

NQ takes on Canberra with a powerful delegation of five regional Mayors



Five north Queensland Mayors, including Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey, along with Townsville Enterprise and 90 private sector delegates, spent three days in Canberra last week, meeting with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and his Cabinet, and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten and his shadow ministry.

In addition to meeting with party leaders, there were 16 different meetings held with nearly 30 federal political leaders and representatives and two key events held to showcase the region to a range of parliamentarians.

The Mayors were Cr Lacey, Townsville Mayor Jenny Hill, Hinchinbrook Shire Mayor Ramon, Burdekin Shire Council Mayor Lyn McLaughlin and Charters Towers Mayor Liz Schmidt.

Coordination was supported by Senator Ian McDonald and Federal Member for Herbert Cathy O'Toole.

Townsville Enterprise Chief Executive Officer Patricia O'Callaghan, said the delegation travelled to Canberra with a united

message - "A stronger North, for a stronger Nation".

"The meeting with the Prime Minister was positive and proactive, as he too reiterated his commitment to North Queensland," she said.

She said the Museum of Underwater Art was one of several focus points for the meeting.

"Having all five regional mayors, representatives from the private sector and Townsville Enterprise members presented a formidable force and will emphasise the contribution this region makes to the nation's economy at a crucial time in the political calendar," she said.

"We know that a stronger north means a stronger nation and

we need targeted government investment and policy to support growth and stimulate business confidence.

"Next steps will see Townsville Enterprise, the five regional councils and our local business leaders build on the momentum that was created this week and continue to advocate for the projects and policies that will secure our region's future over the next 150 years."

Cr Lacey said he had pushed hard for jobs for locals.

"Palm Island is a growing region and we really need to see funding allocated to job creating projects for our locals to ensure we keep residents in the community," he said.

Mitchell Yumba reunion to commemorate Gunggari loss

Palm Islanders with connection to Mitchell Yumba's and/or Gunggari Country are invited to a Reunion out on country at the end of next month.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the bulldozing of the Mitchell Yumba (the Mitchell Aboriginal Reserve) and to mark the event "Wari Wanjinju – We Shall Come Back" will be held September 29 to October 1 at Yumba in Mitchell.

The commemorative weekend will acknowledge the resilience, achievements and contributions

of Aboriginal people to the Maranoa region.

2018 NAIDOC Elder of the Year Aunty Lynette Nixon said there was a lot of trauma attached to the bulldozing the Yumba houses.

"It's time to bring everyone together for healing," she said.

"There was a lot of trauma, it broke up families and a whole community.

"Nothing was ever the same again, although we never really lost our connection to each other and to Yumba.

"The sad thing today is our young generation didn't get to know a lot of those people and the ways we lived in those days.

"Everyone that ever lived on

Yumba had happy memories, it was really hard for a

lot of people when we had to move.

"It's time to bring people home for healing and to connect to Country again."

Activities over the weekend include smoking ceremony, welcome to Country from Elders Aunty Ethel Munn, Uncle Ray Stanley and Aunty Betty McGrady, a repatriation ceremony, high tea, kup murri, sharing stories and a naming ceremony.

An ongoing Healing Circle will include an Elders tent, Women's Business Workshop, Men's Tent, traditional massage, children's activities, dance and language workshops, art workshops, entertainment by Lloyd Saunders and Brett Lawton, traditional games, bush walks and a darts and volleyball competition.

And all of this is for a gold coin donation!

For more information email admin@gunggari.org.au or see www.gunggari.org.au/umbareunion



YUMBA REUNION 2018
"Wari Wanjinju" - We Shall Come Back
September 29th - October 1st 2018

YUMBA - MITCHELL, QLD | Admission Fee - Gold Coin Donation

Yowalla! Join us to commemorate the bulldozing of the Yumba in 1968 and celebrate the Gunggari resilience, achievements and continuation of our culture.

Over the weekend there will be a variety of Activities and Market Stalls including a Healing Circle, Elders Tent, Children's Tent, Workshops and Art Projects, Reiki Tent, Kinesiology Tent, Reflexology/Massage Tent, Spiritual Healing Tent, Jumping Castle, Entertainment/Bands and much more!

Food and Drinks available throughout each day.

Camping available at Yumba Mitchell & the Mitchell Show grounds, with Buses running to and from the Yumba Reunion.

For all questions and queries please email admin@gunggari.org.au
For the weekend's program visit - www.gunggari.org.au/yumbareunion

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT.

Logos for Yumba Reunion 2018, Gunggari Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, NALINGU, and Queensland Government are visible at the bottom.

Palm Island Community Development Program is proud to welcome new Administration Assistant Joyce Boyd-Tapp to the team. Joyce has spent most of her life on Palm Island but in 2010 she moved away to complete her secondary education, graduating from Year 12 in 2017. After she left school she found it hard to find a job here, so she decided to move back to Townsville to complete her Cert II in Business Administration. She then returned to Palm and started two weeks of work experience at CDP before she was offered the position permanently. Joyce will be turning 19 this year. "From all the team on Palm Island and Campbell Page we welcome Joyce to the team and wish her the very best for the future," CDP Program Manager Nathan Vinson said.



Orange Sky seeking for artists to work on truck

Orange Sky staff will be back on Palm Island in September to engage with service providers and yarn some more with community members.

Remote and Regional Indigenous Services Program Manager Judith Meiklejohn said they were keen to work out how they could provide the best possible service.

“Also our van for Palm Island has arrived in the workshop and is ready for fit out,” she said.

“The canopy is being built at this very moment but as part of the build we also



hope to engage local artists for artwork to adorn the sides of the van.

“We hope to get the van launched towards the end of September or early October.”

SOS Health Services keen to help community

Kids activities run by volunteers for NAIDOC week are an important part of SOS Health Services' work, Palm Island's resident full time physiotherapist Rene Scott says.

“We are here to improve health and wellbeing of people in the Palm Island Community,” she said. “We have a full-time physiotherapist on Palm and regularly bring other health professionals like occupational therapists, podiatrists, dietitians and other volunteers to provide other health services.

“We like to work in partnership,

and other services can refer people for treatment by our SOS team.

“As well as this we get involved with community events, run exercise and pilates classes and do some health, nutrition and exercise education and support in the schools.”

She said their classes and activities included musculoskeletal work (eg back pain, arthritis,

headache etc), injury/pain management and prevention, clinical health education and treatment, lifestyle-related diseases (eg Diabetes) management and advice, manual therapy, acupuncture/dry needling, electrotherapy, group and individual exercise, clinical pilates classes and boot camps for groups and/or individuals.

SOS Health Services are in the Sandy Boyd Building and can be contacted on 0455 558 079 or at physio.pi@soshealth.org.au



Left: SOS Health Services NAIDOC Week activities; Above: Rene & Vernon working things out.

NAIDOC 2018

Townsville Cultural Fest well-supported by Palm

PALM Islanders turned out in big numbers to the Townsville Cultural Festival, held on James Cook University campus last weekend.

It is a not-for-profit community festival organised by the Townsville Intercultural Centre that showcases the diversity of Australian music, food, arts and culture, bringing thousands of people together each year in a celebration of life.

Palm Island Voice was there and as I walked around saw many Palm Island people including Mislam Sam and his family.

“We wanted to check it out whilst we were in Townsville,” he said.

Radio 4KIG broadcast from the festival and traditional food was available at Naianga Tamwoy-Mabo’s Kai Kai stall.

Former Barracudettes female rugby league player Sasha Pearce was there with family and friends.

I spotted Phillip Obah and snapped pics of Jai Cummins in the Yarning Circle area.

This year more than 100 performing groups offered a whole range of multicultural performances including folk, jazz, blues, hip-hop and rock, Indigenous Australian music and dance, drum circles, fire shows, cabaret, poetry, theatre and traditional dance groups from around the world.

Each year the festival involves over 300 creative arts, cultural and community groups, making Townsville Cultural Festival one of the most inclusive festivals in Australia.

Festival organiser Dr Farvardin Daliri said the event brought together people from all walks of life, in the spirit of unity and friendship.

“They coming together under the theme of Unity in Diversity which gives Townsville Cultural Festival its magical vibe,” he said.





Pictured above and below at the Townsville Cultural Festival are: Albert Abdul Rahman; Mura & Daisy Obah behind Sasha Pearce and Leah Morganson; Charmaine Koroj; Fiona Bobongie with festival organiser Dr Favardin Daliri & Dodie Eggmolese; Jai Cummins; John Paiwan; Lyndell Marshall & Jennifer Yunkaporta; Milton Thaiday with daughter Kiarah, aged 2; Mislam Sam with his wife Jeanie and children Shameka, 13, Sharona, 10, and grandchild Waylon aged 4; Monty “Boori” Prior and Ros Sailor.



Words & Pics by Alf Wilson



Palm Island Voice



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Community Notices



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Big crowds expected for JT's last home game for Cowboys



Hundreds of Palm Islanders are expected to converge on Townsville's 1300Smiles Stadium on Friday night to watch Cowboys champion Johnathan Thurston's play his last home game.

JT will play his final NRL match before retiring the following Saturday night against Gold Coast at Cbus Super Stadium.

The household name has a big following on Palm Island and many will be there watching the Townsville match live whilst many others will be glued to their television.

Several Palm islanders have indicated they will see the game on the big screen at the Cowboys League's Club in the Townsville CBD.

MURRI KNOCKOUT

MEANWHILE Palm Island footy fans will enjoy a cavalcade of rugby league in early October when the Arthur Beetson Foundation Murri Knockout is hosted by Bindal Sharks at the Townsville Sports Reserve.

Palm island Barracudas, Bwgc Colman Warriors and Aja's Boyz are amongst the 28 men's teams nominated.

Palm Island will also have a strong presence in several women's and junior teams.

Boxing promoter holds hope for troubled youth

Experienced Palm Island boxer Patrick Clarke is scheduled to fight the main bout at a Pro/Amateur tournament in Townsville on September 8.

The venue will be the Townsville Entertainment Centre and it is being dubbed the "Rite of Passage to Adult" tournament.

Patrick has been matched with an opponent from Townsville Club Dreams in what looks set

to be the main amateur bout.

This tournament has another aim promoter Dennis Clancy said.

"This tournament is aimed at helping youths in the community with problems to make something of their lives," he said.

Dennis said he was touched after a recent visit to the Townsville Cleveland Youth Detention Centre.

"I was told 90% of the youths who go into the centre return there and I want to help out through boxing," he said.

Bright finish for 2018 footy heroes

Finals are on in Townsville as Palm Island footballers have proven themselves to be the leading lights in this year's in Townsville and District Rugby League fixtures and semi-finals games.

In round 16 of qualifying matches on August 12 weekend Fred Haines jnr and Gordon Daisy shone for Brothers in their big 70-2 victory over Charters Towers.

Speedy Haines jnr scored three tries whilst Daisy, a son of Palm Island legend Vern, scored two four pointers.

In other matches Western Lions defeated Burdekin 74-4 and Herbert River rolled Norths 38-16. Centrals had the bye.

At the completion of the fixtures rounds Brothers and Herbert River led the ladder on 56 points followed by Centrals (48), Western Lions (36), Norths (28), Charters Towers (20) and Burdekin (8).

In A grade semi finals on Sunday August 19, Brothers 52 defeated Herbert River 14 in the qualifying game and the Matt Bowen coached Centrals beat Western Lions 44-34 in the knockout clash.

Centrals and Herbert River play next week in the preliminary final with the winner to meet Brothers in the grand

final a week later.

In the reserve grade comp round 16 games, Western Lions beat Burdekin 38-16, Herbert River defeated Norths 48-6 and Brothers rolled Charters Towers 52-14.

Palm's Gresham Ross jnr scored three tries for the Brethren.

The final ladder was Brothers (28), Western Lions (22), Herbert River (21), Centrals and Charters Towers (17), Norths (15) and Burdekin (4).

In Sunday's (August 19) qualifying semi finals Charters Towers 34 beat Herbert River 32 (knockout) and Western Lions 22 beat Brothers 20 in extra time (qualifying).

In the under 19 grade, Isaac Bulsey, a son of Barracudas star Fred Bulsey scored a try in Brothers 38-22 win over Western Lions.

Norths beat Herbert River 38-10 and Burdekin rolled Western Lions 38-22 in the other games.

The final ladder saw Western Lions (27), Brothers (25), Norths (21), centrals (19), Burdekin (16), Charters Towers (14) and Herbert River (4).

In the semi finals on Sunday, Norths beat Centrals 18-10 and Brothers 31 beat Western Lions 30 in extra time.

MORE FOOTY ON PAGE 7

Pictured: Top Right: Fred Haines jnr, right, has scored three tries for Brothers in the TDRL A Grade game last weekend; Isaac Bulsey who has starred for Brothers under 19's in the TDRL; Gordon Daisy at the 2017 Bill Coolburra Shield for Skipjacks; and Left: Gresham Ross jnr playing for Skipjacks at the 2017 Bill Coolburra Memorial Shield game

