

Issue 30
Tuesday 24 March 2009

STOP PRESS!!!

Dear Editor

Please note for your information that due to our No.1 Pontoon needing to have major emergency maintenance it is forecasted that all our services over the next two weeks may be interrupted. Whilst the planned work has started, it is expected that the last part of the remedial work would need to be completed on the Sunday 5th April, prior to the start of Easter Week.

Therefore, I have to move the Sunday the 5th April service to a Monday to allow this to occur.

The timetable for the Easter week is therefore:

Sunday 5th April- No Sunday service
Monday 6th April - Monday service instead of Sunday

Wednesday 8th April - Normal Service
Thursday 9th April - Instead of Friday service

Sunday 12th April - No Service until Monday

Easter Monday 13th April - Instead of the Sunday service due to extended Public Holiday
Sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause, but it is unavoidable and may also be subject to further change.

Darin McDonald General Manager Sunferries Pty Ltd

Tel: 07 4726 0801

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'Good race' in poll for Townsville



If all the election booths in Townsville had voted the way Palm Island did on Saturday, Ms Delena Oui-Foster would have been the new MP for the district.

It wasn't to be – this time, at least – as Labor candidate Mandy Johnstone has been declared the unofficial winner.

Ms Oui-Foster said she was pleased with her result, her only disappointment being that just over half of the Island's potential voters turned up (541 out of a potential 980 enrolments).

"I'm happy with the results considering I only had two weeks to really organise," she said.

"The hardest thing was getting my message out in the mainstream media, but I enjoyed it, I'm happy with my result and I've got to feel that I've had a victory because I've given it go.

"Hopefully the new Labor member will really have a look at some of the issue that I raised and some of those issues raised by the Mayor and others on Palm."

PIAC Mayor Alf Lacey said it was "great" to see a Palm Islander putting up their hand.

"It was a very good race and it was great to see Delena put her hand up again and give it another shot," he said.

"Council would like to congratulate her for the effort that she's put into it given that elections are hard ones to fight if you're an Indigenous candidate.

"I think what we've got to do is remind the major parties that if they're going to 'close the gap' on Aboriginal issues then they've got to start pre-selecting people or Torres Strait Islanders and putting them up in safe seats.

(Continued p 2...)

Palm Island booth results

85 votes (15.98%) – Murray Hurst (LNP)
12 votes (2.26%) – Michael Punshon (FFP)
315 votes (59.21%) – Delena Oui-Foster
85 votes (15.98%) – Mandy Johnson (ALP)
35 votes (6.58%) – Jenny Stirling (Greens)

532 - Formal Votes

9 - Informal Votes

Total Votes - 541 (2.73% of District)

(From p 1...)

"You know then we can see change."

Ms Oui-Foster said she had learned a lot from the campaign, the main thing being that the places she had people helping her hand out her how-to-vote cards – such as Garbutt, North Ward, Mt Louisa and Belgian Gardens – were the booths in Townsville she polled best in.

"One thing I realised is that you need organisation and planning, and you really need a team to get in there and help you do it," she said.

"We were only able to cover seven polling booths and we found that the ones where we had people on were the ones where we got votes, which was good.

"So I'm satisfied with what I've got and I was able to use it as a platform to raise some of the issues I felt were being neglected."

Ms Oui-Foster picked up more than half of Palm Island booth's primary vote (315 first preferences from 541 voters).

And nearly half of her total vote (741 at the time of going to print) came from Palm.

Also at the Palm Island booth, winner for the ALP Mandy Johnstone picked up the exactly the same number of votes as LNP candidate Murray Hurst with just 85 votes each.

Counting for declaration and pre-poll votes is not yet completed.

Mr Lacey said he wanted to congratulate all the Aboriginal & Torres Strait

MP wants to 'stay connected' to Palm

Labor party candidate for Townsville, Mandy Johnstone, is set to take the place of retiring MP Mike Reynolds within the next month or so.

As soon as the poll is declared, once declaration and pre-poll votes are completed, Ms Johnstone said she will visit Palm as soon as she can.

"I'm really very pleased with the result on Saturday night, I feel very honoured and

privileged to be given the position and hope to repay the trust the electorate has put in me," she said.

"In relation to when I'll be back on Palm Island, that's something I'll be working on as soon as it is possible, so it's one of those things.

"It's very important to me to stay connected to the people of Palm and the Council there, and the community there.

"So once I'm officially in the role I'll be in touch with the community and be across as soon as possible."

PIAC Mayor Alf Lacey said he and the Council looked forward to working with Ms Johnson.

"We congratulate Mandy Johnstone who is going to be the new member for Townsville, that takes in Palm," he said.

"Certainly I'll give a commitment to Mandy and to her government that we will work with her as a Council on Palm

Islander candidates.

"I'd like to say congratulations to those Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates who ran – Sam Watson in Brisbane, Delena for the seat of Townsville, Michaelangelo Newie for Cook and Leeanne Enoch as a Labor candidate who narrowly lost the seat of Coomera," he said.

"It's encouraging to see Indigenous candidates standing in the state election."



to make sure that we get what we need in terms of infrastructure and a better way forward for our people."

Ms Johnstone said it was unlikely she would take on any ministerial responsibilities.

"I've made it very clear that my number one priority is representing the electorate of Townsville and that's all about me being focussed on the needs of Townsville including Palm Island," she said.

Was it an election promise or ... ?

The results of a liquor license application for Palm Island should be known by the end of this month, according to retiring MP Mike Reynolds.

Mr Reynolds was widely reported in the media announcing that the announcement should be made within the next two weeks or so.

PIAC Mayor Alf Lacey was critical of Mr Reynolds'

timing, but said he hoped the outcome would be positive.

"Over the past two weeks or so, before the election, Mike Reynolds indicated the Palm Island liquor license should be granted by the end of March," he said.

"We certainly hoping that will be the case because that will settle a lot of issues around alcohol on Palm.

"One of the things I did say to the Townsville Bulletin was that as well as the license,

that I think the Queensland Government should also relax the carriage limit for people on Palm.

"I'll still be talking about that and I'll continue to talk about that, it's important that we maintain our voice on the Alcohol Management Plan because it's not working anyway.

"So community people are asked to continue to have their say on this issue around alcohol."

CDEP success for apprentices

Coolgaree Corporation for CDEP is currently in the process of training three apprentices in their cabinet-making/joinery section under the guidance of Tradesman/Supervisor Albert Gorringe.

Darryl Huddy/Daisy and Roy Murray Jnr are training as Cabinet Makers (*pictured right*), while Kevin Kidner is undergoing an apprenticeship in Glazing.

All are in their third year of apprenticeship training.

Throughout their training the boys have been doing mandatory and compulsory block training in Townsville and Brisbane.

This training includes work experience with recognised firms such as Bradnam's Glazing and Townsville Cabinet Making in Garbutt, as well as attending the Barrier Reef TAFE at Pimlico and Eagle Farm TAFE in Brisbane.

Although this block release time is spent away from family and friends for periods of up to six weeks, the boys are quite excited and remain committed to pursuing these important career goals in their lives.

Once they have completed training and become tradesmen, they should be comfortable in the knowledge that they would have become qualified professionals with a secure future. They are already positive role models for all Palm



Islanders, especially the younger generation. At the present time the apprentices are involved in installing kitchens in homes within the community.

They have been extra busy over the past few weeks making sure fellow community members' needs are being met and, most importantly, that tenants are satisfied with the work they have completed.

Coolgaree's management said they deserve full credit for their ambition, commitment and dedication to pursuing their dreams and aspirations.

MURRI COURT

As most of you are aware, we do now have Murri Court happening on Palm. How does Murri Court work? Those people who have been assessed and are sentenced to attend Murri Court are usually at high risk of being incarcerated (sentenced to a jail term).

The Murri Court was established to deal with sentencing indigenous offenders. The Murri Court takes into account Cultural Issues by providing a forum where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander elders and respected persons have an input into the sentencing process.

What is the role of the Community Justice Group? The Coordinator sets up an interview with the offender, usually with an elder/respected person/s, to sit together and do up a Cultural Report. Remember, "The Elders do not impose a sentence on the offender – they are there to facilitate communication between the different parties" – Paul Murray – Principal Registrar Mt. Isa.

What is a Cultural Report? A Cultural Report paints a picture of how the offender grew up in this community, and when the Coordinator passes this information on to the Magistrate, they will then gain better insight, thus having more consideration for the offender.

Why is it important to get your Cultural Report done? Any person who is sentenced to attend Murri Court needs to make the effort to report to the Community Justice Group as often as possible, they may also need go to Probation & Parole to get a Pre-Sentence Report done as well.

Once the Magistrate can see that the offender is reporting and making the effort not to re-offend, they will most likely be able to stay in the community. But do remember that the Magistrate does have the final word.

CHILDREN'S COURT

If your child is attending Children's Court, it would be beneficial for parents and guardians to attend the proceeding. That way the Magistrate can handle their matters with more consideration. If parents or guardians are too busy (maybe with work commitments) try to get a relative, like an aunt, uncle, nanna, grand dad or even a close family friend to come in and support the child.



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE TRAINING

On the 17th, 18th & 19th of April there will be JP Training held. Mr. Nathan Higgins from the JP Branch in Brisbane will be up to conduct the training.

We've been waiting for quite some time for this to eventuate – so those of you who have put your names down to do this course, you will need to make the effort to turn up for the training, because the last time this happened, hardly anyone showed up, which was very disappointing. Also, you will receive notification through the post for your appointment for the training.

Why become a JP? Becoming a JP not only entails signing and certifying documents – but for the elders and respected members of the community, we will then be able to run our own JP Magistrates Court, that is once you've passed the JP Qualified and then be sworn in as a JP Magistrate.

What is a JP Magistrates Court? A JP Magistrates court is where there are 2 or 3 elders/respected persons, who sit on the bench and hand down just penalties for minor offences. However, they cannot sentence an offender to prison, but they can hand down fines and community services orders.

NEED I.D.?

If you need to get on Centrelink payments or open a bank account, the Palm Island Community Justice Group can help you out by giving you an Identification Form. Remember sometimes our office is closed due to unforeseen circumstances or gets quite busy during court week, maybe then you might be able to go over to the Council and I'm sure they'd be happy to help you out. Our IDs are accepted by most Government Offices and Community Organisations.

Money management team offers help for Palm Island households



Hello there!

This information will serve to introduce our Team and to explain what we are offering. We work for ICAN – Indigenous Consumer Assistance Network – and have been contracted by the Australian Government to deliver Money Management Training to each household, on Palm Island

So we are the ICAN Money Management Team here on Palm Island and our program is part of The Palm Island Agreement an agreement signed by the Australian Government, Palm Island Council and the Community Justice Group. We will help households in Palm Island to manage their Money more effectively.

As part of the agreement, the Australian Government through the Council will be offering Pride-of-Place grants to households that meet certain criteria, one of these being engaging with our Team to complete the Workshops

Council and the Australian Governments representatives will be fully explaining the Agreement to the Community in due course.

In this part of the workshop we will be talking to you about, making your money spin out until the next payday so that you have enough money to last through the fortnight for things like bread and milk and not having to go and ask, or rely on, other people for food or money.

You will also hear about how making a budget can be a good way to track money coming in and going out of your family purse. We all use money to get by as it pays for our bills and our other living expenses. We buy things (goods/Products) and pay for services like the Ferry, Air Fares, Electricity, Rent , Phone Bill and Gas.

Sometimes it is good thing to put some money away for a special occasion parties, weddings, funerals or a medical emergencies. Knowing that you have that money there makes it easier, You don't have to stress about where you going to get the money from.

If you feel that you are able to make use of what we are offering or would just like the opportunity of gaining more information let us know we are only too happy to help, where possible and we are always looking for stories and hints that you might use in your everyday lives.

If you would like to have us come to your house to discuss the project just visit us at our office, phone us on 07 47701622 or just stop us on the street.



Our Team: Money Management Workers Pauline Shortjoe & Bernadine Castors with Team Leader Fiona Prior



Welcome to the world!!

This cute pair of twins are named Natasha and Nickhiazha Snider, born to proud Mum Marina Ketchup

From the

Mayor's Desk



Welcome to this edition of the Palm Island Voice, and news about some very good things that have happened over the past month or so, including that we've seen the new street signs go up in the town.

People are responding to them, so that's encouraging, and I just want to ask the community to take care of them and not let our kids vandalise the new signs.

It's something we should be proud of because we've been talking about that for a long time, particularly with the new road works that have been happening. Those roadworks will continue, unfortunately we did a lot of the re-seal just before the rain which did a lot of damage, but we've got some extra money for flood relief so we will be able to do them again. That will start to happen shortly so that's exciting. The other exciting thing that has happened is that I was fortunate enough to be selected to attend the national round table for a new national representative body. A hundred people were nominated to work on suggestions for a new model for the government under the leadership of the Human Rights Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma. It was a good meeting with lots of good ideas discussed. There was a lot of criticism about ATSIC but the meeting allowed us to try and find a new way forward for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders. A report from that meeting will be presented to the government in about July so we'll know how those recommendations have come out then. There has been no representative body for our people since ATSIC was dissolved in 2005.

The other thing is the Council is hoping to meet with Queensland Health in the near future to sort out a new Health Action Plan for the Island. Premier Anna Bligh gave a commitment to that when I had an audience with her at the round table discussions in Brisbane last year.

So there's the chance there for us to have more input into the delivery of health services.

Myself and Cr Gorringer will be involved in that and we'll be asking a community working group to have input into that as well.

Recently there was also an meeting called by Education Queensland which I attended and which was between all our schools here on the Island.

Those meetings will be continued with the ultimate aim of setting up a community-based Education Council to deal with all school and education matters that need to be dealt with at a community level.

Hopefully we will see the Council made up of local people and the various education facilities to drive a community education agenda so they can work towards providing the quality education our children need.

In terms of housing, Council is always very strong around the importance of this issue and you already know we've signed off on a \$5 million housing initiative for Palm, along with five or six other communities who have the same deal.

Tenders have closed for the construction of those homes and our focus will be on putting in units and flats to cater for the younger people in our community, including young families. As of July 1, as we've also said in the Palm Island Voice, the Department of Housing will take on the management of our housing, as they are all over Queensland. Palm is not immune to that but I know a lot of people are concerned about it.

At the end of the day the Council was forced to sign off on that in order to secure more housing money for the community.

While we're not strongly supportive of the move towards the Department taking on this role, we've always fought for more housing for our community and this was the only way to allow for that to happen.

From the Archives ...

Orpheus Island was traditional tribal land belonging to Palm Island and today, part of Orpheus goes up for auction. Murries on Palm Island think that if a big company buys this land it would be the first step in taking over the Islands around Palm. At present Europeans are camping on all Islands around Palm which are still part of the reserve. Signs have been erected on these Islands saying "This is an Aboriginal Reserve. Anyone entering without permission are liable to be fined up to \$200". At least two of these signs have been pulled down. Delegates on Palm have been in touch with the North Queensland Aboriginal Land Committee who in turn approached a barrister in Sydney to try and get a court injunction to stop the auction but they found it wouldn't stand up in court as there is no law in Queensland that says "Aboriginals own Land". The North Queensland Aboriginal Land Committee and many people on Palm plan to hold a demonstration outside of the auction.

(The Palm Islander, Vol. 1, No. 15 - 27th May, 1977. Editor Shorty O'Neill)

The Palm Islander

PREPARE NOW FOR THE DAY BIG BROTHER GOES AWAY

MURRIES PLAN DEMONSTRATION AGAINST AUCTION



The important thing is that we need houses and if we hadn't signed off on this new arrangement we would have seen Palm in a predicament where we wouldn't have received any money for new housing. So at the moment the feeling is to give it a go, it's a two-year arrangement and we'll see how it works out by the end of that. It's going to be interesting to see what happens and we want to ask the community to work with us on keeping an eye on that and giving the Council feedback on that. We want the community to work with us so we can achieve better outcomes on that for us all, so it's very important that feedback and advice happens. The other important thing is that there's a lot of dollars around from the COAG agreement in terms of the government's commitment to closing the gap. It looks like we'll get a sizeable proportion of that coming our way which is going to be very good for health, housing, economic development and a few other areas. The Commonwealth Government has also released the Local Government stimulus package as a result of the economic downturn. We've put up a bid for \$8.5 million for the new retail precinct for Palm which will include a feasibility study for how we can make that work so that's on the agenda for the community as well. It's nothing new, the retail precinct has been talked about for quite some time and Council decided the time was right to try and make a move on some of that.

Included in that precinct will be the opportunity to develop a cultural precinct which will be close by, and also to upgrade the Council chambers and administrative building. Hopefully within the next year or two that will start rolling out and beginning to happen. NAIDOC week is also coming up shortly so the community should be thinking about what they want to do this year and the Council should be calling an advisory committee meeting shortly to let us know what the community wants to do. One of the things already on the agenda is a 'Back to Fantome Island Day' which will be the first Sunday of NAIDOC week. That's going to be a joint initiative between the Council and the Catholic Diocese. Lastly I just want to remind the community that the Council has community delegation days for anyone who has issues they'd like to raise with the Council. Please do take that opportunity to come and have your input, they are very important to the Council in terms of getting the right input from community members about what we're doing and the directions you want to take. Remember we're your Council and we are here because we want to work hard for you and with you. Our meetings are also always open to the public and the public are certainly invited to come and listen to some of the issues being discussed in Council.

**Yours in community spirit
MAYOR ALF LACEY**

Palm Island Voice

Community Notices

Human Rights of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples

The Australian Government has set up a committee to discuss the protection of human rights in Australia. This is a great opportunity for all people in Australia to have their say about human rights and how they should be protected.

The Australian Human Rights Commission wants to help you prepare for and participate in the Government's consultation. To do this, we would like to invite you to come and talk with us about:

- what human rights mean
- how human rights could improve your life and your community
- how the Australian Government's consultations will happen
- how you can have your voice heard in the Government's consultation

WHERE: PCYC, Mango Avenue

DATE: 2 April 2009

TIME: 12:00am – 2:00pm

HOSTS: Australian Human Rights Commission

Please note that the Australian Human Rights Commission is not undertaking the Consultation or accepting submissions. Information on the independent National Human Rights Consultation Committee is available at: www.humanrightsconsultation.gov.au



**THE NEXT PALM ISLAND
ABORIGINAL COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DELEGATION
MEETING WILL BE HELD IN
THE COUNCIL OFFICES ON
THURSDAY 16 April from 10AM.**

**If you would like to speak
with Council on matters
of interest or concern,
contact Reception on
4770 1177
to arrange an
appointed time.**

DO YOU NEED A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE? HERE IS A LIST OF JP'S ON PALM...

Owen Wyles -	Justice Group
Josephine Geia -	Beach Road, Bottom End
Ralph Watson -	Butler Bay
Kathy Gibson -	Butler Bay
Delena Foster -	Kootana Women Centre
Tom Geia -	Legal Aid
Selena Solomon -	Justice Group
Julie Johnson -	Hospital
Ian Day -	Hospital/Ambulance
Veronica Coutts -	State School
Maggie Blackley -	Island Life

Expressions of Interest: Palm Island Youth Council

Aim: to get the youth active in the movements of this community and to be aware of where their future lies.

A meeting will be held at the Government Co-ordination centre from:

12-2pm Monday 6 April 2009.

Any youth interested in being a voice and knowing what's in this community should come along. There will be various discussions around issues on Palm Island. I will be supporting this initiative along with Chicko Charles; Susan Pryor; Jeanie Ling and others.

Emmakita Pryor

Expressions of Interest

For people to become involved in an Entertainment night on Palm Island to perform a dance/song/whatever.

This is a Community initiative to bring the family and community together. People who make jewellery; clothing; art work; food; drinks; toys; etc can come along and put up a table to sell their goods. No cost for a table. All money you make is yours.

This is a way to get the community active and out and about.

People with bands can come along and play a few tunes to entertain the community. People entertain on their own accord no payment of money involved.

Where: Palm Island Mall

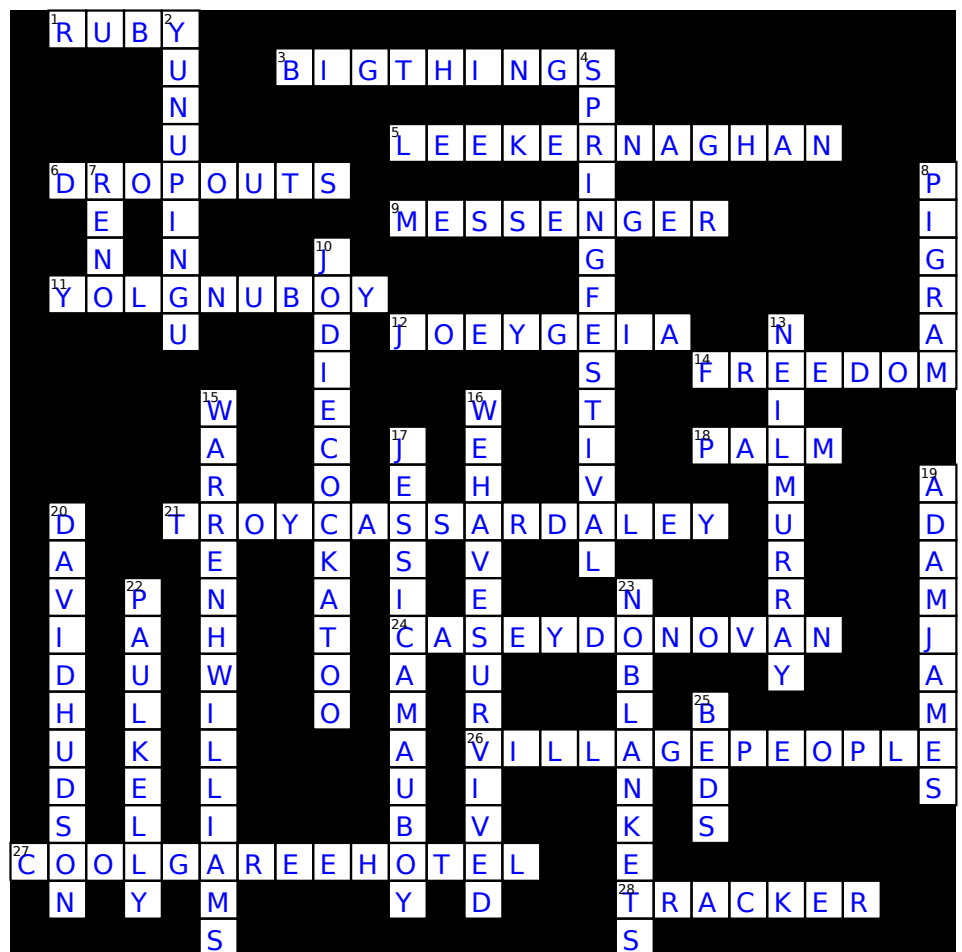
When: Thursday Nights beginning Thursday 26 March 2009.

Times: Between 5:00pm to 9:00pm.

Be there or be square!!!

Palm Island Voice

CROSSWORD NO 29 - ANSWERS



Palm Island Voice

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 – Births,

Deaths, Marriages, Birthdays

– FREE

Sale Price over \$1000 & Other

Notices – 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be submitted

by no later than 5pm on

deadline day

(see back page).

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.

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.

Palm Island Voice would like to acknowledge the assistance of the crossword maker at: <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/crossword/> for Crossword No 29, "You Can't Stop the Music". Got a sports clue? We need your help please! Drop your questions and answers into the PIAC office for Tim by the next deadline to see your knowledge in squares!!



POSITIONS VACANT

PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

1 Main Street PALM ISLAND QLD 4816

Phone: 4770 0202

Fax: 4770 1241

ceo@piac.com.au

Position Vacant for Executive Assistant

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council wishes to recruit an Executive Assistant on a full time basis.

The successful Applicant will assist with the following duties:

- o Assist CEO and elected councillors with their daily enquiries
- o Management of appointment, diaries and calendars for Council
- o Schedule meetings for Mayor
- o All phone enquiries in relation to Council Decisions
- o Executive Business
- o Manage all travel, accommodation and allowances
- o Organization of future conferences
- o Contact person for delegation meetings
- o Minute taker at council meetings & other meetings as required
- o File management
- o Preparation of business papers for meetings as required
- o Councillors agenda items for meetings
- o Provide customer service when required
- o Preparation of refreshments for visitors, meetings etc.

For more information contact PIAC.

Send your Application to:

Barry Moyle as per the details above.

Accounts Officer

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council wishes to recruit an Accounts Officer for an initial period of six months. He/She will assist with recording and reporting of Council's financial data and providing accounting/finance services as relevant to the position. In addition he/she will assist with file maintenance, budget data and reporting links.

Interested candidates should send an application and recent resume by Monday 16 March to: CEO Barry Moyle at the address above.

The PIASC will short-list suitable candidates. It reserves the right to request further information from short-listed candidates. This may be by way of a formal presentation to a selection panel or written presentation, at the discretion of the PIASC.

Inquiries or requests for further information may be directed to John Mugambi, Finance Manager, PIASC on 4770 0212 or via email to john.mugambi@piac.com.au

Health Liaison Officer

The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is looking for a dedicated hard working local Indigenous person to work in the field of Indigenous Health supporting and working amongst Aged Care Hostel residents, Qld Health and the people of Palm Island, with a clear vision in improving relationships between Community and Joyce Palmer.

For more information contact PIAC.

THINKING OF STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS? INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING A MARKET STALL?

If so contact Jodie Ryan, PIAC's Enterprise Development Officer, to register your idea and for assistance from the newly-formed Economic Development Committee.

Contact Jodie via the Council contact details above.



The PCYC youth programs on Wednesday 5.30pm – 8.00pm, Thursday 5.30pm – 8.00pm and Friday nights from 5.30pm – 10.00pm have been a popular hang out for some 139 young people registered at the Palm Island PCYC since May 2008.

The consistent delivery of the night programs has been a great success with nine PCYC registered Community Volunteers (with existing Blue Cards) assisting in the program delivery on those particular nights. I would like to acknowledge these Community Volunteers who continually support the program and also provide a safe network for the young people during the program.

With the support of these passionate Community volunteers my work as a Youth Development Co-ordinator has been rewarding.

The activities on those nights are as follows:

- Healthy Cooking activity
- Beading activity
- Pulse activity (ie. x-box games, movies)
- Drumming activity
- Various sporting activity
- Knitting & Crochet activity
- Wed Night Youth Bible Study 6–7pm

I work in collaboration with the Sport and Recreational Officer Malcolm Lawrence; assisting in the delivery of the sporting events on Thursday and Friday nights for the Deadly Night Program. Lawrence with along with passionate volunteers has seen the current implementation of the Soccer games on Wednesday nights and other sporting events

are still to be implemented during the year.

If you're keen to put a team together don't hesitate to see Malcolm or drop in to the PCYC for further information for future sporting events.

The AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM for the children is co-ordinated by the Child Care Co-ordinator Salote Dilo and Senior Supervisor Bronwyn Kerr. The supervised activities for the children start from 3pm – 6.30pm Monday – Friday during the school term. For parents / guardian / carers if you would like your child / children to join in the program then bring them on down. There are refreshments for the children during this program.

Transport drop off for the children attending is available when they join in the activities.

Membership registration is open for the year with fees outlined below and membership application forms are available at the front office.

ADULT (18+)	- \$27.50
CHILD	- \$16.50
FAMILY	- \$55.00
SENIORS	- \$5.50

VOLUNTEERS! VOLUNTEERS! KEEN TO BE PART OF A PROACTIVE VOLUNTEER MOB?

Come and join the fun at your local PCYC, forms for Volunteers are available with Lavenia Tuibua – Youth Development Co-ordinator at the PCYC.

You are most welcome to join the PARTY!!!!

LAVENIA TUIBUA

PCYC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Deadly Sports!!!

Last Thursday we were visited by a number of athletes including former Bronco Steve Renouf, Firebirds' Romelda Aiken and some of the PASS Mob.

They visited Palm as part of the Deadly Sports Program which is aimed at getting the community more involved with sports and healthy active living lifestyles, passing on skills and bringing elite athletes on the island to inspire and encourage.

The Deadly Sports program also aims to skill up people in the community to be coaches and refs in all kinds of sport but especially netball and league.



Pictured L-R are Steve Renouf, Romelda Aiken, Demelza McCloud, Peter Jackson, Brian Kerle, Cr Ruth Gorringer, Marg Monaghan & Mayor Alf Lacey

Funding boost to local footy/netball grounds

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey says the Council is in the process of preparing the Palm Island Sports Grounds for a major upgrade.

"Council has managed to secure \$400,000 to work with Coolgaree CDEP, the Department of Sports and Recreation and the Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC) to do major upgrades down at the sports reserve," he said.

"So there will be a lot of capital works happening down there so the people in the farm area will see that.

"The reserve is going to be upgraded shortly.

"Hopefully with that upgrade we'll be able to

do up the clubhouse, football field and netball courts.

"Once those works are done we'll be asking the community to protect those assets, they're your assets so we need your help to safeguard those facilities so they're there for the whole community to use.

"As a part of doing this upgrade we hope to attract money to put in a walkway from the farm back into town to allow people to use that for health and exercise purposes.

"That will mean the town is then connected to the sports area so that's a good thing for all of us."

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE **Palm Island Voice**

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Chief Reporter: Tim Miller (editor@piac.com.au)
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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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