

Issue 23
Tuesday 25 November 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!



**Freeman
Foundation
Fashion Parade
ready for 2moro
night**



**Mayor takes
opportunity to
speak to PM**



**All the latest
boxing news from
Ray Dennis**

Banking problems set to improve

Many of Palm Island's banking problems may soon be over when the new government building is completed.

After a series of meetings with Bendigo Bank representatives, hopes are high they will soon be signed up as a permanent tenant within the soon-to-be completed government building. Community Sector Banking - a joint venture with Bendigo Bank - Executive Officer Greg Peel (*pictured above*) said they were keen. "Our function and role is to try and build social impact solutions to help build stronger communities," he said.



"So Bendigo Bank has a community bank model which is about building the economy, and the Community Sector Bank supports Bendigo by building society and social impact sort of strategies around that."

Palm Island Cr Raymond Sibley (*below*) said it was a "great opportunity" for Palm Island.

"I think it is a great opportunity for Bendigo Bank to come into the community to set up a banking service here," he said.

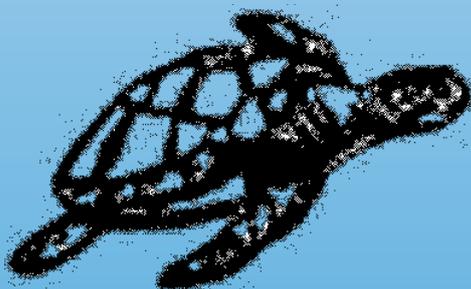
"Bendigo bank is going to be a big help to the community, if people want to get loans they can do it here instead of having to go into town."

He said many other issues around cash flow, ATM availability and face-to-face customer service would also be largely resolved.



RODEO POSTERS ON SALE SOON!!!

Featuring local and visiting riders, these A3 full colour posters will be available from Tim @ the Council offices soon. \$10, or \$15 laminated
Order yours today!



Visitors to Palm for the Cathy Freeman Foundation will Fashion Parade will include Andrew Cannon; Richard Thomas; Fiona Cummins; Carolyn Schuwalow; Svea Pittman; students from St Catherine's and Rosehill College; Tanya Intagliata; Odette Best; Victoria Ugarte - the lady who has donated all items for fashion parade; and, Cathy Freeman herself!

The program is:

**25 Nov 6pm - St Michael's presentation.
CFF to present 8 bikes and announce
programs for 2009**

**26 Nov 2pm - Bwgcorman presentation.
CFF to present 12 bikes and announce
programs for 2009**

**26 Nov 6pm - Ladies only fashion
parade (in particular for the elders) at
the PCYC.**

A bus will be available to pick up, and there will be refreshments and nibbles.

**It will be a lot of fun and we encourage
the ladies of Palm Island to join us.**



Ladies Only
Drinks and nibbles provided
PCYC Palm

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
FUN, FRIVOLITY AND NEW OUTFITS

**LADIES ONLY
FASHION PARADE**

November 26th 5pm-7pm, PCYC.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

to the
**Palm
Island
Voice**
are welcome.

**Contributions may
include news, yarns,
pics, letters-to-the-
editor, poetry,
community notices or
advertisements.**

**Contact Tim Miller,
Barry or Deniece
at the Council offices:
Ph 4770 1177 or
Fax 4770 1305.**

**If you have email you
can write to us at
editor@piac.com.au**

St Michael's 2008 Confirmations



Back row left to right Kearhla Walsh, Edna Wallace, Frances Doyle, Gayle Larry, Joelle Walsh, Maurice Baira, Bishop Putney, Shanden Wotton.

Front row Left to right Michaela Robertson, Alison McKean, Danielle Massey, Toni-anne Pryor, Wayne Wotton.

PM hears Palm Island concerns at national local government meeting

Palm Island Mayor Alfred Lacey attended the inaugural Australian Council of Local Government meeting in Canberra last week.

More than 500 local councils, including many of Queensland's Aboriginal Councils, had the opportunity to network together with some, as you can see from the picture, taking the opportunity to speak



to the Prime Minister directly. At the meeting the PM announced a \$300 million Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program, a share of which will end up being spent on Palm Island. Minister for Local Government, Anthony Albanese, said smaller local projects accelerated and encouraged economic development while

improving the quality of life in local communities.

"This is a significant opportunity for local councils to rise to the challenge and address local infrastructure needs," he said.

PIAC CEO Barry Moyle said Palm Island, along with other Indigenous and smaller rural councils, had been promised \$100,000 each in untied grant

money from the new fund.

"The Council will be discussing this in the near future to identify possible projects for the Island," he said.

"It was important for the Mayor to attend the

ACLG meeting to represent not only the Palm Island, but Indigenous people generally and in particular to be able to take up the opportunity to meet with the Prime Minister."

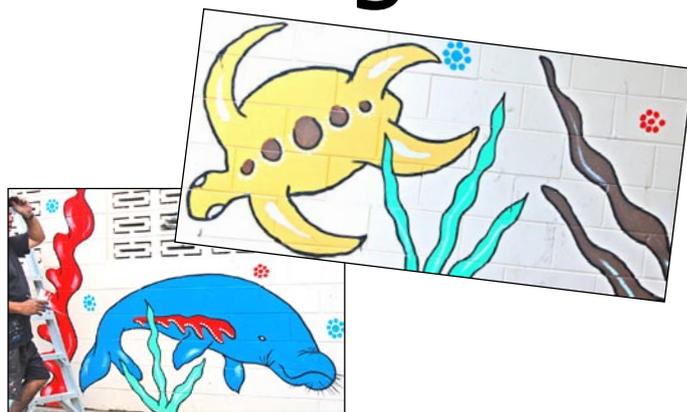
For reasons beyond all of our control the next 'From the Mayor's Desk' column will appear in Issue 24 of the Palm Island Voice.

New murals by visiting artist

St Michaels and Bwgcolman Community School was lucky last week to have a visiting artist do some of the new murals that you can now see.

Arthur was born in Cherbourg, south-east Queensland, and is a descendant of the Wakka Wakka tribe.

One of 14 children, Arthur trained as a teacher and for several years taught Aboriginal art to children from pre-school age to high school level.



As a child, Arthur acquired an interest in art and his many skills through stories and traditions passed to him from his uncles.

All of his designs depict the motifs and symbols of hunting. His inspiration comes from the native fauna of the Kabi-Kabi region in Queensland.

He has also expressed an interest in doing some of the murals on our new buildings that are going up.

October sun in Cuba for PI Ambo

Ian Day from the Palm Island Ambulance Service recently went away on holidays to the Caribbean. These are just some of the many stories he has to tell us about how different things are in the three countries he visited.

I decided to go to three countries - Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic & Cuba - with most of my time in Cuba.

I suppose the main thing I want to say here about my holiday is sometimes we do not realize how lucky we really are living here in Australia and even here in Palm Island.

While I was away on Palm Island I made a concerted effort to look at ambulance services and general health services in these three countries.

Puerto Rico being a American Territory they were pretty good a fairly functional Ambulance service, hospitals and that sort of thing if people wanted to ring for a ambulance they rang 911 the ambulance would be there pretty quickly and be transported to hospital pretty similar to here on Palm and Australia. When I went to the Dominican Republic these countries is almost third world.

Because they do not have the same facilities that we have here in Australia in the Dominican if you called for a ambulance in the city you were very luck to get one any accident or health conditions you had to find your own way to the clinic and then if the doctor said you were sick enough he would then call for a ambulance that would transport you from the clinic to the hospital.

There were no ambulances out in the rural areas not many clinics if you were injured or sick in the country you had to find your own way to a hospital that could sometimes mean a trip of up to three four hours to get to medical aid.

In Cuba things were worse its like stepping back in time in Havana the capital of Cuba its like being back in the 50's and 60's with old American cars and Russian cars and some horse and carts.

In southern Cuba there was hardly any cars it was all horse and cart the average wage of someone living in southern Cuba was about \$7 a month - they rely on the government to supply them with rations.

And the Hernandez family that I was staying with in Cuba they relied on the government to give them rations they would get a bag of rice, a bag of coffee beans, salt, oil, and fat the provisions that they got for the month had to last for the month.

Mrs. Hernandez who I was staying with had been in a car once in her whole life.

I was fortunate enough to be able to hire a car I was able to take her in the car to the markets that was the second time in 47 years that she had been in a car.



A quick word from...

Paul James Officer-in-Charge Palm Island Police



Hi, it is good to see the Palm Island Voice back up and running.

I normally avoid the media but I would like to take this opportunity in a publication aimed at improving the community, to thank everyone for their patience and goodwill during the recent times that caused us to revisit the last few years again. In particular I would like to thank the Mayor and Councillors for their leadership and support.

The way the situation was handled avoided any further bad press for the Community.

I won't continue to revisit it other than to say that I understand it is an emotive issue and I can't change history but I believe there have been some big improvements in community relations and that will continue.

A number of people have received letters recently suggesting they have won **overseas lotteries**

and just need to forward their bank account details or some money to claim the prize.

Do not respond to these letters as they are a fraud. You will lose your money or have your account cleaned out.

We are looking at the possibility of organising a course for **boat licenses** early in the new year but it may cost about \$200:00.

Nothing is set yet but if you're interested please pop into the station and put your name down on the list (you don't have to pay yet) so I can get an idea of how many may be interested if it goes ahead.

How good was that Rodeo?

I'm sure other people will be writing about it so I will just say congratulations to the many people behind it, especially the Shortjoe family, and it was a great weekend for the community.

Be good.

Coolgaree Bay Constructions study underway

Coolgaree Bay Constructions Pty Ltd was a proud sponsor of the Palm Island Indigenous Rodeo.

Company director, Valentine Nona said he was very happy to support the Shortjoes and everyone else who worked so hard to make it a success.

"It was a great family weekend", he said.

Before the rodeo, Valentine was on Palm Island for a meeting with his business partner, Simeon Haddad, about the Coolgaree Bay Constructions Scoping Study Advisory Committee.

The DEEWR-funded Scoping Study is now underway.

Community members are invited to have their say about the housing and employment situation on Palm Island by having input into the Scoping Study.

Call Valentine on 0413 123 748 and he will explain how you can do this.

A public meeting will also be held to explain the Coolgaree Bay Constructions Pty Ltd project to the community.

The next edition of the Palm Island Voice will include date, time and place details for the public meeting.

After the rodeo, Valentine invited Mayor Alf Lacey (*pictured above with Valentine in Sydney*) to meet with him in Sydney where they also spoke about work that needs



to be done before Coolgaree Bay Constructions Pty Ltd can finalise their lease of workshops at the Farm.

Valentine said a general cleanup would be needed in and around the workshops before refurbishment works could begin.

Palm Island Voice

Advertising Information & Rates

Display Advertisements

(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication)

Full Page \$440

Half Page \$231

Quarter Page \$121

Eighth Page \$66

Sixteenth Page \$44

Classifieds (payable in advance)

Items for sale under \$1000 – FREE

Public Notices – FREE

Sale Price over \$1000 & Other Notices
– 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be submitted by no later than 5pm on deadline day (see p 8 for details).

Article and photo submissions to the *Palm Island Voice* are welcome. Original submissions of articles or photographs must belong to the contributor, and/or delivered with an indication of the owner's permission to publish, no later than 5pm on deadline day (as per details on p12). Articles should be no longer than 500 words and digital photographs should be as high quality as possible (no thumbnails please!). Final say on advertising, news items, other contributions and photo reproductions is at the discretion of the *Palm Island Voice* Editor.

*Happy
Birthday!
Hannah Gorringer*

18/11/2001

*Wishing a Happy 7th
Birthday and we hope
you enjoyed your
special day.*

*Love from Mum,
Dad, Sondra, Albert
jnr, Tooya, Granddad
Moe, Nana Beryl, Nana
Sue, Nana Aggie and
all your cousins, aunts
and uncles.*



**Queensland
Government**

Project Support Officer (Specified)

Service Delivery and Smart Service Queensland

(Specified - Applicants will need to provide a reference from a member of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community)

Department of Communities

Salary: \$54 534 - \$59 969 p.a.

Location: Townsville

REF: QLD/COM8962/08

Key Duties: Co-ordinate and undertake all necessary project support tasks to ensure the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships regional team operations are effective and efficient in responding to internal and external demands.

Enquiries: (07) 3006 7675

Closing Date: Monday, 1 December 2008

Smart jobs in Queensland

To view position descriptions, apply and see more jobs visit www.jobs.qld.gov.au

TMP Q039187

The Indigenous Adult Health Check – Keeping You Healthy

Being Healthy isn't only about feeling well or not being sick.

If you are healthy it means that you can have a good time and do the things that really matter to you and your family. So getting an adult health check is important. You don't want to wait until you are really sick before you see a health worker or doctor. Getting a check early will also stop you from getting sick later on. It will help you live longer.

Sometimes the things we do or don't do make a real difference to our health. Throwing away the smokes, getting healthy feeds, cutting down the grog, getting a bit of exercise and watching the weight can stop us getting sick, keep us healthy and even help us get better quicker. It's worth it to make a few changes.

Community health conducts health checks on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Everyone between the ages of 15 and 54 are welcome.

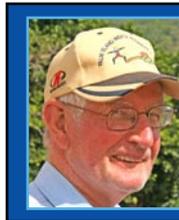
**Call us on 47525170 if you wish to make an appointment
or simply come up and talk to a health worker.**

Six Palm Island boxers travelled to Townsville to take part in a boxing tournament held at the Kirwan tavern on Friday the 7th of November.

Only two boxers could be matched but those two put up the best two fights of the night. Big Nat Seaton has just turned 18 years old and is still a teenager. Nat took on Super Heavy Tank Turner who is a senior boxer in his late 20's and has had much more experience. Big Nat lost to a close decision over four two-minute rounds after Nat gave back to his opponent just as much as he received and the bout was a real crowd pleaser. Ten-year-old Steen Walsh completely outfought his first opponent, Brendan Davis from the Townsville Hawks Boxing Club. Young Steen then took on Jake Bowen from Moranbah in his second bout which was described as the best of the night. Jake Bowen ran straight across the ring and attacked Steen from the first bell and continued to take it up to Steen for the whole fight. Steen gave it back to Jake Bowen with a little more than he received and fought like a boxer who has much more experience. Steen won the bout by a split decision. Brendan Davis was a year older than Steen and 1kg heavier. Jake Bowen was also a year older than Steen and 3kgs heavier and had already had two other bouts before he fought Steen.

I believe our boxers will all perform well at the Australian Titles, to be held at the showground's in Townsville on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th, and Saturday 29th of November. Peter Bonner will be having his first professional bout on 29th November.

Boxing is a sport that builds up confidence and self esteem. Boxers learn to be good sportsmen and make many good friends with other boxers. Young Steen Walsh and Jake Bowen became friends before



Palm Island Boxing News



Young hopefuls Shannon (Chopper) Murphy & Allen Aden keen to practice their moves

they fought each other. When they got in the ring they tried to belt each other into the floor of the ring - they were even still fighting after the bell - and then after the fight they were good friends again.

The boxers taking part in the Australian Titles are all training hard and they will have to because they will be competing against the best amateur boxers from all over Australia. The Palm Island Boxers and myself are so very grateful to the Cathy Freeman Foundation and Chloe Hooper for making it possible for our boxers to take part in the QLD State Titles in Cairns. We are also grateful to JobFind who has bought new singlets for us.

Ray Dennis

Prep school graduates!



On Thursday 20th November St Michael's held their prep school graduation. Students who made it were: Tonia Burns, Pamela Aplin, Tyreesha Blanket, Roselee Bramwell, Jerusha Johnson, Nowella Ketchup, Elvera Lacey, Jana-Lee Oui, Zaranae Richardson, Moaranni Sam, Chentalli Sibley, Priscilla Sibley, Wasam Baira, Azariah Johnson, Daniel Morton, Zimarne Oui, Joshua Sarbaro, Xavier Sibley, Kobe Spencer. The Palm Island Council has also asked the *Palm Island Voice* to publish their congratulations to all the students in years 7, 10 & 12 in particular, who have graduated this year.

Congratulations and well done to all the teachers and students involved!

Palm Island Indigenous Rodeo: Official Results!

(Courtesy John Moss, Buckin Billy Rodeo, and with thanks to Alf Wilson for passing these on)

All-round Cowboy:

Charlie Bond (Cherbourg)

Juvenile Bull Ride:

Robert Oakley (Woorabinda) 63p

Open Bull Ride:

Charlie Bond (Cherbourg) 72p

Novice Bull Ride:

1st Charlie Bond 69p

2nd Tyrone Murray

(Cherbourg) 63p

Open Steer Ride:

1st Robert Oakley

(Woorabinda) 62p 1

2nd Bo Button (Cherbourg) 60p

3rd Terrylee Mudd & Joseph

McInerny 57p each

Jnr Encouragement Award:

Bo Button (Cherbourg)

Poddy Calf:

Bo Button Jnr



All the action brought to you again by the Palm Island Voice!
Pics on this page by Christine Howes & Tim Miller © 2008



PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE

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Many thanks to all the Palm Islanders who have contributed to this issue of the Palm Island Voice.

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