



# Palm Island Voice

Your Community  
Your Newsletter  
Your Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 28 November 2012

\$1.25

Issue 118



## It's almost a Palm Island Summer

More pics on pages 4-5!



## Government's freehold option up for discussion

**The Queensland Government has released a discussion paper around transferring community land to freehold tenure in a move towards making home ownership a reality for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities, it says.**

Palm Island is one of 34 communities invited to comment on the paper. Natural Resources and Mines Minister Andrew Cripps said the Government recognised Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people wanted to own their own homes in their own communities.

"This desire for greater security of land tenure is behind the discussion paper, Providing freehold title in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, which is available for public comment until 29 March 2013," Mr Cripps said.

Mr Cripps said the discussion paper outlined a proposed freehold model and a process of community consultation that could lead to that model being adopted.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs Minister Glen Elmes said the Government saw home ownership as an important step towards addressing Indigenous disadvantage.

"We want to work with communities to identify what's best for each one and to what extent freehold land can be made part of the community," Mr Elmes said.

Assistant Minister for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs David Kempton said the community would be well informed about the Government's freehold title proposal. "The Government recognises the importance of getting this proposal right," Mr Kempton said.

"Over the coming months I will work with Government departments to conduct a series of meetings with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander land trusts, native title bodies, Aboriginal Shire councils and Indigenous Regional councils."

Copies of the discussion paper *Providing freehold title in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities* are available online at [www.dnrm.qld.gov.au](http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au)



*PALM Island's Tiana Friday was maid of honour at the wedding of John Zaro and Evelyn Tamwoy in Cairns last month. Tiana looked beautiful as part of the 10 bridesmaids for the wedding, attended by 500 people. Evelyn has many relatives on Palm Island.*

## Bwgc Colman Art Committee support for Stolen Generations exhibit

**Palm Island artists' Stolen Generation Exhibition was launched with a sausage sizzle and a speech or two at the Cultural Centre in Townsville last month.**

President of the Bwgc Colman Aboriginal Arts Cooperation Susan Pryor was there and the Council was represented by Land Liaison Officer Selena Shepherd who said she was privileged to be a part of the event.

"The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council wholeheartedly supports our local artists through their stimulating journey of cultural storytelling through paintings," Ms Shepherd said.

"The event overall was a very exciting and proud time for us all, especially the artists."

Ms Pryor said there was more to come. "Our next step is the art works will be displayed at the Mecure Inn in Townsville for December and January and then onto another three places around Townsville," she said.



*For the past two years Lawrence Ketchup (left) has been driving trucks for the Palm Island Shire Council. "I pick up a variety of loads from near the terminal to take to the Council depot," he said. "I love it here on Palm Island and get to drive different trucks." Barge worker Clint Barry described Lawrence as a fabulous worker. "He is always busy," Clint said.*



# Unsung heroes the nationally-known pride of Palm

**Unsung heroes they may be, always "in the poo" they may well be, but essential they most certainly are as they perform a vital service for our community.**

Rodger Shannon, Faron Robertson and Raymond Burns are Sewerage Treatment Plant Operators employed by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.

They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week and their duties are to maintain and service all sewerage operations including the pumps.

They recently received national recognition in the Koori Mail when their efforts were highlighted in a story with a picture.

It is not everybody's kettle of fish but the three love their work.

"We have to keep it all going and never know when we will be called out if there is a breakdown or problem," Mr Burns said.

"We are on call even on Christmas day and over Easter – on all public holidays."

They agreed it could be dirty work



*Rodger Shannon, Faron Robertson & Raymond Burns*

but was is rewarding as they ensured services on Palm were always in working order.

"It is vital work, we don't get much recognition but we like serving the community," Mr Robertson said.

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey agreed they were unsung heroes.

"Whilst everybody on Palm

goes about their lives these three valued workers ensure everything such as toilets are working," Cr Lacey said.

The trio have a great sense of humour and don't mind some of the jokes about their jobs.

"We often get told we are in the poo all the time but that just goes with the job," Mr Shannon said.



## Body building champion relates to Palm

**Lass Bourne 34, with family connections on Palm Island is a champion female bodybuilder who finished second in her category at the Australian Natural Body Building National Championships in Sydney on 14 October.**

"My father's eldest brother Uncle Billo Bourne (deceased) married Aunty Sylvia Daisy," she said. "Aunty Sylvia and my cousins grew up on Palm and are still living there with their families. Some of my nieces and nephews live on Palm too."

Three years ago Lass decided to change from regular club sports to take up bodybuilding, taking first place in the 2011 North Queensland Natural Bodybuilding and Figure Championships, Women's Novice Physique after just five months of training.

"I am a mainland Torres Strait

Islander, born and raised in Townsville on the lands of the Bindal and Wulgurukaba people," she said.

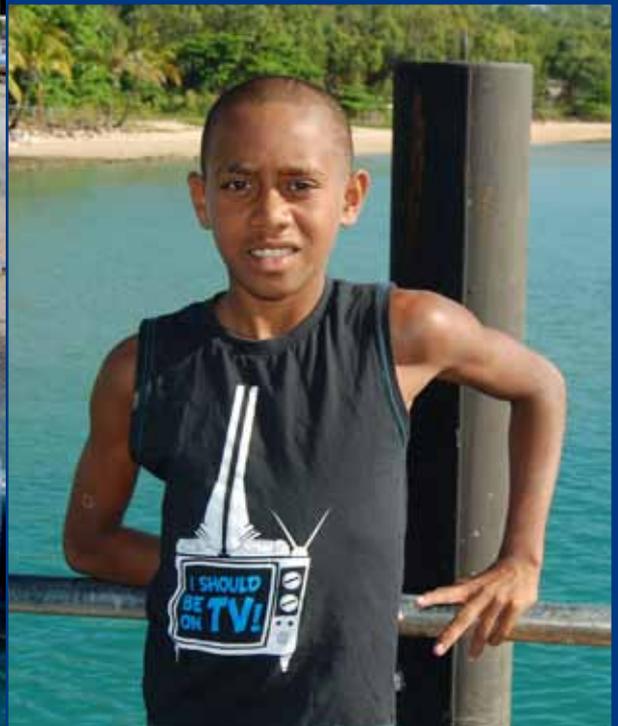
"My TSI ancestry is from Mabuiag, Badu, Murray and Moa Islands."

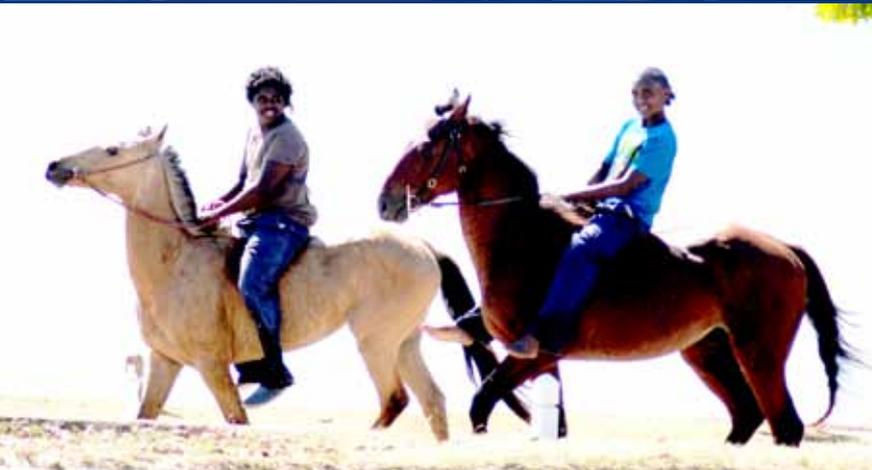
Lass hopes to inspire young people to follow their dreams.

"We all have dreams that we think are impossible to achieve and it's hard when others don't believe in you but when you decide to change the way you think about it, you open your mind up to take on the challenge," she said.

# Out & About

Spring 2012







# Palm Island Voice

## Public & Community Notices

**Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council** is closed every 2nd Friday (Council pay week) for RDO. The next RDO is **Friday 7 December** For emergencies on Friday please call **0458 789 011**. For more information contact Council on 4770 1177.

**Please Note: Council will close for Christmas & New Year from Monday 24 December 2012 to Friday 4 January 2013, with all staff to resume duties on Monday 7 January.**

### **POSITION VACANT**

## **ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS CLERK / RECEPTIONIST**

Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation for CDEP Palm Island requires the services of a trustworthy, reliable and capable person to administer the front office of Coolgaree Corporation.

This position is full time and permanent after a three month probation period.

The successful applicant:

- MUST have or be ELIGIBLE for a "Blue Card"
- Preferably hold a current driver's licence.
- Good keyboard skills
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Outlook
- MYOB Desirable
- Excellent work ethic
- Able to prioritise work tasks
- A friendly and outgoing manner both personally and on the phone.

**Please email or deliver your resume to:**

Mr Craig Mills  
Acting CEO  
cmills@lyndoncommunity.org.au  
Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation for CDEP  
Palm Island Qld 4810

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2012**



## **2012-2013 Advertising & Subscription Rates**

### **ADVERTISE!**

**Page Sponsorship:**  
(1cm or 18pt banner ad across nominated page): \$120  
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**Half A4 Page:** \$350 + GST  
**Full A4 Page:** \$550 + GST

**Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day (see back page) and material submitted no later than COB the next day.**

**To book an ad or to inquire about subscriptions please contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or via [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)**

**Please support us so we can continue to support you!**

### **SUBSCRIBE!**

**Individuals & Families:**  
**\$45 (now to 06/13)**  
**Community & NGOs:**  
**\$70 (now to 06/13)**  
**Government:**  
**\$110 (now to 06/13)**

Subscription rates will vary according to when the initial subscription is taken out (eg if taken in January 2013 the rate will be half of the full year to take it to July 2013).

# Girls getting ringside for 2013 competitions

**SIX new female boxers have joined the Palm Island Boxing Club to complement the many talented jnr and senior male fighters our community already boasts.**

Veteran trainer Ray Dennis said he was delighted so many members of the fairer sex had been training at the Palm PCYC in recent weeks.

"They have been training hard and in some cases much better than the male boxers," Dennis said.

Dennis said that two great prospects were Josie Nallajar and Leena Haines who will make their debuts in the ring early in 2013.

"Josie is a 28-year-old mother of three and will box in the 60kg lightweight division and she has shown great potential whilst training strongly," Dennis said.

Miss Haines is a 14-year-old

50kg flyweight class boxer who has heaps of potential according to Dennis.

"I think she will go very well in the ring," he said.

There is also a police detective based on Palm who will be an asset to the club.

"This lady has been training very well and will represent Palm at Sunstate Amateur Boxing League tournaments early next year," Dennis said.

## MALE BOXERS WON'T BE OUTDONE

Whilst he is glowing in his praise for the female boxers, Dennis said the lads will also shine in future tournaments.

One youngster with unlimited potential is

14-year-old Harry Friday.

"This youngster is a great grandson of the legendary Aboriginal boxer Jack Hasson and will be one of the stars of 2013," Dennis said.

Seasoned campaigners Luke Lenoy and Gerald Wotton will be big winners for the club according to Dennis.

Dennis said that Lenoy had been working at Moranbah and had now returned to live on Palm.

"Luke has been with the club for many years and is a 75kg division boxer whilst Gerald has so much ability," he said.

Dennis said the club could look forward to a huge 2013.

**Please be advised of the following changes to the day-to-day hours of operation for the Community Justice Group:-**

**MONDAY**  
8am-12pm  
**TUESDAY**  
8am-12pm  
**WEDNESDAY**  
8am-12pm  
**THURSDAY**  
8am-12pm  
**FRIDAY**  
8am-12pm

These days are flexible due to Court Days.

There is no after hours contact number.

**Office Phone 47 701155 Fax 47 701116**

**Email: [justicegroup@picc.com.au](mailto:justicegroup@picc.com.au)**

Hours have been reduced due to cut backs in funding.

Any questions please call during office hours.

**Deniece Geia (Acting Coordinator)**



## Be smart with power — simple ways to save

### Be smart in the kitchen ... with your fridges and freezers

- Consider turning off your second fridge — it could be costing you a lot of money, especially if it's a bit old.
- Replace an old, inefficient fridge with a new energy-efficient one.
- Leave enough room for air to flow around the back and top of your fridge.
- Defrost your freezer when it ices up. Thick ice makes the motor use more power.



- Keep the door closed as much as possible to keep the cold air in.

## Want to reduce your power costs?

See your local **powersavvy** officer **Bernadine "Blackie" Castors @ Palm Council** @ the old post office, or contact her through the Council office on **4770 1177**.

[www.facebook.com/powersavvy.au](https://www.facebook.com/powersavvy.au)

[www.powersavvy.com.au](http://www.powersavvy.com.au)





# Cairns AllBlacks 2012

*pics by Christine Howes*



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## Palm Island Voice

<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>ISSUE NO</u>	<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>
Thursday 6 December	119	THURSDAY 13 December
<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS &amp; A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!</b>		
Thursday 10 January	120	THURSDAY 17 January
Thursday 24 January	121	THURSDAY 31 January