



PALM ISLAND VOICE

Issue 237
Thursday 7 September 2017

FREE



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

2017



One of the biggest PALM ISLAND & best!

Spring Festival



Kiann kicking goals in child care and community service

In July this year Kiann Walsh, a 2016 Palm Island / Townsville graduate from Shalom Christian College, started working at The Geelong College in Geelong Victoria as a Teacher Aid and Indigenous Mentor.

Kiann spends most of her time at the Early Learning Centre with the 3- and 4-year-olds and is contracted to the end of this year.

“I didn’t think I’d take a gap year, but I’ve taken every opportunity offered throughout school so I thought, why stop now?” Kiann said.

“I enjoy mentoring the three indigenous students here and I love working with the little kids.”

Kiann has recently enrolled to do an external TAFE course for the Cert III in Community Services which will offer her the opportunity to do a placement in and around Townsville in the Education and Social work field early next year.

Kiann does an outstanding job of representing both Shalom and Geelong colleges and all the



young peoples of Palm Island.

Words with thanks to Kiann’s employer, Dave Curnow.

NRL Bunker learning point for new technologies

Improved telecommunication services, opportunities to boost community digital literacy and growing industry partnerships were on the agenda of an Indigenous Innovation Tour in Sydney last month.



Around 20 indigenous Queensland local government mayors, deputy mayors, CEOs and council staff took part in the tour which aimed to demystify digital trends and buzzwords.

The group visited the Telstra Customer Insight Centre, Microsoft head offices, the NRL Bunker and the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence.

LGAQ Policy Executive member and Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Mayor Alf Lacey said the innovation roadshow showed that indigenous culture and the digital futures of young people can co-exist – as

well as enhance each another.

“It’s important to continue to widen our understanding of what a digital future might mean for our communities,” he said.

LGAQ General Manager of Advocacy Sarah Buckler said the two-day program was an opportunity for councils to unleash their innovation potential.

“Interaction between culture, tradition, business and innovation was the focus,” Ms Buckler said.

“Touring the NRL Bunker highlighted how the combination of technology and data can transform decision-making and community

engagement.”

LGAQ Innovation Executive Lou Boyle said Queensland’s Indigenous councils were among the first to adopt technologies such as smart lights and CCTV, and are using bio-metric technology for access to secure areas on council sites.

“However, there is still work to do improving understanding and awareness about what is possible in the digital world, as well as continuing to fight for improved telecommunications infrastructure in some indigenous communities,” he said.

Words thanks to <http://lgaq.asn.au>

Call to check on immunisation status

Anyone who hasn't been immunised for mumps has been urged to do so following an outbreak of mumps in our Island community.

Health authorities say residents and visitors should check their immunisation status.

If they're not sure they should go to the Palm Island Joyce Palmer Health Centre for a free vaccination.

Townsville Public Health Unit (TPHU) director Dr Steven Donohue said all residents and visitors to Palm Island should check their MMR (measles/mumps/rubella) immunisation status as a matter of urgency.

"Extra doses of MMR vaccine have been ordered and will be arriving on Palm Island shortly," Dr Donohue said.

"Every Indigenous person between the age of 15 and 30 should receive a free extra immunisation dose, including those who are already fully vaccinated.

"I'd urge everyone else born after 1965 to check their immunisation status to ensure they have received their two doses of the MMR vaccine and if they haven't, to get vaccinated immediately."

People born before 1966 would have had mumps and are most likely immune.

Dr Donohue said mumps was typically a minor illness which can cause swelling of the glands behind the jaw as well as fever, headaches and tiredness, with most people recovering within a week.

However, in severe cases, the illness can affect the testicles, pancreas or cause hearing loss.

Rarely, it leads to meningitis – inflammation of the membranes around the brain and spine.

Dr Donohue said the outbreak on Palm Island followed previous

mumps outbreaks in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory, Western Queensland and the Gulf of Carpentaria.

"Mumps spreads just like influenza – by coughing and sneezing near other people, or dirty hands," he said.

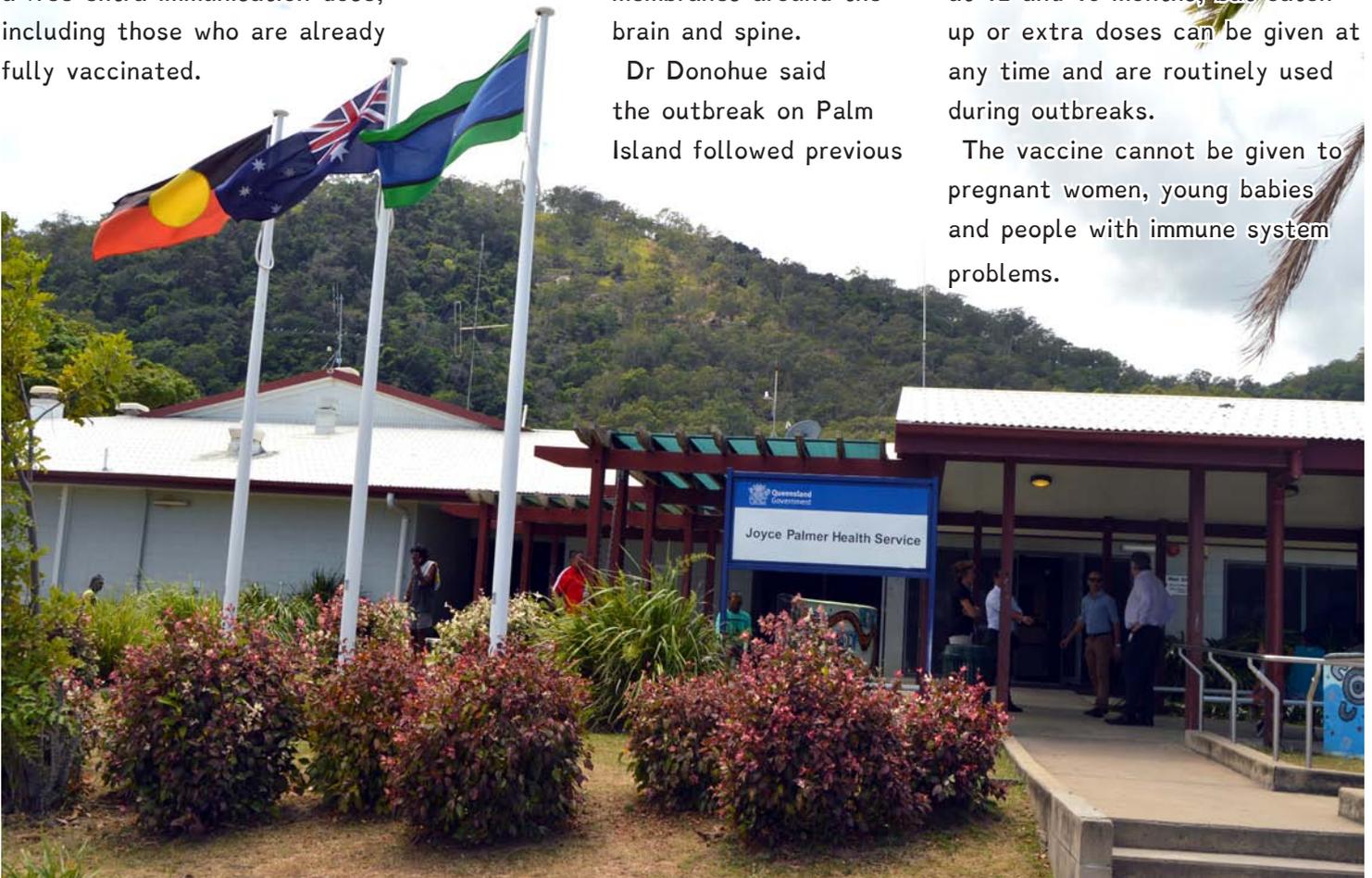
"People with mumps should stay away from work or school till the swelling goes down – up to nine days.

"Immunisation is the most effective counter measure to protect yourself and your community from mumps.

"If people are vaccinated before being exposed to the disease they will be protected in the vast majority of cases."

MMR vaccine is routinely given at 12 and 18 months, but catch-up or extra doses can be given at any time and are routinely used during outbreaks.

The vaccine cannot be given to pregnant women, young babies and people with immune system problems.



Vital networking for frontline drug workers

Staff and board members from Ferdy's Haven and Yarrabah's Gindaja attended the Australian Winter School (AWS) conference, 'Crossroads', in Brisbane late last month.

The AWS is a long-standing national drug and alcohol conference jointly presented by the Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (QNADA) and Lives Lived Well, one of Queensland's leading non-profit alcohol and other drug service providers.

Board members of the Queensland Indigenous Substance Misuse Council (QISMIC) Carcia Nallajar, who is manager of Ferdys Haven, and Ailsa Lively, who is the CEO at Gindaja Treatment and Healing Centre were there with as many as 300 other delegates from around the country, all eager to explore, learn, exchange and discuss new ideas relating to current AOD

treatment and issues.

Gindaja and Ferdy's have participated in the AWS for over 10 years, both presenting and putting forward what they have seen as necessary requirements for dealing with Indigenous People in the Alcohol and Drug Sector.

"This year we had the privilege of seeing Carcia along with Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council's Substance Use Policy and Program Officer, Eddie Fewings presenting on the success of



the QISMIC/QAHIC driven 'AOD OUR WAY' program," Ms Lively said.

"AOD our way was a program that saw workshops delivered across the whole state in relation to the affects ICE is having on the Indigenous Community and the development of skills for frontline workers that work with our mob affected by this drug."



CELEBRATING

8-11-2014

when Helen Johnson married Arthur Friday.

This pic is of their Bridesmaids and besties in blue: Alice Johnson,

Annabelle Ketchup,

Danyel Johnson &

Sharona Johnson.



Spring Festival draws huge crowds

This year's Spring Festival was a huge success with plenty of dancing, craft and food stalls much appreciated by locals as well as more than 50 visitors and tourists from the mainland.

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey said the Festival had something for everybody and had been a great success.

Local groups included Yindinji Descendants, Great Northern Dancers, Pacific Flowers, Torres Strait Descendants and Bwgcolman Traditional dancers.

There was also the Komet TSI group from Townsville, Tiare Tipani Cook Island Dancers and Indigenous Hip Hop Program.

Mentor for the Bwgcolman Traditional Dance Group Toby

Castors told huge crowds on Friday – the same day the Open Day tour took place – that it was a top day.

“Palm Island is our wonderful home and this is where we live and who we are and we are all proud of that,” he said.

“Events like this keep our culture alive.”

The tourists from the mainland arrived on a Sealink ferry, taking the opportunity to watch the entertainment, tuck into traditional food and go on

one of several tours offered by local guides.

TS food stall worker Naiango Tamwoy-Mabo said it was busy day for food services.

“By far their favourite dish was the Jensishe, which is chicken cooked in soy, garlic and ginger,” she said.

“People love it.”

Tourist Robert Spencer said he came over on the public ferry after hearing about the Spring Festival on social media.

“This has been a great day,” he said.

“I have seen a beautiful island, tasted some delicious food with a difference for me and seen great entertainment.

“There has also been quality craft at the stalls.”



MORE PICS NEXT PAGE!



PICS ON THIS PAGE: Bindy Geia, Emma Tamwoy + Percy Tamwoy; Mayor Alf Lacey dances with TS Descendants; Bwgcolman Traditional Dance Group; Jay Crew girls; Hip Hop lads Billy and Michael; Members of the Pacific Flowers Dance Group; Mayor Alf Lacey with wife Melissa; Beryl Bunn & Andy Kyle-Sailor; Lillian Lampton & Visenia Dabea; Lyn Freckleton; Alison Rosetto and the history display; Clarissa Wales at her stall with her items made from shells; Ralph Baira who did the night karaoke; Ross Norman CEO; Djabugay/Walpara Mayi Wanba Dance Group; Komet Dancers; Tiara Tipani Dance Group. Pics thanks to Alf Wilson, Maria Johnson, Murielle Morgan & Leah Dabea.







MORE PICS NEXT ISSUE!!!

Palm Island Voice



Public &
Community Notices



Don't forget!!!

The DEADLINE for the
NEXT
PALM ISLAND VOICE
(231) is

**Thursday
14 September**

FOR PUBLICATION

**Thursday
21 September**

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Facebook page!

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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.

To book an ad, make a contribution or
inquire about subscriptions please contact
the Editor, Christine Howes,
on 0419 656 277 or
palmislandvoice@chowes.com.au

POSITIONS AVAILABLE



The following positions are currently open
for application:

**Family Wellbeing Centre
2 x Family Wellbeing Support Worker –
Full time**

**Applications close Friday,
22nd September 2017**

To be considered for this position, please
submit to mmccann@picc.com.au:

1. A completed employment application
form (employment application form
available from the PICC Mall Office, Palm
Island).
2. A copy of your resume.



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

If you have any
questions please
contact Reception
on 4770 1177 or
4770 0200



Palm Island
Aboriginal
Shire Council
has 1,673
'likes' on
Facebook!!!

Upgrades move Obe G to Maggie Is

This year's Obe Geia jnr Challenge was held on Magnetic Island last month due to upgrades to the Palm Island sports ovals.

The competition featured teams from 12 schools, including Bwgc Colman Community School and St Michael's Catholic School.

St Michael's Principal Gary Recklies said it was great to see Cowboys employee Matty Bowen there to speak to the youngsters, sign jumpers, footballs and provide autographs.

Bwgc Colman Community School teacher Josh Stamp said they were grateful to the Magnetic Island State School for allowing them to set up camp in their classrooms for the evening.

"The students got to play some warm up games that afternoon and tried to get into the headspace of footy by watching the Eels upset the Broncos," he said.

"When game day came the Bwgc Colman team got to play four games.

"In the first two games, against Good Sheperd and Magnetic Island the boys and girls played out of their skin.

"They were making great tackles and scoring lots of tries.

"In our third and fourth games,



against Marian and Kelso, the work rate had to go up.

"We were trying everything to gets points and had some great plays set up by Ingai, Cephas and Lamar.

"Unfortunately our efforts in the earlier games caught up to us and we were a little too gased to win those last two games.

"Our dummy half, Cephas,

received the sportsmanship

award but an honourable mention should also go to Kynan for his never say die attitude, and Ingai, Lamar and Amariah for their exceptional skills in attack and defence."

The day was enjoyed by everyone especially St Clare's School who took away this year's top gong.



HUGE thanks to Leah Dabea for the yarn and pics. Shirts for the Dolphins were made and designed by Emele Dabea, Christine Cannon & Catherine Inkerman.

PI netballers shine!

Palm Island entered nine teams into this year's Indigenous North Queensland Netball Carnival held in Townsville last month, in what ended up being an outstanding effort from everyone concerned.

Of the four mixed, one ladies, one U17s and three juniors, three teams – Cathy Freeman Foundation, Djay's Memorial and Dolphins U17s – came runners up in their divisions.

Four players picked up Most Valuable Player medals: Andrew Castors in the Mixed; Ena Archibald in the Ladies; Dianne Fulford in the U17s and Sierra Sibley in the U12s.

Five players were selected into a talent squad: Dianne Fulford, Giaan Baira, Jayshieka Baira, Marika Friday and Priscilla Sibley.

MORE PICS P11!



Teams would also like to thank Keona Smith who was their umpire for the competition.

