



# Palm Island Voice



Your community

Your newspaper

Issue 2.  
31 August 2007



## ELDERS BIG DAY OUT

**A group of Palm Island Elders took to sea for a boat trip and day out on Friday 24 August.**

As part of Seniors Week, the staff from Health and Community Care (HACC) organised the MV Olympic (the Lucinda Barge) to take the Elders for a boat trip.

The winds were light and the sun was shining. The scene was set for what looked like being a glorious day out on the water.



Uncle Midget King, Nan Doreen Morton, & Pop Stan Izzard

With lunch packed, bait and fishing lines ready, they headed off about 10am. The barge anchored between Curacao Island and Wallaby Point for a spot of fishing and a picnic lunch.

Unfortunately, the barge was unable to actually land at Wallaby Point because of the tide.

Plans are underway for the next trip over to Possum Island.

Finally, a big thanks goes to Day & Day Shipping for the use of their vessel.

**Readers are advised this publication contains the names and images of people who have passed away.**

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## Elders looking forward to a day out



Photos:  
clock-  
wise  
from top  
left hand  
side:  
Dianne  
Fulford,

Agnes Gunnawarra, Charmaine McBride (left to right); Martha Anderson (left) & Irene Thaiday (right); Louisa Murray (left) & Mavis Foster; Colin Gibson (left) & Cyril Murray (right).

# PALM TO HOST Cross, Icon and Message Stick

**When the World Youth Day Cross and Icon are come to Palm Island on 12 September, they will be accompanied by a Message Stick.**

The Message Stick is an invitation from the Aboriginal communities of Sydney, to the Indigenous youth of Australia to join in World Youth Day celebrations.

The Cross and Icon were given to young Australians by Pope Benedict XVI on Palm Sunday last year. They are intended to provide young people with a means of focusing their spiritual reflections.

The Cross and Icon are visiting a host of countries and are being carried by young people in their journey around the world.

Palm Island is one of the selected parishes from northern Queensland, which the Cross and Icon will be coming to.

These visits are part of the lead up to World Youth



The Message Stick, which is accompanying the Cross and Icon on their journey around Australia.

Picture courtesy of WYD08

Day, which will be held in Sydney from 15-20 July 2008.

To celebrate the presence of the Cross and Icon, Palm Island parish will hold a number of activities.

These will include a smoking ceremony, a healing service for the sick and elderly, and dancing performances.

Join in the celebrations and reflections that will be held when the Cross and Icon come to Palm on 12 September, from 11am to 6pm.

A special charter ferry will be run on the day so visitors from the mainland can participate also.

Story from Sister Christina, St Mary's Convent

# COMMUNITY WORKING TO BUILD Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement



## **The development of a Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement with the Palm Island community is under way.**

Last week representatives of government met with various members of the community, NGO's, Palm Island Council and staff from the Joyce Palmer Health Service, Bwgcorman School and St Michael's School to talk about the Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement.

The Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement (LIPA) will work in conjunction with the Indigenous Partnership Agreement which has been made between the Queensland Government and Indigenous communities in the State.

### **Commitment to Deliver Results**

The Indigenous Partnership Agreement formalises a partnership between Government and communities, with a focus on actions that deliver results to address the disadvantage faced by Indigenous communities.

The Indigenous Partnership Agreement states it is:

'an expression of our joint commitment to improving the circumstances and opportunities of the people of the Indigenous communities concerned'.

The Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement for the Palm Island community will build on this state wide agreement to address concerns and issues that relate specifically to Palm Island.

This partnership agreement describes the commitment that will be given by the key stakeholders, being Government, Council and the community of Palm

Island, in working together to achieve better outcomes for issues affecting Palm Island.

### **Focus of LIPA**

The focus is around issues related to;

- Land, Housing and Infrastructure
- Child, Youth, Families and Elders Health and well being
- Law, Justice and Community Safety
- Education, Training, Employment and Enterprise
- Cultural Affirmation and Reconciliation
- Governance, Engagement and Capacity

The LIPA was the main topic of discussion at the Future Direction Group meeting held 21 August.

Some practical and workable ideas were raised that could assist in dealing with some of the issues affecting the community. Topics such as school attendance, healthy eating, late night parties and improving the roads were discussed.

### **Community Members Welcome**

The kitchen at PCYC supplied a wonderful meal to all who attended the meeting. Any Community member is welcome to attend these meetings, which are held monthly, to express their opinions on any issues relating to life on Palm Island.

Further information related to this Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement for the community of Palm Island is available by contacting Bruce Walker, Director Government Coordination – Palm Island on telephone 4799 7671.

**Story from Bruce Walker,  
Director Government Coordination — Palm Island**

# Computer classes are for everyone

**TAFE is currently offering a computer class in conjunction with Bwgcoldman School.**

Doug Bradford is the IT teacher and the students work out in the school's computer lab.

A whole range of opportunities are on offer for potential students. Students can be beginners (someone who has not touched a computer before) or workers wanting to update their skills and gain qualifications.

The courses could be in Excel, Advanced or Basic MS Word, using a keyboard, operating a computer, Publisher, PowerPoint, or Internet/email applications. Everything is negotiable.

The Monday night class is an opportunity to get some re-assurance that computers can be easily controlled and not the difficult piece of technology some people think.

They are ideal classes for parents wishing to help their own kids and to upgrade their potential job opportunities.

Students can gain knowledge and confidence in using computers. They also learn how computers can be fun and useful for all types of information gathering and research over the Internet.

Being able to access information over the Internet is so important living on an island because there is limited access to other sources of information.

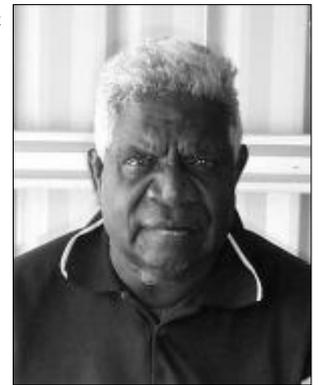
This information gathering can range from finding out more about the footy on the weekend, favourite music stars to political/economic issues.

If enough people come along the course will be extended to two evenings.

## CORRECTION

On 17 August 2007 *Palm Island Voice* reported Ralph Norman passed away in June this year. This is incorrect. He passed away on 13 July 2007.

*Palm Island Voice* apologises for this error and any distress it may have caused his family or friends.



## JETTY PROJECT UPDATE It's not over yet

**Work on the jetty upgrade project has finished for the time being.**

But the workers from Pacific Marine will be back soon. Colin Wood, from Pacific Marine said they would be back to install a concrete path and roadway leading to the jetty. They will also install guardrails along the path and roadway.

However, they won't be able to do this until the earth fill in the new causeway connecting to the jetty has settled. Colin said this part of their work should be finished by November this year.

Other parts of the upgrade were to include resurfac-

ing the remaining decking, replacing handrails and installing a ladder from the jetty to the water.

But the condition of the remaining decking has meant the situation needs to be looked at

again. Queensland Transport are currently reassessing the extent of the work to be carried out.

In the meantime, Pacific Marine have installed beams between the piles underneath the jetty to provide additional support if needed.

Other work they have carried out includes widening the boat ramp, replacing piles, and installing the new causeway and concrete section connecting to the existing jetty head.

Unfortunately, the scope of the work will not include running water to the head of the jetty, or adding to existing lighting.





# JOIN Palm Island Community Store Aboriginal Corporation NOW!

**There are no fees and you will be able to vote.**

- The government has announced it will privatise the store, and that the ownership and control of the store will be returned to the community.
- Palm Island Community Store Aboriginal Corporation (PICSAC) has been formed to create a community vehicle to own and operate the store.
- PICSAC can engage a professional management company, Outback Stores Pty Ltd, which can bring enormous buying power, & working capital. Outback Stores can operate the store using local staff, and the profits would be retained within the Palm Island community.
- Outback Stores operates by direction from a management committee representing the community organisation.
- The profits can be returned in full to the community.
- The use of profits should be determined by a democratically-elected committee made up of a majority of Palm Islanders, for the benefit of the whole community.
- Plans are advanced and unless the community acts now, the store may pass from one government department to another government vehicle, and be lost to the community forever.

The government has been promising to hand the store to the community for more than 20 years.

This corporation is a vehicle for all to join, to enable one tender on behalf of the whole community.

We want to ensure the community can bid to own and operate the store on behalf of the whole community.

Join our corporation now and help get ownership and control of the store for the community.

**Contact Lex Wotton 0428 788 811 or Chris Congoo 0407 573 762 or 4770 1152 [ccongoo@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ccongoo@bigpond.net.au) and arrange to join today.**

*This Project is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Indigenous Small Business Fund, which is administered by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.*

PALM ISLAND COMMUNITY STORE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION ABN 95 384 533 636

## Sandra Clay **WINS** Bwgcolman Radio Logo Competition

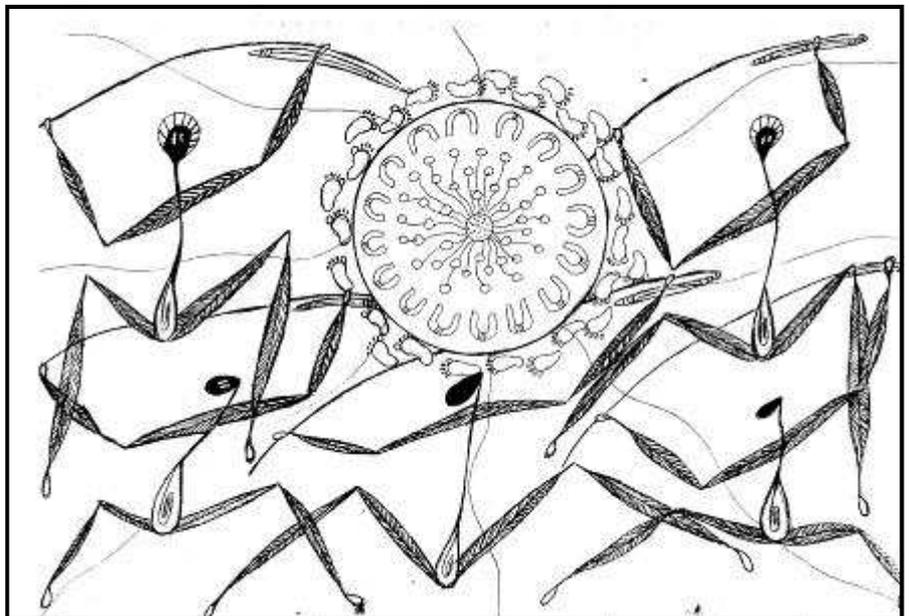
**Sandra Clay's design has won the competition for a new logo for Bwgcolman Radio 97.3FM.**

Sista D was thrilled with the entries received and said they were all excellent.

We hope to tell you the story behind Sandra's design in the next issue of *Palm Island Voice*.

Sista D also said she is looking for volunteers to help out at the radio station.

You might be interested in going "on air" with a music or talk program.



Sandra Clay's winning design in the competition run by Bwgcolman Radio 93.7

Or you might just like to help out around the station, with administration or anything else that needs doing.

It would be good experience for anyone interested in working in radio.

If you are interested, give Sista D a call on 4770 1863 or 4770 1793. Or call in to the station, which is located in the PCYC building.

## Tell us what you think

Letters to the Editor

### News Paper Important

Congratulations on the first edition. It certainly was full. It also helps us showing that PRINT has meaning and is important.

Thanks

**Ray Armit**

Principal

Bwgc Colman Community School

# DREAMKEEPERS Rock the Strand

The Dreamkeepers, Palm Island's very own band had a great gig when they performed at Cultural Fest in Townsville.

Playing their own brand of contemporary indigenous music, they said they were pleased with how the show went.

The band members are **Leon Coutts** on drums, **Roland Coutts** on lead guitar, **Valerie Coutts** on rhythm and vocal, **Maurice Obah** on didgeridoo and **Frank James Jnr** on bass.

The band played a set of original songs, composed by Valerie. Manager, **Marion Turner** said they were well received by the crowd.

The band said they had a good night, busy playing and enjoying themselves on stage.

## People in Strike '57 Photo



The people in the photograph of the Strike '57 mural, which appeared in our last issue (17 August 2007) are from left to right: Lynette Huddy and Sue Pryor in the front; with Diaine Palmer, Mikeal Sibley, Robert Snider, Clarence Nught, Thomas Foster, Dion Marks, Robert Johnson, Darren Waterton, Darryl Haines.



Above: Maurice on didge & Roland on lead

Below: Setting up. That's Leon the drummer standing up the back.



Above: Frank Jnr on bass

Below: Valerie on rhythm



# Palm Island Boxers Back in the Ring

**Palm Island Boxers are enjoying continuing success in their tournaments.**

Three Palm Island boxers travelled to Yungaburra on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August to take part in a tournament. Two Palm Island boxers won and one lost.

**Albert Gorringe** 30kg from Palm Island defeated R Kelly 31kg from Babinda.

**Dennis Haines** 40kg defeated the Australian Champion Broughton Worth, from Babinda.

**John Fourmile** 39kg was very unlucky to lose a split decision to K Eales from Mareeba.

Palm Island boxers also took part in a tournament held at Kirwan Tavern Townsville on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August. Six Palm Island boxers were matched, four won and two lost.

**Inossi Geia** 48kg, in only his fourth fight, defeated Cameron Coppo 49kg Australian Champion from Ingham. **Michael Noble** 37kg was defeated by the more experienced Zorran Cassady from the Alliance Boxing Club Forest Beach. **Chris Gundy** 58kg defeated the



Inossi Geia, ready to win again!

much heavier Chris Khan 65kg, from Black River Bulls.

**Nat Seaton** 114 defeated Dwayne Friday 117kg from Ingham. **Selwyn Seaton** 54kg defeated E Wyles from Hawks Club Townsville. **Assan Sam** 69kg was defeated in a great main bout by Mark Flanagan from the Hawks Club.

Unfortunately, the Palm Island Boxers trip to Emerald, scheduled for the weekend of ##, had to be called off. This was because, at the last minute, they were unable to get a replacement bus driver.

Luckily the team all managed to find somewhere to stay in Townsville over the weekend before catching the ferry back on Sunday.

Poor **Shakira Walsh**, who stayed with her aunty, missed the ferry but her dad made arrangements with the fellas from Dreamtime Logistics to bring her home the next day. They also very kindly picked her up and took her to the airport.

Story and picture from Ray Dennis

## Put Your Business Here

Advertising space is available to all businesses, organisations and individuals who have an interest in promoting services and events to members of the Palm Island community.

Contact Catherine Lawler or Alfred Clay for further information

Telephone 07 4770 0215 or 4770 1177

Fax 07 4770 1305

email: editor@piac.com.au

Advertise in *Palm Island Voice* and support the community that supports you!



### PALM ISLAND PLAYGROUP

All family members with children aged 0 – 5 years old are invited to come along to the Palm Island Playgroup.

DATE: Every Wednesday

TIME: 10.30am – 12.30pm

WHERE: PCYC child care room

**ENJOY** some fun play activities with your child

**YARN** with other parents and carers.

**SHARE** a bite to eat.

For more information contact Julie McTaggart on 0428 114 371.



# Inter-School

## TREVALLY WINS THE DAY



Mundy Bay supporters Kyiesha, Corina and Beatrice.

St Michael's and Bwngcolman had their athletics carnival at the Farm, on Wednesday 15 August .

The first thing that needs to be said is how deadly did we all look wearing our house colours!

The farm oval was a sea of red, blue, green, yellow, purple and black as everyone got into the spirit proudly supporting their house.

Another thing that really stood out was how great it was to see so many parents and friends show up to watch and cheer.

Congratulations needs to go to St Michael's Trevally team for winning the carnival two years in a row now.

The house results were close but in the end Trevally proved to be too fast to catch.

Thanks to everyone for your help in making the day such a success. I know I had a lot of fun and I can't wait till next years carnival.

Story and pictures from Miss Jen (Swords)  
Bwngcolman Community School

### Age Champions

Special congratulations also need to go to our age champions:

9yrs Boys	Emmanuel Blackman
9yrs Girls	Tarayer Oui/ Amber Friday
10yrs Boys	Kenny Biara
10yrs Girls	Ngairie Pearson
11yrs Boys	Wayne Wotten
11yrs Girls	Kahlani Pearson
12yrs Boys	Albert Gorringer
12yrs Girls	Tahlianne Fraser
13yrs Boys	John Fourmile
13yrs Girls	Shawna Pearson
14yrs Boys	Hosea Murphy
14yrs Girls	Zina Murray
15 yrs Boys	James Sibley
15yrs Girls	Paula Prior



8 yrs girls having fun.

# Athletics Car



Jypsy Walsh in the lead for the 12yrs 100m sprint.



Prep competing in sack races.

### Results

The results from the day are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Trevally 784 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Possum 710 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fantome 653 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> Curacoa 642 points
- 5<sup>th</sup> Mackerall 536 points
- 6<sup>th</sup> Mundy Bay 528 points

# nival



Wayne Wotten in the lead closely followed by Alfred Lacey.



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# "OVER SEAS" NEWS

Living on the beautiful island of Palm, it is easy to forget that events happening elsewhere in the country may have implications for the community here.

In this regular column, we will be bringing you headlines and summaries of indigenous current affairs from around Australia. We will be highlighting issues that may affect Palm and which may need discussion by the community.

## Brough denies "creative accounting" on indigenous funding

The Sydney morning herald reported today that hundreds of millions of dollars that the government claims to have spent on indigenous affairs have either never been spent, have been used to benefit all Australians or have been used to oppose native title claims.

The newspaper investigation found that \$30 million the government promoted as indigenous funding was used to fight native title claims and compensation claims over the last six years.

Last financial year, the paper says, almost \$50 million was spent on legal aid, and \$35 million was spent over nine years on projects for reconciliation to improve relationships between black and white Australians. Nineteen million dollars was spent on the national museum of Australia's indigenous galleries and programs to educate all Australians and overseas visitors were also classified as indigenous spending.

But indigenous affairs minister Mal Brough says the Government's administration is above board and the claims do not match reality.

Eight million dollars to put low-maintenance phones in indigenous communities, and \$3million for the Australian Taxation Office to ensure indigenous corporations paid the GST.

ABC News website 21/8/07

Why is money allocated to Indigenous communities by the Federal Government and state governments not being spent in communities to directly benefit community people?

In her address to the Garma Festival in August 2004 Dr Ros Kidd said her research had revealed evidence the stolen wages money that was held by government was used "improperly used for items which were the liability of government".

## A Good News Story

### Gates gives to Indigenous Australians

BILL Gates, one of the world's richest men, has given \$1.25 million to expand computer and internet services in NT indigenous communities.

The Microsoft founder gave the money to the NT Library as recognition for the Our Story database, which enables Aboriginal people to preserve and share their culture.

The software, which stores photos, sound recordings and videos, also improves the technology and literacy skills of indigenous people.

Townsville Bulletin Website 22 August 2007

Professor Jon Altman who heads the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research says that too much of Commonwealth spending is on programs that negatively affect indigenous Australians, or are spent on services that benefit all Australians.

"Anything to with Indigenous Australians is classified as indigenous-specific, and I think that's wrong," he said.

ABC News website 21/8/07

We see people traveling to and from Palm Island daily to work, and we see contractors doing jobs here.

Is this how funding for Aboriginal people is being spent?

Is the government interested in only setting up "programs" instead of providing real jobs?

When the government says they are going to fix the problems here on Palm Island they say this is how they will do it and that they will spend "X" amount of dollars on Palm Island.

However, most of this money is going to the employment of non-indigenous people and in profits to non indigenous businesses and contractors.

This is what is called the Aboriginal industry, when non-indigenous people and Government departments benefit from funding meant to deliver services to Aboriginal communities.

Professor Altman says also that the government "sometimes places unreasonable hurdles before indigenous people".

"An example is the Alice Springs town camp housing, where the condition was that land be leased for 99 years, and when the land owners said 'we didn't want to lease our land' the government just withdrew \$60 million worth of funding."

ABC News website 21/8/07

Mal Brough has said the Government's action are "actually about doing the right thing by Indigenous communities" (ABC News website 21/8/07).

But examples such this one from Alice Springs, where funding was subject to conditions imposed by Government might suggest otherwise.

"Overseas" news was compiled by Alfred Clay

# Get Your Kids Set for Prep

## Prep is the first year of formal school for our children.

After going to Prep minus one our children go to Prep. Prep is full time – so children go five days a week the same hours as the school.

Prep is in the school but children still have a chance to learn through play. As well as Prep activities, children can join in with other activities in the school like sport and music.

The Prep year helps children find going to school in Year 1 easier.

Children must be 5 by 30 June in the year they start Prep.

### What will children do in Prep?

Lots of fun things to help them learn.

Prep children play inside and outside. Some activities are played in pairs, others in small groups and some with the whole class.

Some things they will do are:-

- Drawing and painting
- Music, movement, singing, dancing
- Building with blocks
- Indoor play with pasting and pretend toys
- Playing outside with sand, water, and play equipment
- Listening to stories and making their own stories
- Cooking, gardening and tidying up
- Playing about what people do in their community

### What will children learn at Prep?

- Begin to understand reading, numbers and letters
- Writing numbers and letters
- Colours and shapes
- How to speak Australian English
- How to use computers to draw, make signs, play games and find out about things

- Health and movement
- How to use their imagination
- How to listen and respond to stories
- How to get along with others
- How to think and solve problems like they will have in school

### What age do children start school?

From 2008 children will be six months older when they start Year 1. Children must turn six by 30 June in the year they start Year 1.

### What do you need to do?

Visit the school and ask when your child can start Prep. There is no waiting list like at Pre-school. Your child will have a place in Prep so enroll your child. The school can give you more information about Prep.

### Where can my child go before Prep?

At present our children go to Prep minus one program we used to call the 'Kindy'

Contact Joelene at the Prep minus one or the office at Bwgcorman Community School about enrolling your child.

Story from Bwgcorman Community School



## Send us your Stories



<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Contributions Due</u>
14/09/07	04/09/07
28/09/07	18/09/07
12/10/07	2/10/07
26/10/07	16/10/07

Contact Catherine Lawler or Alfred Clay for further information.

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**Your community. Your newspaper.**

Child's birth date	Start Prep	Start Year 1
1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003	2008	2009
1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004	2009	2010
1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005	2010	2011
1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006	2011	2012
1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007	2012	2013

## APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES

**Palm Island has a strong commitment to ensuring community members are encouraged to take on apprenticeships and training.**

The trainees and apprentices work very hard at both their on the job components of their course as well as the TAFE components.

In each edition of *Palm Island Voice* we will bring you the stories of a group of trainees or apprentices.

# Business Trainees' get excellent Workplace Support



Sedonia Ross and her Workplace mentor Sue Phillips-Currin.

**Thomasina Morgan, Murielle Morgan and Sedonia Ross** are three Business Admin trainees on Palm Island. Sedonia has just started her traineeship, Murielle started this year and Thomasina started last year.

Thomasina works for the Palm Island Council, Murielle with QBuild and Sedonia works with the Joyce Palmer Hospital.

They come to TAFE each Tuesday and work through their course workbooks to complete their course. They are given excellent support in their workplaces. Traineeship's can only be successful if good partnerships are brokered.

Employers play a key role in training and supporting their staff through their traineeships. It's a good partnership and we are learning to do it much better.

**John Dean** works with Murielle at QBuild, **Deniece Geia** is Thomasina's workplace trainer and **Sue Phillips-Currin** and **Rowena Wichman** supports Sedonia. Louise Maloney is the TAFE teacher in town and she comes to Palm once a month.

Story from Charlie Goldsmith, TAFE

## Editorial

### The Sense of the Island

**I am writing these columns as a newcomer to Palm Island, and as someone who is slowly getting a sense of the Island.**

My husband's work has brought us here and I arrived not knowing what to expect.

I had heard the news reports, and the stories about a community that was troubled and dysfunctional. But I also knew the media and people in general can often get things horribly wrong.

And of course I knew about the description of Palm Island as the most violent place in the world outside of a war zone.

So, when I arrived here I thought, for a while, perhaps we had landed at the wrong island.

The people we have met have all been welcoming and friendly, curious to know why we were here, happy to listen and give us their point of view.

For the warmth of the welcome, the generosity of spirit shown to us, John and I say thank-you.

The children are happy, friendly, and adventurous, trying to cadge rides in our dinghy, showing us how to peel the husk off the coconuts, and telling us how to find the ones with candy inside.

We live on our boat and are anchored out in Coolgaree Bay. We live on our boat for two reasons: it has been our home since we left Adelaide 18 months ago, and it means we don't need to take up any of the accommodation available on the Island.

We come ashore each day to work. It's a rough and wet ride in when the south easterly winds are blowing.

But on other days, the water is still and clear, dolphins come up beside us, and I can see the glorious coral reef below.

And when the winds ease at nightfall, I look across to the lights on the Island and I smell a beautiful and fragrant scent. It is not too sweet, but nor is it overly earthy. It is a mix of both flowers and trees, subtle but penetrating.

We sailed to beautiful North-East bay last weekend and the scent was still there, mysterious and elusive.

And I think this scent, the scent of the Island will provide a key to understanding the Island, to understanding the sense of Great Palm Island and its people.

I suspect, like the scent of the Island, the sense of the Island, the people who live here, is mysterious and elusive and beautiful.

Catherine Lawler— Editor

## HEALTH CALENDAR

### Joyce Palmer Health Service

#### Doctors Appointments

Doctors run clinics Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm.  
See the administration staff for appointments

#### Pharmacy

Mon, Wed Thurs, Fri  
10am to 1 pm  
2pm to 4.30 pm  
Tuesday only close 6.30

#### Dressing Clinic

8am to 4pm Monday to Friday only – unless it is an emergency

#### Dental Clinic

9am to 3.30pm Tuesday Only  
No Appointment necessary

#### Mental Health Team

The Mental Health Team Office is open from 8.30am to 4.30pm. Phone 4753 5163.

The Team can help with mental health assessment, crisis intervention, case management, consultation and liaison with persons presenting to JPHS emergency department, court liaison, Individual counselling and family therapy.

#### Child Health Clinic

Aggie is available from 8am to 4.30 Monday to Friday to provide help with child health problems issues such as immunisation and baby health checks. Also provide help for some women's health issues and family counselling.

Ring on 4752 5172 or call in anytime.

#### Sexual Health Clinic

Rachel, Frank and Mersane are in the office 8am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

Open late on Tuesday nights till 6.30pm.

No appointment necessary.

We provide advice, treatment and management of any sexual health issues. We also provide help with issues such as contraception, Pap smears, counselling and Trans Gender.

#### Vet Clinic

Dr. Jim is available on 5th September the vet shed in Mango Avenue for any pet needs.

Surgery is in the mornings and consultations in the afternoon. This is a free service.

You may need to pay for vaccinations' and some medications for your pet.

No appointment necessary.

## Health News

# Effects of Yarnandi more than a quick high

**The effects of Yarnandi are far reaching and can remain long after the initial high has passed. Be aware that Yarnandi is a drug that can stay in your body for a long time.**

#### Screening tests

Some employment like the mines requires that you have regular screening for drugs.

Sporting groups, particularly professional bodies like boxing and rugby league also have regular drug screening. Yarnandi can take up to six weeks to get out of your system.

If you would like to discuss this further with us or are worried about your employment or sporting drug screening requirements, the ATODS team would be happy to talk to you.

#### Long term health risks

Yarnandi is a drug that seems to offer much in the way of relaxation but has many more harmful effects. It is a natural depressant.

Long term use means you have an increased risk of respiratory illness such as lung cancer and bronchitis.

Hydro is of most concern as it can also introduce toxic chemicals into your body.

#### Mental Illness

Yarnandi is also associated with psychosis and other psychiatric behaviour such as confusion, anxiety and paranoia.

On Palm we see and hear much evidence of people who are smoking Yarnandi who experience paranoia. By paranoia we mean that people think about things that are not really true.

For example, the thought that their partner is having an affair with somebody else. These crazy and untrue thoughts from the Yarnandi often result in arguments and violence and when mixed with alcohol can be dangerous.

The best way to reduce harm to you and to keep healthy in your mind and body is not to smoke Yarnandi. Again, if you would like to talk to the ATODS team about your Yarnandi use call in and visit them. Or if you are concerned about one of your family members they are always happy to have a yarn.

Story from Craig Thorssell, Social Worker,  
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Service, Palm Island

# GOT A PROBLEM WITH HORSES OR DOGS? COUNCIL CAN HELP

The dogs and horses on Palm are mostly happy and well behaved.

However, sometimes if they are not looked after or cared for properly they can cause problems.

Council can assist community members if dogs or horses are being



a nuisance, or if there are concerns about their health and well-being.

Call the Council on 4770 1177 and they will arrange for one of their animal welfare officers to provide advice or help.



**PALM ISLAND  
ABORIGINAL COUNCIL**

## POSITION VACANT Accounts Payable Clerk

Essential Duties and Responsibilities: compiles and maintains accounts payable records by performing the following:

- Checks all creditor payment vouchers for payment including creditors and wages payable and certify accuracy.
- Prepares and issues cheques for wages and creditors of Council.
- Audit goods received against invoice for payment to ensure goods have been received before checking payment vouchers.
- Answers enquiries from suppliers in relation to payments made by the Council as necessary
- Process Electronic Funds Transfers for Wages, contractor payments, creditors and ATO
- Backup for purchasing Section in the absence of purchasing staff. Ordering, preparation of payment vouchers, calculation of travel allowances for councillors and staff.
- Maintain filing of creditor payment vouchers and supporting documents.
- Other duties may be assigned to act in the roles of other accounting staff as requested by the Finance Manager in line with the Council's multi-skilling policy.

Experience in Profitpak Accounting Software desirable, but alternative accounting software would suffice.

Applications must be made in writing to the Council and an application kit can be collected from Emily at Reception.

Applications close Friday 7 September 2007.



## SUBSCRIPTION COUPON

### Don't live on the Island? DON'T MISS OUT!

Subscribe to *Palm Island Voice* Now!

\$2.20 per issue (including GST)

**YES!** I want to Subscribe to *Palm Island Voice*:

- 13 issues at a cost of \$28.60 or  
 26 issues at a cost of \$57.20 (tick one)

#### My Details are:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### SUBSCRIBE IN THREE EASY STEPS



- Complete this Form
- Make your Cheque, or Postal Order payable to Palm Island Aboriginal Council
- Send this Form and your payment to:  
 Palm Island Voice  
 C/- Palm Island Aboriginal Council  
 Main St  
 Palm Island QLD 4816

☺ Keep a copy of this form for your tax records if necessary.

#### GST

This document will become a Tax Invoice for GST purposes when payment is made.  
 Palm Island Aboriginal Council  
 ABN 68 799 811 816

# TAKE THE CPR CHALLENGE

## and set the Guinness Book of Records Straight



**Unfortunately Palm Island is already in the Guinness Book of Records for the wrong reasons.**

The CPR Challenge is an opportunity for us to get in there for the right reasons

Dave and Ian from Palm Island Ambulance Service are asking everyone who has done a First Aid course to join in the CPR Challenge.

Palm Island Ambulance Service will be holding the CPR challenge at the PCYC on the 10th of September at 2 pm.

They are hoping at least 100 people take on the challenge. But the more people who join in the better.

This is a great chance for Palm Island residents to participate in a worthy cause. But it is an even better opportunity for the community to set the record straight.

Queensland Ambulance is running the Challenge to increase awareness about the importance of CPR.

## Drugs Taking Over Your Life? The ATODS Team Can Help

**Palm Island Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Service has a dedicated team ready to help people with drug related problems.**

**Julie Venables**, clinical nurse, and **Craig Thorssell**, social worker, assist individuals and or family members dealing with matters that involve alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

If you are worried about your drinking or drug use or that of a family member, you are most welcome to come and have a talk with Julie or Craig.

They are located at the Hospital in the Community Health Area of the hospital.



ATODS Social Worker  
Craig Thorssell

The event is FREE and all those people who have done First Aid courses in the past need to do this annual CPR recertification.

### What is the CPR Challenge?

The CPR Challenge is a state-wide, synchronised, mass cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) awareness training event.

Participants will be given step-by-step instructions on how to apply CPR using the new resuscitation guidelines of 30 compressions to 2 rescue breaths.

CPR will be performed on pillows covered with pillow cases printed with illustrations showing exactly where to apply compressions and breaths. Participants will keep the pillow and pillow case after the event.

The CPR Challenge has been registered with Guinness World Records in an attempt to set a new record for the 'most number of people trained in CPR at multiple sites'.

The CPR Challenge will be held at 16 other locations throughout Queensland, including Townsville, Cairns, Bowen, Mackay, Rockhampton.

Everyone is invited to join the Queensland Ambulance Service, in this attempt to beat the world record, as part of Ambulance Week. The record currently stands at 2,308.

### Register for the Challenge

You can register for using the internet at <http://www.infosalons.com.au/cpr2007/start.asp>

If you don't have access to the internet call in and see Dave and Ian at the ambulance office, or leave your names on the notice board there and they will use their computer register you.

More information is available on-line at: [www.ambulance.qld.gov.au](http://www.ambulance.qld.gov.au)

Story from Queensland Ambulance, Palm Island

### What is CPR?

CPR skills (CardioPulmonary Resuscitation skills) could help you save the life of a loved one.

When someone is sick or injured, and has no pulse or heartbeat, or has stopped breathing, it is important to act quickly.

Almost 70% of cardiac arrests occur within the home and it is more than likely most a spouse or family member will be present.

Knowledge of CPR can play a vital part in assisting a person who has suffered a cardiac arrest until the ambulance arrives.

# Palm Island Voice Community Notice Board

## AA Meetings at Ferdy's

AA meetings to help support people with drug or alcohol problems are held at Ferdy's. Meetings are held both day and night Meeting times are 9am and 7pm. Call day staff at the centre in the morning to be picked up for the 7pm meeting.

## Public Holidays for 2007

Spring Fair Festival	Saturday	1 September
Christmas Day	Tuesday	25 December
Boxing Day	Wednesday	26 December

## Palm Island Play Group

All family members with children aged 0 – 5 years old are invited to come along the Palm Island Playgroup.

DATE: Wednesdays  
 TIME: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
 WHERE: PCYC child care room

For more information contact **Tiana Friday** – PCYC 4770 1793 or 0438 717 607 **Svea Pitman** 4770 1828 or 0423 158 368.

Supported by the Palm Island Family Support Hub.

## Coming of the Cross

The World Youth Day Cross and Icon are coming to Palm Island on 12 September.

The Cross and Icon are visiting selected parishes from northern Queensland, of which Palm Island is one.

Join in the celebrations and reflections that will be held when the Cross and Icon come to Palm on 12 September, from 11am to 6pm.

## Ferry Timetable

Day/Date	Departs from	
	Townsville	Palm Island
Fri 31 August	11:30am	1:00pm
Sun 2 September	12:30pm	2:30pm
Wed 5 September	12:30pm	2:30pm
Fri 7 September	3:00pm	5:00pm
Sun 9 September	2:30pm	4:30pm
Wed 12 September	9:00am	11:00am
Fri 14 September	11:30am	1:30pm

Times may alter due to circumstances beyond the control of Sun Ferries.

Call 4771 3855 to confirm departure times.

## Rubbish Pick Up Times

Area	Day
Chook City & Farm	Thursday
Mango Avenue	Monday
Top End	Tuesday
Bottom End	Wednesday
Reservoir Ridge & Butler Bay	Friday

## Careers Expo

Want to find out how to get a job? Want to know more about Traineeships and Apprenticeships? Want to know what employment opportunities are available?

Come along to the Careers Expo! Thursday 6 September, 10am to 3pm at the PCYC.

## Computing Class

Every Monday at the Bwgc Colman State School. Beginners are welcome. Contact Charlie or Rani at the seaside TAFE campus. Telephone: 4770 1200.

## CPR Challenge

Palm Island Ambulance Service will be holding the CPR challenge at the PCYC on the 10th of September at 2 pm.

## Learner's Permits

Courses to assist students who are sitting for their Learners permit are held monthly on Palm. This course has an extremely high success rate.

If you want to do the course you need to enrol at TAFE. You will need your birth certificate and other ID.

## Course dates

October 15 – 17th  
 November 12 – 14th  
 December 10 – 13th

## Blue Cards

Construction Induction (Blue Card) is conducted by TAFE on Palm Island.

This card is a requirement when working on a building site but is also gives a good sound knowledge of the Workplace Health and Safety Act, Safe work practices and Risk Assessment.

It is a three to four hour course and on completion students are issued with a General Safety Induction card

Enrolments are taken at TAFE.

## Course dates

October 18th  
 November 15th  
 December 13th