

A Message from the Mayor

2009 been a big year for the Council, as much as it has been for the community.

The Mayor, Council and Staff would like to take this opportunity in the *Palm Island Voice* to wish all Palm Island families a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Christmas is a time when we need to come together as a community and show our true communal spirit – the caring and sharing sides of ourselves without the outside baggage which is imposed on us all the time.

Love your families, respect your elders, look after your children and come into 2010 with strength and hope for a brighter future for us all.

Celebrating the year at Speech Night



Above is Ashton Kerr, Jada Kerr, Miriam Palmer and Jaisharee Noble worked hard in school and in practice for this year's Bwgc Colman School speech night. They were some of the many performers on the night who practised for months beforehand (and some with a little outside professional help and support as well!).

State-wide recognition won for excellence in construction training

Albert Gorringer has won state-wide recognition for his work with Coolgaree CDEP at this year's Construction Skills Queensland (CSQ) Training Excellence Awards.

Winners were announced during a sold-out Gala Dinner at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre late last month.

Mr Gorringer jointly won the award for Construction Indigenous Person

of the Year with William Monaei from Laing O'Rourke Australia Connection.

The Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of construction students, trainers, workers and employers in the building and construction industry. CSQ Chief Executive Officer Brett Shimming said record nominations were received this year.

Continued p 2...

'Flying the flag' for Coolgaree & Palm

...From p 1...

"The judging panel was faced with an extremely difficult job in the lead up to the event, having to choose just 13 category winners from so many excellent nominations," he said.

CSQ Indigenous Engagement Manager for north Queensland Noel Gertz said it was a big night for Albert.

"He and his wife Ruth were seated at a VIP table in the front row with former Origin great Sam Backo and over 1,000 Construction Industry participants," he said. Coolgaree CDEP CEO Roy Prior congratulated Albert for 'flying the flag' for the organisation.



QBuild Construction Indigenous Persons of the Year, joint winners Albert Gorrige & William Monaei with Keith Eaton from QBuild (centre)

Icing on the cake!



As reported in Issue 48 of the *Palm Island Voice*, not only did the Palm Island Shire Council achieve an unqualified audit for this past financial year, but they were also the first Indigenous Shire Council to complete their audit on time. **Well done to Councillors and staff for their hard work!!!**

Ambos commended nationally for stingers program



Palm Island Ambo Ian Day, Assistant Commissioner Rodney Walz & former Palm, now Horn Island Ambo David Kain

Palm Island Ambulance Service's stinger program has won "Highly Commended" in this year's national 2009 Australian Safer Communities Awards.

Ambo Ian Day said the Award ceremony was a "great" experience.

"I was very proud to represent Palm Island in Canberra at the Old Parliament House," he said.

"I was able to do some great networking and there's a good chance that our program here will go national and internationally."



Last week parents were invited to the Bwgcolman school to watch and share an island style lunch of kupp murri meat and vegies etc and see student dancers practice for the end-of-year concert.

Pic by Tammy Anderson.

Stolen wages motions carried at ALP regional conferences

The Australian Labor Party held its regional conferences across Queensland over September and October this year. The QCU and its affiliates tabled a motion requesting the government comply with ALP policy on reparations for wages and savings. In particular, it asked for the government to:

- re-open the original claims process;
- adopt a fairer and more reasonable approach to evidence required for a claim; and
- redistribute the remaining funds to the stolen wages claimants.

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

1. Register your protest at the Queensland Government's handling of the stolen wages issue by logging onto the QCU website (www.qcu.asn.au) and completing the petition.
2. Yarn it up! Keep talking to people about this issue. Most people don't know the history of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander workers in Queensland – let people know what happened and how important this is.
3. Ask family, friends and community to join the stolen wages mailing list, so they can be informed about the campaign.
4. Be part of the bumper sticker drive - contact the QCU on 3846 2368 for your "It's Time to Settle" bumper sticker.

Call for development over welfare in federal Cabinet meeting

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey addressed a federal Community Cabinet meeting in Townsville last week, reports ABC North Queensland.

The ABC said Mayor Lacey was applauded at the meeting when he asked the Government to concentrate on Indigenous development, rather than welfare.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd addressed the public forum which was attended by about 200 people.

Mr Lacey called for an end to welfare dependency.

"The other thing we'd like to see your Government endorse is also to support Indigenous communities in Queensland around proper economic development rather than to continue at the welfare cheques," he said.

"Because we don't want the welfare cheques, we want jobs and we want an economically clean community for Queensland."

The report said Mr Lacey also urged the Prime Minister to ensure Indigenous reform in Queensland was not a repeat of the Northern Territory intervention.

He said it was vital the Government understood that when it came to Indigenous assistance, one size did not fit all.

"Your Government is investing a lot in terms of social housing dollars for discreet Indigenous communities in Queensland," he said.

"One of the things that we don't want in Townsville is a Northern Territory debacle that we've seen happen in the Northern Territory with no expenditure of capital grants on the ground."

Source: <http://www.abc.net/news>

'Dramatic' results from Accelerated Literacy training
Two Bwgcolman students - Fred Ross and Isaac-Berry Geia – have dramatically improved their reading and writing skills over the period they have been involved in Accelerated Literacy Trials says specialist teacher James Ward.

The trials were reported in the *Palm Island Voice* Issue 46, in early November (right).

Mr Ward said Isaac moved up one level and Fred two levels in terms of writing Bandscales.

Both students also showed improvement in their reading skills.

"The most obvious improvement appears to be in the increased ability by both students, particularly Fred Ross, in the use of language and complexity of 'narrative' in independent writing," he said.

"Both these students reveal a quite dramatic improvement in their independent writing skills.

"The main thing that interested me is that these improvements normally take a full year but these students only had two months on this program."

Literacy teaching trial shows good early results

A new reading and writing teaching method called Accelerated Literacy is being trialled at your own Bwgcolman School this term, with some good early results.

Already one year 6 student, Fred Ross, is now writing a full page of story telling – just four weeks ago he could barely write a paragraph.

The new method has been adopted by most remote schools in the Northern Territory over the past two years.

It is a powerful set of strategies, developed by Professor Brian Gray of the Charles Darwin University, designed to teach kids who have "missed the boat" in terms of learning to read and write.

With Accelerated Literacy they can to catch up quickly and develop the skills required for them to read and write like other children of their age.

Accelerated Literacy involves going beyond older literacy teaching systems, it's about actually getting behind the story and linking it at different levels to the bigger story behind the book or whatever it is they're trying to learn from.

Teachers use specific language teaching strategies and do a number of repetitive activities every day with spelling and assisted writing.

These include "transformations" in which small sections of text are taken apart and put back together with the author's intentions being clearly spelt out, and "chunking" which is a new approach to teaching spelling.



"Scaffolding" is also used widely in all the processes, and that's a carefully guided system of providing help for students as they go.

Students in the Northern Territory have had brilliant successes with this teaching method.

At present Bwgcolman is running the trial to assess whether the system works with our kids who haven't yet mastered reading and writing skills, along with children in the lower grades who have been finding learning to read and write very challenging.

School Head of Curriculum Joe Istria is overseeing the "test run" on a day-to-day basis and is hopeful the children selected for the trial will show it is an ideal literacy training program to run for the whole school next year.

Kim Luke and James Ward are the teachers running the day to day teaching for three trial groups from Years 6/7 and 3/4.



5

Tips for fishing and boating this festive season from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

If you're heading out on the water this festive season, don't forget to take care when you're in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to ensure you have a great time out on the water:

- Bring your rubbish, including fishing line and bait bags, and any litter you find back to the Island
- Take only what you need and abide by possession and size limits set by Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries
- Return all undersized or unwanted fish to the water carefully and quickly
- Anchor in sand or mud away from corals
- Be on the lookout for marine animals and travel slowly in areas where they are known to be present
- Ensure your boat engine is in good condition and your boat is equipped with appropriate safety gear.

Comment sought for new housing plans

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey

I just wanted to let the community know that Council has been able to get repair and maintenance money from the state government to the tune of \$7.5 million for housing maintenance for the 09/10 financial year.

That will see an upgrade of an estimated 146 existing properties.

Also, the Department has officers working on Palm at the moment signing tenants up to the new housing management agreements.

The housing officers are working door-to-door to sign residents up to the new system which came about because of the Mal Brough agreement.

The new tenancy management arrangements were, amongst other things, one of the conditions for accepting \$40 million worth of new housing signed up for by the

previous Council.

Response from community members so far has been pretty good and people are responding well, so we'd just like to thank the community for their support around that.

Residents who have concerns or who would like more information should contact the Council's housing department.

Plans for a new subdivision and new houses for that are being built out of that \$40 million will be on the table within the next few weeks, so Council is anxious to have community feedback about that when it happens.

There are a lot of our families who don't have homes at the moment.

So we ask that you have a look at the plans that are going to be put at the front of the council office and that all community members try to have some input.

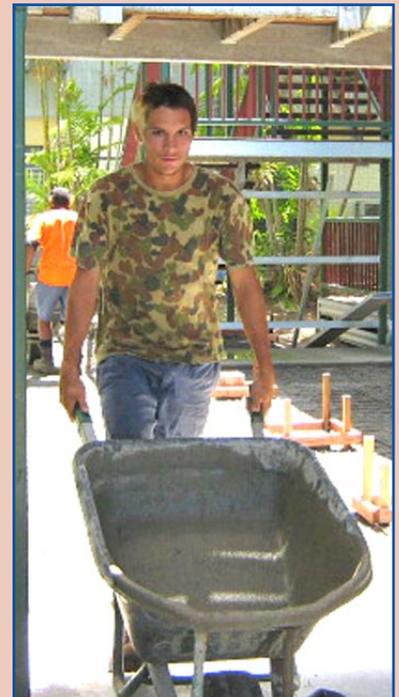
Housing is a big issue on Palm and we want to see all of our people housed, particularly young people and young families.

Our focus for 2010 will be to ensure that some of our younger families in the community and younger people who don't have accommodation will be given some priority within these new arrangements.



QBuild trainees have been hard at work setting up and pouring concrete at the Nurses Quarters.

Pictured left is Ingai Geia and Billo Wotton getting ready to pour. On the right is Austin Walsh with his trusty wheelbarrow.



Many of you will have seen the article in the mainstream media recently in relation to claims made against me.

This matter has been going on for some time and could come to court at some stage in the future. I don't intend to get involved in a slanging match about it but I do take particular offence at the allegation that I am all about arrests and traffic tickets. That is not my approach at all and I don't think people would believe it is. I am also a big supporter of the PCYC and the role it plays here. Unfortunately as police we do have to arrest people at times and in any community there are always people that do the wrong thing. I think the police here and particularly the police here during the 2005 – 2006 period have been very fair and tolerant. It has been my experience on Palm that local people are aware when they have done the wrong thing, they are usually honest about it and get it sorted out fairly quickly. We don't go around charging people because we feel like it, usually it is because another Palm Island person has complained to us about something and we investigate those complaints. It is imperative we

protect the women and children in our community. As far as traffic tickets go you only have to look outside to see that we are very tolerant with our policing on traffic matters.

I am aware that the single biggest obstacle to Police - Community Relations is the policing of the Alcohol Management Plan. Unfortunately we are stuck with that at this stage but the positive side is that I think we would all agree Palm is a less violent place now than a few years ago. I am hoping that people will do the right thing when the Canteen opens and we should all be working towards a future when Palm is not much different to any mainstream community where our kids have the same opportunities and potential as anyone else.

It is easy to get in the paper and make statements because the media will seize on anything negative to do with the police or Palm Island. I am happy to leave it for court where his claims can be presented and reviewed in a proper manner.

Thanks for your support and all the best over Christmas and the New Year.

Snr Sgt Paul James

... OUT & ABOUT ON PALM ISLAND ...



ENJOYING the mall and a bit of shopping today were Veronica (Bonnie) Noble (left) and Dave & Joyce Tapp (above). Stay tuned to the *Palm Island Voice* in 2010 for more '...Out & About on Palm Island...' pics - you could be next!!! And a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you all! ;)



Palm turns up in droves at Townsville Job Expo



Palm Island people turned up in big numbers at Centrelink's Jobs Expo in Townsville last Tuesday.

It was a one-stop jobs supermarket with an estimated 5,000 job seekers turning up to check out 80 exhibitors offering potential careers or employment.

North Queensland's favourite fisherman, television personality Scott Hillier, was the official ambassador for the Centrelink event. Rugby League immortal and Queensland legend, Artie Beetson, was also due to attend but fell ill on the day.

Job seekers were encouraged to bring along a current one page resume, talk to prospective employers and take advantage of the many activities organised on the day.

Palm Island Voice roving reporter Alf Wilson was there and talked to scores of Palm Islanders, some of whom had come from their home on special flights.

John Burns, Reggie Lawrence, Leon Watson, Reg Barry and Christian Walsh (*pictured below left*) arrived together.



"We are all looking for jobs in the mining industries," Reg said.

Another Palm Island group from Job Futures (*pictured above*) were also there.

Well-known Islander Rio Walsh was seen yarning to a soldier on the Army exhibit while Nancy Haines (*pictured centre*) was checking out an exhibit in the packed Arts Centre.

Nancy said she was keen to get work as a concreter.

Story & Pics: Alf Wilson

DIABETES EXPO on Palm Island



world diabetes day

Last Thursday Palm Island celebrated World Diabetes Day.

The main aim of the day was to raise awareness of Diabetes in particular highlighting risk factors for the disease.

It also focused on prevention and education. The event was run by the enthusiastic Joyce Palmer Health Service community health workers and nurses, with staff also flying over to lend a hand for the day from Townsville Aboriginal & Islander Health Service and the Townsville Diabetes and Renal Units.

It was a great day with plenty of information on Diabetes and how people can reduce their risk of developing the disease.

Available information included materials on all aspects of healthy living such as healthy tucker, exercise, foot care etc.

Healthworker Owen Creed said even if diabetes was in your family the risk could still be reduced.

"Even if Diabetes is in your family just by doing a few simple things you can greatly reduce your risk of the disease," he said.

"Just exercising half an hour every day may reduce your risk by up to 40 per cent."

There were also prizes given away to participants answering a short quiz on diabetes.



Congratulations to the following winners for their correct entries:

Food Hampers

Pia Castors, Irene Thompson

Kitchen Hampers

Paula Watson, Sue Foster, Irene Watson Snr, Gracie Miller, Robert Thompson

Also on the day, residents were able to have a foot check.

Feet were also measured in a bid to correctly size for orthotic shoes and sandals that were given away.

It was important to get the message out about looking after feet but particularly if you have diabetes. 'Foot packs' were given away as well.

Many thanks to Jason Warnock (podiatrist) who organised with the company to donate the shoes.

Risk Factors of Diabetes



- Family History
- Overweight
- Lack of exercise
- Unhealthy diet



Bwngcolman School Speech Night 2009

Warning Signs of Diabetes



-  Weight loss
-  Lack of energy
-  Very thirsty
-  Needing to wee alot

Renal Nurse Tina Katsanevas said diabetes was also the number one cause of kidney disease in Australia.

"If you can reduce the number of people who get diabetes you can also reduce the number of people that will need to be on dialysis," she said.

In all, a great day was had out of the office and in the sun promoting health on beautiful

Palm Island.

There were many organisations and individuals that made the event possible.

They included the Palm Island Council, CDEP, PCYC, JPHS, QAS, Orthoheel, Amgen, Jansen Cilag, Eulactol, Johnson & Johnson, Splendour, Phizer.

Many thanks to all those who supported the Palm Island World Diabetes Day Expo.

Reduce your risk of Diabetes

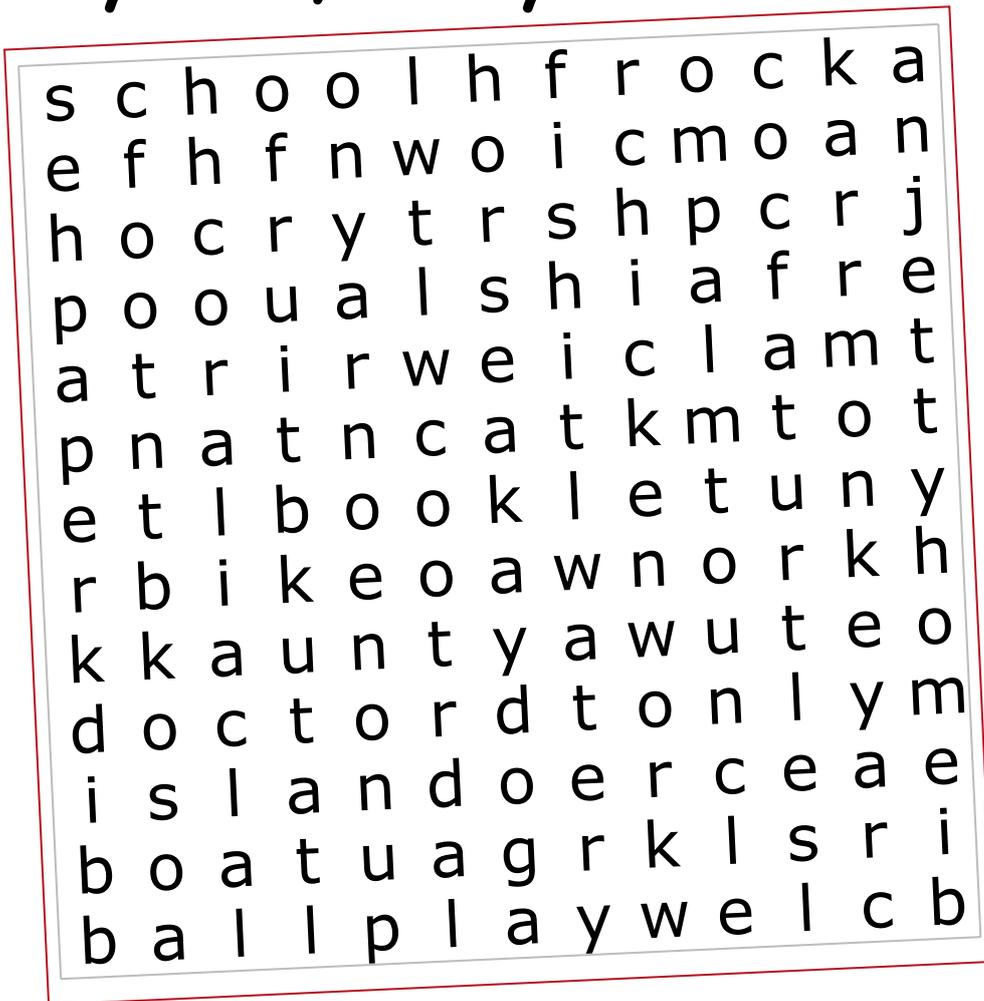


- Exercise
- Eat healthy
- Don't smoke
- Lose weight

Have you had your sugar checked lately? Go and see your GP!

Holiday Puzzles

Hey kids, can you find all the words??!!!



- | | |
|---------|--------|
| dog | jetty |
| cat | uncle |
| turtle | aunty |
| monkey | coral |
| palm | doctor |
| island | yarn |
| fish | water |
| chicken | book |
| horse | home |
| bike | work |
| school | fruit |
| boat | play |
| foot | paper |
| ball | rock |

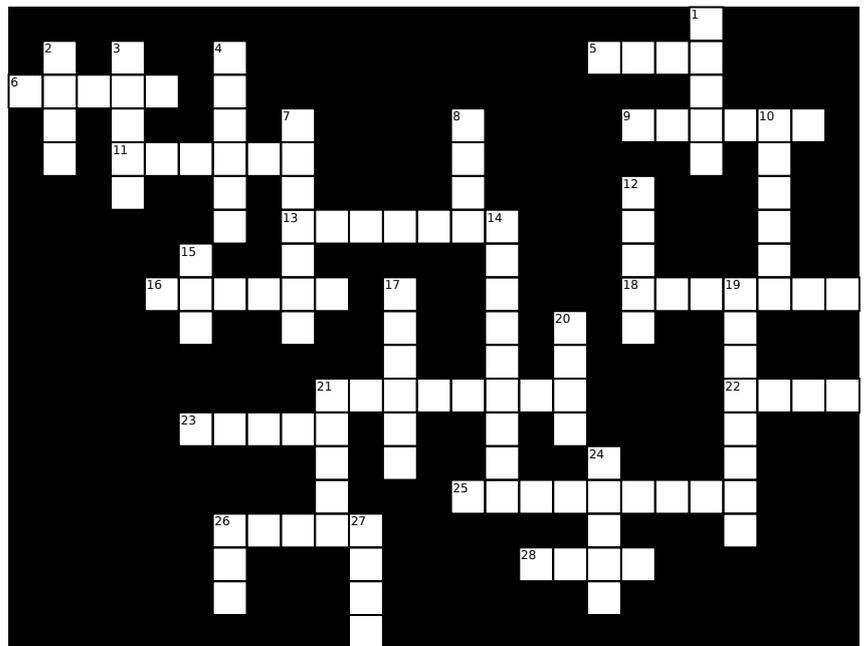
Thanks again to David Goeldner & the puzzle makers @ <http://www.armoredpenguin.com>
ANSWERS P 14 (no cheats!)

Across

5. King of the jungle
6. The reefs are made up of this
9. They wear blue uniforms and help with community problems
11. I got sick and went to see this person
13. Lots of feathers and the eggs taste good
16. Very cheeky and loves to climb trees
18. School would not be school without this important person
21. A game of running, passing and kicking
22. It's okay to do this after working all day
23. We all need to drink plenty of this
25. Big teeth with an evil grin, be careful with one of these
26. The ferry comes in here
28. Catch these for dinner

Down

1. Older male member of my family
2. A motor makes this go faster
3. There are 52 of these in each pack
4. Lives in the sea and lays eggs
7. Bat, ball and wickets, it must be _____!
8. There's no place like _____!
10. Where people go to pray and give thanks
12. Jolly old man with a beard and red coat
14. Tells me what's happening with written words and pictures
15. This is a good pet



17. It's holiday time - not going back here till next year
19. Found in schools and offices and used for the internet
20. Type of tree
21. Contains vitamins and is very juicy
24. Wear your helmet when you ride one of these
26. Another name for work
27. Lots of talk and a good story or two

Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices

IMPORTANT: Swine Flu vaccs for kids available on Thursday 17 Dec

Panvax H1N1 Vaccine (Swine Flu) is now available for children over 6 months of age. It helps prevent "the Swine Flu" influenza. This vaccine works by causing your body to produce its own protection (antibodies) against the Swine Flu virus. These antibodies may help your immune system to destroy the virus if you later come into contact with it. Overseas visitors are increasing for our summer and some may be infected with this flu strain therefore it is important that our children are immunised.

How Many Doses Are Required For Children?

Children aged 6-35 months: 2 doses, 28 days apart

Children aged 3 years to 9 years: 2 doses, 28 days apart

Children over 10 years and Adults: One dose only.

Where can you have your child immunised.?

See Aggie at Child Health and your child will be immunised.

Vaccinations should be available on Palm Island as from Thursday 17th December, 2009.

The vaccine is FREE

BE WISE..... BE IMMUNISED

\$500 REWARD

For information regarding the vandalism/burning of a white Mitsubishi Van at the LLC camp in the early hours of 03/12/2009. Ph 0400 834 008.

JOYCE PALMER HEALTH SERVICE

The community is please asked to note that the community health team will **not** be available between the 24th December and 4th January.

The Emergency Department will be operating over the Christmas and New Year period.

Stingers Suits still Available!

Our 2nd stinger casualty for the season occurred last week at Butler Bay. We have now sold out of size 2 – 4 for little ones but we still have plenty of stinger suits in all other sizes - get in before Xmas!!



PALM ISLAND
BARGE SERVICES

REGULAR SCHEDULED SERVICES TO PALM ISLAND VIA TOWNSVILLE, & IF REQUIRED SERVICES FROM LUCINDA OR TO & FROM ANY COASTAL LOCATION.

- *Freezer & Chiller
- *Bulk Materials (fuel, water, aggregates)
- *Loader & Skip bin hire available on Palm Island
- *Secured Lockable storage on Palm Island & Townsville
- *waste removal on Palm Island
- *Building materials
- *Guaranteed 2 weekly trips to Palm Island
- *30 metre / 100 Tonne vessel
- *General Freight

Ph: 07 4796 9200 Fax: 07 4796 9222 After Hours: 0419 749 714
310 Boundary Street Sth Townsville, PO Box 2236 Townsville Qld 4810
E: pibs@riversidemarine.com.au

Cyclone Clean Up

It's that time of year again, Cyclonic winds are very dangerous, it can pick up just about anything that you might have lying around in your yard and turn them into missiles and cause serious harm. So don't wait until after clean up your yard now.

The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council will commence their annual cyclone clean up, starting Monday 7th December 2009.

If you have anything lying around your place please put it all at the front of your yard; council workers will collect and dispose of it.

Some of the items collected in the past are:

Refrigerators, Roofing irons + timber, Beds, Bikes ect:

If you have old CARS please let council know & they will be collected

TOP END MANGO AVENUE FARM / CHOOK CITY	MONDAY 7 TH DEC TO FRIDAY 11 TH DEC
BOTTOM END BUTLER BAY / RESERVOIR RIDGE	MONDAY 14 TH DEC FRIDAY 18 TH DEC

If you miss these dates put your rubbish out anytime.

PIASC

Palm Island Voice

Seeing things around the community you think should be in the *Palm Island Voice*?

Heard about something you want to read more about in your newsletter?

Think you might have a knack for talking to people and taking pictures yourself?

So why don't you tell us about it??!!! It's easy, all you have to do is have a yarn to Tim or Christine to find out how you can contribute to your community voice on Palm Island.

See our contact details on the back page and give us a yell soon for more information.

Rubbish Truck Roster X Mas Break

Monday 21st Top end Mango Bottom end	Tuesday 22 nd Farm Area Chook City	Wednesday 23 rd Reservoir B/bay Pub	Thursday 24 th Store areas	Friday 25 th X-Mas	Saturday	Sunday
Monday 28 th Top end Mango Ave	Tuesday 29 th Chook City Farm	Wednesday 30 th Bottom end Stores	Thursday 31 st Reservoir Ridge B/bay	Friday 1 st New Years Day	Saturday 2 nd	Sunday 3 rd



LAURIE LINDNER
CONSTRUCTIONS

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*Laurie Lindner Constructions would like
to thank everyone for their support
this year and wishes all
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Palm Island Voice

PI Voice SUBSCRIPTIONS for non-Palm Island residents are now:
PDF file format (up to 7mb) - \$15 from now until the end of June 2010
- posted by the Thursday after publication.
Hard copy format (postage included) - \$30 from now until the end of June
2010 - posted by the Thursday after publication.
Please make your cheques/postal orders payable to:
Palm Island Aboriginal Council OR via direct deposit to PIAC:
c/ Palm Island Post Office BSB 064817 A/C No. 00092534
Palm Island Q 4816 Ref PIV0910 (important!)

Palm Island residents and community organisations, contributors, paid
advertisers and some media outlets are free in PDF format. To be included
on the email list for PDF copy please write and/or send proof of payment
to: The Editor, Christine Howes, at: chowes@westnet.com.au

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(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication)

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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 for details).**

DAY & DAY
SHIPPING

Palm Island Service Schedule "MV OLYMPIC"

Monday

Depart Lucinda: 7.30 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10.15 am
Depart Palm Is: 11.30 am
Arrive Lucinda: 2.00 pm

Tuesday

Depart Lucinda: 9.00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 11.45 am
Depart Palm Is: 2:00 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 4:30 pm

Wednesday

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.30 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 3:00 pm

Thursday*

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.30 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 3:00 pm
**Thursday departure from
Palm Island is subject to
change. Please call on the
day to confirm time.**

Friday

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.00 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 2:30 pm

Please note that loading of the
barge commences 60 mins
prior to departure time.
Scheduled departure and
arrival times should be
checked at time of booking.

**For all bookings please
contact our office on
(07) 4776 5055**

DAY & DAY
SHIPPING

Teams line up for Daisy carnival in February

Three Palm Island teams are expected to compete at the Vern and Frank Daisy rugby league carnival to be held at the Townsville Sports Reserve on 13th and 14th February in 2010.

The carnival is named in honour of legendary North Queensland footballers Vern (pictured below at last year's carnival) and Frank Daisy. Carnival organiser Obe Geia (pictured right) said the third Daisy brothers carnival would be a truly State-wide affair and he expects teams from as far south as Brisbane, west of Mount Isa, and north to Cape York, the NPA and TSI.



"The more teams the merrier and I really want to target sides from Cape York, the NPA and Torres Strait which have proved they are very competitive and it looks sure that three Palm teams



will be there and they will be strong," Mr Geia said. Already sides from Brisbane, Cherbourg, Woorabinda, Bowen, Mackay, Rockhampton, Mount Isa, Cairns and Yarrabah have indicated they would nominate for the Carnival.

Defending champion team Mackay Stallions will be there to try and make it two in a row after also winning the Bindal Sharks United carnival in Townsville during October.

Mackay Stallions scored a handsome 56-4 win over the Western Warriors in the last Daisy Cup grand final

held at the Townsville Sports Reserve on October 18 and 19 in 2008.

The 2009 Daisy Cup had been planned for October but was postponed due to a glut of such carnivals around North Queensland at the same time.

"I think this will be one of the biggest Allblacks carnivals in Queensland for a long time," Mr (Obe) Geia said.

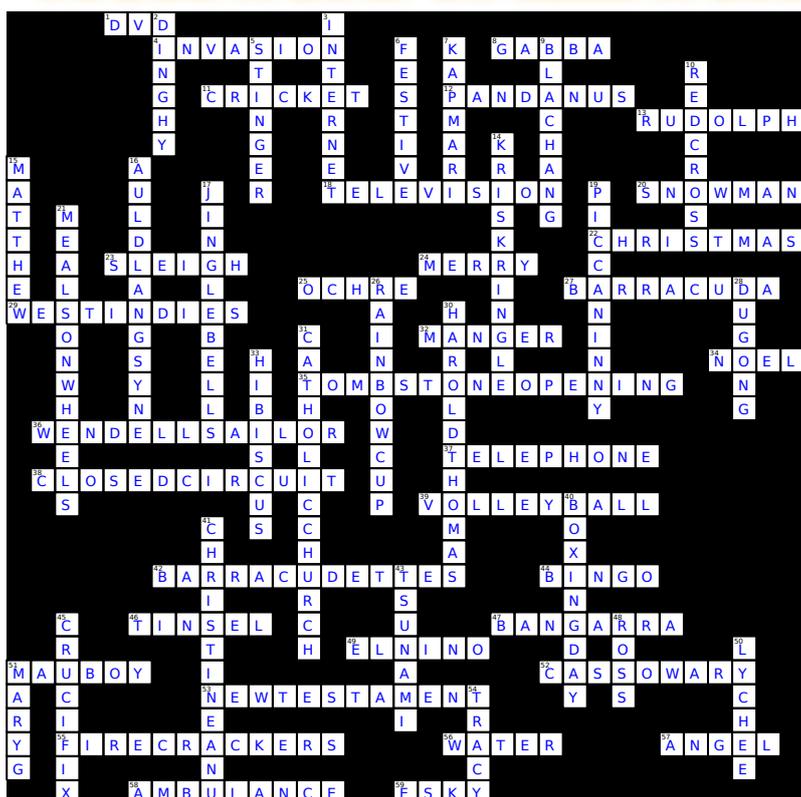
The Daisy Cup will prove an ideal way for players to get some valuable practice and fitness for their respective domestic seasons whilst competing for a big purse which will be determined by the final number of teams.

In addition there will be the Rockhampton Allblacks carnival over the January Australia Day weekend and another in Mount Isa soon after the Daisy Cup.

Ladies teams will also play at the Daisy Cup, for team nomination or any enquiries Mr Geia can be contacted on 0423 058 503.

Story & Pics by Alf Wilson

Palm Island Voice Crossword 48 Answers





Above: Bwgcolman School students practising for their end of year concert

Star shows potential to 'go all the way'

Palm Island has a new rising rugby league star in William Blackman who has the potential to achieve great heights in the sport.

The 17-year-old William proved that at recent games in Cardwell against the local Girringun Pirates.

In the under 17 match won 44-20 by the Palm Island Barracudas over the Pirates,

William shone, scoring a try and being named best back of the game. Despite his young age, William then backed up for the Palm Island Jets which lost the A grade game 48-40 to the Pirates. Such was his outstanding form that William was named player of the tournament.

On the day QRL Cairns-based Development Officer Peter

Narducci told the *Palm Island Voice* he had heard about William's form and was highly impressed. A renowned talent scout, Narducci is sure to mention William's name in the right places.

With natural improvement and the right coaching there is little doubt that William may follow Obe Geia Jnr and end up being signed with an NRL club.



William Blackman, left, with under-17 team-mates Robert Bulse & David Sam

Story & Pic:
Alf Wilson

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE **Palm Island Voice**

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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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DEADLINE **PUBLICATION DATE**

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!!!

Thursday 4 February 2010	Tuesday 9 February 2010
Thursday 18 February 2010	Tuesday 23 February 2010
Thursday 4 March 2010	Tuesday 9 March 2010