



Palm Island Voice



Your community

Your newspaper

Issue 5.
12 October 2007



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Reclaiming Seafaring Heritage

The recent visit from *Tribal Warrior* rekindled memories of the Palm Island community's maritime past, and spoke to the future.

Allen Palm Island gave the welcome to country to *Tribal Warrior* and her crew. Later, as one of the trainees about to set sail, he spoke of his father's legacy as a mariner.

Mayor Delena Foster addressed the people who had gathered to welcome the vessel and her crew, and to wish the Palm Island men who were joining her a safe passage.

Mayor Foster reminded those who had

gathered that Palm Islanders had a tradition of being sea captains, bosuns and shipwrights.

Con Kittos, CEO of JobFind Centres, who initiated the current *Tribal Warrior* Indigenous training program, spoke of his desire to help Palm Islanders reclaim their seafaring heritage.

He said it was his heartfelt dream to see Palm Islanders actively engaged as providers of maritime services to their community.

As a self funding Indigenous enterprise *Tribal Warrior* provides an inspiration to do just that.

BREAKING NEWS: COUNCIL SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH FEDERAL MINISTER BROUGH

See Pages 8 & 9 for information

Readers are advised this publication may contain the names and images of people who have passed away.



New Service Benefits Store & Community



Wesley Day, from Day & Day Shipping, unloading the first delivery from the refrigerated truck, which is part of the new freight service to the Palm Island Retail Store.

Palm Island Retail Store has entered into new freight arrangements with Day & Day Shipping, which will benefit the whole community.

The new arrangements mean there are more options available to the Store for the delivery of fresh fruit and vegetables, frozen and refrigerated goods, as well as dry goods.

Reg, Manager of the Palm Island Retail Store, said the good thing about the new service was that fresh fruit and vegetables would be available in the store at the start of the week on Mondays.

Also the five day service offered by Day & Day meant that he could arrange special or next day deliveries if he needed to. This means that if an item is sold out, it could be restocked the next day.

Bernice Day, from Day & Day Shipping said her company was excited and pleased to be able to deliver this new service to the Store. She believed the use of the refrigerated truck, from the Barge to the Store, with more frequent services meant fresh food could be delivered more regularly and this would benefit the entire community.

DEAD CROCODILE FOUND Take care when kids near water

Palm Island police were recently called to the Jetty Beach to deal with a dead crocodile.

A crab pot with the carcass inside had been either washed up, or left on the beach near where children were swimming and playing.

The police removed the pot and carcass to dispose of them safely and reduce the risk of harm to the kids nearby.

It has been reported the crab pot was actually found in Francis Creek.

The dead crocodile was approximately 1m in length. But there was evidence of a larger crocodile in the area.

So, parents please take care and keep an eye on your kids and pets when at the beach or near the mangroves.



Put Your Business Here

Advertising space is available to all businesses, organisations and individuals who have an interest in promoting services and events to members of the Palm Island community.

Display Advertising Costs (including GST)

Full page	\$440
Half page	\$231
Quarter page	\$121
Eighth page	\$66
Sixteenth	\$44
Inserts	\$660

Discounts available for multiple bookings

Contact Catherine Lawler or Alfred Clay
for further information
Telephone 07 4770 0215 or 4770 1177
Fax 07 4770 1305
email: editor@piac.com.au

**Advertise in *Palm Island Voice*
and support the community
that supports you!**

Three Important Issues Covered at Future Directions Meeting

Over 100 community members attended the Future Directions meeting on Tuesday 25 September, where three issues were discussed.

Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement (LIPA)

The draft Local Indigenous Partnership Agreement was discussed and the process explained.

The agreement would be signed by Council, Government and Chairs of Community Groups – everyone would have a role to participate in addressing issues on Palm Island.

Daniel Romaine from the Government Coordination Centre is available to speak to people about this agreement – his office is in the old kindy building.

Alcohol Policy Review

Eddie Hollingsworth and Nicole Downing from Dept of Communities Alcohol Review Team in Brisbane were on Palm Island to ask the question “how can government work with the community to do things better” as far as programs and interventions around alcohol services. Eddie said there is a trend indicating that more work needs to be done in the area of Early Childhood – particularly about drug and alcohol education. There was much discussion about truancy, and parenting responsibilities.

Reparations known as “Stolen Wages”

The following information was given on “HAVE YOUR SAY” about the options for the use of the remaining funds from the Indigenous Wages and Savings Reparations.

In 2002 the Qld Government made available \$55.4 million for individual payments of \$4000 and \$2000 for eligible applicants. At the end of the process \$35.87 million remains unspent

The two possible options for the allocation of the unspent reparations funds,

OPTION 1 – that the full balance (\$35.87 million) be distributed to the successful claimants. So claimants that received \$4000 would get an extra \$7346 and claimants that received \$2000 would get an extra \$3673.

OPTION 2 – To pay all successful applicants an extra \$3000 and the balance placed in an Indigenous – controlled foundation to benefit Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples, particularly those directly or indirectly affected by controls over wages and savings.

Cards were distributed on which people could choose which option they wanted – this information will inform government decision process

A report will be handed to the Minister Lindy Nelson-Carr (new Minister for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) by end of October and then a final decision will be made in the November and an announcement would be made as to when the money will be distributed. It is hoped that if all decisions are made in that time frame this could happen in early 2008.

Alf Lacey is the Stolen Wages Working Group Representative for Palm Island.

For further information call **1800 809 097**

Story from Department of Communities

There was strong encouragement from community members to tell others to attend these meetings and have their say about issues here on Palm Island.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMISSION QUEENSLAND

INVITATION

To all Palm Islanders

Discrimination Law Training

Tuesday 23 October 2007

1.00pm – 3.00pm
PCYC Palm Island

(No cost, afternoon tea provided)

- **DISCRIMINATION** (race, age, etc)
- **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**
- **VILIFICATION**

RSVP by 18 October
1300 130 670

Tribal Warrior Pioneer of Indigenous Enterprise



Tribal Warrior tied up alongside the Palm Island Jetty .

The *Tribal Warrior* is former pearling lugger, from the Torres Strait.

Originally named *Mina* she is more than 100 years old. She is possibly the oldest working boat in Australia and has never been out of service.

In 2003 the *Tribal Warrior* completed a 648-day circumnavigation of Australia during which she visited every major Australian Aboriginal Community around the nation, and encourage coastal and river communities to re-establish and strengthen their ties with the water, both for work and recreation.”

The voyage of reconciliation marked the first circumnavigation of Australia by an Australian Abo-



Allen Palm Island carved the Carpet Snake Totem on the *Tribal Warrior's* taff rail

original vessel, crewed by First Australian mariners. Elders from the many communities she visited carved and painted in Aboriginal motifs on her masts, spars and taff-rails.

On her visit to Palm, Allen Palm Island carved the Carpet Snake Totem on the *Tribal Warrior's* taff rail

Reference: <http://www.tribalwarrior.org/voyage.html>

TEACHING SOME MEN'S BUSINESS

Nicki from Descendance invited members of the audience at the Tribal Warrior celebrations to learn some men's business.

She called upon Palm Island CEO Barry Moyle, Sun Ferries General Manager Darin McDonald, Sergeant Ben Walsh Queensland Police, and Tribal Warrior Dallas to join the dance.

She and the other dancers then taught them the Butterfly Dance.

She took them through the steps slowly and their final efforts were rewarded with a loud round of applause.



Celebration of Maritime Employment Opportunities for Palm Islanders



The crew of Tribal Warrior, ready to cast off, (from left to right).

The Tribal Warrior sailed to Palm Island on Tuesday 2 October, where a ceremony was held to celebrate her arrival and the employment opportunities that are being created for local job seekers.

Not even the wet weather could put a dampener on the festivities, which were attended by Mayor Delena Foster, Jobfind Centres Australia CEO Con Kittos and the Jobfind Palm Island team.

Tribal dancers entertained the 200-strong crowd who came out to celebrate the success of the trainees.

“We have been working closely with the community on Palm Island for a number of years and we are always looking for opportunities to help Indigenous Australians find meaningful and sustainable employment”, said Con Kittos, while on the island.

“The Tribal Warrior is one such project and we would like to thank the community for coming out to support this important initiative”.

The Tribal Warrior, a 15.4 metre gaff-rigged ketch, arrived in Palm Island at the end of its northbound journey up the east coast of Australia. Indigenous job seekers undertaking the journey earn a certificate in maritime safety to help them become a deckhand, coxswain or even a skipper. Jobfind has selected 35 trainees,

many of them Palm Island locals, to complete their Certificate 1 in Maritime Services onboard the Tribal Warrior.

Jobfind has been working closely with the industry to ensure that the training results in sustainable career options for the trainees.

Our Indigenous team has been liaising with Sun Ferries and other providers to secure jobs for the trainees. Darin McDonald, General Manager of Sun Ferries attended the ceremony on Palm Island and was able to meet the trainees in person.

The six local Palm Islanders who elected to undertake a sea-change and are completing their training are, **Allan Palm Island, Michael Marpoodin, Cecil Sarabo, Joshua Cannon, Bunna Geesu, and Peter Thimble.**

The Tribal Warrior is now continuing its journey back down the east coast.

To find out more about the services that Jobfind can offer job seekers and employers on Palm Island, please call (07) 4770 1493.

**Story from JobFind Centres
Pictures from Clare Davey**



Mayor Foster spoke about Palm Island's seafaring heritage.

IYMP Helps Young Palm Islanders Who Study Away from Home

The Indigenous Youth Mobility Programme (IYMP) is designed to help young Indigenous people who need to move away from their communities to train or study.

The Indigenous Youth Mobility Programme (IYMP) is a part of the Australian Government's Indigenous Australians Opportunity and Responsibility Commitment and is funded through the Department of Education, Science & Training (DEST).

The programme is designed to help encourage rural and remote young Indigenous people to move to a host location (Townsville, Cairns and Toowoomba) to actively participate in TAFE, University, Traineeship or Apprenticeship gaining a qualification in a vocational field or occupation that would, on returning to their home, be useful to the community.

Eg; (nursing, teaching, hairdressing, childcare, construction, motor mechanic to name a few)

IYMP Services:

- Safe and supported twin share accommodation (delivered through Aboriginal Hostels Limited).
 1. Accommodation cost:
 - 16yrs-20yrs \$98.00 per week
 - 21yrs-24 yrs \$119.00 per week
 2. Air-conditioned Rooms
 4. Linen supplied
 3. Laundry facilities

- Computer /Internet access
- Indigenous house parents
- Ongoing support
- Three healthy meal per day

IYMP provides you with the support you will need to successfully complete your study or training. The help they give you includes: -

- Individual Needs Assessment
- Literacy & Numeracy Training
- Industry Placement
- Personal Development

Career Employment Australia (CEA) is a contracted training and employment service provider delivering the IYMP.

For further information please contact Roslyn or Julie. Telephone: 07 4723 9055. Mobiles: 0403 449 384 0403 461360 Email: roslyn@ceagroup.com.au; juliel@ceagroup.com.au

Story from Roslyn Lively
Youth Support Officer, IYMP Townsville,
Career Employment Australia Inc.

Classifieds Available in *Palm Island Voice*

Items for sale

Sale Price
less than \$1000 **FREE**
more than \$1000 \$2.50 per line

Public Notices

Births, Obituaries,
Anniversaries, Birthdays **FREE**
Other notices \$2.50 per line

Contact Catherine Lawler or Alfred Clay
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Be careful with water so we don't run out

Our water consumption is rising due to the hot weather after our cooler winter period.

There are ways we can save water to make sure we don't run out. We can save water if we:

- Water our gardens and lawns at night or early in the morning, not during the hottest part of the day.
- Use only attended hand held hoses.
- Stop children from playing with running taps or hoses.
- Make sure everyone turns taps off properly
- Report leaking taps or pipes to the Council housing department.
- If we can save water now it will put less stress on our water supply system over the coming hotter months.

Remember, our weather seems to be changing, and we may not get a good wet season.

Story from Phillip Coutts
Council Water Treatment Plant Operator



Palm Island Land Tenure and Management Project

The Department of Natural Resources and Water (NRW) has begun a project to improve the current system for managing the land at Great Palm Island.

The goal is to have a new system in place by June 2010. The aim of the project is to make the current system work better so Council can more easily issue leases for residential and non-residential purposes too.

If the project is successful, Palm Island residents and Council will benefit from the opportunities that flow from land ownership in the same way as non-Indigenous communities. This does not mean areas where people currently live on Palm Island will be sold or leased to anyone else but it will establish a system to guide future community development.

Community needs to have a say

A workshop was held on April 4-5 in Townsville to discuss the project. It was attended by representatives from NRW, Council and the Manbarra people. The purpose of the workshop was to give Council and Manbarra a better understanding of their role in the project and what NRW is hoping to achieve.

Since then, NRW has met with Council and the Manbarra people again to find out how they want to participate in the project. It was agreed by everyone at these meetings that NRW needs to meet with the whole community at Palm Island. That way NRW can make sure everyone knows what is happening and has a chance to have their say.

Managing Future Development on Palm Island

In the past, development at a local level in Queensland was covered by town plans, local building regulations or by-laws. Many Local Governments now have planning schemes that apply across their whole local government area. These schemes set a framework for future development so communities grow in a way that suits them.

In its new status as a Local Government, Palm Island Council has similar obligations. However, Palm Island doesn't have a local planning scheme in place. NRW would like to assist Council, the Manbarra people and the community to develop one. This could be known as the Palm Island Land Use Plan. It would say where certain kinds of development should go on Palm Island and how decisions should be made about future development. It will regulate and control future development on the Island and make the application process clear, fair and equitable.

Information Sessions

For a Palm Island Land Use Plan to work properly, it has to be supported by the community. To make sure

this happens, NRW will hold information sessions before the end of 2007 on Palm Island. This will make sure all community members can find out more and say how they want Palm Island to develop in the future.

Native Title Considerations

Under the Native Title Act, a native title agreement will need to be negotiated with the Manbarra people so future development on Palm Island is lawful. NRW is currently discussing this with the Manbarra people and Council so an agreement can be made that allows future development on certain conditions.

Have your say

NRW is eager to hear your views about this project and what you think needs to be done. You can call the Acting Project Manager, Ted Besley, on (073) 406 2270 or email him on ted.besley@nrw.qld.gov.au.

NRW will hold public meetings at Palm Island in the near future to discuss the project with the community. Dates for these meetings will be provided in upcoming issues of the Palm Island Voice.

Story from Resource and Land Dealings
Indigenous Services. Natural Resources and Water



JOIN PALM ISLAND COMMUNITY STORE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION NOW!

There are no fees and you will be able to vote.

- Palm Island Community Store Aboriginal Corporation
- (PICSAC) has been formed to create a community
- vehicle to own and operate the store.
- PICSAC can engage a professional management company,
- Outback Stores Pty Ltd, which can bring buying
- power, & working capital.
- The profits can be returned in full to the community.
- The use of profits should be determined by a
- democratically-elected committee made up of a majority
- of Palm Islanders, for the benefit of the whole community.

This corporation is a vehicle for all to join, to enable one Tender on behalf of the whole community.

We want to ensure the community can bid to own and operate the store on behalf of the whole community.

Join now and help get control of the store for the community.

Contact Lex Wotton 0428 788 811 or Chris Congoo 0407 573 762
or 4770 1152 ccongoo@bigpond.net.au and join today.

This Project is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Indigenous Small Business Fund, which is administered by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

PALM ISLAND COMMUNITY STORE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION ABN 95 384 533 636

BREAKING NEWS: COUNCIL SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH FEDERAL MINISTER

Several stories have been held over so we could bring you this information, which was provided to the *Palm Island Voice* on Wednesday 10 October 2007, just before going to press.

Council Information Sharing Session

Council held an information session on the afternoon of Wednesday 10 October to tell the community about the Agreement.

Councillors Maggie Blackley and Rosina Norman made themselves available outside the Council offices to explain the agreement to members of the community.

They explained the agreement that had been made would provide for building housing and development of infrastructure to allow a new subdivision to go ahead.

The agreement placed certain obligations on housing tenants and may open the way for home ownership on Palm Island.



AGREEMENT SIGNED OFF



The Hon Mal Brough MP, Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs flew in to Palm Island on Thursday 11 October, 2007.

He met with the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council prior to signing off on the Palm Island Agreement with the Mayor.

Media from Townsville and across the country also flew in to witness the event.

Approximately 200 community members witnessed the signing.

Above: Councillor Blackley with community members.
Left: Copy of the flyer handed out by Council at the information sessions held Wednesday 10 October, 2007.



This report (right) about the signing of the agreement between Council and Minister Brough appeared in *The Australian*, Wednesday 10 October 2007.

Palm Island Council Signs Agreement with Federal Minister Mal Brough, MP

This is a reproduction of information about the Agreement provided to the Palm Island Voice by Council, Wednesday 10 October.

The Palm Island Agreement – Key Elements

This Agreement symbolises a commitment by the Australian Government and the Palm Island Community to work together to provide opportunities for people to own their own homes and improve tenancy arrangements and school attendance. It also provides for increased job opportunities and economic independence. The following key elements illustrate how this will be achieved.

Home Ownership

The agreement paves the way for home ownership on Palm Island, subject to the Queensland Government passing land tenure reform legislation to enable 99 year leases on DOGIT land. It does this through:

- Funding for the construction for up to 20 houses on existing serviced blocks, and for the development of up to 40 houses blocks on a new subdivision; and
- Availability of subsidised home loans through IBA.

To access these opportunities, families will need to: be participants in an income management program, meet the criteria for IBA home loans, commit to provide labour to assist in the construction of the house, and commit to full responsibility for maintenance.

Pride of Place (Home Improvement)

The agreement provides up to the value of \$10,000 per house for improvements to houses and gardens:

- Up to \$2,500 per house for fences, gardens and external features of the house. To access this, families will have to sign new tenancy agreements and pay rent through a direct debit arrangement (eg Centrepay), participate in an income management program, pay off any rent arrears and contribute their labour.
- Up to \$7,500 per house for internal features of

homes, including kitchen upgrades, bathrooms, and renovations. To access this, families will have to have been participants in an income management program for six months, contribute a small amount financially and (where there are school age children) demonstrate good school attendance.

Business Area

The agreement will potentially lead to a number of private businesses operating in the community subject to the strength of the final business case developed by IBA.

Tenancy Agreement Reforms

The agreement will lead to the normalising of tenancy agreements, to bring [them] into line with mainstream public housing. This includes:

- Council will engage a tenancy/housing management specialist to ensure there are proper agreements in place and proper management of the house.
- Each adult in a house will have to sign a tenancy agreement and make a financial contribution to the rent as either a principal tenant or co-contributor.
- A market rental rate for Palm Island will be established for each house. Residents will have to pay by direct debit or through an income management scheme. People with good rental records and who participate in Pride of Place will be eligible for assistance with a future home deposit account.

Additional Initiatives

The agreement also provides for:

- Improving access to employment and education opportunities, both on and off Palm Island;
- Encouraging enterprise development;
- Improving service delivery; and
- Committing to capacity building and leadership development.

Broader Welfare Reform

A commitment to pursue long term welfare reform.

Palm's Girl's Part of Boxing Tradition Too

Ray Dennis, reflect on how Palm Island's boxing success includes the female as well as the male competitors.

Since I started training the Palm Island Boxers, over seven years ago, they have had a lot of success.

Our female boxers also have had a fair amount of success.

Seneva Baira was the first indigenous female boxer to win an Australian Title, after only one year of boxing.

Noby Clay is one of the best boxers I have ever trained, male or female.

Because Noby is so light she always had to give away a lot of weight or she would not be able to get a fith.

Noby never fought anyone less than 10kg heavier. She easily defeated a kick boxer from Carins who was 14kgs heavier.

With only one day of training she defeated an Australian Champion who was 11kgs heavier.

Noby was on the drugs and drink before she started boxing.

She gave all that away and has had two children since she had her last fight.

Noby is now ready to make a come back to boxing at the State Titles on the 12 and 13th October, if she can

get a bout.

Her Uncle Alfie Clay won a State Title and was judged the best Junior Boxer in Queensland while training with me over 30 years ago.

Story from Ray Dennis



Ray Dennis with some of the Boxing Team, waiting to catch the ferry, on their way to the State Tournament.

Send us your Stories



<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Contributions Due</u>
26/10/07	16/10/07
9/11/07	30/10/07
23/11/07	13/11/07
7/12/07	27/11/07

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Your community. Your newspaper.

Stinger Suits Keep Kids & Adults Safe

Merle Robertson explains why stinger suits are an important part of her family's safety when swimming.

After reading Issue 4 of the Palm Island Voice regarding Stinger Season I thought I would share with the community how we practice safe swimming for our children.

I watched a video on marine stings during a first aid course. It showed people in the film who were stung by the deadly Irukandji.

The First Aide instructor told us that the people in the film were not actors.

They were actual stinger victims and were really going through the symptoms and agonising pain from the deadly little stinger.

It wasn't good watching how that poor man and woman went through all that pain and suffering.



Lindsay and Bailey are too deadly for marine stingers in their stinger suits.

Can you imagine a child going through that?

This has prompted me into buying stinger suits for my children. I purchased stinger suits from the sports store Anaconda, in Townsville.

Now every time we go swimming, my boys, Lindsay age 7, and Bailey age 2, know that they have to wear their stinger suits.

When I took the boys swimming the other day, Lindsay said, "Where's your stinger suit Mum?" I said, "That's why I'm standing here on shore watching you and not swimming."

Our rule is that if they don't want to wear the suits no one goes swimming. We also take along a bottle of vinegar.

I urge all parents to purchase stinger suits for their children and also for themselves. It's best to be safe than to be sorry.

Story and pictures from Merle Robertson

Stinger Week Raffle 10 Prizes to be won

As part of the lead up to the Stinger Week displays and activities the Palm Island Ambulance Service are holding a raffle.

There are 10 prizes of fishing gear to be won. The raffle will be drawn at Jellyfish 2007, which is being held on 8 November 2007.

The money raised will go towards purchasing stinger suits for the kids of Palm Island.

Prizes are on view and tickets are being sold at the ambulance office - Palm Island hospital or at the front desk JPHS (hospital).



Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5.

Closed Season for Coral Reef finfish

Closed seasons to the taking of all coral reef fish in October, November and December each year around the new moon phases.

The closures apply to all Queensland east coast waters between latitude 10°41'S and 24°50'S.

The closures are designed to protect spawning aggregations of most coral reef fish species.

The closures for 2007 will be:

- 5 October 2007 to 13 October 2007 (inclusive)
- 3 November 2007 to 11 November 2007 (inclusive)
- 3 December 2007 to 11 December 2007 (inclusive).

Be aware of these closures because fines may be applied for taking fish during a closed season.

You can contact the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol for further information on these closures.

They are at 60 Ross St, South Townsville. Telephone: 4772 7311.

Lots of prizes for Busting Kilos

The Kilo Busters prizes are not just for the person who loses the most weight..

But you have to be in it to win it.

There are prizes for the person who attends the most weigh in's and some weeks there will be random draws from the people who attend the weigh in.

It's NOT TOO LATE to enter. So come along each Thursday and check in for the weekly challenge.

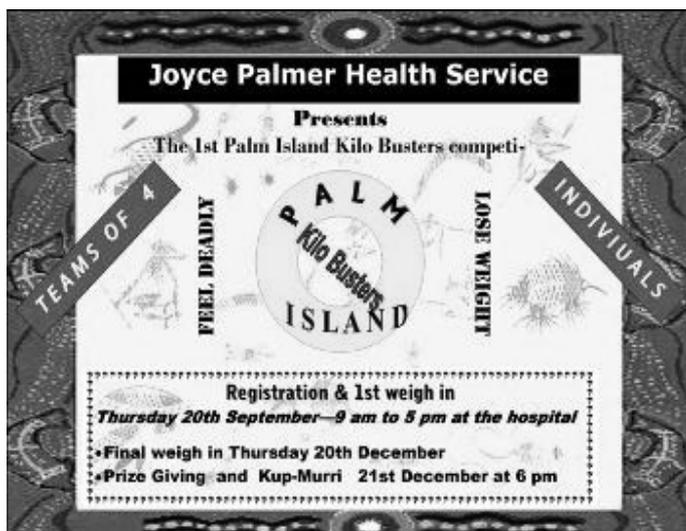
The competition for this coming week is the person who does the most steps.

The prizes you could win include:

- 1 Pod docking station worth over \$250.00 Compliments of AV Design Townsville
- 12 x Folding stools
- 1 x DVD player
- 2 x Palm Island to Townsville return tickets Compliments of Sky Trans
- Professional Wireless microphone – ideal for Karaoke
- 1 x Sandwich Press
- 2 x coffee mug sets
- 4 x woks
- 1 x Karaoke CD
- Fishing Lure set
- 2 x \$40 meat trays Compliments of Palm Island Butchery
- 2 x \$25.00 gift vouchers Compliments of Baby Town Townsville
- \$50.00 Townsville Taxi voucher Compliments of Townsville Taxis
- Hammock
- 2 x Palm Island to Townsville return tickets Compliments of Sunferries

Plus of course the FREE T-SHIRT, the water bottle and the PEDOMETER

Contact Sandy at JPHS for further information.



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Don't live on the Island?
DON'T MISS OUT!

Subscribe to *Palm Island Voice* Now!
\$2.20 per issue (including GST)

YES! I want to Subscribe to *Palm Island Voice*:

- 13 issues at a cost of \$28.60 or
- 26 issues at a cost of \$57.20 (tick one)

My Details are:

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

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- Send this Form and your payment to:
Palm Island Voice
C/- Palm Island Aboriginal Council
Main St
Palm Island QLD 4816

☺ Keep a copy of this form for your tax records if necessary.

GST

This document will become a Tax Invoice for GST purposes when payment is made.
Palm Island Aboriginal Council
ABN 68 799 811 816

KILLER HYDRO IS SCARY STUFF

It is scary that yarndi smokers are actively seeking out and using hydroponically grown cannabis or, as it is commonly called, Hydro.

If a giggle starts to emerge reading these words you may already be damaged. The scary part is that Hydro causes serious and permanent harm to our brain, our lungs and our liver.

Bucketing increases damage

Most Hydro users will 'bucket it' and add a little 'spin' tobacco. These techniques further increase the damage.

Hydro has been genetically modified to increase the chemical ingredient called THC which is the chemical component that gives the person the 'buzz' feeling.

The chemical THC enters our bloodstream through the lungs, smoked in the bucket, and then makes its way to our brain to cause havoc.

In our brain it overrides how the brain messages are normally transmitted, causing an effect similar to a power surge that blows TV's in houses.

Messes with your head

Over time this continual chemical surge gives rise to different and sometimes permanent feelings.

One of the feelings is paranoia, like thinking that your partner is playing up on you, when it is not true. Or as we have seen in recent times, seeing things or hearing things that nobody else sees or hears.

The other is that yarndi is a natural depressant. Mix it with alcohol and you have a deadly cocktail, depression, arguments and fights await the user.

The majority of our domestic violent situations and suicides generally find that the individuals concerned have been using Hydro.

Who is in control, the yarndi or you?

Sadly, many yarndi smokers don't believe that they will get ill or that it will affect them.

Don't be blinded or fooled, Hydro kills and harms both physically and financially.

Be smart and don't giggle about your health and general well being.

If you would like to talk in more detail do not hesitate to contact Owen Creed, Craig or Julie from ATODS at the Hospital.

Messes with your body

Bucketing and bonging Hydro also helps to push the chemicals right into the far reaches of our lungs.

Research is starting to show that users are now getting lung cancer, and many sorts of diseases and illness associated with breathing difficulties.

The other cancers that we can find are liver disease. The chemicals in yarndi are left behind in the liver that acts as one of the filters of our blood.

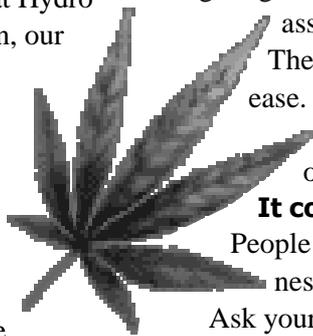
It could cost you your life

People are dying on Palm from yarndi related illness and disease.

Ask yourself, how much is the yarndi costing you and your family? How much do you really need? Do you have enough money left over for food and other things that you would like to buy?

Recently I sat down with one person and we found that the money that they got from pension was less than what they were booking up.

Story from Craig Thorsell, Social Worker, ATODS



Put Your Business Here

Advertising space is available to all businesses, organisations and individuals who have an interest in promoting services and events to members of the Palm Island community.

Display Advertising Costs (including GST)

Full page	\$440
Half page	\$231
Quarter page	\$121
Eighth page	\$66
Sixteenth	\$44
Inserts	\$660

Discounts available for multiple bookings

Contact Catherine Lawler or Alfred Clay
for further information
Telephone 07 4770 0215 or 4770 1177
Fax 07 4770 1305
email: editor@piac.com.au

Advertise in *Palm Island Voice*



Palm Island Ambulance

First Aid Hints and Tips

Who's Who At the Ambulance

Ian Day

Officer In Charge "The Boss"

**Originally from South Australia the Barossa Valley
- been in Queensland now 17 years**

Left school and was a Jackeroo - then worked in a vineyard - became a nurse - all the while doing volunteer ambulance work - then full time paramedic - Working in South Australia - USA - Los Angeles/San Francisco and San Jose - Norway - Mo I Rana & Oslo - Queensland - Tully - Cairns - heaps of relieving over North Qld and now Palm Island been here 7 years

Love my job

**Spare time is spent relaxing/fishing/travelling/
gardening**

Spending time with my partner Michael



HEALTH CALENDAR

Joyce Palmer Health Service

Doctors Appointments

Doctors run clinics Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm.
See the administration staff for appointments

Pharmacy

Mon, Wed Thurs, Fri
10am to 1 pm
2pm to 4.30 pm
Tuesday only close 6.30 pm

Dressing Clinic

8am to 4pm Monday to Friday only – unless it is an emergency

Dental Clinic

Tuesday every week in the Community Health Area
Come up between 9-10am to have your problem looked at. Then you will be booked in for an appointment at the next available clinic.

Mental Health Team

The Mental Health Team Office is open from 8.30am to 4.30pm. Phone 4753 5163.

The Team can help with mental health assessment, crisis intervention, case management, consultation and liaison with persons presenting to JPMS emergency department, court liaison, Individual counselling and family therapy.

Child Health Clinic

Aggie is available from 8am to 4.30 Monday to Friday to provide help with child health problems issues such as immunisation and baby health checks. Also provide help for some women's health issues and family counselling. Ring on **4752 5172** or call in anytime.

Sexual Health Clinic

Rachel, Frank and Mersane are in the office 8am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday. The clinic is open late on Tuesday nights till 6.30pm.

No appointment necessary.

We provide advice, treatment and management of any sexual health issues. We also provide help with issues such as contraception, Pap smears, counselling and Trans Gender.

Vet Clinic

Dr. Jim is available on **17 October** at the vet shed in Mango Avenue for any pet needs. Surgery is in the mornings and consultations in the afternoon.

This is a free service. You may need to pay for vaccinations and some medications for your pet.

No appointment is necessary. Book in at the hospital or call Lowana on 0428 325 183. Council officers will take your dog to the appointment if needed.

Tell us what you think

Letters to the Editor

Great Palm, Great Opportunity

Last month, I had the great opportunity to visit Palm Island. I was the guest of Ian Day and Michael Banks.

As you probably already know, Ian and Michael work at the hospital.

Ian was a fabulous tour guide. I got to meet a lot of great and interesting people. I want to "Thank" Dave especially, for picking us up at the jetty (I think that is what you call it). I call it a dock.

He also lent us his vehicle so we could tour the island. He was also nice enough to take us to the airport when we departed. What a guy!!!

I met a lot of nice and caring people. Palm Island is very fortunate to have these people.

Again, Ian and Michael, I can't "THANK-YOU" enough for this wonderful adventure.

Patricia Regelman
Junction City, Kansas
United States

Hello from an old friend

I enjoyed reading Issue 2. It was wonderful to see pictures of so many old friends. I was the Doctor at the PI Hospital for most of 1993 to 2002 and hardly a day goes by that I don't reflect on that time.

Since leaving I have moved around a bit.

A few years in Cooktown, looking after Hopevale, Wujal and Laura communities, a few months on TI and living in Badu Island.

Then three trips to Western Province PNG, some time relieving around Cairns and in Ingham and now this year in Weipa, with Napranum and old Mapoon to visit.

Also, I married in 2005, an electrician from Melbourne I met when he was volunteering in PNG. We have a beautiful 1 year old, Rebecca, who looks just like her dad.

We plan to return to PNG next year for 6 months, then maybe settle in Cairns for a while, maybe...

So, hello to all who remember me on Palm Island, you are in my thoughts always.

Dr Marg
Dr Margaret Purcell
Weipa Hospital
Weipa Qld

Editorial

Speak Up and Have Your Say

Speaking up and saying what you think about things is not always easy.

Usually it means having difficult and challenging conversations.

These conversations can sometimes be with people we are close to and for whom we otherwise have a great deal of respect.

But speaking up and having your say is not about having fights or arguments.

It's about having a dialogue with people, sharing and exchanging information and points of view. It is about finding out what other people think.

When we do this we are able to consider their point of view and work together, toward solutions that benefit everyone.

Speaking up is about having positive and open debate. The media is one forum where such open and positive debate can occur.

As a community newspaper, the *Palm Island Voice* welcomes contributions (articles, stories, letters to the editor) from everyone.

Contributions from all members of the community ensures an open and frank dialogue and debate on issues that face residents here.

Speaking up is about facts being put on the table and opinions being put forward for everyone to consider.

However, if we don't speak up about things that affect and concern us, there is less chance these things will change.

Then, we have to assume some responsibility for outcomes that we don't like. If we don't say something, then we can't complain.

Having your say is about more than speaking up. It is about having the courage and the strength to do so.

Catherine Lawler—Editor

If you have something you would like the community to know about, please come and see us.

You can find us on the top floor of the two-storey Council building.

Or give us a call on 4770 0215.

Alf Clay and Catherine Lawler.

Palm Island Voice Community Notice Board

AA Meetings at Ferdy's

AA meetings to help support people with drug or alcohol problems are held at Ferdy's.

Meetings are held both day and night Meeting times are 9am and 7pm. Call day staff at the centre in the morning to be picked up for the 7pm meeting.

Public Holidays for 2007

Christmas Day	Tuesday	25 December
Boxing Day	Wednesday	26 December

Palm Island Play Group

All family members with children aged 0 – 5 years old are invited to come along the Palm Island Play-group.

DATE: Wednesdays

TIME: 10.30am – 12.30pm

WHERE: PCYC child care room

For more information contact **Tiana Friday** – PCYC 4770 1793 or 0438 717 607 **Svea Pitman** 4770 1828 or 0423 158 368.

Supported by the Palm Island Family Support Hub.

Rubbish Pick Up Times

Area	Day
Chook City & Farm	Thursday
Mango Avenue	Monday
Top End	Tuesday
Bottom End	Wednesday
Reservoir Ridge & Butler Bay	Friday

Ferry Timetable

Departs from

Day/Date	Townsville	Palm Island
Fri 12 October	11:00am	1:00pm
Sun 14 October	8:00pm	10:00pm
Wed 17 October	12:30pm	2:30pm

Times may alter due to circumstances beyond the control of Sun Ferries.

Call 4771 3855 to confirm departure times.

Computing Class

Every Monday at the Bwgcorman State School. Beginners are welcome. Contact Charlie or Rani at the seaside TAFE campus. Telephone: 4770 1200.

Learner's Permits

Courses to assist students who are sitting for their Learners permit are held monthly on Palm. This course has an extremely high success rate.

If you want to do the course you need to enrol at TAFE. You will need your birth certificate and other ID.

Course dates

October 15 – 17th

November 12 – 14th

December 10 – 13th

Blue Cards

Construction Induction (Blue Card) is conducted by TAFE on Palm Island. This card is a requirement when working on a building site but is also gives a good sound knowledge of the Workplace Health and Safety Act, Safe work practices and Risk Assessment.

It is a three to four hour course and on completion students are issued with a General Safety Induction card

Enrolments are taken at TAFE.

Course dates

October 18th

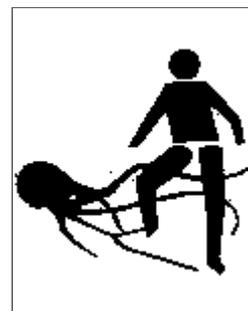
November 15th

December 13th

Stinger High Season

November to April

- Wear a **Stinger Suit**.
- Primary **First Aid** is **Vinegar** not water or ice.
- **Stinger Box Houses** have First Aid facilities for treatment. They are at premises close to the beach. Look for this sign.



Jellyfish 2007

Jellyfish 2007 will be held on 8 November 2007. Stalls and information displays on water and boating safety are being held by Palm Island Ambulance Service, Maritime Safety Queensland, and Queensland Police, will be held in the town square. A raffle will also be held to raise money to buy stinger suits for use by Palm Island kids.