



PALM ISLAND VOICE

Issue 244
Thursday 25 January 2018

FREE



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



Queen's Baton shares Palm Island journey MORE PICS INSIDE!

The Queen's Baton visit to Palm Island was a Commonwealth Games first with twelve-year-old student and star netballer Ikanau Conway given the honour of being the community Baton bearer.

Ikanau carried the Baton from the Parish Centre to the front of Council Chambers in the Town Centre Mall taking a crowd of more than a hundred residents with her in a procession along the main street.

This year marks 100 years since the first placement of people on Palm Island and in 2018 events and festivities will celebrate the centenary milestone, with the

community encouraged to "Share Our Journey", a similar echo to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games "Share the Dream."

Acting Premier Jackie Trad, who was there, said the occasion was a significant moment in the Island's history.

"I'm delighted the Queen's Baton, a symbol as important as the Commonwealth Games itself,

is passing through Palm Island for residents to see and touch," she said.

Palm Island's Mayor Alf Lacey said the occasion was a poignant and hopeful moment in the Island's history.

"We are proud to be a part of the Baton's journey and glad that the Commonwealth Games has actively worked to engage more Indigenous communities in Australia more than ever in its history."



Words with thanks to: <https://www.gc2018.com/article/palm-island-community-comes-together-celebrate-queens-baton-2018-centenary>
Pics thanks to Michal Beroun

Stakeholders on deck for underwater idea

Palm Island Council has been working with lead organisations and government in Townsville to develop a Museum of Underwater Art it is hoped will help to grow a sustainable tourism industry on Palm Island and provide jobs for young people.

Underwater art museums are artistic installations, usually involving sculptured works placed on the seafloor or riverbeds to provide a visual, emotional and physical experience for visitors.

Among the most famous and effective examples of this art form are works by Jason deCaires Taylor, who has installed major works in several northern hemisphere locations, including the Bahamas and Grenada (Caribbean), Cancun (Mexico) and London (Thames River).

“We call it a museum for a very important reason,” Jason said. “Museums are places of preservation, conservation and education. They’re places where we keep objects of great value to us, where we value them simply for being themselves.”

High-quality, large scale installations can attract large

numbers of visitors.

In addition to experiential and artistic goals, the installations would have strong environmental and educational themes.

The vision is to create reconciliation and environmentally themed sculptural installation at one or two inter-tidal locations (The Strand, Geoffrey Bay on Magnetic Island), one offshore location (John Brewer Reef) and an installation off the coast of Palm Island that would be reflect the community’s 100 year anniversary.

While the overall cost for the project is being finalised it has already received significant private sector donations and the Queensland government made a \$2 million election commitment to its development.



A launch of the project is not planned until April.

An installation off the coast of Palm Island could be a powerful way to demonstrate the island’s connection with the marine environment and aspects of cultural heritage and reconciliation.

Together the sites can provide economic development opportunities and support small business development and employment.



Jason met with local artists Toby Castors and Billy Doolan as well as Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey during a recent visit to the region to conduct a scoping study



Didge fest ready to blow!

Cultural custodians Archie Fraser, Frank Conway and Toby Castors met with the Chairs of the Centenary Organising Committee last week to finalise arrangements for the Deadly Didge n' Dance Festival, to be held on the Island from 20–22 April this year.

PALM ISLAND CENTENARY 2018
SHARE OUR JOURNEY

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE
DEADLY DIDGE N DANCE
20 – 22 April 2018

THE CENTENARY COMMITTEE ARE HOLDING THE
DEADLY DIDGE N DANCE FESTIVAL
WE ARE LOOKING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THE FOLLOWING

≈ **STALL HOLDERS**

- Do you make food or drinks?
- Do you make jewellery or art?

≈ **PERFORMERS**

- Are you in a dance group?
- Can you sing?
- Do you perform poetry or story telling?

≈ **WORKSHOPS**

- Can you teach someone to play the didgeridoo?
- Can you teach art?

WE NEED
STALL HOLDERS, WORKSHOP LEADERS AND PERFORMERS FOR THE
Deadly Didge n' Dance Festival.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT COUNCIL on 4770 0200 or
reception@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au

Key points for discussion included the cultural appropriateness for people from Palm Island to play didgeridoo, as well as some general rules around who should be allowed to play. The group agreed the didgeridoo was a traditional instrument played by many of the tribes of Palm Island and which was shared with others across countries and along trading routes.

The sharing of didgeridoo was also an important consideration when discussion turned to who can play.

The group agreed playing didgeridoo was men's business and should only be played by men.

They also agreed that Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders had always been welcoming and sharing of their own cultures, so didgeridoo should be shared with all men.

For the Deadly Didge n' Dance Festival world record attempt for the largest didgeridoo ensemble, women were invited to participate by playing other instruments such as clap sticks.

Gala win for junior footy

The biggest winners at last year's Gala Dinner – other than the Palm Island community, of course – will be the Palm Island junior rugby league club after Palm Island Community Company (PICC) said they would donate their Charity Auction win – a hotly contested, fully signed Cowboys jersey – to the club. CEO Rachel Atkinson, pictured below with local board members Jeanie Sam, Harriet Hilthen and Louelle Bligh said it was a great night. Thanks must go to the hardworking staff (pictured below) and Descendance (pictured left).



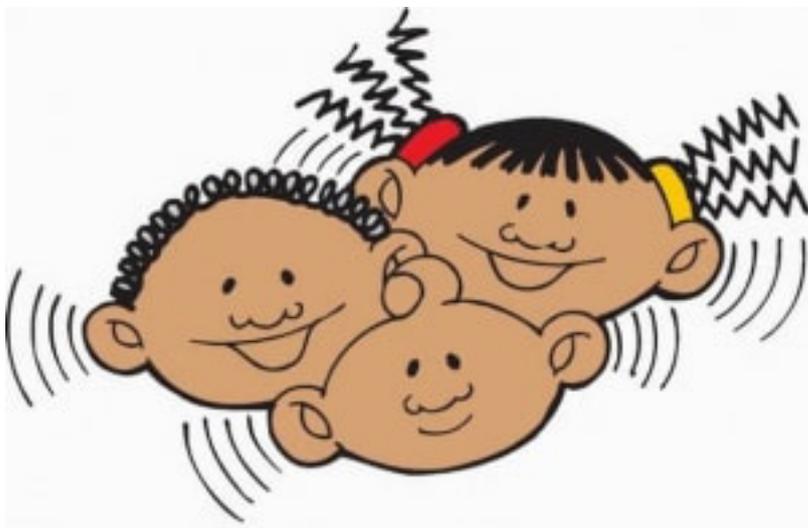
Above: Joann Schmider with Cr Deniece Geia, Carol Kyle, Lisa and Cr Bob Castors; Right: Mayors Alf Lacey and Ross Andrews (Yarrabah)



RIGHT: Family Mass on Christmas Eve at St Anthony's. "We had a great celebration with about 50 people in attendance," Sister Robyn said. "It was great to see people wanting to pray for our island at this time."

RIGHT & BELOW: Earlier in December Palm Island's Christmas Festival featured a 'Carols by the Sea' event on Saturday 16 December and a Combined Churches Service on Sunday 17 December, both were well-attended.





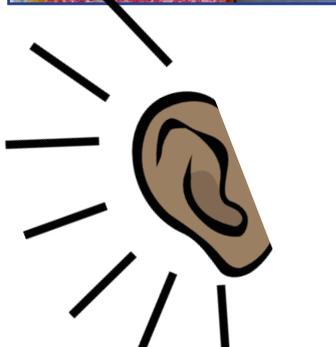
Deadly Ears Program

December saw our final clinic and surgical visit to Palm Island for the year, the Deadly Ears crew writes...

We thought we'd showcase some of the amazing people from Joyce Palmer Health Service who make our ENT visits so successful!

A big thank you to Judith Townsend-Stahre (Nurse Educator), Jennifer Ketchell (Indigenous Liaison Officer), Patricia Taylor (Practice Manager), Pauline Wilson (A/ Clinical Nurse Consultant), Vicki Robertson (Clinical Nurse), John Railings (Director of Nursing), Lyn Fraser (Clinic Co-ordinator), Tamarra Murray (Trainee Health Worker), Dan (Medical Student), Shane Anderson (ENT Consultant), Dot Beatty (Registered Nurse), Jayranni Ryan (Trainee Health Worker) and Deadly Ears staff members Kirsten, Rosie and April.

We look forward to seeing you again this year!



A great day for Palm Island



SPECIAL PHOTO LIETOUT
with pics by Michel Beroun









2018 Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay

MORE PICS NEXT ISSUE!







**PALM ISLAND
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME**
supported by
**CAMPBELL
PAGE**

2017 was a big year for the Palm Island Community Development Program team with successes such as the Lost Artists of Palm Island Exhibition, as well as the team winning Campbell Page Business of the Year at this year's Best Awards.

The Palm Island CDP was always led by members of the Palm Island Community with Campbell Page's backing so they were also excited to launch their new logo for the Palm Island CDP, a sunset icon symbolic of the beauty of the island and the community itself, produced by Ian Palmer.



Tree donation bears fruit for new waterfront park

“Campbell Page and our Community Development Programme will be working closely with the local community to continue to help build a beautiful and thriving community throughout 2018,” Palm Island Community Development Program Manager Nathan Vinson says.

“We must never forget the past and always remember those who we left behind.

“The Centenary celebrations this year on Palm Island are

a great opportunity to show other communities and the rest of Australia how far we have come.”

To this end Campbell Page

donated 100 trees to Palm Island on National Tree Day 2017.

The trees were planted by the Palm Island Community Development Programme Horticultural Team.

Peter Turner, who photographed the newest additions to Palm Island's flora, said they were proud of the work they had done.

“It's with great pride that CDP team has added to the natural beauty of Palm Island, our paradise in blue water,” he said.



CDP takes out national award



The Campbell Page 2017 national BEST Awards were held last month, with Palm Island's CDP taking out the Business of the Year category.

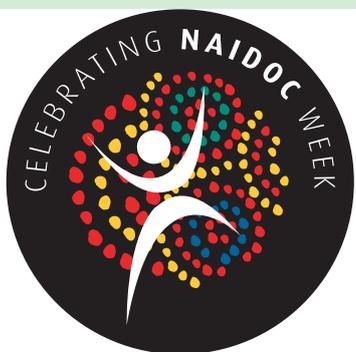
The annual awards are about recognising customers, partners, communities and teams for their efforts over the past 12 months.

The BEST Awards took place in Lilianfels in the

Blue Mountains, NSW, where all recipients and nominees were greeted by Marbi and Shenay of Waradah Dancers who delivered a Welcome to Country and held a smoking

ceremony before the day's activities took place.

The Palm Island CDP took out the Business of the Year Award for their dedication to making a difference in their community.



**BECAUSE OF HER,
We Can!**

8-15 JULY 2018

The National NAIDOC poster competition and award nominations are closing soon! **The poster competition is open now and will close 4pm (Qld time) Monday 5 February, 2018.**

There are also ten National Award categories to nominate for:

- Apprentice of the Year
- Artist of the Year
- Caring for Country Award
- Elder of the Year (Male)
- Elder of the Year (Female)
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Person of the Year
- Scholar of the Year
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Youth of the Year

Nominations are open now and will close 4pm (Qld time) Monday 26 March 2018.

For more information including competition and nomination forms and ideas on how to celebrate see www.naidoc.org.au

Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices



Don't forget!!!

The FIRST 2018 DEADLINE for the PALM ISLAND VOICE (244) is

Thursday 18 January

FOR PUBLICATION

Thursday 25 January

Check out our Facebook page!

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.

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



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 2,044 'likes' on Facebook!!!

HOLIDAYS OR EVENTS	DATES
NEW YEARS HOLIDAY Community fireworks	Monday, 1 January 2018-
2018 CENTENARY LAUNCH	Wednesday, 7 February 2018
AUSTRALIA DAY	Friday, 26 January 2018
CENTENARY PAST EVENT Becoming Bwgcolman	Saturday, 10 March 2018
GOOD FRIDAY	Friday, 30 March 2018
EASTER SATURDAY	Saturday, 31 March 2018
EASTER MONDAY	Monday, 2 April 2018
CENTENARY PAST EVENT Deadly Didge n Dance	Friday, 20 –22 April 2018
ANZAC DAY	Wednesday, 25 April 2018
LABOUR DAY	Monday, 7 May 2018
STRIKE '57	Friday, 1 June 2018
CENTENARY FUTURE EVENT Deadly Futures – Bwgcolman Day	Friday, 8,9,10 June 2018
ANNUAL SHOW DAY	Monday, 2 July 2018
NAIDOC DAY	Friday, 13 July 2018
SPRING FESTIVAL DAY	Friday, 7 September 2018
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY	Monday, 1 October 2018
CHRISTMAS DAY	Tuesday, 25 December 2018
BOXING DAY	Wednesday, 26 December 2018



PALM ISLAND CENTENARY 2018
-SHARE OUR JOURNEY-

STEVE WALSH SPEAKS OUT

When Big Stumbo Walsh appeared on the Dam wall during the ceremonies with his Land Rights Flag, one of the official party asked nervously:

"Is there likely to be violence today?"

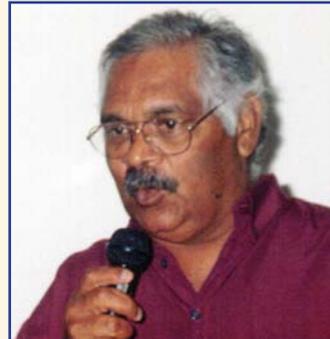
Stumbo didn't punch anyone in the head, but we would like to give him coverage in the paper, because he had the courage to stand out against the crowd, and exercise his right to support a cause close to his heart: Aboriginal land rights.

Stephen is getting together an article on exactly what he wanted to get across, which we hope to print in our next issue.

Palm Island at present needs more Stumbo Walshes, who let everyone know what they think - out open.

He also gave us a lesson on democratic action, picking a time when T.V. cameras and press photographers were on the scene.

FROM THE ARCHIVES!



Huge thanks to Telstan Sibley and family for allowing us to reproduce a pic of Steve 'Stumbo' Walsh speaking out in the 1976 newsletter 'Palm Islander'. The late Stumbo is pictured above at an Aborginal Coordinating Council meeting on 24 May 1999 (pic by Christine Howes).



ABOVE: Tasma Kynuna, 17, enjoyed her work experience at Townsville's Sizzler restaurant over the Christmas/New Year break. She attended Townsville State High School where her preferred job option was to go into the hospitality industry.



Pics by Sondra Gorringe

Happy (and popular!) graduate Shaylan Haines celebrating the end of his final year in school in 2017





These young women represented for North Queensland's under 14s, 16s & 18s at the Australian Indigenous Schoolgirls Netball Championships on the Gold Coast in the New Year...huge thanks to Leah Dabea for bringing them together for this fantastic pic! Congratulations!!!

Boxing comp expected to draw statewide talent

PALM Island will host a Sunstate Amateur Boxing League tournament on Saturday 7 April, to coincide with the community's Centenary birthday celebrations.

Fighters from communities across the state have been urged to come and join the competition.

Non-indigenous boxers from clubs around the State who affiliated with the Boxing League have also been invited.

Organiser is veteran Palm Island trainer Ray Dennis, who was inducted into the Queensland Boxing Hall of Fame last year for his decades of service to the sport.

Mr Dennis hopes former Cowboys champion Matt Bowen will come and fight an exhibition bout for what should be a big crowd.

Locals will have plenty to cheer for as Mr Dennis reckons there will be 15 bouts

and at least 13 Palm boxers entering the ring.

"They are all getting very keen and we expect a lot of boxers from around the State including many from other communities," Mr Dennis said.

Mr Dennis hopes to have a Sealink catamaran bring visitors to Palm Island in the morning and return late the same afternoon.

"The 100 year celebrations will be huge and our tournament will be part of it," he said.

Mr Dennis said that boxers from Napranum, Hope Vale, Wujal Wujal, Cooktown and other remote communities would be welcomed with open arms.

"A lot of people from those communities will be on Palm for the 100 years celebrations," he said.

