



## Junior footy to kick off soon!

Palm Island now has its own Junior Rugby League after pulling in support from the National Rugby League (NRL), Council and the Palm Island Community Company (PICC).

President Arthur Clumpoint and Vaughn Charles signed the papers they said would 'kick start' the new league.

"After so many years of debating about getting it going, so we finally got it going ahead and up and running now," Mr Clumpoint said.

"Council is backing us 100%, PICC is doing all the paperwork for all of us as well, and hopefully within the next two months we'll get it up and going as quick as possible.

"We've also made a deal with the NRL to come over here and start programs in the schools with the kids, so that's going ahead."

He said sign-up day for juniors would be held soon.

"We're going to try and start with three teams, it might be four, hopefully. And then on the weekends when we have our team games we'll going to slot them there.

"We also want to get our mob to travel to Townsville for competitions in town, so we're looking at that down the track.



*Signing up for juniors - Arthur Clumpoint, Vaughn Charles and the NRL's Government Liaison Manager Arthur Eustace-Earle*

"Through the NRL coaching system we're going to get the parents to be qualified coaches.

"And we're going to get the kids to do their own refereeing, lines work, everything; they're all going to be trained to do that through the NRL program.

"We have a long way to go, but it's started."

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*WARNING! Some images in this Issue may contain deceased persons which may cause distress to some people.*



# Out & About



Just in time for her 130th production of the Palm Island Voice, editor Christine Howes was on the mall last Thursday taking pics of various friendly locals who braved the weather of the day, along with Georgina Haines and friends at Playgroup. The next day in Lucinda the team from the Palm Island Barge Company took their turn, pictured L-R is Jovie Gianotti, Warren Fitzgerald, David Reid, Louise Reid ...and Buffy!



# Fiona's farewell



*Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Finance Team 2014*

Palm Island Council Payroll Officer Fiona Prior (*seated in the middle front*) is sad to be leaving the Island this week to head back to her hometown Yarrabah.

“My husband and I moved to Palm in 2008,” she said. “I was working for ICAN and John convinced me to come over to Council in 2009.

“I’m going back to my hometown Yarrabah, which has come about due to the recent death of my father, and because my mum and my family is quite important to me.

“We decided to make the move to go home and look after her, and I also put in for a job back at my old work

place, the Yarrabah Council.

They said they’d give me a job there; I’ve just got to wait.

“Personally, I’d like to thank John Mugambi, the Mayor and the Councillors for giving me the opportunity to work for this Council. And now I think John is going to be sad I’m departing because I put a lot of heart and soul into my work here.

“I’m sad in a way, but I’m happy too – I know as the days get closer to my departure date I am getting

a bit emotional because I’m going to be leaving wonderful friends behind that I’ve made and bonded together over the years, and I want to thank them very much.”

It’s worth noting here too that Dane – pictured above on the far right – celebrates nine years as a member of the Council’s Finance team this week...well done Dane! A focus on other long-serving Council staff will be in the next Issue of the *Palm Island Voice*!

## Bistro serving up to 200 meals per day

The bistro side of the Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar and Bistro is turning out about 200 meals a day at the moment, manager Shane Stratton says.

“So it’s very very busy,” he said.

He also said their new license conditions, approved on 24 December last year, were working well.

“It’s definitely approved the patron numbers in the bar, which is a good sign because it’s a controlled environment,” he said.

“We offer full-strength wine, red or white or dry or sweet, and you can only have two glasses – you



*Bistro manager Shane Stratton with worker Dehannah Morgan*

must purchase a sit-down meal though. The spirits are mid-strength and you can have up to six of those, as with the beer. “There’s been no trouble, it’s all going very well.”

After something of a rocky recent history the old Coolgaree CDEP has officially cut all ties from government funds and is now a stand-alone community-owned company in its own right.

Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation CEO Rob Beattie, who started in July last year, said while there was still a strong training element to what they did, their three up-front businesses were up and running and always looking to the community to support them.

He said the fourth element to their business, the Remote Jobs in Community Program (RJCP), received project-specific funding for some of what they did, but was also standing on its own.

“No longer are we CDEP or government funded,” he said.

“Coolgaree itself is now Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation (CAC), no longer

associated with CDEP or Community Development Program or anything like that.

“Essentially now we are a company with four businesses.

“Three of those businesses – the mechanical workshop, Coolgaree Mechanical; the building workshop which is Coolgaree Construction; and the bakery/kiosk are open for business with the community and other agencies working on the Island.

“The fourth one, headed up by Shelly Scholz, is our RJCP component, which is a program delivered on Palm is association with Campbell Page, PICC and Department



of Prime Minister & Cabinet. It focuses more on employment now rather than just activities and training.

“That means economic development in proper infrastructure offering real outcomes that are going to give people work and development.

“Where it used to fall over in the past, from what I can see, was a lot of these projects ran for three months and finished, and after that we did another project and another one.

“They were never really thought upon to become a sustainable entity in their own right to continue trading.”



*The yet-to-be-renamed Coolgaree bakery and kiosk is now combined as one. Apart from their usual bread and butter, the catering side to things is also still up and running. A hot food van is on the cards for later this year, which will run to the more remote suburbs once or twice a day. Pictured above is CAC Operations Service & Support Manager Ray Roberts with baker Simon Cairns, and right is Joey Boyd serving at the Bakery/Kiosk.*

*Coolgaree Mechanical is managed by certified mechanic Neville Donaldson who has run his own business in Townsville for the past 10 years. At \$90 an hour labour the workshop is a much cheaper alternative than transporting vehicles to Lucinda/Townsville for their regular checkups. The business bulk-buys parts and can handle everything from lawnmowers to boats and any motor or machine in between at competitive rates.*

*Pictured right is mechanic Norman Summers.*



He said CAC was now a stand-alone organisation, non-government and not-for-profit organisation, which was unique for Palm Island.

“We self-fund, we generate our own income and we’ve got overheads just like everyone else, it’s a very unique business model Palm Island,” he said.

“Our Board members include Raymond Sibley, Victor Daisy, Rachael Atkinson, Luella Bligh and Winnie Obah.

“Where we differ from a lot of other not-for-profits on the island is we’re not receiving any operational grants.

“We receive project specific funding, through the RJCP.

“We all have to generate our own income to keep it sustainable.

“Coolgaree is governed by its members, a board of the directors, and the CEO.

“Coolgaree works under the CATSI Act (2006), we are not a funded entity, we are a stand-alone entity, a real business.”

*A whole new workshop’s worth of cabinet making machinery is on its way to Coolgaree Construction which is currently working of their third kitchen out of ten for some of the new housing around the Island. The business can also handle cabinet making, joinery, kitchens, earth moving, tree lopping and traffic control.*

*Pictured right is cabinet maker Albert Gorringe.* 5

*RJCP has three projects running at the moment – a painting program which includes community graffiti removal, a cleaning and maintenance project and landscaping and yard maintenance which includes tidying up footpaths and roadways.*

*Pictured right is RJCP Projects Manager Shelly Scholz with CAC CEO Rob Beattie.*



# Palm Island Voice

Public &  
Community Notices



## VET CHARGES

Please note the visiting vet is no longer free. Contact Council reception or see Community Notice Boards for details.

The next RDO is this Friday, 28 March. RDOs are every fortnight after that. For out-of-hours emergencies please call 0458 789 011.

For more information contact Council on 4770 1177



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 302 'likes' on Facebook!!!



## FURNITURE - NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS

We would like to inform all of our customers at Palm Island that we are no longer able to store your furniture for an indefinite time.

From the 1st of April we will not be accepting furniture deliveries without prior payment for shipping. Please call our Lucinda office on 4777 8282 prior to delivery to arrange payment.

All furniture in our Townsville Depot will need to have freight paid by the end of March.

Any furniture not paid for will be returned to the supplier, furniture sitting for over three months, will be sold to recover storage costs.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

THE NEXT PALM ISLAND VOICE DEADLINE (for Issue 151) will be **THURSDAY 3 April** for publication on **Thursday 10 April**

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**PLEASE SUPPORT US SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOU!!! 6**



# Feeling anxious or depressed?

**OR IF YOU JUST WANT SOMEONE  
TO TALK TO - WE CAN HELP.**

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**REGISTER AT THE CFC**

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# Boxers working hard towards NQ Games

A TEAM of male and female boxers is training hard in preparation for the North Queensland Games in Townsville on 4th and 5th April.

Youngsters Levi Baira (44.5kg division), Brayden Nallajar (35kg) and Marcus Ketchup (51kg) along with veteran

boxer Patrick Clarke (67kg) will lead the male contingent with everyone a good chance of winning medals.

Females include Kathleen Haines (48kg), Natalie David (65kg) and Shirley Curley (43kg).

Trainer Ray Dennis said they had been training well at the Palm PCYC gym.

“We will go over by ferry on 3rd April and stay in Townsville, returning the day after the tournament finishes,” he said.

Mr Dennis wanted to thank the Palm Island Community Company and Raymond Sibley for continued sponsorship.

More than 40 sports will be contested at the coming NQ Games.



RECENTLY PCYC hosted a Palm Island Youth Forum, facilitated by Malachi Bligh and Lynore Geia (pictured)...  
SEE MORE IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!



**Cathy Freeman**  
FOUNDATION



## STARTING BLOCK AWARDS WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014

*In partnership with the Palm Island schools, the Cathy Freeman Foundation invites all parents/carers and community members to celebrate the achievements of our Palm Island youth at the end of Term 1 Starting Block Awards.*

*Bwgcolman Community School: 10am — 11am*

*St Michael's Catholic School: 1:45pm — 2.30pm*