



# Palm Island Voice

**FREE!**

## Issue 304

Thursday 16 July 2020

PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.



# Let facts rule - not rumours!

It is absolutely essential our community members keep a close watch on the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council's Facebook page for the latest and most correct news about any changes to our Covid-19 rules and/or restrictions over the coming months Mayor Mislam Sam says.

"We can all see Victoria is in a world of hurt with a record numbers of cases diagnosed every day (300+ on some days this week) and problems also arising in NSW," he said.

"Luckily the tight restrictions we've endured in Queensland to now seem to be holding.

"But we all know by now it will come down to every single

one of us working to keep it that way.

"It will only take one single individual to mess things up for everyone again.

"That means the one person who doesn't tell the truth at a border crossing, the person who doesn't stick to social distancing, the person who doesn't stay home or the

person who doesn't get tested at the first sign of illness - that person is the one will see us all be dragged back to a place no one wants to be."

He said last weekend a rumour the Island was going into lockdown again went through the community on Palm and in Townsville.

*Continues...*



Pics thanks to CDP

ABOVE: CDP participants who successfully completed their white card course earlier this year; LEFT: Robert Vuni has been working at the Palm Island Motel and loves it! RIGHT: Betty Walton Alzina Wotton & Melissa Richardson.



## Let facts rule - not rumours!

...from page 1

Last weekend a false rumour that two local cases of Covid-19 in Townsville had triggered an Island lock down went through the Palm and Townsville communities, Mayor Mislam Sam said.

He said the story even included details about the ferry supposedly being cancelled on Monday.

"This was utterly and completely untrue," he said. "And it caused a lot of stress and worry, especially for our old people."

"Staff were called into work on their weekend to help us track down the source of the story and get the right information - that nothing had changed - back out there."

"The Council is the one dedicated point of truth under our Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) Plan to communicate all official information to our community about disasters including COVID."

"Our FB page is being updated constantly and now has more activity on it than it ever has."

"Our CEO, Adele, is the Coordinator of the disaster group and she, along with other LDMG members from Police and Health, monitor and get briefings 24/7 about any emerging events."

"So community please - if it isn't on Council Facebook page it is not verified and you shouldn't trust it - if you are in any doubt, check there first and last

and before you do or say anything.

"None of us knows what is going to happen next, there is no doubt things could take many twists and turns over coming months as this pandemic continues."

"We all need to be ready and keep working on changing our habits, which are the only thing that will keep us safe into the future."

"It's not just about staying apart from each other, but also washing your hands, over and over, and above all - stick to confirmed sources of truth, not the Palm Island whispers! ."

He said residents should be assured there were detailed plans in place for all sorts of scenarios.

"So when anything happens it could well be very fast," he said.

"But we've worked very hard and we're ready, and we want residents to be ready."

"We all need to listen to the information we know is fact-checked and accurate."

"That's the only way everyone can know exactly what is going on and what they should do if Covid-19 comes to Townsville or even Palm."

"Please remember, the Council's Facebook page is the way to go!"

## Tough budget set to bring necessary changes to Council

Finishing touches to what will be a 'tough' annual budget will be ongoing over the next week, Palm Island Council CEO Adele Young says.

"Council will consider this budget on time, at its July 30 meeting, following extensive preparations," she said.

"It's no secret Palm Council has had a very difficult 12 months."

"I expected the financial situation to be bad when I started as CEO in May."

"But over the past month or two I have found it to be even worse than I had anticipated."

"We are still digging to the bottom of exactly what needs to be addressed to make sure that on behalf of the Mayor and the new team we can turn our performance around and improve services and efficiency."

"I have to say it will be a very tough budget because we have to address the failures of the past and the challenges we now face."

"Simply put, we have been spending more than we earn and have subsequently been 'robbing Peter to pay Paul' - which has to stop."

"Major reform is required to bring the Council finances back to balance and correct the mistakes."

She said a report around what needed to be addressed was started by the financial controller last year.

"The work commenced last year by the financial controller certainly helped lay out the issues that

needed addressing - and I've found more," she said.

"We need to cut expenditure, waste and inefficiency, increase our revenue, build new and existing income streams and tackle unsustainable practices in our business."

"Many good ideas and reform suggestions have already been proposed by our hardworking staff."

"We have been given the task of building a sustainable foundation for Palm's future by the Mayor and Councillors and I'm confident we can do that together, but it won't be without hard decisions and difficult adjustments."

"These changes are well-overdue but we are left with no choice."

"Improving services and delivering for Palm Island residents, today and into the future is our focus."

"A lot of money has been spent - my job is to make sure moving ahead that money is spent strategically and well."

"Working with all stakeholders, local, state and federal governments, along with other organisations and our workforce, a much brighter future is achievable."

"July 30 is the budget meeting for Council and I look forward to presenting our new budget to council and the community for their consideration and implementation."

## New ferry due late in August

The new 'Coolgaree Cat', purpose-designed and -built for Palm Island operations, is nearly complete and ready to take the journey north from south-east Queensland later in August.

Council CEO Adele Young said Sealink has announced they were already back to full operating capacity.

"Over the past couple of weeks we have had occasions where the ferry has been full and some people have missed out, but generally speaking the ferry

is coping with the extra traffic back and forward to the Island," she said.

"Sealink said they were keen to remind passengers that due to the full loads coming and going they were still unable to carry unaccompanied freight."

"They said if too much

freight went on board they had to limit passengers if they exceeded their weight limit," she said. "They also said while the new Ferry will carry more people and more freight, including cold trolleys, the new freight limits would still apply - with no exceptions."

### Aboriginal Land Act 1991

#### Notice of Minister's Intention to Appoint Grantee

The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts intends to appoint:

##### Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 7002 as grantee of:

Part of lot 20 DP296959, part of lot 25 DP309114  
Lot 3, 22 DP292287, part of lot 212 DP292287

The proposed Grantee will hold the land for the native title holders of the land pursuant to section 39 of the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*.

##### Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ICN 7002 as grantee of:

Part of lot 20 DP296959, lot 96, 900 DP296959, part of lot 25 DP309114, lot 24 DP309114, lot 16 DP296966, lot 107 RP737399, lot 63 RP898391, lot 4, 5, 6 DP296955, lot 1, 2, 3 DP296954, lot 7 DP296956, lot 8, 9 DP296958, lot 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 DP296960, lot 92, 93, 94 DP309104, lot 81 DP309103, lot 18 DP309105, lot 15, 16, 18, 19, 20 DP309100, lot 2, 3 DP304070, lot 52, 53, 54, 55 DP309102, lot 48 DP309121, lot 1 DP304069, lot 4 DP288855  
Lot 1, 2 DP292287, part of lot 212 DP292287  
Lot 166 DP309118  
Lot 8 DP309123, lot 17, 18 DP309124, lot 41 DP309122

The proposed Grantee will hold the land in trust for the benefit of Aboriginal people particularly concerned with the land, their ancestors and descendants, pursuant to section 40 *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*.

A map of the proposed transfer area is available from the office listed below.

Written representations must be received by **5.00 pm on 31 July 2020** and may be made to:

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP - Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts  
C/- The Director, Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program  
Department of Environment and Science  
5B Sheridan Street, CAIRNS QLD 4870  
or PO Box 4597 CAIRNS QLD 4870

For further information, contact the Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program on (07) 4222 5185 during office hours.



Queensland Government

PN005005





## Careers with Queensland Health

### Trainee Health Worker or Generalist Health Worker (Identified)

Palm Island.

**Salary:** Generous remuneration package value up to \$67,023 p.a. comprising salary range of \$1979.10 to \$2251.60 p.f. (002/003), 17.5% leave loading, 12.75 % employer contribution to superannuation. Other employment benefits may include: professional development, salary sacrificing options, shift and locality allowances, corporate discounts, wellness programs and the EAP.

- For permanent appointment at 003 level, Certificate III (mandatory) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care, Alcohol and Other Drugs or Mental Health
- For temporary appointment at 002 level, persons not holding the mandatory certificate will be appointed in a temporary capacity as a Trainee Health Worker and will be required to enrol and complete the Certificate III within 18 months of commencement. Once the qualification is obtained the applicant will be upgraded to permanent 003 status

As directed by the Coordinator, Cultural Assessment and Liaison Team and in consultation with the Palm Island Community Mental Health Team Leader participate in the delivery of mental health care services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to ensure services received are considerate of the cultural needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people accessing the Palm Island Community Mental Health Team. 2 positions are available. Please note applicants are required to reside on Palm Island. Under s25 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991, there is a genuine occupational requirement for the incumbent to be Indigenous to the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community.

**Contact Details:** Lynette Anderson

**Job Ad Reference:** TV3482559

**How to Apply:** <https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-TV348259>

REC000603

**You can apply online at [www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au](http://www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au)**

A criminal history check may be conducted on the recommended person for the job.  
A non-smoking policy applies to Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles.



**Current Vacancy (Ref: TV348224)**

### Manager Operational Services

Joyce Palmer Health Service – PALM ISLAND

**Status:** Permanent full-time

**Salary:** OO4, \$2337.40 to \$2563.20 per fortnight (full-time)

**This position will:**

- Coordinate hotel services within Joyce Palmer Health Service and PIPHSC ensuring standards of excellence are met e.g. Food Safety Standards and Infection Control Cleaning standards. Hotel Services comprise catering, laundry, general cleaning, ward portage, patient and staff transportation grounds and maintenance. The role also supports the systems for bulk stores, equipment servicing and maintenance.

**Is this the opportunity for you?**

- Knowledge and experience of hotel and/or operational services including commercial catering, cleaning, laundry and grounds, and the ability to deliver high quality services
- Ability to acquire knowledge of operational stock control and facility/equipment maintenance systems.
- Well developed management skills and knowledge and understanding of the development and implementation of policies and procedures including workplace health and safety
- High level communication skills and human resources skills.

**Applications close:** Monday 3 August 2020

**Enquiries to:** Judith Townsend-Stahre 07 4787 5121

**Submit your application ONLINE:**

<https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-TV348224>



## Vale Erykah Kyle 8 October 1937 - 27 July 2019

Twelve months have passed since you left us and with tears of sorrow, we cry each day, in angels arms you were carried away. Our memories of love and laughter shall not fade, for in our hearts you will always stay. Miss you mum, love your family.



# OUR NEXT DEADLINE (Issue 305) will be Thursday 23 July for publication on Thursday 30 July!

The **Palm Island Voice** is published fortnightly by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by Christine Howes. Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor. You can follow us on Facebook, we have 2,613 'likes'!

The **Palm Island Voice** accepts paid advertising. For rates and/or more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)

The **Palm Island Voice** is free and online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

**Operating Hours for Palm Island 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 3,958 'likes' on Facebook!!!**



The Palm Island Voice is free & online at [www.chowes.com.au/newsletters/palmisland](http://www.chowes.com.au/newsletters/palmisland)