all the time because they can't concentrate and can't control their impulses. She said plans were already in place for another bigger and better health expo next year.



Silas draws Cape York's own 'Tooth Hero'

Lockhart River Artist Silas Hobson designed the winning 'Tooth Hero' in a recent Apunipima Cape York Health Council Oral Health promotion. The competition ran for six weeks across communities to the theme of a strong super tooth image. Promotional resources will be developed to link the Super Tooth directly to key oral health messages. Apunipima's Oral Health Promotion Officer Jo Garton congratulated Silas during her visit to Lockhart in August. The picture (*left*) shows Silas with his prizes which included an electric tooth brush and a marine ply 'Turtle Clock'.



*The day
Yamba &
Jacinta came
to play...*



*This pic was sent to us by
Yamba's friend Jacinta...
thank you Jacinta!!!*



Yamba the Yerrampe (Honeyant) and his friend Jacinta visited Lockhart River school for the first time in early September.

Yamba told everyone on their Facebook page the community of Lockhart River they were ANTastically excited to see the community and that even Mayor Wayne Butcher had enjoyed the show.

Everyone in Lockhart agreed they had to 'stay healthy and strong' before the pair went to visit other communities across the Cape.

Yamba the Honeyant is the star of Yamba's Playtime & Yamba's Roadshow and has been in production in Alice Springs, through Imparja, since 1995.

Yamba wants all the Playtimers to stay healthy & strong!!!

For more information see <http://www.imparja.com/content/view/10/11/>



Pictured: Left: David Omeeny (front) and Ryan Accoom; Above: Tibie Warradoo, Nguumpii Rocky & Carlsen Accoom; Above Right: Kaylene Koko, John Sandy & Leanne Moses and, Right: Denise Fruit & Talani Coutts



Black Star radio station manager **Denise Fruit** shares her responsibilities with Indigenous Knowledge Centre manager **Kayleen Koko**.

“We both do half days, and we share the radio and the library,” she said. “I love working at the radio station.” “The radio station now is called **Black Star**, it comes from Queensland Remote Aboriginal

Media (GRAM) in Cairns. “I’ve done training in broadcasting and now when the network goes down, I can re-boot it up again and change all the internet on the module. “They can pick us up on

FM107.7. I love working here, the IKC is not my style, but you learn from whatever you do. I’ve been working for Council now for a long time and it’s good to learn about working other things.”



Thanks to the work of Cr Paul Piva, and Mark Louez and Kerin Hannan from Just4Kids Children’s Charity, a second visit by more than 50 participants went to Chili Beach in July this year for dancing and other activities offered in thanks for a donation towards a number of activities. Just4Kids is a non-profit organisation which raises funds through what they describe as fun, well-managed fundraising events in association with their supporters and sponsors. For more information see <http://www.just4kidsmotortrail.com.au>

Chili Beach celebrations for visit from Just4Kids





'What kind of community do we want?' Police ask

People were generally very well behaved when Lockhart community hosted the Central Cape footy round last month, Lockhart River Police Station OIC Sergeant Warren Murdock writes.

There were a few parties on the Saturday night but no real violence and, on the whole, the weekend was not too bad.

From our perspective there is still too much alcohol coming into the community.

Given Lockhart community is a dry community with total alcohol restrictions, any alcohol is too much.

Lockhart often has only two police who can't be everywhere at once.

Hence people have to take responsibility for their own behaviour and decide what kind of community they want.

One would hope a happy, harmonious and violence-free community, and we can have that if every one takes responsibility for their actions.

Some can drink alcohol and just have a good time and that's all well and good – except we live in a dry community.

There are, however, areas where people can lawfully drink outside of the DOGIT which are not too far away.

We recognise that not everyone becomes violent when they drink, but some people do. So even when they're outside of the DOGIT area, which is not that big an area, I think it's very important to learn the effect alcohol has on them as individuals.

It's the same anywhere in the world, alcohol affects people differently.

If you are one of those ones where alcohol makes you violent, then you just shouldn't drink.

That's probably common sense at the end of



Above: Lockhart police Constable Alan Taylor, Sgt Warren Murdock & Constable Annie Murdock

the day because you'll regret it the next day and that's what happens – people drink it and then they regret it.

Alcohol also affects truancy, which is has been an issue in the community.

When kids aren't at school, part of the reasons are because their parents may be too intoxicated to get them out of bed in the morning, or people may be partying and as a result of this the kids aren't getting sleep.

It also affects issues like domestic violence, employment, and self-esteem generally, so it can be a problem.

Alcohol also makes our roads unsafe, especially if people are going as far as Archer River, drinking and then coming back, that's not safe at all.

What I would like to see here is solutions we can have in this community that the community has put forward, rather than people like myself.

Certainly, I want to contribute but I won't be here forever – this is the people of Lockhart's community, they need to figure out what they want and take some responsibility for getting there.

Only then, as a community, we can really push forward and shape the future in to what we want it to be.



Corporate Services

Cairns and Lockhart River offices have been operating very effectively in their support for our Council departments, Finance and Administration Manager Stanley Mugwiria writes.

Though the position of the Grants and Revenue Officer has been vacant for a while now, the Finance Team has worked cohesively to minimise the impact of this gap to other sections of the Council, especially in the area of grant acquittals. Everyone has undertaken extra workload to ensure continuity of services and they all seem to be coping.

So much has been achieved during this period.

Most important was the successful closure of the 2012/13 financial year and starting of 2013/14 which was without hiccups.

At the same time, the Finance Team worked tirelessly to ensure the 2012/13 draft financial statements were ready to be submitted to the auditors for their final audit in early October 2013. Furthermore, the team undertook the challenge of preparing and submitting

2013/14 budget and this was achieved and adopted in July 2013 without sweat. To support current Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) projects reporting requirements, the Council advertised for a position of Project Accountant. This is a new position and the Finance Team members are looking forward to welcoming the successful applicant. Council will also be acquiring and installing 'Recoverable Works' module onto Practical Plus to improve on the accuracy and timeliness of QRA reports.

Every member of our team (Accounting, Purchasing, Accounts Payable, ICT and Library, Centrelink, Bank & Post Office, Human Resources/Payroll/ Training, and Council Stores) is looking forward to serving the community with our trademark determination, focus and enthusiasm into the new year.

Lockhart River is the first and only Council so far to be granted \$102,000 worth of training from the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), Council's Employment & Training Coordinator Noleen Clark says.

She said the money would cover working safely at heights and in confined spaces, remote first aid and Certificates in Work Health and Safety (IV) and Conservation & Land Management (II).

"It is hoped that most of this training will be completed this year," she said.

"There are also three people who wish to go into small business and have just successfully completed the first stage of three workshops with Indigenous Business Australia.

"We are currently preparing for the next stage and will continue once we have the finance to do so."

Digital tv issues will be fixed soon – IT officer

Faulty set top boxes and difficult expensive setups have caused digital television headaches across the community IT Officer Joseph Muchoki (pictured right) says.

But relief is on the way with Council considering an upgrade of the local 'tv station' from analogue to digital. "Once it is made digital, so long as your TV is digital already, you won't need to buy a VAST set top box receiver or have a satellite dish on your roof," he said.

"We will just have one digital TV station, which everybody else will be accessing using a standard TV antennae.

"For those who have older televisions, they will still need a digital converter box, which is cheaper. That is the big thing at the moment, the Council's IT Department is glad to be able to solve this issue for the community."





SCORPIONS 2013

Were you there? More crowd and action pics inside!

A big crowd watched five sides – Lockhart River Scorpions, Napranum Natives, Weipa Raiders, Coen Colts and Pormpuraaw Crocs – battle out round three of the Cape Cluster rugby league competition in Lockhart River in August.

The final of the comp was played in Coen earlier this month, where Kowanyama Wallabies won their fourth successive Cape Cluster rugby league premiership.

In the finals they defeated Napranum 30–22.

Other fixture rounds were played in Weipa and Kowanyama earlier this year. The finals format gave each of the teams a chance of winning.

The day kicked off with the qualifying finals in which Lockhart River Scorpions beat Pormpuraaw Crocs 30–10 and Coen Colts defeated Weipa Raiders 38–6 but that was the end of every other team's run.

“There was also several games featuring juniors from Weipa, other parts of Cape York, Pormpuraaw and Lockhart River,” referee Rod McCrae said.



Awards:

Top Try Scorer: Chris Johnson jnr (Lockhart River)

Top Point Scorer: Kareem Tabuai (Napranum Natives)

Player of the Final: Raphael Lansen (Kowanyama)



Silk Painting Workshops at the Art Centre!
Pilawuk – an Aboriginal Artist from the Northern Territory – will be conducting Silk Painting workshops from 16–23 October. All community members including men are welcome, no experience needed. Make a silk Christmas gift for someone. Come and put your name down or talk to Elise at the Art Centre to organise a group. The week will end with a community BBQ and exhibition.

The font used in this newsletter is called ‘Dyslexie’ and is a special typeface designed for people who have difficulty reading, especially people with dyslexia so they can read more easily. For more information see <http://www.studiostudio.nl> This Waanta was written, edited and produced by Christine Howes, with thanks to Cate from the Community Development Team, for the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council © 2013. Feedback or contributions are welcome, please email the editor via chowes@westnet.com.au or see Council reception. The next issue of Waanta is due to be published in December 2013.