



Palm Island Voice

Your Community
Your Newsletter
Your Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 26 September 2013

\$1.25

Issue 138

2013 Year of the Bulls!



* Pics on this page were taken by Alf Wilson at the qualifying semi-final on the Spring Fair weekend

BUTLER Bay Bulls scored a cliff-hanging 20-16 win over arch rivals Jets in the Palm Island Rugby League grand final at headquarters last Saturday.

A large crowd turned out for another titanic clash between these two champion local sides.

Try Scorers for Bulls were John Oliffe, Billo Wotton, Walter Geia and Frank Pompey whilst Kevin Morgan kicked two goals.

Jets' try scorers were Germaine Bulsey, Tollowah Prior and William Blackman. Tabua Oui booted two goals.

Jets led 12-10 at half time in what was an entertaining match.

Bull's best included utility Gary Fulford, centres John

Oliffe and Billo Wotton, forward Walter Geia and fullback Kevin Morgan.

Jets stars were Tollowah Prior, Raoul Miller jnr, Germaine Bulsey, William

Blackman and Genami Geia jnr.

A fortnight earlier Jets earned their berth in the decider with a nail biting 28-26 win over Bulls.

Bulls then got another crack at Jets after rolling a gallant Mount Bentley Raiders in the preliminary final, 36-24.

On behalf of the PIRL, Treasurer Norman Bounghi congratulated the Butler Bay Bulls for winning the 2013 Grand Final, and also the Jets for giving the community a memorable Grand Final match.

Mr Bounghi said the PIRL also wanted to thank all the clubs for participating in the 2013 competition, along with sponsors Westwing Airlines, Bluewater Aviation, the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and Struddy's Sports.

"Also a big thanks to the Townsville Referees Association for allowing us use members for the entire finals series," he said.

Now the dust has settled on the domestic competition,

all interest will focus on various Allblacks carnivals. In October the Barracudas will attempt to defend their championship at the Bindal Carnival in Townsville.



Police blitz on traffic laws

For those who don't know me, I'm Acting Senior Sergeant Rob Pagett, relieving as the Officer In Charge for the Palm Island Police Station.



I have resided on Palm Island for about two and a half years.

This is a courtesy to inform the community about traffic related concerns police have on the Island.

The community can expect an increase in traffic enforcement as police will be targeting offences including:

- Drink Driving
- Seat Belts offences
- Unlicensed Driving/ Disqualified driving offences
- Driving Licence offences
- Children Unrestrained in vehicles
- Unregistered trail bike offences
- Vehicle Registration offences
- Carry capacity of vehicles (number of persons in vehicles)

In targeting these offences you will see an increase of police RBT sites and mobile interceptions.

I urge everyone to do the right thing and remember road safety is everyone's responsibility.

A/S/Sergeant Rob Pagett
Palm Island Police

Promoting good health



To celebrate Spring Fair this year the Renal Dialysis Unit promoted healthy kidneys and healthy living in the community.

The day was a great success. Health promotion and awareness, eating healthy and giving each community member who had a health check a showbag, salad sandwich and bottle of water. The day could not have happened without great support from Cr Lacey and his Councillors.

In the photos are Paula Scholte, Peter Sharp, Neena Waler, Colyning Walsh, Sister Alice, Robyn and Lee from Amgen Pharmaceuticals.

Thank you to all those supported the day, and the biggest thank you to Joyce Palmer community health workers.



Health plan commitment renewed after health services review for Palm

Palm Island Council welcomed a renewed commitment to the Palm Island Health Action Plan 2010–2015 by the Townsville Hospital and Health Service (THHS) at the Palm Island Spring Festival earlier this month.



Palm Island Councillors and signatories with the renewed Health Action Plan at the Spring Fair. Speeches on the day were made by Hospital and Health Service chair John Bearne, Cr Alf Lacey, QAIHC CEO Selwyn Button & Hospital and Health Service CEO Julia Squires.

Mayor Alf Lacey said the Council welcomed the initiative in the light of a recent review of health services on the Island.

“It has been a long journey to get Queensland Health to finally realise that health matters for the people of Palm,” he said.

“All the health indicators for our People, it is important to remember, tell us we are below every other Australian in almost every respect. The recent review into the Joyce Palmer Health Service showed significant gaps in health service delivery within our Shire.

“I remain optimistic that we will sooner rather than later see dramatic changes to the way health services are delivered to the people of Palm Island. My only concern is that the people have a

greater say in a new primary health care model for the Island and that’s what this plan is a step towards.”

THHS chief executive Julia Squire said the plan was produced after lengthy consultations with the Palm Island community and represented their hopes and aspirations for their health.

“The review found that while we are providing very good acute care in the hospital setting, we need more primary health care to avoid and manage chronic conditions and to prevent, where possible, hospital admissions,” she said.

“This new service group also has a very clear brief for Palm Island and will take a lead role in community and stakeholder engagement.

“I’m delighted that we are reaffirming our commitment to the action plan and, with the creation of the new service group, our commitment to improving health outcomes for the people of Palm Island.”



A word from *Mayor Alf Lacey*

Welcome to the 138th issue of the Palm Island Voice where it gives me a great sense of pride to report to the community how much has happened over the past few months.

Heading towards Christmas and into the next 12 months will be a very important time for development on Palm Island as we will see new housing on the two new estates finally built and delivered.

They will accommodate 60 families and Council is proud of the fact we were able to negotiate ongoing funding for housing for the community of Palm.

As most people may know, the Mal Brough funding of \$14 million went into the civil works component of the housing development.

Council, through a State and Commonwealth partnership, was able to negotiate a better deal for the bricks and mortar of the homes which will finally come to Palm as well over the next few weeks and months.

The other important announcement I would like to share with the community is that we have also managed to secure another \$14 million for a third subdivision with a further 60 allotments to be built on.

They are expected to be completed by 2015.

Council is hoping to achieve this by being the principal contractor who will develop the site and be involved in managing the whole process, from turning the first sod to welcoming the first families into these new homes.

This is a great achievement for our community and our Council has worked very very hard for this.

The pontoon project is also expected to come into fruition soon, tenders have gone out and the completion date for that will be 30 June 2014.

This new infrastructure will make our community safer and more secure for everyone who uses the ferry as their first choice of affordable travel.

Finally we will see a regular ferry run, rather than the ad hoc arrangement we currently have which is dictated by the tides, so this is a great thing for our community.

Within the next three weeks we will also see works starting on our new foreshore development, for which Council has \$12 million under the NDRRA



(Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements).

A lot of works will start to happen along our foreshore over the coming months and we ask the community to work with the Council and be patient as we see this new infrastructure put into place for the benefit of all of us.

Council is also proud to have already successfully completed the first section of these works in the area between the boat ramp and the principals' residence, which was done by our own workforce.

In other exciting news in the community, we have had a successful Spring Fair, and there are more photos of that in this issue.

We'd like to particularly thank the sponsors, Council employees and community organisations and volunteers who helped us to put all of that together.

On a sad note, there have been some losses to the community.

I would like to acknowledge the passing of some of our most respected Elders, in

...Continued next page...

Studying hard reaps rewards for students

200 students were recognised and rewarded for their academic achievements at the Cathy Freeman Foundation (CFF) Starting Block Awards last week.

The students from pre-Prep to Year 12 were participating in the CFF Starting Block Program, which in partnership with both schools helps to drive literacy, attendance and a positive work ethic.

“The Starting Block ceremonies provide a forum for our children and their parents to be proud of their achievements and be

inspired to continue to achieve and succeed,” CFF Programs Coordinator Daphne Lawrence said.

Bwngcolman Community School Deputy Principal Chris Wicks said the Starting Block Program was integrated into the curriculum through resources which monitored student progress in literacy,

attendance and good behaviour.

Starting Block Award ceremonies are held at the end of each term.

“Recognition and rewarding any child is key to creating a positive future pathway and this is what our programs on Palm Island focus on,” Mrs Lawrence, who grew up on Palm Island, said.

MEANWHILE eight top-achieving students from the CFF Horizons program went on a 5-day educational and aspirational trip to the snow fields of Mt Buller in Victoria earlier this month.

The Grade 6 and Year 7 students were recognised for their academic achievement with the reward based on merit, attitude and a demonstrated desire to achieve.

With a major focus on positive role models, the program included a mentoring and goal setting workshop with Australian Winter Olympic Ski Representative Ramone Cooper, who made his Olympic debut at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, followed by a lesson in snowboarding.

“For some of these kids, it is the first time they have ever seen snow!” he said.

“It’s an incredible reward for their hard work in school and I hope I can inspire them to continue on a positive education pathway.”

For more information or to make a donation, please visit www.cathyfreemanfoundation.org.au.



...From previous page...

particular Aunty Kathy Gibson and Uncle Norris Daphney, and express our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

In closing, Christmas will be here before we know it and soon we will be busy organising our Community Christmas Party.

The community will also be interested to know Stables on the Strand’s Townsville

organisers have expressed an interest in being involved in our Island’s Christmas celebrations and are keen to work with Council on a possible ‘Stables in the Park’ event here on the Island.

That’s something we can all look forward to and I look forward to continuing to work with you all towards making our community the best it can be.



**BINDAL SHARKS
UNITED**

Bindal Sharks United - All Blacks Carnival 2013

Date: 12th, & 13th
October, 2013

Venue: Brothers
Leagues Club,
Harvey's Range rd



Prices:

Mens Nomination:
\$1500

**Under 19's men
nomination:** \$500

**Womens
Nominations:** \$500

Prize Money

**Men's Winners Cup -
\$15,000**

**Runners up Winners Cup -
\$5000**

**Men's winner Sliver Cup-
\$4000**

Runners up Silver Cup- \$1000

Silver Plate winner- \$1500

Runners up Sliver Plate- \$500

Under 19's winner- \$2000

**Runners up Under 19's -
\$1000**

**Women's Prizes dependant
on number of team nomina-
tions**

Contact Details

Contact Bindal Sharks
office on details below:

Phone: 47 291 077

Fax: 47 291 345

E-mail:
bindalsharks@bigpond.
com

Address: 190 Mervyn
Crossman drive, An-
nandale

Jenny Pryor

Viaella Pryor



**Grand Final Winners—2012
Palm Island-Barracudas**

Palm Island Voice

Happy
Anniversary!

TO ROB WITH LOVE
FROM SERINA
FOR 17TH
SEPTEMBER

2013 Advertising & Subscription Rates

ADVERTISE!

Page Sponsorship: (1cm or 18pt banner ad
across nominated page): \$120

Quarter A4 Page: \$250 + GST

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.

SUBSCRIBE!

Individuals & Families: \$50

Community & NGOs: \$100

Government & Corporate: \$150

(Inclusive from now to end 06/14)

Subscription rates will vary according to when the initial
subscription is taken out (eg if taken in January 2014 the rate will
be half of the full year to take it to July 2014).

**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**

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

Public &
Community
Notices

ABOUT THIS FONT:

The font used in this newsletter
is called 'Dyslexie' and has been
designed for people who have
difficulty reading, especially
those with dyslexia, so they can
read more easily.

For more information see
<http://www.studiostudio.nl>



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Public Holidays 2014

- *Strike 57 - Commemoration Day*
Friday 6 June
 - *Bwgcorman Day*
Friday 13 June
- *Townsville Annual Show*
Monday 7 July
 - *NAIDOC Day*
Friday 18 July
- *Spring Fair Festival Day*
Friday 5 September

Palm Island Aboriginal
Shire Council has 178
'likes' on Facebook!!!



**Palm Island Aboriginal Shire
Council** is closed every 2nd
Friday (Council pay week) for
RDO. The next RDO is
Friday 4 October

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

For more information contact
Council on 4770 1177.

Three boxers – Dennis Haines jnr, Levi Baira and Kathleen Haines (pictured right with trainer Ray Dennis) – represented Palm Island with distinction at the Sunstate Amateur Boxing League’s Queensland Titles last weekend.

All three of them won gold medals against boxers from all around North Queensland.

Rising 12-year-old star Levi Baira won his gold by beating Dragons fighter Colby Laspina in Saturday night’s final of the 41kg Junior division.

“The referee stopped the bout in round two and Levi was highly impressive,” trainer Ray Dennis said.

As a bonus Levi also won the award for the best junior boxer at the blue ribbon tournament.

Dennis Haines jnr defeated highly rated Babinda boxer Shane Thomas on points in the final of the 63.5kg division also on Saturday night.

Kathleen Haines won her gold for the 49kg female division by walkover when no opponent of similar weight was available.

“A pretty good effort to take three fighters and they all won gold,” Mr Dennis said.

To qualify for the finals both Levi and Dennis Haines jnr had to win qualifying bouts on night one.



Levi won two qualifying bouts on points in his hotly contested division.

Dennis Haines jnr defeated highly rated Babinda boxer Dennis Raymond on points in his qualifying bout.

Mr Dennis said there was some irony in the first bout Dennis Haines jnr had.

“His opponent was Dennis Raymond and my name is Raymond Dennis,” Mr Dennis said with a wry grin.

Kathleen stepped up two weight divisions on night one after the disappointment of not being matched.

She lost her bout in the 57kg female class on points but Mr Dennis said she gave away 8kg.

“Kathleen gave away too much weight but still won gold in her own class as nobody could be matched with her,” he said.

Mr Dennis said he was thankful to the Cathy Freeman Foundation for paying for their accommodation and ferry tickets.

“We could not have made the trip without the Cathy Freeman Foundation,” Mr Dennis said.

Mr Dennis attended a Sunstate Amateur Boxing League meeting on Saturday morning.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WE STILL HAVE *HEAPS* OF SPRING FAIR PICS TO PUBLISH SO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS IT!!!

PUBLICATION DETAILS:

Contact Details + Publisher Details

Editor: Christine Howes (chowes@westnet.com.au)

Ph 4770 1177 or 0419 656 277

Fax 4770 1305 With thanks to Alf Wilson & to all the Palm Islanders who have contributed to this issue of the *Palm Island Voice*.

Published by PIASC © 2013

Palm Island Voice

DEADLINE	ISSUE #	PUBLICATION DATE
Thursday 3 October	139	THURSDAY 10 October
Thursday 17 October	140	THURSDAY 24 October
Thursday 31 October	141	THURSDAY 7 November
Thursday 14 November	142	THURSDAY 21 November