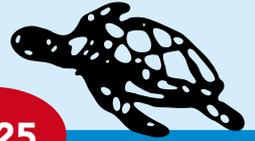


Palm Island Voice

Your Community
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Your Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 31 May 2012

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Issue 105

Students' writing is on the wall



The front walls of the Joyce Palmer Health Service have been given a cheerful face-lift by a group of smart and ambitious Year 12 Bwgc Colman Community School art students.

School-based youth health nurse John Mackay said the students, supported by two professional aerosol artists from Townsville, had worked hard on the project from the idea in the beginning, presenting the idea to Queensland Health through to doing the artwork themselves.

"The end result is a wonderful encapsulation of healthy community lifestyles," he said.

Joyce Palmer Health Service director of nursing Naomi Gallagher said staff were thrilled with the transformation.

"The students should be extremely proud of their efforts," Ms Gallagher said. "They have brought joy to staff, visitors and patients who come to the Joyce Palmer Health Service."

Mr Mackay said the walls could now have a positive effect on everyone.

"The transformation began with students conducting a formal assessment of the area and

then drafting artwork designs," he said.

"Aerosol art was chosen to create murals that reflected healthy community lifestyles."

Mr Mackay said back in the classroom student's collated their formal assessment findings and continued to plan their designs.

"Their teacher (Michelle Hall) sensed the student's passion for the project and decided to engage the class in a formal proposal to bring their ideas to fruition," he said.

"Students developed a power point presentation four of the students presented to Institute of Primary Health and Ambulatory Care Directors at the Kirwan Health Campus in Townsville.

"The project has been praised by the community of Palm Island."

Students involved in the project preparation and presentation were Jimeka Richardson, Ronella Cummins, Savannah Morton and Beverley Friday.



An Indigenous Leaders Forum organised by the Local Government Association of Queensland was attended by all elected members of the Palm Island Council last week in Cairns. They are pictured here with Minister Glen Elmes and Local Government Minister David Crisafulli.

MORE ON PAGES 8-9



Health professionals, Councillors and Council staff have been meeting regularly to ensure all goes to plan - er that is according to the Palm Island Health Action Plan (2010-2015).

The Plan was developed to: improve the level and quality of Queensland Health service delivery to Palm Island people; increase access to Palm Island health services; and, enhance the involvement of Palm Island people in the design and delivery of Queensland Health provided services. The success of the Plan requires a strong partnership between community members and representatives, service providers and governments.



Above & Right: Domestic Violence Awareness week events on Palm Island included a memorial service for victims



CFF students 'living the dream' in Vic

Eight young students were welcomed to Melbourne by the Cathy Freeman Foundation last week for an educational and cultural tour which included a walk onto the hallowed turf of the MCG.

The Year 7 children were participating in the CFF Horizons Program, which awards interstate experiences and excursions to students based on merit, attitude and a demonstrated desire to achieve.

"Recognising and rewarding achievement is key to creating positive educational outcomes," CFF Founder and Director, Cathy Freeman said.

"We hope the kids go back home, not only full of energy and excitement, but inspired to move forward strongly with their education."

Palm Island's St Michael's Catholic School Gary Recklies was also on the trip.



Top row from left above - Ernestine Lacey, Kelvin Castors, Shaylan Haines, Moira Murray. Front row, from left - George James, Luke James, Cathy Freeman, Sarkeitha Williams, Penny Roberts-Lennox



Giving mental health the 'boom, pow, blamo' treatment

PALM Island students and youths will soon have some help fighting mental health issues such as depression and bullying with a 'boom', 'pow' and 'blamo' thanks to a new comic book launched last week in Townsville.

The "Boat Builders" the comic is an initiative of Queensland Health. The innovative concept was made possible by the creativity of Townsville Health

Service District mental health staff, Inception Strategies and eight local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youths including Moesha Scope (left).

Youth worker Helene Malouf said the comic book would be used to speak to their audience in a relatable way.

"The magazine provides a great education medium to help youth deal with issues such as depression, bullying, grief, loss and peer-pressure as well as using coping techniques, build strong relationships with family and explaining how to access mental health services.

"It will be distributed soon on Palm Island at schools and medical facilities."

Ms Malouf collaborated closely with Inception Strategies' Damian Amamoo to coordinate a two-day workshop involving clinical personnel and eight Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youths to get the comic off the ground.

"The younger members were instrumental in creating a story line for the comic and each group member of the workshop took on a specific character within the magazine," Ms Malouf said.





CDEP Youth Camp building confidence and tradition

A three-day youth camp on Fantome Island was blessed to have artist, youth mentor and inspiration Jeremy Donovan help facilitate CDEP youth mentor Brendan Roberts says.

Mr Donovan, who is a descendant of Gumbaiingirr and KuKu-Yalanji tribes, said spending time with “at risk” adolescents is one of his greatest passions.

Widely acclaimed as one of the leading Indigenous didgeridoo players of Australia, Mr Donovan’s skill and extensive knowledge of his cultural heritage has earned him the recognition of his peers as a master storyteller and performer.

Seven young men attended the camp.

“When we arrived at the camp site Jeremy started with a smoking ceremony and a small insight on the struggles youth through-out Australia are facing and how

to use the choices to our advantage,” Mr Roberts said.

“The youths found it easy to connect with Jeremy as he spoke on day-to-day issues he has overcome, which were very similar to the problems our youth of Palm Island are facing.”

Mr Donovan said his message was blunt, but powerful.

“Learn your culture be proud of where you come from, and never forget the struggle the generations before us have faced,” Mr Donovan said.

“Don’t blame others for your trouble or problems and you control your own destiny.

“I make it my job to educate people from many nations around the world about the beauty of my traditional culture.”

Mr Roberts said the trip wasn’t about finding answers to their problems.

“It was a trip on how to gain the strength and trust to communicate with other people,” he said.

“The amount of trust and confidence gained was demonstrated by the lack of shyness as all communicated in a group.

“This was a drug and alcohol free event and all who attended were content with the guideline.

“The youths asked if we could stay an additional night.

“This type of program needs to happen on a regular basis as it has given this particular group of young men a sense



of pride, the ability to gain trust in each other, and the ability to associate traditional life style and teaching with the healing process that they have gone through on this camp.

"To have a positive response in a short period of time may have put our youths well on their way to the path of recovery and has equipped them with some of the necessary tools to help others.

"All camping equipment is stored away for future use."

Mr Roberts said Coolgaree CDEP's focus was on preparing Palm Island youth for the future by encouraging them to embrace their past, to be proud of their heritage and to strive for a better future through education, training and employment.

BWGCOLMAN Community School

has been having a busy month with their students of the week and the introduction of a new school 'housing' structure. Fantome Stingrays were the 2012 primary and secondary inter school champions, closely followed in second place by Curacoa Sharks.

Special thanks goes to the efforts of all the competing students, the support shown by the many families and friends spectating and also the commitment by staff from both Bwgcorman and St Michael's for setting up and running an extremely enjoyable day.



Enjoying Palm Island life

Malena Prior is pictured on this page enjoying lunch in a shady spot next to the Esplanade earlier this month.

She is with her sons Amiaziah, 9, Gelam, 7, Gerard, 5, daughter Latisha, 15 months, and nieces Viola, 7, Debra, 6, and Sheesha, 3,

“It is a really nice day and it is a good time here,” she said.

Malena said she loves nothing better than to spend time with her family.





Above L-R: LGAQ CEO Greg Hallam, Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher, Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey, Torres Council Mayor Fred Gela, Napranum Deputy Mayor Ernest Madua (back), Local Government Association Hopevale Mayor Greg McLean (front), Kowanyama Mayor Robert Holness, Wujal Wujal Mayor Clifford Peter Guivarra. Cherbourg Mayor Ken Bone pictured below right with Palm Island Councillor Frank Lacey.

An Indigenous Leaders Forum (ILF), organised by the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), brought Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Councils and key State Government ministers together to discuss aspects of their future and a range of different issues in Cairns last week.

the LGAQ's Policy Executive, said common challenges such as financial sustainability, law and order, stolen wages and many other issues affecting the community were put on the agenda.

"I'm certainly pleased that the LGAQ have been able to pull a forum like this together to allow Indigenous Councils to talk amongst ourselves and put issues on the table without fear with government being in the room and certainly being open and frank around the many challenges

that faces our community," he said.

thumb's up for each Council for attending this important forum. "Palm Island has a good representation to talk up and talk about the issues that affect us."

He said it was important to see two Ministers attending on the second day.

"Minister Glen Elmes is the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and also Minister David Crisafulli, who is the Minister for Local Government.

"A very old friend of mine and the former Mayor of the Sunshine Coast, Bob Abbot, who is the mayoral mentor with the Local Government Association, was the Master of Ceremonies supporting and assisting in the proceedings.

"The number of new and re-elected members here means we have seen some very good issues and outcomes for the LGAQ, which is a statewide body, will lobby for on our behalf. "They are listening to us and we will certainly



Mayor Alf Lacey, who attended with all the Palm Island Councillors, said it was an important forum to attend, "so different from the roundtable the Queensland Government normally hosts".

Cr Lacey, who is also the Indigenous representative on

that faces our community," he said.

"The representation at this inaugural forum is 60-70 team members from all communities as far north as the Torres Strait Islands to south to Cherbourg, west to Doomadgee and east to Palm Island, is certainly a big



Indigenous Leader's Forum LGAQ May 2012



Cr Lacey, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs Minister Glen Elmes (front), Woorabinda Mayor Terry Lacey, Government Minister David Crisafulli (front), NPA Mayor Bernard Charlie, Napranum Mayor Philemon Mene, Mornington Mayor Bradley Wilson, Yarrabah Mayor Errol Neal & Mapoon Mayor Mark Conway; Below middle Cr Lacey, Cr Bone & Cr Butcher; Below Left: Minister Elmes & Cr Lacey.

take up the challenges that have been presented to us here."

Mr Lacey, said discussion around AMPs was on top of the agenda with Minister Glen Elmes and that the forum wanted the Newman Government to ensure the wishes of indigenous communities were heeded in any review of the system of Alcohol Management Plans.

"As democratically elected leaders of our community, we have had little say in the operation of these plans or whether we want them at all," Cr Lacey said.

"Their operation has had negative and unintended consequences for many of our

communities and we want guarantees that we will have a say on their future operation."

Premier Campbell Newman has previously said he would not scrap the bans until new plans have been created to deal with alcohol-related problems in Indigenous communities.

LGAQ chief executive Greg Hallam said the Government should work with the Indigenous Leaders Forum in its review of Alcohol Management Plans.

"This is a touchstone issue for these communities as they look to see how the Newman Government goes about implementing its promises to empower them to make decisions that have a positive impact on their economic futures," he said.

Mr Elmes has promised the review will happen and asked each community to



work out their own proposals for alcohol management.

"It's not going to happen tomorrow, it's not going to happen next week," he said.

"But it will happen when they sit down and come up with a plan to put to us, that we can look at, take advice on, and get the Local Government and the police and all the rest of them to tick it off.

"Bearing in mind we don't want the parks any fuller with more parkies than what we currently have, and I don't want to take the parkies from here and put them back in the community, that's not the answer either.

"It's not going to be a quick process, but clearly we will go through a process, we'll work up the plans and when the plans get the tick off, we'll do it."



Palm Island Voice

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Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council

is closed every second Friday
(Council pay week) for RDO.

The next RDO is Friday 8 June

REMEMBER: the Bank & Post Office now
closes each Council RDO (every second week).

**For emergencies on Friday
please call 0458 789 011**

**For more information contact
Council on 4770 1177**

PROPOSED MEETING DATES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

That the COUNCIL notes and accepts the Proposed Meeting Dates set for 2012: Council resolves that:

- **Delegation Day is the second Tuesday of every month**
- **Land Trust Meeting is the last Tuesday of every month**
- **General Meeting is the last Wednesday of every month**

Meeting Dates to be advertised in the *Palm Island Voice*, with Community Agencies, senior PIASC managers, LGAQ, Indigenous Councils and Community noticeboards.

2012 Advertising Information Rates

New Page Sponsorship Banners

(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication)

18 point (about 1 cm), single colour, include your logo and/or multiple weeks by negotiation with the Editor - only \$99 (+ GST) per page! Your contribution will help us to print extra colour pages and photographs of your favourite sporting team or event as required.

Display Ads

(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication - smaller ads by negotiation with the Editor)

Add 10% for design work and another 20% for a guaranteed colour page in hard copy.

Full A4 Page \$450 + GST Colour \$540 + GST Half A4 Page \$230 + GST Colour \$276 + GST

Quarter A4 Page \$120 + GST Colour \$144 + GST

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Items for sale under \$1000 – FREE Public & Community Notices – FREE

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Birthdays – FREE

Sale Price over \$1000 & Other Notices – 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day and material submitted no later than COB the next day. For more information contact the

Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at chowes@westnet.com.au

Please support us so we can continue to support you!

On the 55th anniversary of the strike of 1957, join us to celebrate the launch of
Dulcie Polowea Isaro's book and playscript

The Day Palm Island Fought Back

at Palm Island PCYC

on Monday morning June 4, 2012

with lunch for elders and guests

RSVP to aaronthaiday@gmail.com

or PICC ph 4770 1548



57 Strike Day Program

MC – CLIFFORD LYMBURNER

7:30am RINGING OF THE BELL

8:00am Raising of the Flags

9am Blessing of the Day – Pastor Emmanuel Fave

9.05am Welcome from Traditional Owners

9.15am Mayor Lacey

9.30am Chris Congoo (on behalf of the Striker's family)

9:40am Aunty Dulcie Isaro's book launch at PCYC

9.50am Traditional Dancing – Aboriginal (2 dances)

9.55am Traditional Dancing – Torres Strait (2 dances)

10am Laying of wreaths by Striker's Families

10am RINGING OF THE BELL

10am Live radio broadcast

10am Junior Art & Dance Comp @ PCYC

10am Pool & Dart Competition @ Pub

(Presentation @ PCYC at 3.45pm)

10am to noon Children's Activities (face painting, etc.) – Venue PCYC

10am to noon Netball @ courts at Farm area

(lunch provided @ Farm area), continues 1pm-

3pm (Finals & Presentations at PCYC)

Netball teams will be battling it out for the Strike

of 1957 Commemoration Day Trophy donated by the Palm Island Council. Junior Dance competition to begin at halftime of netball.

10:30am RINGING OF THE BELL FOR MORNING TEA

10:30 to 11:30am Elders & Community morning tea and Book launch by Aunty Dulcie Isaro @ PCYC

Noon RINGING OF THE BELL FOR LUNCH

Noon Elders @ Community Lunch @PCYC and after

1pm Showing of old slides of Palm Island & Entertainment. Art & Dance Competition Finals and Awards

3pm Netball FINALS to be played @PCYC (Finalists of Dance competition perform @ Halftime)

3:45pm Presentation of Trophy and medallions for all events

4pm RINGING OF THE BELL FOR SUPPER

6pm Community Supper (kuppa Murri)

6:30pm to 8pm Local artists/Band Performs

8pm RINGING OF THE BELL TO GO HOME

FOOD AND DRINKS WILL BE ON SALE – TRADITIONAL & HAMBURGER STALL.

We have approached the Council and sent letter to Sealink to have the ferry leave Palm @ 3.30 or 4pm. We have no funds from any government departments or organisations and have secured donations from our local community agencies and stores. We thank you for your donations and time.

If there is anyone wishing to help on this day or leading up to it please contact Milton or Aaron Thaiday, we do appreciate it.

BROTHERS FIND LAST SEASON'S FORM

Last year's beaten grand finalists Bwgc Colman Brothers showed a welcome return to form by beating Hornets 54-32 in the first game.

Clinton Watson, Ashley Palmer, William Bramwell and the ever-reliable Malcolm Larry each scored two tries for Brothers with singles to Les Noble, Ben Baira and Solomon Nona.

Stalwart Gavin Johnson and Gavin Charles each booted two goals with one to Matt Johnson.

For Hornets Owen Robertson scored two tries and booted as many goals for a personal tally of 12 points.

Josh Landers scored a try and kicked two goals. One try each went to Dale Inkerman, Darryl Bramwell and Victor Courtney.

SKIPJACKS CONFIRM PREMIERSHIP CHARGE

Star-studded Skipjacks continued their excellent form with a 42-28 victory over premiers Jets in game two.

"It was a cracker of a game," PIRL official Genami Geia said.

Second rower Jeremy Pulleh proved he is a potential match winner scoring three tries with two to champion forward "Fabulous" Fred Bulsey.

Former North Queensland Cowboy Obe Geia jnr, Anthony Thompson and Clinton Pearson each scored one four pointer.

Anthony kicked five goals in a polished performance.

For Jets Ezra Noble scored two tries with Costa Sam, Robert Bulsey and Gavin Barry each crossed for one. James Palmer guided through two goals with his radar like boot with one each to Gavin Barry and Robert Bulsey.

RAIDERS 1ST LOSS AT HANDS OF BULLS

MOUNT Bentley Raiders suffered their first loss of the season when they went down 36-32 in a high quality main game at the local footy oval.

Bulls led 22-18 at halftime in an entertaining game and maintained that advantage at the final siren. Gresham Ross scored two tries for Bulls with singles to elusive hooker Gelam Geia, Ronald Bulsey and Alan Brown, Pita Morgan, David Bulsey and Simeon Oui. Ross also chipped in with two goals.

For Raiders, point scoring machine Tabua Oui scored three tries with two to Christian Baira and one each to Lleyton Sam, and John Watson.

John Baira kicked 2 goals. Mundy Bay Warriors had the bye.



Scoring in Week 8 (26 May) for the Bulls, Jason Poynter is pictured here driving with David Fullarton

PIRL FOOTY

Roundup 26 May

LEADERS STRETCH THE DISTANCE

PIRL's top three clubs – Mount Bentley Raiders, Skipjacks and Butler Bay Bulls – are cleaning up in the race for premiership honours.

They are equal runaway leaders on the table after last Saturday's fixtures at the local oval.

Skipjacks had the bye, Raiders won by forfeit over a struggling Hornets, and Bulls scored a handsome 54-32 win over reigning premiers Jets.

What will be interesting in coming weeks is which of the sides gain the top two spots.

At the end of the fixtures, the two top placed clubs gain the important double chance for the semi finals.

Third and fourth meet in the knockout semi with the loser

out of the comp.

The battle for fourth is looming as a major contest between Jets, Mundy Bay Warriors and Bwgcolman Brothers.

BULLS BUCK JETS

WELL-balanced Bulls defeated Jets 54-32 in a game they looked to have wrapped up at halftime when they led 34-nil.

But the never say die attitude of Jets came to the forefront and they outscored Bulls in the last 40 minutes.

For Bulls speedster utility John Oliffe scored three tries, with two each to Walter Geia and Gresham Ross.

Singles went to David Bulsey, Simeon Oui, veteran Jason Poynter, Gelam Geia and Alan Brown.

Gresham Ross, Val Fulford and David O'shea booted goals.

Jets hero was yet again mobile forward Costa Sam who starred with four tries and singles to his brothers Moa and David Sam along with Germaine Bulsey.

Hosea Murphy booted two goals for Jets.

MUNDY BAY ROLL BROTHERS

IMPROVING Mundy Bay Warriors defeated Bwgcolman Brothers 40-32 in an exciting main game at football headquarters.

The Warriors halves combination of Morris Watson and Maverick Fox dominated with each scoring two tries.

Tough front rower Brian Brown, and bench players Raymond Noble and Gary Marpoondin each scored a try.

Morris Watson booted three goals for a game personal tally of 14 points whilst Brian Brown kicked two and Maverick Fox one.

Watson is a genuine star in the making after also showing excellent form against mostly bigger opponents as a member of the Palm Island Barracudas side which convincingly beat Bowen recently in a representative game.

For Brothers centre Ben Baira and second rower Matty Johnson each scored two tries with one apiece to winger William Bramwell, five eighth Robert Johnson and Ashley Sailor.

Consistent Rod Shortjoe kicked the two goals for the Bretheren.

PIRL

Current Points Table

=1 Mount Bentley Raiders 14p

=1 Skipjacks 14p

=1 Butler Bay Bulls 14p

= 5 Jets 8p

= 5 Mundy Bay Warriors 8p

6 Bwgcolman Brothers 4p

7 Hornets 2p

Boxers in prep for southern title bouts

PALM Island boxers will be fresh and raring to go when they travel to the Gold Coast for their next tournament in a fortnight.

Trainer Chris Evers said William Palm Island, Patrick Clarke, Stanley Fraser and Thomas Blanket will travel south for the Boxing Association fights.

"They have been training very well and we will be flying down and I am confident they will all go well," Mr Evers said.

Some of the younger boxers will also travel with the experienced brigade to another tournament in a month's time in Brisbane.

"I have been very impressed with young Kevin Kidner who at age 10 is dedicated to training and has improved a lot since he started boxing," he said.

"We will hire a bus for the Brisbane trip."

Club star Patrick Clarke travelled to Brisbane on the weekend of 19 and 20 May for a Centre of Excellence Boxing Workshop.

Mr Evers said Patrick looked classy sparring some top class boxers which would give him an edge for future tournaments.

During their last tournament at Caboolture in the second weekend of May, five of the eight Palm boxers won their bouts.

Veteran trainer Ray Dennis, who was staying at



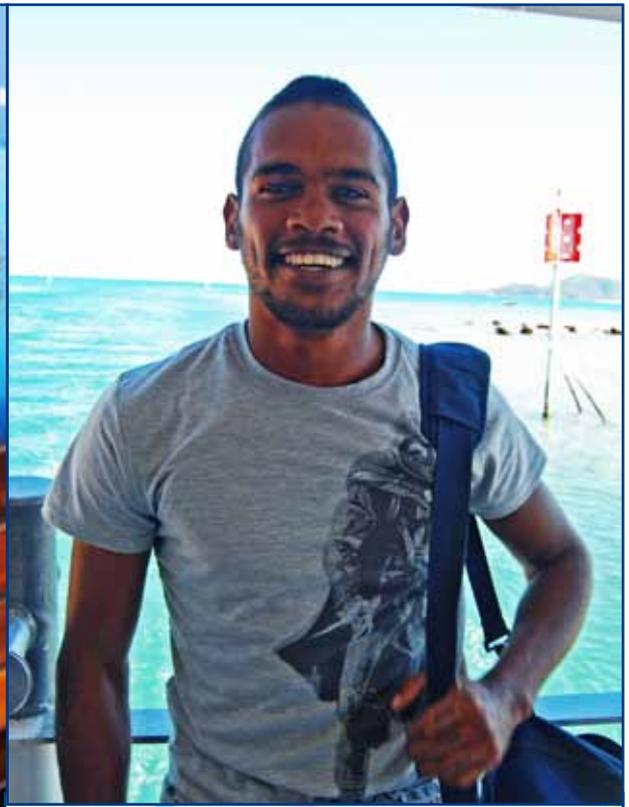
Butler Bay, has found new accommodation closer to the boxing gym at the PCYC.

Mr Dennis said two Scottish boxers who had been working for John Friend Constructions had trained hard with the local boxers.

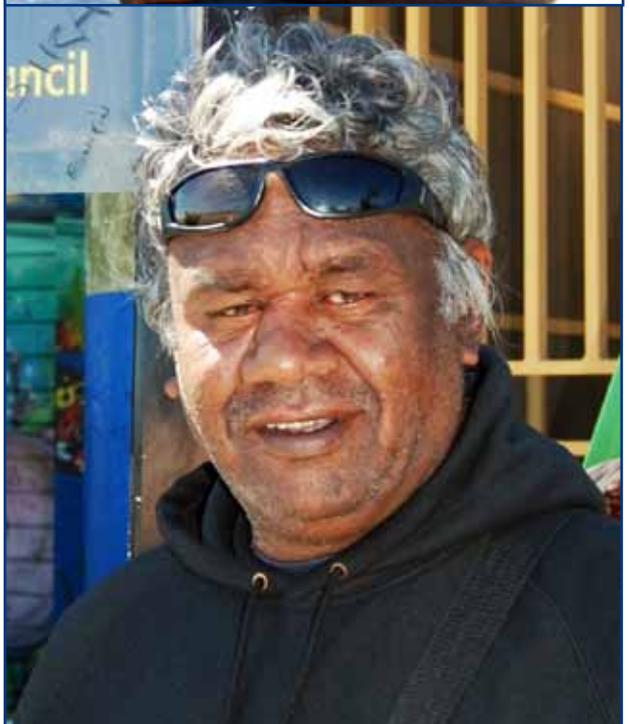
Palm Boxing Club officials are hopeful that exciting young prospects such as Shanden Burns (*pictured above*) will be back at training in the coming week.

Former 60 Minutes journalist Jeff McMullan was a special guests of Dr Gracelyn Smallwood's at the launch of 'Human Rights and First Australians Well-Being' - her PHD thesis - last weekend in Townsville. "This is National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week is the following week, so it is an appropriate date to bring everyone together," Dr Smallwood said. The launch was held at the Museum of Tropical Queensland where guests included James Cook University Vice Chancellor Sandra Harding and Snr Deputy Vice Chancellor Chris Cocklin (below left with Dr Smallwood middle) and Jenny Prior and Russell Butler Snr (below right).





Above: Dehannah Morgan with baby Benjamin Morgan, aged 10 months; Above Right: Kevin Morgan; Middle Right: William Coolburra loves life on Palm Island and on weekends often walks 4km to Wallaby Point to enjoy a day out with family and friends; Below Right: Ambulance man Bill Landers near the PI sign; Below: Former Palm Island Mayor and now author and writer Erykah Kyle near the Retail Store.





Above: Ronald Palmer, 19, on Leah, Anthony Friday, 22 on Hickory & Paul Murray, 18, on Bessa; Left: Damien Shortjoe & Jerry James; Below: Alex Morgan smiling for the camera; Below Middle: Mitchell Baira, 15, Kusan Nawia, 16, Costa Sam and Zac Sam ready for the ferry, as are the group below them.



Palm Island Voice

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