



# Palm Island Voice

Your Community  
Your Newsletter  
Your Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 5 December 2013

\$1.25

Issue 143

# Cyclone ready!



Bwgcolman Community School students were given an in depth education on tropical cyclones when they visited Townsville's Museum of Tropical Queensland last month.

The 27 students and their teachers checked out the Museum's new 'Come Hell or Highwater' exhibition and were part of a CSIRO natural disasters education session.

Students enjoyed investigating the science behind natural disasters and learnt about some

of the technologies used in early detection and impact minimisation. A highlight of the day was entering the Cyclone Simulation Room in groups of six students at a time.

They were also filmed by local television news crews.

*... Continued next page ...*

**Palm Island Barracudas A-Grade and Under-19 sides will play in next year's Townsville and District Rugby League's 2014 competition after a unanimous vote at the body's Annual General Meeting last weekend. FULL STORY PAGE 8!**

...From previous page...

Tuquiri Prior and Brayden Nallajar, both 11, spoke of their experience at the Museum.

“We have really seen the damage cyclones cause and have been told what to do if one hits Palm Island, I have really enjoyed this,” Brayden said. Tuquiri said he would be passing on to family, friends and other Palm youngsters what he had learnt about natural disasters.

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), CSIRO, Museum of Tropical Queensland, SeaLink and Campbell’s Coaches all donated their services toward making the visit possible.

QFES Regional Community Engagement Officer Paul Cannon spoke to the students as he took them through the exhibition.

“Palm Island could be affected by storm tides during a cyclone and all Government built houses there are now cyclone rated,” Mr Cannon said.

“The students have been studying natural disasters, so the exhibit was a fantastic opportunity to experience some hands on science from CSIRO Education and to wander through the displays with every aspect of cyclones being covered.”

Megan Spendlar from CSIRO Education had



students involved in a number of scientific experiments from lava being created through to recording safety messages to be sent out during a disaster.

She said students showed off their previous learnings with some great results during the session.

“The Cyclone exhibit was an exciting time

for the students with all the students enjoying the displays and some students extra keen to revisit the cyclone room, a life size darkened room with the sounds of a real cyclone bringing real screams and the occasional laughter from some students,” she said.

“Most importantly the students learnt about the importance of being prepared for cyclones.”

Year 5/6 teachers Kristy Maloney and Tammy Cassady said students behaved extremely well during the excursion.

“If you are in Townsville from now until

the end of first term be sure to visit the museum and check out the Come Hell or High Water exhibit,” Mr Cannon told the *Palm Island Voice*.

Another highlight for the students was visiting the “Explore Saurus” exhibition.

“Everybody loved seeing the life-like dinosaurs,” Brayden said.





*Above: Year 5/6 students; Below: Preston Robertson & Jaycee Langdon*



*Below: Tuquiri Prior-Ross, Brayden Nallajar, Jerusha Wales & Ranietta Lind.*



## Batching plant shows a solid result

A batching plant, which produces cement and is part of the Business Unit of Council, is up and has been running successfully, Mayor Alf Lacey says.

The Maurice Palmer Batching Plant was named after a now deceased local who was heavily involved in road construction on Palm Island.

Cr Lacey said the plant employed four truck drivers delivering the cement and two others who operated the systems at the depot.

“It has been going really well and is supplying cement for quite a few projects here,” he said.

“It saves us money as before we had to buy it from the mainland and have it transported here before.”

One of the driver/operators employed at the Plant is long-time local Roger “Bully” McKean.

“This has been a very worthwhile project for Palm Island and will employ even more people,” Mr McKean said.



**3** *Workers Jeff Lane, Rob Youngblutt and Roger “Bully” McKean*

# Local organisations successful in bid for sea country management dollars

Indigenous Sea Country Management Grants were announced for 16 successful applicants to the program – which supports the development of sustainable management practices in relation to dugong, turtles and other marine resources along the Queensland coastline – earlier this year.

Project locations ranged from Moreton Bay to Lockhart River on Cape York Peninsula and from Mapoon to the Northern Territory border on the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Funding for the program was provided by the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country initiative and was administered by the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

Some local recipients included:

## Palm Island Sea Management

Manbarra Nangarra Wangarra Aboriginal Corporation (sponsored by Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council)

Develop Sea Country plan based on best practices from surrounding Traditional Owner groups.

## Gudjuda Reference Group Aboriginal Corporation

Deliver education programs to raise awareness of cultural values and importance of marine turtles for Juru people to community and schools. Produce a DVD of Juru Elder's traditional knowledge. Clean-up marine debris from 30km of turtle nesting beach. Deliver on-ground activities to protect turtle nests.

## Indigenous Sea Country Community Engagement and Education Strategy

Indigenous Sea Country Strategic Policy Group (sponsored by Girringun)

Develop 'How To...' guidelines and other multimedia products to assist other Traditional Owner groups develop and implement sea country management plans.

## Wanyurr-Majay Sea Country Management Plan

Wanyurr-Majay Aboriginal Corporation  
Develop a sea country management plan and Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreement (TUMRA).

Increase community awareness of the cultural importance and values of marine turtles for Juru Traditional Owners within Juru Sea Country.

## Mandubarra Land and Sea Country Monitoring/Turtle Triage

Mandubarra Aboriginal Land and Sea Inc  
Establish a turtle rehabilitation centre in co-operation with Cairns Turtle Rehabilitation Centre. Pass on traditional knowledge from Elders to youth.

See <http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/coastal/management/indigenous-sea-country-grants.html> for more information.

# Boxer takes on heavy(er) weight

CLASSY Palm Island boxer Patrick Clarke stepped up a weight division in a bout with star Dragon Dojo's club fighter Michael Bagley on a professional/amateur card at Townsville's RSL Stadium last weekend.

Trainer Ray Dennis said Clarke fought gallantly in the 71kg amateur division bout before losing on points to Bagley.

"It was a split decision to Bagley and Patrick fought very well in the three rounds over two minutes," Mr Dennis said.

Mr Dennis said Reggie Palm

Island was also ready for a bout.

"Reggie was asked to fight a much bigger boxer who was three weight divisions heavier and I wouldn't let him," Mr Dennis said.

In the main professional bout Townsville's Josh King won before a packed house.

FOOTNOTE: Mr Dennis will write a year in review piece on boxing for the Palm Island Voice in the last edition of 2013 out on 19th December. In his report Mr Dennis will outline how 2013 has not been the most successful year on record for Palm Island boxing.

# Long service recognised for local ambo

Cherbourg-born ambo Bill Landers was recognised by Queensland Ambulance Service for his ten years of hard work on Palm Island in September.

Mr Landers attended a ceremony at Kirwan Station, in Townsville, during Ambulance Week.

“I didn’t expect any award as I enjoy what I do and want to go to work every day I am rostered on,” he said.

Mr Landers said it was very rewarding to be able to help his people.

“We have a small and dedicated team of officers here on Palm and we are all committed to what we do,” he said.

The 50-year-old Mr Landers was presented with a medal.

QAS Commissioner Russell Bowles said paramedics,

communications staff, patient transport officers, clinical staff and volunteers go about their jobs without expecting recognition or praise.

“Every day out staff and volunteers demonstrate bravery, composure and skills in challenging and often dangerous circumstances,” Mr Bowles said.



Mr Landers said Palm island was a genuine paradise. He said his other loves included his large family and rugby league football.

## Community Connections Worker Palm Island



Our team on Palm Island is committed to promoting development opportunities within social and business enterprises. We’re now looking for a motivated individual to join our team. As a key advocate you will encourage and promote services for Job Seekers within the Community. You’ll work to fill job vacancies, apprenticeships and volunteer (work experience) positions and will also ensure that we maintain our contractual obligations.

You will need to have previous success in building and maintaining stakeholder relationships and be a good problem-solver. Working effectively with a small team is essential for this role.

If you live on Palm Island, can point to a strong network of established contacts and are interested in contributing to the success of this program, please email your cover letter and resume to [recruitment@campbellpage.org.au](mailto:recruitment@campbellpage.org.au) , quoting Ref. No. PA001.

**Applications close on Friday 13th December 2013.**

# Palm Island Voice

## Public & Community Notices

# BEAUTY STARTS HERE

BEAUTY THERAPY  
FREE SERVICE  
13-25 YEAR OLDS

Light refreshments provided!

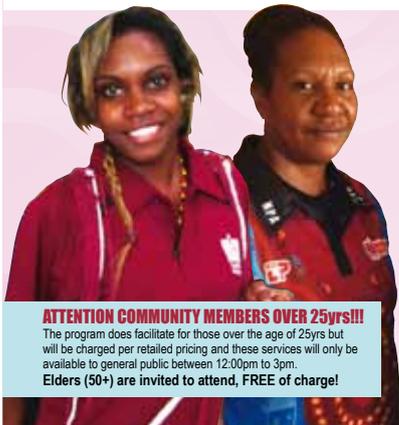


Palm Island

PH: 4770 1793

## “FEEL GOOD PROGRAM”

ARE YOU A FEMALE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 13 & 25YRS?  
DO YOU LIKE HAIR DRESSING AND BEAUTY THERAPY TREATMENTS?  
DO YOU HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS WHO LIKES SOCIALISING?



FEEL FREE TO COME TO JOIN THIS FREE SERVICE  
LET'S EMPOWER OUR YOUNG LADIES

When: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
Time: 12pm - 3pm (Adults) & 3pm - 8pm (Youth)  
Where: Palm Island PCYC Pulse Room  
Facilitators: Deniece Geia  
\*\*Light refreshments provided\*\*

### SERVICES PROVIDED

- Nail Art Technology
- Manicure & Pedicure
- Body Waxing & Tanning
- Eye brow Waxing & Tinting
- Eyelash extensions
- Facials
- Make-up & Beauty Therapy
- Shampoo & Conditioning
- Hair Treatments
- Colour & Cuts
- Blow dry & Straightening
- Hair styling
- Educational Seminars & more!

### SUPPORTIVE ORGANISATIONS

- Palm Island JPHS
- ATODS
- Sexual Health
- Diane Harriss (JPHS)
- Anita Lenoy
- Selina & Jade Bazzo

### PCYC PALM ISLAND

For more information contact:  
Deniece Geia Project Facilitator  
Phone: (07) 4770 1793  
Email: deniece.geia@pcyc.org.au

### ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS OVER 25yrs!!!

The program does facilitate for those over the age of 25yrs but will be charged per retail pricing and these services will only be available to general public between 12:00pm to 3pm.  
Elders (50+) are invited to attend, FREE of charge!

Got a Christmas message to share?

Why not post it for free in *Palm Island Voice*!

Contact details are below...

### 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>

## 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: \$40

Community & NGOs: \$90

Government & Corporate: \$130

(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](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)**

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

# Children and Family Centre Palm Island

WELCOME to a brand new HEALTH service **OPEN NOW** on Palm Island!

## Opening Times

Monday – Friday 9am - 4:30 pm (doctors Monday – Thursday)

Phone Rani on 47914031 or walk in for an appointment



## BLUE BUILDING NEXT TO THE HOSPITAL

- FREE just bring your MEDICARE card and any health care or pension cards
- Come in to see our friendly doctors  
**VICKI STONEHOUSE** (working now) and  
**RAYMOND BLACKMAN** (coming soon)
- We also have a practice nurse, health worker, psychologist and family support worker who can help you out
- **Why not have a health check while your little kids play are at Playgroup?**



Lot 68, Beach Road, Palm Island, 4816

Tel: (07) 4791 4031; Fax: (07) 4422 0026

# IT ALL STARTS HERE

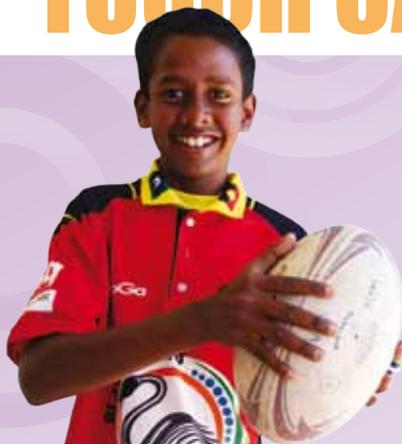
GET FIT & HEALTHY  
BE PRO-ACTIVE

**SUPPORTIVE ORGANISATION**  
Palm Island JPHS  
Community Health Team



**Palm Island**  
PH: 4770 1793

# YOUTH INDOOR TOUCH CARNIVAL



**WHEN:** 9th - 13th December 2013  
**WHERE:** PI PCYC Arena  
**TIME:** 12pm-4pm Daily

Lunch, light refreshments & beverages provided.

### PCYC Palm Island

For more information contact:  
Telstan Sibley Sports & Rec. Officer  
Phone: (07) 4770 1793  
Email: palsportsnrec@pcyc.org.au



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

The next RDO is

**Friday 6 December**

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

For more information contact Council on 4770 1177.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 203 'likes' on Facebook!!!





At a recent meeting to discuss the Barracudas bid for the TDRL was Kerri Ritchie, Cr Eddie Walsh, local police Sgt Dave Rutherford, Deniece Geia & Lex Wotton. Front- TDRL chair Ross Anderson

## Barracudas to play in Townsville comp

Palm Island Barracudas A Grade and under 19 sides will play in next year's Townsville and District Rugby League's 2014 competition after a unanimous vote at the body's Annual General Meeting last weekend.

QRL Northern Division Townsville based Operations Manager Kerri Ritchie said the opportunity to be part of an eight club competition was provisional.

"The Palm Island entry is for a provisional 12-month trial period and is subject to terms and conditions which have to be discussed but everybody was happy to have them in," she said.

At the same meeting Townsville-based Bindal Sharks, which have close ties with Palm Island, were accepted into the TDRL reserve grade competition.

"Palm Island's home games will be at Bindal's Shark Park and the details of that will be worked out between the Barracudas and Bindal," Ms Ritchie said.

Bindal Sharks president Jenny Pryor said she supported Palm Island entering the competition.

"The Barracudas' will bring life and enhance the spirit of the code and bring the spectators back on board," she said. "Lex Wotton and myself have long spoken about Barracudas having A grade and under 18's sides and Bindal a reserve grade team and utilising

Shark Park for home games."

The Barracudas won't have any home games on Palm Island in 2014 which Ms Ritchie said was normal procedure when new clubs joined.

Palm Island last was part of the TDRL in 2002 but did not seek affiliation the next season due to the high cost of travel.

The acceptance has come in the aftermath of a lot of hard work by Palm Island Rugby League President Lex Wotton and his committee.

There had been a series of meetings between Queensland Rugby League Northern Division, TDRL and Palm Island Rugby League (PIRL) board members as well as Palm Island Council and Sealink, who have offered team members and officials a reduced fare.

A major sponsor was still needed and Cr Walsh said hard working PIRL supremo Lex Wotton was contacting prospective sponsors including mining companies.

Mrs Pryor said there were some reservations from the QRL Northern Division over whether Barracudas would be consistent coming over each weekend

and have the funds to afford it.

Bus travel and accommodation when the side draws Charters Towers, Burdekin or Herbert River would also be required.

"Hopefully Palm can overcome these concerns," she said. "At the same time what happened 10-15 years ago is the past, and the QRL Northern Division, TDRL and NQ Cowboys should use every resource possible to encourage it.

"A lot of these stakeholders have access to Closing the Gap funds or have the expertise to support their entry. There could be more players like Matt Bowen, Johnathan Thurston or Greg Inglis running around on Palm Island. The other social benefits for the community are enormous, blackfellas love their football and will do anything to make it happen, they just need the right supports and encouragements."

The PIRL will also soon discuss what format the local domestic competition on Palm Island will have in 2014.

The general consensus is that the local comp may well be reduced to four super clubs in 2014.

### 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*.

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## Palm Island Voice

**DEADLINE**      **ISSUE #**      **PUBLICATION DATE**  
Thursday 12 December 144 THURSDAY 19 December

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and a  
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!**