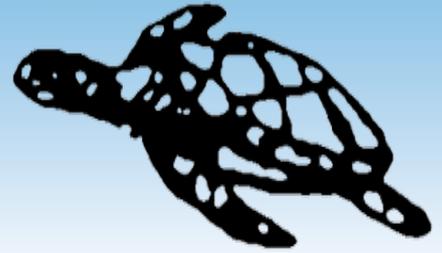




Palm Island Voice



Your Community
Your Newsletter
Your Voice

Issue 53
Tuesday 20 April 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

'Boxing for Palm Island' to feature at Sydney Film Festival

Sydney Opera House's Message Stick Film Festival will showcase documentary "Boxing for Palm Island" early next month before the film tours the country.

The doco is also scheduled to run over two episodes of Message Stick on ABC TV during the second half of this year.

A group of Palm Islanders will be guests at the Sydney Opera House when the Film Festival is held including trainer Ray Dennis and female boxer Noby Clay (pictured right), Dennis Haines senior, and male boxers Selwyn Seaton, Craig Desatge and Dennis Haines junior.

Mr Dennis said the documentary on the successful Palm Island Boxing Club had been filmed over a number of months last year.

"It was filmed by Purse Key Productions under director Adrian Wills and representatives visited Palm Island four times filming and doing interviews for it," he said.

"They also came to the State Titles at Gordonvale and the National Championships at Geelong.

"Down in Geelong the film crew spent a lot of time talking to Noby (Clay) who is one of the best female amateur boxers in Australia. "Also they did some great interviews with Craig Desatge here on Palm.

"Craig is normally a quiet fellow, I didn't know he could talk so much,



and it will be great watching." He also said it would be great to see the doco on the television program 'Message Stick' later this year. "Palm Island will get so much positive publicity from this and it will be great," he said.

Mr Dennis said he and his team were proud to be the biggest Aboriginal boxing team in Australia. The Palm Islanders will be flown to Sydney and accommodated by the producers of the documentary.

Ms Clay said it would be an exciting trip for her and she was looking forward to being pampered.

"It will be hosted by Ernie Dingo and I have only seen the Opera House on television," she said. "This is going to be a deadly trip."



All the
latest
fishing
and footy
news!!





ACTING-CEO for the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Jeff Brown started work here on Monday April 12. Originally from Dalby, Mr Brown has spent the past few years since his retirement from a 38-year career in local government filling in as CEO for a number of Queensland Councils, including Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council. He is pictured here with Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey in the Council Board Room. CEO Barry Moyle is on extended leave.

New carrier expands to 7 days



Pictured above (L-R): Acting-CEO Jeff Brown, Townsville Cr Deanne Bell, Cr Zina Prior, John Mugambi, Mayor Alf Lacey & West Wing Aviation Managing Director Peter Collings

North Queensland airline West Wing Aviation has expanded operations to include Palm where - for the first time - flights will soon be offered to and from the Island seven days a week.

At the official launch of its new service yesterday, West Wing announced an expansion of the current schedule of 22 flights to and from Palm Island on Mondays to Fridays, to an additional four flights over every weekend.

West Wing Aviation currently operates general charter operations throughout Australia, including in the Torres Strait Islands.

In March this year West Wing Aviation reached an

agreement with Skytrans to officially take over their Palm Island services, with both airlines working to ensure a seamless transition for passengers.

West Wing Aviation Director Peter Collings said they were thrilled to be expanding their services.

"Residents and commuters deserve a first-rate and reliable service and we will deliver that," he said.

"From this month we will be introducing weekend flights

which will give residents greater flexibility to access the mainland."

West Wing Aviation has a fleet of over 30 aircraft, with bases in Mount Isa, Cairns, Horn Island and Townsville, and uses 'Airline standard' Check & Training, Maintenance and Safety Management Systems.

To book or find out more about West Wing Aviation visit, <<http://www.westwing.com.au>> or call 4759 3777.

Shark feeding off Reel Women Jetty

ANGLERS who frequent the Reel Women Palm Island jetty try to catching a feed of fish have been speaking in recent weeks of a huge hammerhead shark which swims in the channel to feed.

"It has been coming in since the channel was dredged to allow the ferry to come in to the jetty even on low tides," one told the *Palm Island Voice*. So about 7am on April 16, the *Voice* headed down to the jetty where about 20 enthusiastic men, women and children were trying their luck.

One of Palm Island's best known fishermen, Stewart Rosser, had just cast netted some small herring which everybody grabbed to use for live bait.

"The big hammerhead does swim in here near the jetty chasing small stingrays to feed on, but we never know

when," Stewart said.

Stewart said a tiger shark also could be seen in jetty waters from time to time getting an easy feed.

A couple of the other men fishing there said there was also a groper which snapped lines regularly.

One problem the anglers have been facing lately are the hungry seagulls which swoop on their bait before or when it hits the water.

Inspections passed, last task ahead for new bistro



Above: Alfred Ryan. Allan Sailor and Kitchener Ryan

Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar and Bistro passed a final building inspection last week with flying colours, ensuring it should open soon.

Licensee Shane Stratton said the next step was a fire drill with all staff before the final fire inspection.

"That will be on next Wednesday and we have to ensure staff know where the exits are and assembly areas," he said.

Mr Stratton said that after that the Licensing Commission would make their inspection and then it could open.

"We will have about 10 casual staff and we have organised uniforms for them," he said.

"We will also have to arrange for one security officer for every 50 patrons in the bar when it does open."

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council painter Allan Sailor and his assistants Alfred Ryan and Kitchener Ryan have just put finishing touches on paint work in the 'new' bar.

"This is going to be a very enjoyable place for locals to come," Mr Sailor said.

Mr Stratton said "realistically" it could be up to a month before the bar was open, but hoped it might be sooner.



Stewart Rosser on the jetty with some herring caught in a cast net.

Graduates celebrate Diplomas in Business

Three leaders from Palm Island Aboriginal corporations graduated with Diplomas in Business (Governance) at a formal ceremony in Cairns recently.

Training was provided by the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) which is offering a series of nationally-accredited governance courses.

This was the first time that ORIC had conducted the Diploma course in Queensland Palm Islanders among the 10 community leaders who graduated were Coolgaree CDEP director Roy Prior and chair Steven Boyd, and Palm Island Aboriginal Boxing Corporation

director Jeanie Ling.

Family and friends attended a graduation celebration in Cairns along with Mayor Alf Lacey, and the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations, Anthony Beven.

At the graduation ceremony, Mr Beven spoke about the importance of good governance and its part in developing strong corporations, strong people and strong communities.

"As a result of this course the graduates will have greater knowledge and certainty in the decisions they make for their corporations," he said.

Since last July the Palm Island graduates have attended five one-week study blocks in Cairns, plus carried out assessment tasks back home.

Units included such topics as how to 'use a business plan', 'monitor finances' and 'manage assets'.

"The way changes are happening in communities today I think there is a real focus for our people to be involved in small business," Roy Prior said. "I feel the business diploma has equipped me with the right tools to achieve my goals.

"There are a lot of opportunities out there for Indigenous people."

All directors, future directors, members and staff of Indigenous corporations registered under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 are eligible to apply for this and other courses.

For more details see <www.oric.gov.au> or call ORIC's freecall number 1800 622 431 (not free from mobiles).



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 Christine Howes or Alf Wilson 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.

ANZAC Day to honour hero, thanks to local research

ANZAC Day on Palm Island will be an extra special day for former RAAF pilot and longtime resident Ian Keyte.

Mr Keyte (*pictured*) has spent many years researching the heroic efforts of World War II Aboriginal fighter pilot Len Waters who he describes as a "forgotten hero".

The 65-year-old Mr Keyte is part-Indigenous on his grandmother's side and was a RAAF pilot during the Vietnam War.

Mr Keyte has released his research findings on Len Waters so he can get his deserved recognition on Anzac Day, 2010.

"I have visited my family in Victoria many times in recent years and have stopped off at the Australian War Museum in Canberra and done a lot of research into Len Waters," he said.

"I served in the war with Bill Coolburra who was a highly respected elder on Palm Island and he urged me to do it when we used to yarn here.

"Bill died recently and this is an ideal time to



release my research.

"I also have photographs of him and the plane he flew from archives.

Mr Keyte has been on Palm Island for 30 years and almost wept as he spoke of Len Waters as he stood beside the memorial to the fallen near the Shire Council Office.

"Aboriginal fighter pilot Len Waters flew 95 combat missions for the RAAF during World War II leading many dangerous

missions deep inside enemy territory," he said.

"For his heroism Len acquired a variety of awards including the 1939-45 Pacific Star and several commendations for bravery.

"He also achieved the rank of Warrant Officer and returned home a national hero; unfortunately once he returned to civilian life Len's heroics meant nothing and he reverted to being just another black man.

"Not what a man who risked his life for his country deserved, but one whose skin colour would find contempt and prejudice for the rest of his life."

CFF launches literacy program

The Catherine Freeman Foundation (CFF) and the Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation (ALNF) have teamed up to run an early childhood literacy program on Palm.

CFF spokesperson Svea Pitman said the new initiative was thanks to funding from the Telstra Foundation and DEEWR.

"The program is intended to make learning fun for both the children and participating adults," Ms Pitman said.

"We are looking to work alongside both Bwgcolman and St. Michael's so that we can provide additional support to the hard work already put in by teachers at both schools.

"Anyone in the community who would like to participate is welcome so watch this space for future updates!"



Theresa Gibson & Clarrie Huddy (*above*) and are two of the many Palm Islanders who enjoy sitting on the seats near the CBD to enjoy the sea breezes. "This is so good and we catch up with lots of people and talk about what is going on," Clarrie said. Although he has lived on Palm for many years, Clarrie said he was a "bushie at heart" and liked to visit communities such as Pormpuraaw and Kowanyama when he can find the time.

League due to kick-off this weekend

PLAYER insurance and registration was discussed at length during a general meeting of the Palm Island Rugby League (PIRL) at the PCYC building late last week.

The meeting agreed the domestic competition would commence on April 24 (next Saturday) provided all player insurance money was paid and registrations completed by then. "All clubs have to pay their player insurance premium and have player registration forms in before fixtures can commence," meeting chair QRL Northern Division Manager Scott Nosworthy said.



Hedley Ally, Ili Dabea, Tanya James & Scott Nosworthy

Games in the first fixtures of 2010 would see Brothers meet Raiders, Hornets versus Skipjacks and the Bulls clash with Mundy Bay Warriors. Jets have the bye.

Those at the meeting agreed that one representative of the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and the Palm Island Community Company could attend weekly meetings of the PIRL, but would have to excuse themselves if a vote was taken.

The PIRL is now affiliated with the Townsville and District Rugby League but Mr Nosworthy indicated it should be a stand alone league in 2011. In exciting news for the PIRL, Mr Nosworthy said he expected up to 5000 people to see the Palm Island Barracudas side play Bowen in the main curtain raiser to the Foley Shield final at Brother's League Club in Townsville during the first weekend in May.

Sylvia Palmer asked officials how the Barracudas side would be selected and hoped it would be the strongest team.

Mr Dabea said that with the late start to the season, all seven club coaches would be consulted about who had been training and was fit to play before the team was selected. There was also a possibility that Palm Island women would be involved in a female match on Foley Shield day.

After the meeting a short course on strapping sporting injuries was held and Mr Dabea said that was a great success.

Attending the meeting was Palm Island Community Company representatives Paul

Travis, Chris Congoo and Hedley Ally, local Sports and Recreation representative Maggie Blackley, QRL Trainee Tanya James, long time supporter Sylvia Palmer, Traditional Owner and respected elder Allan Palm Island, Cr Ruth Gorringer, and PIRL President Ili Dabea. Club officials at the meeting were Susan Morgan and Lloyd Morgan (Butler Bay Bulls), Sidney Charles, Eddie Prior and Norman Bounghi (Jets), Margaret Conway (Mundy Bay Warriors), Iris Cannon (Skipjacks) and Ben Nomoa (Mt Bentley Raiders).

MEANWHILE champion Titans player Preston Campbell has donated the jumper he wore in the recently victorious Indigenous Allstars side to the local rugby league.

Palm Island Community Company Deputy Chairman Paul Travis told the meeting last week the garment could be used by the cash strapped PIRL for fund raising.

"What a champion is Preston Campbell," he said. "He could have given that jumper to the community he comes from or anywhere else and he decides to give it to Palm Island."

There were some suggestions that the jumper may gain the best possible purse if auctioned on EBay whilst others thought a raffle on Palm Island and Townsville would be the way to go.



Teams gear up for a big start to 2010 season



NEW rugby league club Mundy Bay Warriors are an unknown quantity coming into the 2010 season but players certainly are enthusiastic.

Official Margaret Conway said the side was mostly young footballers who would do themselves proud. *Palm Island Voice* attended a training session for the boys near the Esplanade last Friday, to see about 10 players test their ball skills. Luke James looks like being one of the stars and with him doing some drills were Bennett Blanket, Reginald James, Allan Brown and Jerry James. "We will have a lot of supporters and should go really well," Luke said.

BROTHERS could be the big improvers when the Palm Island domestic rugby league competition kicks off.

Palm Island Voice yarned to about 20 Brothers players as they trained strongly in preparation for what is the most anticipated comp in Palm for many years.

The eldest player was nippy back Ian Ketchup who is aged 38 but is still a big contributor.

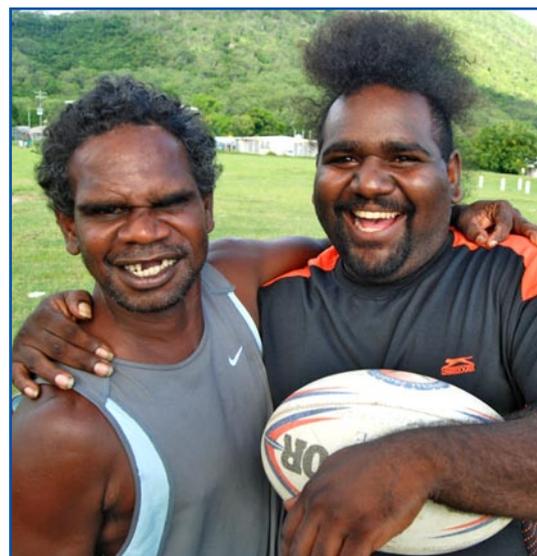
"I like to try and help the younger fellas and the average age of our side is in the early twenties," Ian said.

Rising young star Gavin Johnson says the club will hope to improve on last year's fourth.

"We have all young players other than Ian who provides lots of experience," Gavin said.

Another interesting signing for Brothers is champion amateur boxer Chris Gundy who also assists chief trainer Ray Dennis at the Palm Island Boxing Club.

"I will be playing hooker for Brothers and I think we will go well," Gundy said.



Ian Ketchup, left, and Gavin Johnson



Lots of young people are also competing with the Raiders.

Palm Island Voice checked out their player list when they trained last Thursday at the park behind the PCYC and across from the mall.

They looked good and also had numerous supporters looking on.

The players are confident of making the top four and the semi finals.

Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices



POSITION VACANT MONEY MANAGEMENT WORKER

ICAN LTD IS SEEKING SUITABLY MOTIVATED
PERSON TO FILL THE ABOVE POSITION, on Palm
Island

FOR MORE INFORMATION INTERESTED PERSONS
RING ICAN LTD CAIRNS OFFICE ON 40311073 AND
SPEAK TO ROBERT BARRY, TO HAVE AN
APPLICATION PACK SENT OUT TO YOU.

Applications Closes: 23/4/2010



NOMINATIONS FOR BY-ELECTION

In accordance with the requirements of Section 301 of the Local Government Act 1993, nominations are hereby invited for the election of Councillor of the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire.

I further notify that I have appointed Wednesday the **28th day of April 2010 as the close for nominations. The nominated place for the election is the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Administration Office at 1 Main St.** The nominated place for the purpose of receiving nominations forms of candidates is at the Council Administration Office at 1 Main Street (Attention John Mugambi).

Nominations must be in the approved form and must be given to me before noon on nomination day together with payment of the nomination fee of \$150.

Nomination forms may be obtained from John Mugambi at Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Office at 1 Main Street, Palm Island. The nomination fee must be paid in cash or by a cheques drawn by a financial institution.

**Vincent T Corbin/Returning Officer
08 April 2010**

How 40 year leases will affect you in Palm Island?

(Source: The Remote Indigenous Land & Infrastructure Office, Queensland Government)

What is a 40 year lease?

It is an agreement between government and Council to build more housing in your community. Will 40 year leases cover the whole community?

No, 40 year leases will only be over land that has or will have housing. They will not be for schools, police stations, council buildings or anything else like that.

Who owns the land?

Council/trustee owns the land.

Who will own the new house?

Council/trustee owns the house.

Who will build the house?

The government in partnership with Council.

Who will design the house?

Council and the government will work together on the best design that suits community needs.

Can I buy the house?

Yes, 40 year leases will make it easier to buy the house under a 99 year lease for private home ownership.

Do I have to wait 40 years to buy the house?

No, you can buy the house at any time.

How many houses will be built in Palm Island?

Up to 146 new homes can be built in Palm Island over the next eight years.

Will my house be upgraded under the 40 year lease?

Yes. Council and government will develop a program to upgrade houses.

TOMORROW (Wednesday 21 April) there will be a PUBLIC CONSULTATION to be held at the PCYC Building on 40 year leases. Sessions will be held: 12.30pm-2.30pm AND 6pm-8pm All welcome.

What does the community get in return for a 40 year lease?

- New homes
- Jobs and training opportunities, eg apprenticeships, traineeships.
- Council does not have to worry about looking after the houses, government will look after them.
- Government will help improve sewerage, drains and water supplies.

Will I pay more rent under a 40 year lease?

No. A 40 year lease does not affect your rent. If your rent changes, then it is changed for another reason, not because of 40 year leases.

What will Council get from the 40 year leasing?

Council will get paid money which they can spend in the community on community

DAY & DAY SHIPPING

FREIGHT SERVICES TOWNSVILLE TO PALM ISLAND

DRY GOODS FREIGHT DEPOT

21B Keane Street,
CURRAJONG QLD 4812

**Freight Deliveries Accepted
Monday to Friday 9 am - 2 pm**

Freight received between the hours of 9.00am – 2.00pm for delivery to Palm Island the following day.

Monday

Depart Lucinda: 7:30 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:15 am
Depart Palm Is: 11:30 am
Arrive Lucinda: 2:00 pm

Thursday

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12:30 am
Arrive Lucinda: 3:00 pm

Tuesday

Depart Lucinda: 9:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 11:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 2:00 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 4:30 pm

Friday

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12:00 am
Arrive Lucinda: 2:30 pm

Wednesday

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12:30 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 3:00 pm

Saturday

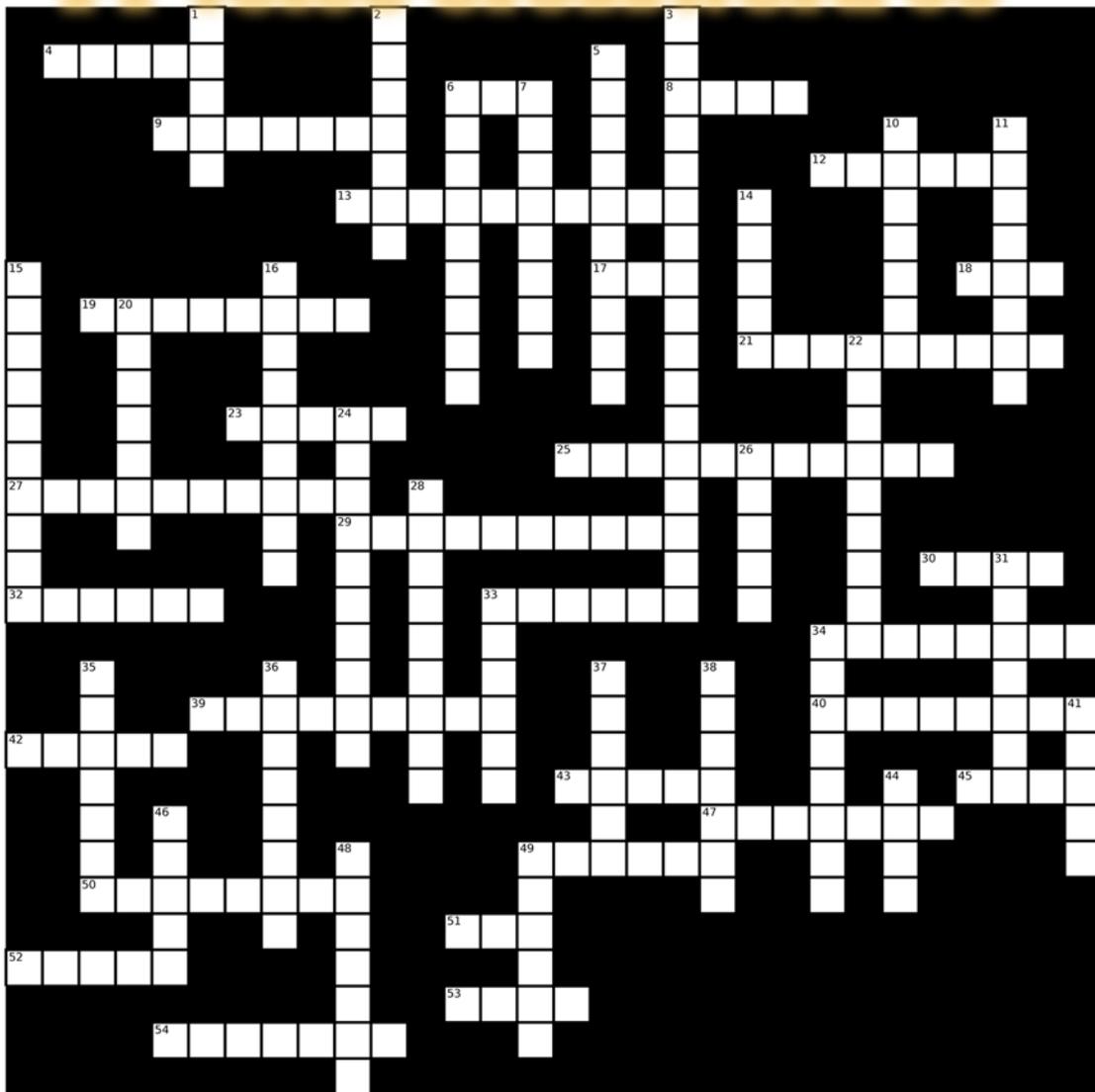
Depart Lucinda: 7:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 9:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 11:00 am
Arrive Lucinda: 1:30 pm

Please note departure times are subject to change and should be confirmed on the numbers below.

**P.O. Box 397
INGHAM. Qld. 4850
Phone: 07 4776 5055/Fax: 07 4776 3012**

PI Voice Crossword 53

Thanks again to David Goeldner for this ANZAC Day themed crossword & the puzzle makers @ <http://www.armoredpenguin.com>



Across

4. Underwater breathing apparatus
6. Distress signal
8. Amphibious vehicle
9. Hold your footy socks up with a pair of these
12. Potatoes contain this
13. Arnold Schwarzenegger's political nick name
17. Non commissioned officer
18. Goods and Services Tax
19. Social networking website
21. Underwater vessel
23. River mouth full of sediment
25. This music group famous for 'White Fella, Black Fella' (2 words)
27. Blending into the background
29. New TV WW2 mini series filmed in North Queensland (2 words)
30. You get a trade or traineeship here
32. Sand is made of this mineral
33. Large boats often powered by this fuel
34. Hollywood heart throb, star of war film 'Inglorious Bastards' (2 words)
39. Famous aboriginal warrior
40. Townsville Barracks
42. Navigating by sound
43. Sending messages the 21st century way
45. Second letter of the Greek alphabet
47. Living allowance for university
49. Famous aboriginal WW2 pilot, Len _____
50. R2D2 and C3PO were in this classic adventure yarn (2 words)
51. Australian navy (initials)
52. Call sign for the letter 'R' - did Shakespeare write this?

53. Military vehicle and now a luxury 4WD

54. You wear this at school and sometimes at work

Down

1. Used to track planes
2. Head of the ADF, Air Chief Marshall Angus _____. A r m y corporal in WW2, she became a famous aboriginal activist and poet (2 words)
5. Army rank, below captain
6. Type of boots worn on building sites (2 words)
7. First aboriginal army captain, Reg _____
10. Mosquito-borne disease
11. A picture is said to be worth this many words
14. Star of Saving Private Ryan, Tom _____
15. Can't see too good, might need these
16. Australian-built WW2 fighter plane
20. Hit those insects with these misty particles
22. This army general said "I shall return!"
24. Movie starring Gulpilil on horseback in uniform (2 words)
26. Flowery symbol on November 11
28. A 'tube' with mirrors from under the sea
31. Small warship
33. Another name for Australian soldier
34. Major daily paper in Townsville
35. Popular footwear
36. April 25 each year is this day (2 words)
37. Head protection
38. Keep your boat balanced and buoyant with this
41. Colour used mostly in the armed services
44. Community work program
46. 88 notes on one of these
48. The opening of a creek or stream
49. Officially starts on first day of June each year

...OUT & ABOUT...

One-year-old baby Jamestyn Baira may not remember her second voyage from Palm Island to Townsville by ferry in years to come but his mother Romeenah Baira certainly will.

The mum and baby caught the 2pm ferry from Palm on Easter Monday aboard new state-of-the-art vessel Fantome Cat. Conditions became fairly rough once the open sea was reached. "It was pretty rough," Romeenah said. Helping Romeenah out was her friend Jayarane Lowatta.

Romeenah praised one female crew member who continually went to ask were they okay as waves flew high beside the cat.



(Left) Romeenah Baira holds baby Jamestyn on the ferry with friend Jayarane



Mackay resident Caroline Doyle visited Palm Island with her husband Harold Doyle last month to catch up with her many family members and friends.

Mrs Doyle's father was Sonny Sibley, one of the seven men who took part in the Palm Island Strike of 1957 and have monuments in their honour beside the esplanade near the jetty. "My husband is from Woorabinda and I met him in Rockhampton and we often come here to Palm Island and I enjoy it," Mrs Doyle said.

QUEENSLAND Health officers conducted medical checks on Palm Islanders aged between 15 and 26 last week.

Hard working officers were conducting the checks on the footpath in front of the Government buildings last week. "I have been doing blood pressure tests and we have had about 200 come through," said Health Worker Alex Morgan. Helen Weismann, a Queensland Health worker, said the youth checks had been popular. Pictured below is Gabrielle Poynter, aged 15, who was happy to have a check up at a table which included Mr Morgan, Rachael Ryan, Emele Dabea, Kim Palmer and Adrian Ernest. At right is Naverone Curley who had his blood tested by Helen Weismann.





No work for fireys here for now!

The Rural Fire Brigade's yellow Mitsubishi Canter gets a fair share of work fighting fires on Palm Island but not over these past few weeks.

The heavens opened on Palm Island in the early hours of last Friday in particular when more than 100mm of rain fell.

It was some of the heaviest rainfall received

on Palm Island this year and most of it fell in a few hours.

More rain threatened as clouds loomed ominously over Mount Bentley and towards nearby Fantome Island (above).



Canter driver Ili Dabea (below) said his truck was ideal for getting to remote spots where bush fires occurred during the dry season.

Apart from being president of the Palm Island Rugby League, Ili is a member of an very active SES on the Island.

Ili's smile here had something to do with the fire danger being almost zero we suspect!

FOOTY SEASON READY TO KICK-OFF THIS WEEKEND: SEE PP 6-7

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE *Palm Island Voice*

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Thursday 29 April 2010	Tuesday 4 May 2010
Thursday 13 May 2010	Tuesday 18 May 2010

Contact the Editor (left) or see Council Reception
 for more information