

Palm Island Voice



Issue 170: 15 January 2015



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

still only \$1.25



Designed by Freepik.com

The Mayor, Councillors and Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council staff and friends would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year...

We'll have a full wrap up of 2014 in our next issue, along with what to expect and hope for in 2015. See page 7 for details of all our deadlines, rates and dates for the New Year – remember, it's your Palm Island Voice
– support us so we can continue to support you!

Respect and sorrow for Cairns deaths

MANY men, women and children paid their respects to eight children killed in Cairns before Christmas at a memorial in the Townsville CBD last month.

A public funeral and procession held in Cairns last week was attended by more than 5,000 people.

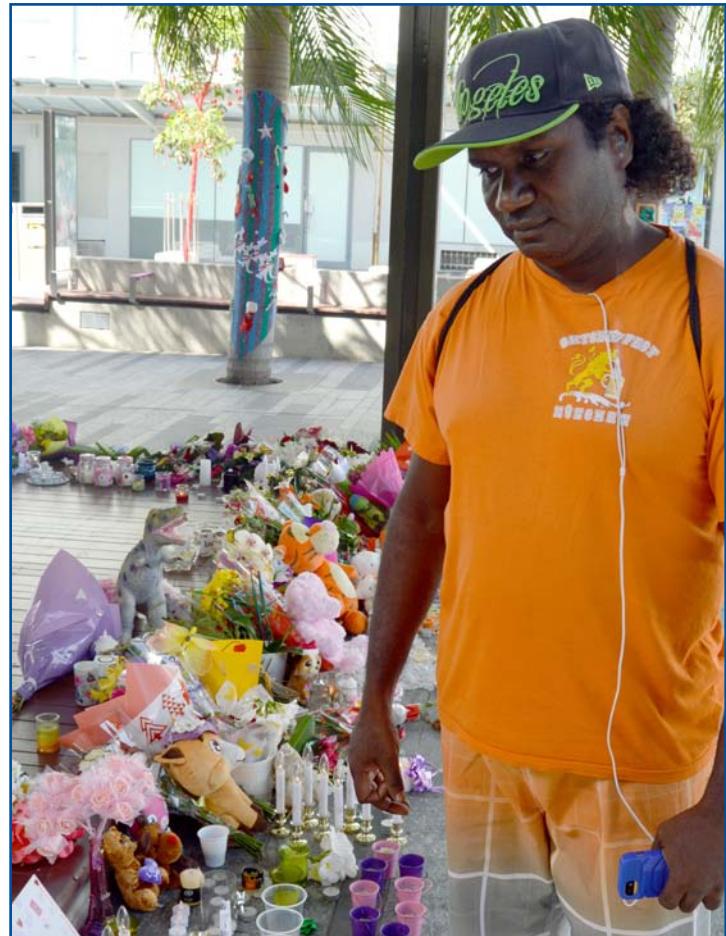
In Townsville they gathered two nights after the tragic event to place flowers, toys and candles as a mark of respect.

Like Cairns, Townsville has a large population of TSI families.

In addition numerous church services were held and attended by TSI people and others to remember the victims and pray for their families.

There has been a steady flow of Indigenous and non-indigenous people paying their respects in both cities as well as several other centres affected by the tragedy.

Edward Seaton was almost in tears when he stood near the memorial as news reports about



the tragedy appeared on the nearby big screen.

“You never think anything like this will happen and now it has and it is all over Facebook. I feel for the families involved,” Mr Seaton said.



Stable on Strand 2014

Above: Betty Hill and
Below right: Esme Fewquandie &
Richard Kawane



Happy Valley's very happy new year!

Hundreds of Palm Islanders in Townsville over Christmas enjoyed their New Year celebrations in Happy Valley at an event put together by Leonard Beckett.

He said he and his business Ubjammin Indigenous DJ Hire wanted the community to enjoy themselves.

"I felt my people need to have some thing for themselves for New Years so I put this concert on at Happy Valley for everyone to get together," he said.

He said Townsville police had been supportive of the event which had a team of volunteer security services as well as a kup murri.

"I put a lot into the event out of my own pocket," he said.

"The Inspector of the Townsville police said it was the best thing for the community and he thanked me for holding the event.

"The police said more of these events should happen and he said I'd have '100 per cent backing' on more events.

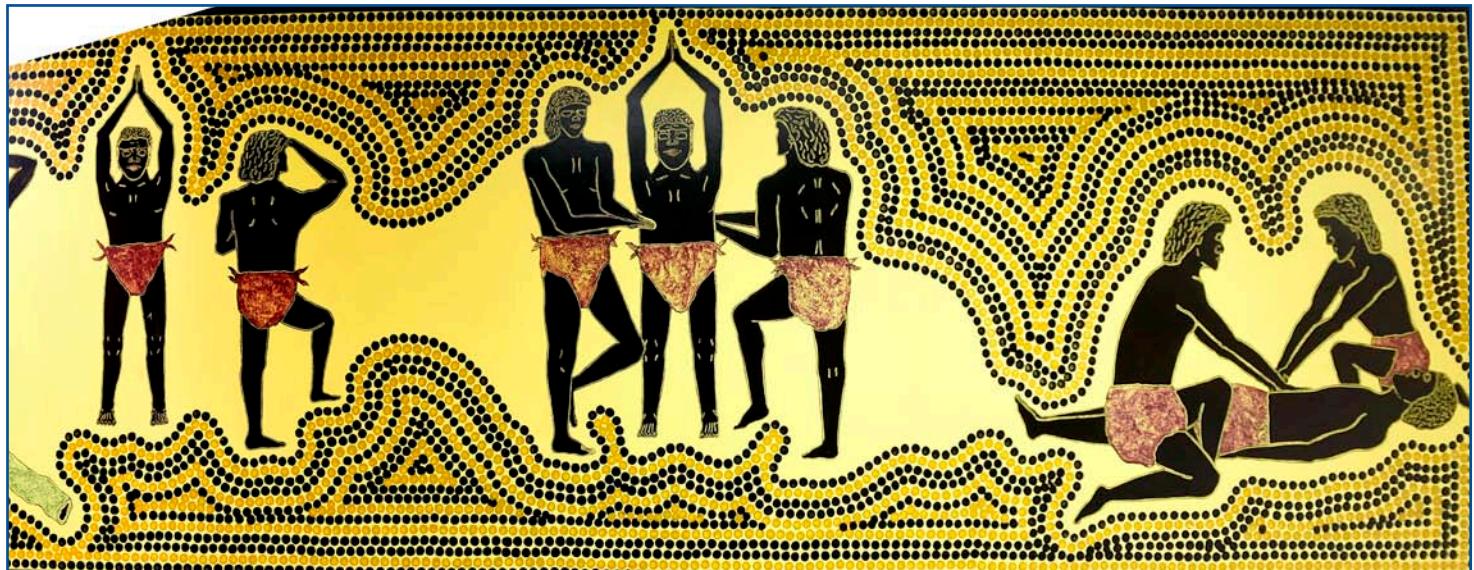
"I would like to thank everyone for their support with my Happy Valley concert on New Year's Eve and I hope you all enjoyed your night.

"Big thanks to Gemini Geia, Mop and Dr Bone's band, and all the rest who put in their time.

"If you want me to do another concert I will do it again."



Mural project completes JPHS halls and walls



Twenty murals featuring traditional and contemporary art styles are up in the halls of the Joyce Palmer Health Service after a three-month project completed by local artists, including elders.

Mainland local indigenous artist Denise Weightman said the project's inception grew from consultation with community elders, Queensland Health and Campbell Page Organisation's regional manager, Dale Last.

Ms Weightman said the Palm Island community had embraced the project.

"Each session we found the artists, particularly the elders, would have an audience of local community members who gathered to watch them paint," she said.

"The paintings include local scenes, dreamtime stories and local cuisine.

"The traditional paintings are

even being used as a teaching tool by local elders, who show children in the community scenes and ask questions."

Ms Weightman said Mr Last had developed the idea into reality for participants.

"Dale saw an opportunity to combine 'job ready' training with public cultural arts on Palm Island so he called me for concept development, community liaison and coordination of the mural project," Ms Weightman said.

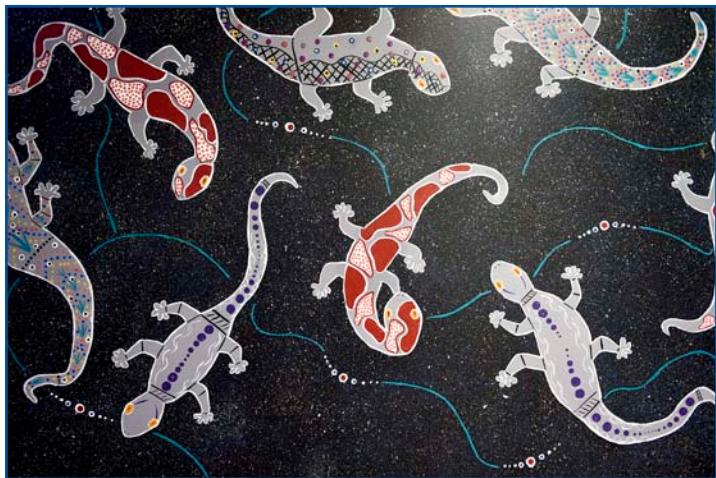
"The primary aim of the project was training up local artists to assume professional arts employment for future public arts projects on the Island.

"Through community consultation, it was decided to use the icon of a tree with all its metaphoric connotations of strength, protection, unity, diversity, nourishment, fertility and family to be the emblem of the local hospital foyer.

"An historically significant Beech Almond Tree situated at the old boat ramp on the island's foreshore was chosen as the first mural subject."

Joyce Palmer Health Service acting nurse unit manager John Rallings said he and the staff were extremely happy with the outcome.

"Everyone should be extremely proud of their efforts, the results are fantastic," he said.



Palm Island Voice



Public & Community Notices



Dear Editor

Some of us have had a hard time over the Christmas break.

Coolgaree's Bakery has been broken into five times and I also see not only have the security cameras been damaged but the poor guy around at QBuild (BAS) has been getting rocked just about every night.

This is just boredom and that is all over the holidays.

There is nothing for them to do so they just roam around the streets at all hours of the night.

Get them doing things and they will be too tired to do anything.

The police have told me they catch the kids and the courts let them go.

I say make the parents responsible for what their children do and move them off the island.

They do this on other communities and save us thousands of dollars, why can't it be done here?

Whatever happened to the night petrol?

What about a curfew from 6pm to 6am?

There is a lot the Council and system can do to help our kids stay out of trouble.

I writing this because I would love to just get people motivated to get things happening.

Then maybe we will have some better things for our readers to see.

Ray Roberts

Operations Manager

Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation

Palm Island



**Operating Hours for Council are
Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm**

WEEKLY

If you have any questions please contact
4770 1177



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire
Council has 484 'likes' on
Facebook!!!

SOLAS

mental health & wellbeing

POSITIONS VACANT

Are you interested in joining a dynamic, creative, exciting and innovative community mental health organisation?

SOLAS is committed to working with people to achieve a life of choice, purpose, meaning and citizenship. SOLAS understands, acknowledges and respects that the people who use services are best placed to determine their needs. We strive to promote opportunities for people to engage in activities that will enable them to choose meaningful and purposeful lives.

SERVICE COORDINATOR

We are looking for someone who:

- Has demonstrated knowledge of Community Mental Health programs and protocols
- Displays a high level of verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills to efficiency communicate at all levels both internally and externally.
- Possesses or has the ability to obtain a Working with Children (Blue Card) and a Disability Services Positive Notice Card (Yellow Card) exemption.
- Experience and skills in operating a Windows platform.
- Relevant sector qualification and/or demonstrated appropriate experience working in a mental health field with a commitment to the principles of relevant legislation
- Experience in leadership and staff coordination with the ability to plan, develop and implement services.
- Demonstrated knowledge of culturally competent practice
- Possess a current Queensland Drivers licence.
- Current First Aid and CPR Certificate or willingness to obtain same upon commencement.

PART TIME LIFESTYLE SUPPORT WORKERS

We are looking for people who:

- Have demonstrated knowledge of Community Health programs and protocols
- Displays a high level of verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills to efficiency communicate at all levels both internally and externally.
- Possesses or has the ability to obtain a Working with Children (Blue Card) and a Disability Services Positive Notice Card (Yellow Card) exemption.
- Experience and skills in operating a Windows platform.
- Relevant sector qualification and/or demonstrated appropriate experience working in a mental health field with a commitment to the principles of relevant legislation
- Demonstrated knowledge of culturally competent practice
- Possess a current Queensland Drivers licence.
- Current First Aid and CPR Certificate or willingness to obtain same upon commencement.

Applicants can contact Alison Davamoni in the first instance on (07) 4724 6800

Application close: Friday 23rd January 2015

Palm Island Voice



RATES & DATES 2015



Issue No. Deadline / Publication

- 171 Thursday 22 January / 29 January
- 172 Thursday 5 February / 12 February
- 173 Thursday 19 February / 26 February
- 174 Thursday 5 March / 12 March
- 175 Thursday 19 March / 26 March
- 176 Thursday 2 April / 9 April
- 177 Thursday 16 April / 23 April
- 178 Thursday 30 April / 7 May
- 179 Thursday 14 May / 21 May
- 180 Thursday 28 May / 4 June
- 181 Thursday 11 June / 18 June
- 182 Thursday 25 June / 2 July

Issue No. Deadline / Publication

- 183 Thursday 9 July / 16 July
- 184 Thursday 23 July / 30 July
- 185 Thursday 6 August / 13 August
- 186 Thursday 20 August / 27 August
- 187 Thursday 3 September / 10 September
- 188 Thursday 17 September / 24 September
- 189 Thursday 1 October / 8 October
- 190 Thursday 15 October / 22 October
- 191 Thursday 29 October / 5 November
- 192 Thursday 12 November / 19 November
- 193 Thursday 26 November / 3 December
- 194 Thursday 10 December / 17 December

ADVERTISE!

Page Sponsorship: (1cm or 18pt high banner 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 above) and all material submitted no later than COB the next day. Print approval required by Monday COB.

SUBSCRIBE!

Individuals & Families (hard copy): \$30

Community & NGOs (hard copy): \$60

Government & Corporate (hard copy): \$120

PDF (password protected): \$100

All from now to 30 June 2015

Subscription rates vary according to when the initial subscription is taken out – eg if taken in January 2015 the rate will be half of the full year to take it to July 2015.

To book an ad or inquire about subscriptions please contact the Editor,

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

PDF archives of the Palm Island Voice are available at <http://chowes.com.au>

Don't forget...

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND OTHER PUBLIC/COMMUNITY
MESSAGES ARE FREE** *(subject to space!)*

PLEASE SUPPORT US SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOU!

Tassie brothers still in the game

PALM Island-born Colin Lamont (*left below*), who now lives at Latrobe in far off Tasmania will be on Palm Island next month to visit family and friends.

He said he would bring with him his sons Winston, aged 14, and Lewis, aged 15 (*left below*). "I want to return to my grass roots," he told Palm Island Voice in early January. Colin and his brother Bernie (*right below*), aged 41, were fostered by Dr Phillip and Kerrie Lamont as youngsters and lived in Townsville until 1990.

After that they lived in Sydney for five years before moving to Tasmania 22 years ago when Lewis and Winston were born.

"Very soon I'll be revisiting

REMOTE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE STRATEGY

ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Bwgcolman Community School
Respecting Culture 2 Way Strong Local to Global Working Together

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL To Truth
Palm Island By Love

*Reminder to Parents
School starts Tuesday
27th JANUARY 2015
ALL Children MUST be at SCHOOL
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY
Every day counts – make sure your child isn't missing out.
OUR CHILDREN OUR FUTURE
If you need help getting your child/children to school
call or txt
Jan Lenoy 0417 976 538
Lindsay Malone 0408 311 470
Campbell Page Office Reception 07 4791 5995*

Townsville to hopefully catch up with blood family from Palm Island," he said.

Bernie will represent Tasmania at next month's Imparja Cup Indigenous cricket carnival in Alice Springs again this year.

The talented all-rounder is the highest run scorer in Imparja Cup history.



Words & Pics by Alf Wilson

