



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Issue 61
Tuesday 10 August 2010

Palm Island Voice

Your Community
Your Newsletter
Your Voice



**'BUMPER'
20-PAGE
ISSUE!!!**



Free at last



**Stolen
Wages
Update**



**All the
fortnight's
footy
action**



Your vote will count

VOTERS on Palm Island are considered vital in determining which of the major parties will win the important seat of Herbert at the August 21 Federal election, particularly considering Peter Lindsay won in the last election by just 343 votes.

Herbert is one of the most marginal seats in the country with some political experts claiming the party who wins it will win overall.

Labor candidate and former Townsville Mayor Tony Mooney visited Palm Island on July 16 and again the following week with Federal Indigenous Health Minister Warren Snowdon.

His main opponent, the LNP candidate Ewen Jones, visited Palm on July 20 with four senators including Barnaby Jones, and answered questions from locals at a forum held at the PCYC.

Mr Jones, along with Senator Nigel Scullion, the Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs, visited the Island again on Saturday July 31. After a meeting with Deputy Mayor Raymond Sibley and others, they went to the local Palm football.

At the last Federal election long term Liberal sitting member Peter Lindsay won the seat with 41,089 votes which was 50.21% of the total, from Labor's George Colbran with 40,746 votes (49.79%), on a two party preferred basis after preferences were distributed from the other seven candidates.

The difference was only 343 individual's votes.

A Council spokesperson told the

Palm Island Voice that with just over 1000 registered voters on the Island our community could certainly decide the outcome.

At the last election 71% of Palm Island votes went to Labor and 29% to the Liberals on a two-party preferred basis.

Bwgc Colman Radio Station has followed the election closely and found that living costs, health, unemployment, lack of housing and education are the main issues for Islanders in the lead up to the election.

Whilst Herbert is considered a two-horse race, Greens candidate Dr Michael Rubenach is standing on a climate change platform and will almost certainly direct his preferences to Mr Mooney.

The other candidate is Family First National Party's Michael Punshon. The Australian Electoral Commission has advised that Mr Mooney drew top position on the ballot paper, followed by Mr Jones, Mr Punshon and Mr Rubenach.

At previous elections a percentage of Palm Island registered voters have not cast their votes and with the stakes so high it is vital they do so on August 21.

For 'What the Candidates Say' see pages 8-9.



A visit to the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council by Year 5s has been described by teachers as a 'great learning experience' for students, pictured here with Mayor Alf Lacey

'Torres' the turtle released back to sea

A turtle found on Palm Island's north-east bay beach by Veronica Coutts and grand daughter Talani Coutts in 2006 has been freed from Townsville, where it has been looked after for the past four years by Reef HQ.

'Torres' was brought in in an ice cream container to Townsville's world renowned Aquarium and was released back into the wild on July 23 weighing 45kg (*pictured below*). The release was at the Townsville Strand beach and watched by about 400 adults and school children.

Talani (*pictured right*) was there with her Palm Island mates Lana Daisy and Mariah Stone. "We called him Torres because grandma is from the Torres Strait," she said.



"I had been running up and down the beach that day when I was 10 and saw him, so we contacted the Aquarium. "But whilst I am emotional it is also a happy day." Talani and her grandmother were credited with saving the orphaned turtle's life.

To increase in weight from a paltry 366 grams to 45kg was an amazing effort and testimony to the fine work by Reef HQ staff.

As it grew in size, Torres became a regular "star" of the Reef HQ Dive Show and touched the hearts of staff, volunteers and members of the public with a larger than life personality and repertoire of cheeky antics, after four years of rehabilitation.

Reef HQ volunteer Freda Hudson said Torres had become very big and cheeky. "Torres used to nip the leopard sharks and had become a cheeky turtle," she said. Torres has been fitted with an acoustic tag which transmits a signal to local receivers across Cleveland Bay, Magnetic Island and other regional areas across the Marine Park. In addition Torres has also been fitted with a satellite tag where researchers and the public can follow its movements.



No more 'phantom projects' - Deputy Mayor

Chronic housing shortages and high freight costs were several issues raised by Palm Island Deputy Mayor Raymond Sibley (*right*) with Federal Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Islander Affairs Senator Nigel Scullion (*below left*) during his visit last month.



Cr Sibley and his wife Ruby, Eddie Walsh (*below centre*), Ray Dennis and Acting-CEO Jeff Brown met with Senator Scullion at the Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar and Bistro Coffee Café for 90 minutes. Also there was LNP candidate for Herbert Ewen Jones (*below right*) and his media advisor Max Tomlinson.

"The Howard Government approved the construction of 46 new homes in 2007, the funding has been allocated in Forward Estimates but not a sod has been turned since Labor came to power," Cr Sibley said.

"We are sick and tired of politicians coming to the island promising the world and then nothing ever happens. It's just another phantom project."

Cr Sibley said freight charges to Palm Island were high and a disgrace which directly impacted on the cost of living.

"It costs \$45 for a carton of Coca-Cola on Palm and in Townsville that is around \$16," he said. "At Woolworths on Townsville when they are on special you can get two cartons for \$32."

Mr Walsh told Senator Scullion Palm Islanders didn't want shallow promises, just more houses.

"My children grew up in my house and I don't want my grandchildren to have to," he said. Senator Scullion promised to check out "where the housing situation was at" and also other concerns brought to his attention during the meeting.

They were given a tour of the Island by Mr Brown and later joined locals at the rugby league match between Skipjacks and Mundy Bay Warriors. Senator Scullion left Palm airport at 4pm after arriving at 12.30pm.



Rodeo postponed to later this year

THE third Palm Island rodeo, which was scheduled for this Saturday and Sunday, has been postponed to a date to be decided due to unforeseen circumstances.

A final decision to postpone the rodeo was made late today, just as the *Palm Island Voice* was about to go to print.

John Moss of Bucko Billy Rodeo, who has organised the bulls and competition side of the event for previous two Palm Island rodeos, said he wanted everybody to know.

The other organisers are Palm Island couple Pauline and Shaun Shortjoe.

"It was due to unforeseen circumstances but it had to be postponed," Mr Moss said.



Elders & youth working on future

Palm Island Elders are working with a group of aspiring youths to each learn how to play important roles in helping to shape the future of the Island community.

A newly-established Elders Reference Group and the Island's first Youth Council intends to meet regularly to discuss issues related to the community's social, economic and educational wellbeing.

Both groups are funded and facilitated by Palm Island Community Company (PICC), a not-for-profit organisation established in 2007 to provide service delivery, capacity building and economic development to Palm Island. PICC programs manager Hedley Alley said residents were passionate about providing protection and future opportunities for the Island's youth.

"We've already seen from our first meetings that there is a lot of raw passion amongst the Elders, because they want the best for their community," Mr Alley said.

"These two groups were formed in order to get different perspectives about how PICC and other stakeholders can provide better support programs and services for residents.

"The Elders and Youth Council will meet regularly to discuss major issues and hopefully that will lead to a number of solutions and positive outcomes that we can use to our advantage when offering support programs.

"All of the information will be shared and

reviewed with stakeholders such as Palm Island Shire Council, Queensland Government and the community."

The Elders Reference Group was established during an information session held at the newly-opened Coolgaree Sports Club in June.

At the meeting Elders highlighted the importance of youth welfare, in particular the ongoing operation of the Palm Island Safe House.

The facility was established by the State government to assist with keeping children within their community when they are removed from their families in response to a child protection matter.

"The Elders made it very clear that greater resources needed to be put into helping the parents of these children to get their lives back on track so that families can stay together on Palm Island," Mr Alley said.

"They want to see the children remain on the Island during those hard times while case workers help to work through any issues with each family."

Meanwhile, the Youth Council was formed to advise both the Council and PICC on a number of issues that affect the Island's young population.

Last week Palm Island Voice reported Yolanda Kerr as one of the Kirwan State High School students short-listed for the Queensland Training Awards in the School Based Trainee/Apprentice (SBTA) section for 2010. At the Awards night, Ms. Kerr represented the



Kirwan State High School & the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council with poise and confidence. She was accompanied by John Livingstone (Executive Principal Kirwan State High), Meredith Winter (Principal Kirwin State High), Dane Paulsen (Teacher), Lindsey Malone (Case Manager Palm Island Senior Campus), Cr Hal Walsh, Aunty Deniece Geia and myself, Murielle Morgan (Senior Administration Officer, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council). As a school captain, Yolanda said she was aware she was setting a valuable example to her fellow students and the wider community.

The long-awaited initiative will allow the Island's next generation of leaders to offer recommendations in relation to youth services, activities and opportunities for education and employment.

Palm Island residents under the age of 18 can apply for final positions in the Youth Council by phoning PICC's Palm Island office on 4721 2277.

Eating well and being active

The Eat Well Be Active program on Palm Island was delivered by the Medical Missionary Training Institute, in partnership with the Palm Island Aboriginal Council, over 12 months from June 2009 to July 2010.

This program was funded by the Department of Sport and Recreation of the Queensland State Government.

It was supported by the Joyce Palmer Health Service, and especially ATODS, Kootana Women's Centre, Bwgcolman school, the Palm Island Store and the community.

Special thanks goes to the kindness and patience of the staff at Sandy Boyd Hostel where we stayed for more than a year.

The program involved the preparation of healthy meals, by invitation and in individual homes, at the Women's Centre and Bwgcolman school.

Nutrition information, reading ingredient labels on food products, and information with practical demonstrations regarding daily exercise was given.

We prepared food with 36 people and 23 people decided to participate in the program which meant committing to changing lifestyle habits in the areas of food and exercise.

People involved included Dianne Foster, Yolanda Coutts, Iris Cannon, Selena Shepherd, Martha Marks, Veronica Coutts, Latoya Williams, Maisie Nai, Deniece Geia, Margaret Murray, Nazareth Youngblutt, Jolene O'Neill, Rhianon Walsh, Zita Robertson, Virginia Chatterton,



Bernadine Castors, Ben and Maurita Nomoa, Delena Foster, Vera Robertson, Lynette Freckleton, Mavis Foster, Sylvia Palmer, Grace Kabay and Marion Turner.

The resulting weight loss, lowered blood sugar levels, blood pressure and cholesterol, was directly related to the level of commitment of the individual.

People reported increased energy levels and improved feelings of well being.

An evaluation of the program was carried out resulting in 100% enjoyment and satisfaction with the program and requests for more information being delivered as seminars, workshops and DVD's on a range of health topics.

**Beverley Krogdahl
Medical Missionary Training Institute
Acacia Grove Health Centre**

It's time to settle stolen wages

THOMAS Thimble is one of many Palm Islanders waiting for outstanding Stolen Wages payments from the Queensland Government.

Mr Thimble was one of more than 100 people who attended a Stolen Wages meeting at St Teresa's Church in Townsville on early this month, organised by the Queensland Council of Unions which is supporting the swift payment of outstanding claims.

"I worked on a Palm Island in the sixties and we only got a small part of what we worked for and that was given to us in drips and drabs," Mr Thimble (*below left*) said. His sister Fay Thimble (*below right*) made an emotional plea to have all outstanding money paid soon.

"A lot of our people who have claims are dying or have passed away," she said.

"Many are sick and waiting to die."

The meeting decided that petitions would be circulated throughout North Queensland, demanding that the State Government honour a promise made in 2002 to pay \$55.4 million in reparations to Indigenous Stolen Wages claimants.

The petition, addressed to Queensland Premier Anna Bligh, says:

"We, the undersigned call on you to honour your government's 2002 promise to pay \$55.4 million in reparations to stolen wages claimants. From 1904 to 1972 the wages and savings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers were forcibly controlled by the state. These workers, some as young as 10 were denied basic entitlements all workers take for granted. Workers were not paid their wages, paid more tax than other Queenslanders and were denied the right to use their savings as they saw fit. For some this system was imposed for over a decade of employment. In 2002, the state Labor government of which you were a part of – promised the Indigenous community it would pay \$55.4 million in reparations to stolen wages claimants – a fraction of what most researchers claim was actually withheld. Up until 2008 only \$20 million had been distributed to workers. Instead of distributing the remaining money in accordance with the original promise, the government made a series of smaller second round payments and used \$21.1 million to create the Indigenous Queenslanders Fund. We call on you to honour the 2002 promise and distribute the remaining \$35 million to the workers whose wages were stolen."



Petitions will be sent to Palm Island where many Stolen Wages claimants live.

QCU General Secretary Ron Monaghan (pictured right with QCU Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Industrial and Employment Officer Gwen Taylor) attended the meeting.

Everybody agreed to sign the petition and distribute it to relatives and friends so the QCU can present it to the State Government.

The meeting heard that some claimants had received as little as \$10 a month in wages whilst a white person doing the same job was paid six times that amount.

Mr Monaghan said under Protection Acts of the time the government could legally withhold 60 to 70% of wages

from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – but that was always on the understanding they were minding the individual and collective accounts, not keeping them.

"[They were mostly] put in the hands of the protectors and they had to ask permission to buy a pair of boots or dress for their wife or something for their kids from money they earned as wages," he said.

Mr Monaghan told a similar meeting in Cairns he wanted to see all Queenslanders get a fair go "and be paid what they're entitled to".

"It's an old issue that still hasn't been resolved yet, and the push is on to get it resolved and get it resolved now," he said.

He said they had campaigned for the Government to re-open the payment system, ensure all the \$55.4 million was paid out and that oral evidence would be accepted, given Governments had failed to keep accurate written evidence of money owed.

He said they now had no choice but to take the matter to the courts, which the QCU was supporting to its fullest capacity.

"We didn't want to end up in court because courts a very complex places," he said.

"Anything can happen and the time limits are uncertain.

"But because we could not get the resolution through the political campaign, the community campaign, we entered into that legal campaign which Conrad Yeatman from Yarrabah is at the centre of. The only problem with that is people are getting older, there are a few less of us every year.

"So we're trying to get around, get the visits to the polities and the community and get the awareness through the press.

"That's the campaign.

"And try to get them to settle. It's time to settle, bloody settle."



WHAT THE CANDIDATES SAY...

Ewen Jones



Ewen has always called Queensland home and is a proud North Queensland.

He was born in Quilpie, attended school in Toowoomba and moved to Townsville over fifteen years ago.

A family man, Ewen has three children and is happily married; he values the important role a strong community plays in the lives of its residents.

Ewen's community involvement includes volunteering at fund-raising auctions for various local charities such as the Queensland Cancer Council, Cootharinga, and Ronald McDonald House.

Ewen loves nothing more than watching his son run around the soccer field with Saints Sand Crabs under 8's or just kicking a ball around the back yard.

That is part of Ewen's vision for Townsville and North Queensland, for kids to be kids and be able to happily and safely play in our community.

Ewen knows North Queensland is a great place and he wants to help make it better.

Ewen believes North Queensland needs a strong voice to ensure our issues are

properly understood and we get our fair share.

Ewen will continue the positive forceful representation that Peter Lindsay has given to the people of Townsville over many years.

Mr Jones says his main priorities are fixing the Townsville health system once and for all, improving local roads and the Bruce Highway, ensuring community safety, protecting the environment, supporting small business and bridging the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Ewen feels that Labor and Tony Mooney have let down Indigenous Australians and have not come true on their election promise to help Indigenous Australian. Labor promised more housing, more health services and more support for Indigenous people and they have delivered none of this.

Ewen's passion is to see the Cowboys win their first Premiership.

Ewen is committed to working for Townsville, keeping jobs secure and protecting our lifestyle so families can plan for their future with confidence.

The *Palm Island Voice* offered major party candidates Ewen Jones & Tony Mooney 3-400 words to write what they would do for Palm Island if they were elected. Here's what they had to say...



Tony Mooney

ALP candidate Tony Mooney is strongly committed to the community of Palm Island. His priorities for Palm are better health, housing and education, jobs and sport in the community.

"Peter Lindsay - the old Liberal National Party member and current LNP campaign director - treated Palm Islanders with contempt, rarely visiting the Island.

"Peter Lindsay said the Palm Community should be moved to Townsville. Peter Lindsay said Palm Islanders should get over the issue of lost wages.

"After 15 years of LNP neglect, it's time for a positive change to a Labor representative."

Mr Mooney said he would bring his mobile office to Palm Island regularly and talk with people in the community.

He would deliver more work like the building program, which is providing 147 new homes and refurbishing over 140 existing homes on Palm Island.

"I will make sure the new homes are delivered and the community gets trade training and jobs out of the program," Mr Mooney said.

"I am working closely with Obe Geia and Dreamtime Operations to create business opportunities and jobs on Palm Island and the mainland for the Bwgcorman people.

"Mayor Alf Lacey and Council representatives will work with me to plan how we can create a town centre and a new retail area. \$14M has already been provided to help the Council build a new subdivision, starting next year.

"Island residents tell me they want a regular barge service to keep costs down and I will make this a priority."

Mr Mooney said locals had told him more community control of the health service and improved education opportunities were major issues for Palm Islanders.

"Palm Island's health services need to deliver and meet the real needs of the community. I will work hard with the Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon to deliver this.

"Labor has recently spent \$4.7 million on the Bwgcorman Community School and St Michael's Catholic School. Tony Abbot and the LNP opposed this work.

Mr Mooney said sport was an activity that greatly contributed to the Palm community.

"Palm Islanders are great sports people whether it's rugby league, netball or any other sport.

"I will work on getting programs and funding to give kids every opportunity to be involved in sport," Mr Mooney said.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Councillor Portfolios: Who does What?

Our Organisation (Mayor, Alfred Lacey)

To deliver positive strategic outcomes that reflect our organisational values and guiding principles to achieve effective Management:

Governance & Policy Development
Government Coordination & Community Engagement
Community Housing
Health & Alcohol Management
Economic Prosperity
Emergency Coordination

Infrastructure Services (Deputy Mayor Ray Sibley)

To provide and maintain reliable cost efficient infrastructure services:

Civil Works
Water Supply,
Sewerage Services
Cleansing Services
Parks and Gardens
Cemetery

Planning and Liveability (Councillor Ruth Gorringe)

To maintain Palm Island's quality lifestyle through appropriate planning and effective handling of community concerns and to provide opportunities that facilitates sustainable economic growth:

Employment & Training
Planning of Community Facilities
Recreation and Leisure
Food Safety Courses
Support Services to Residents

Facilities and Growth (Councillor Zina Prior)

To provide opportunities that facilitates sustainable growth:

Arts and Culture
Promotion of Palm Island
Aged Care & Housing
Community Justice
Visitor information

Community Wellbeing (Councillor Hal Walsh)

To provide and maintain an environment that enhances the liveability of the community through the provision of:

Cultural Heritage Events and Planning
Social, cultural and sporting services.
Community Grants/Minor Grants (identification)
Children's Health and Education
Land Sea & Environment
Youth Services



Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is closed every second Friday (Council pay week) for RDO.

**The next RDO is Friday 20 August.
For emergencies on a Friday please call 0458 789 010.**

PET OWNERS PLEASE NOTE:

Dog registration is \$30 per animal and cats are \$10.00. Pets must be registered before they are able to be seen by the Vet.

For more information contact the Council on 4770 1177

Palm Island Voice

Advertising Information & Rates

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Quarter Page \$121

Eighth Page \$66

Sixteenth Page \$44

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(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).

PLEASE SUPPORT US SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOU!!

... OUT & ABOUT ...

The end of winter is finally in sight after many Palm Islanders have been getting around in jumpers to keep them warm.

Temperatures have been in the low teens overnight, forcing many tropical Island dwellers to rug up.

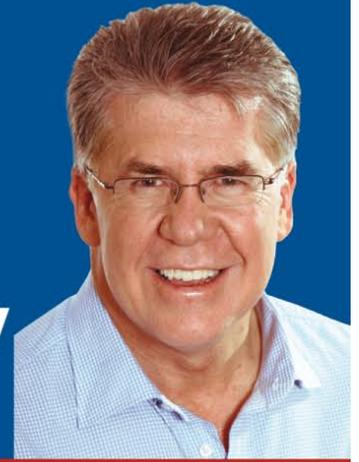
William Blanket and his partner Ralda Blanket (*pictured right*) had the idea, as they were pictured walking in the park across from the Retail Store – saying they were definitely feeling the cold.



Busy upgrading mains for Palm Island sewers last month (left) were workers Chris Camenzuli, Rodney Kerr, Gresham Ross, Ronny Johnson and Jason Healey



Julia Gillard and Tony Mooney



Delivering for Palm Island



Houses

- 147 new homes
- Over 140 home refurbishments



Health

- A new deal to give local community more of a say
- Increased national health funding by 50%



Education

- \$4.7million for building improvements at Saint Michael's Catholic School and Bwgcorman Community School
- Supporting the Education Action Plan to boost attendance and improve numeracy and literacy



Jobs

- Supporting jobs and training through local construction projects
- Support Council Master Plan for town centre infrastructure and retail area
- Working with Dreamtime Operations to create business opportunities for Bwgcorman people on Palm Island and in Townsville



Community

- Supporting the Cathy Freeman Foundation to assist junior netball on Palm Island
- Providing financial backing to the All Blacks rugby league competition and NAIDOC Week
- Working with the community to establish a barge service



Mail: PO Box 5724, Townsville, QLD 4810
 Ph: **4723 2111**
 Email: tony.mooney@australianlabor.com.au



(Advertisement)

EWEN JONES – the people’s candidate

My name is Ewen Jones. I am the LNP candidate at the election. I would like to represent you in Canberra. I have been to Palm seven times in my life. I cannot and will not pretend to know what it is like to sleep 20 to a house, but I will tell you what I saw when I was there. I saw joy in the eyes of children. I saw athletes on the football field. And I see a people who want a change. You have voted Labor all your life and look what that has achieved. Give me a chance to do something positive to work with you and deliver what you want - a home of your own, the opportunity to work for a living, respect and a brighter future for your children.

I WILL DO MY BEST FOR YOU

Please give me your Number 1 vote on Saturday, August 21, at the Bwgcolman State School polling station.



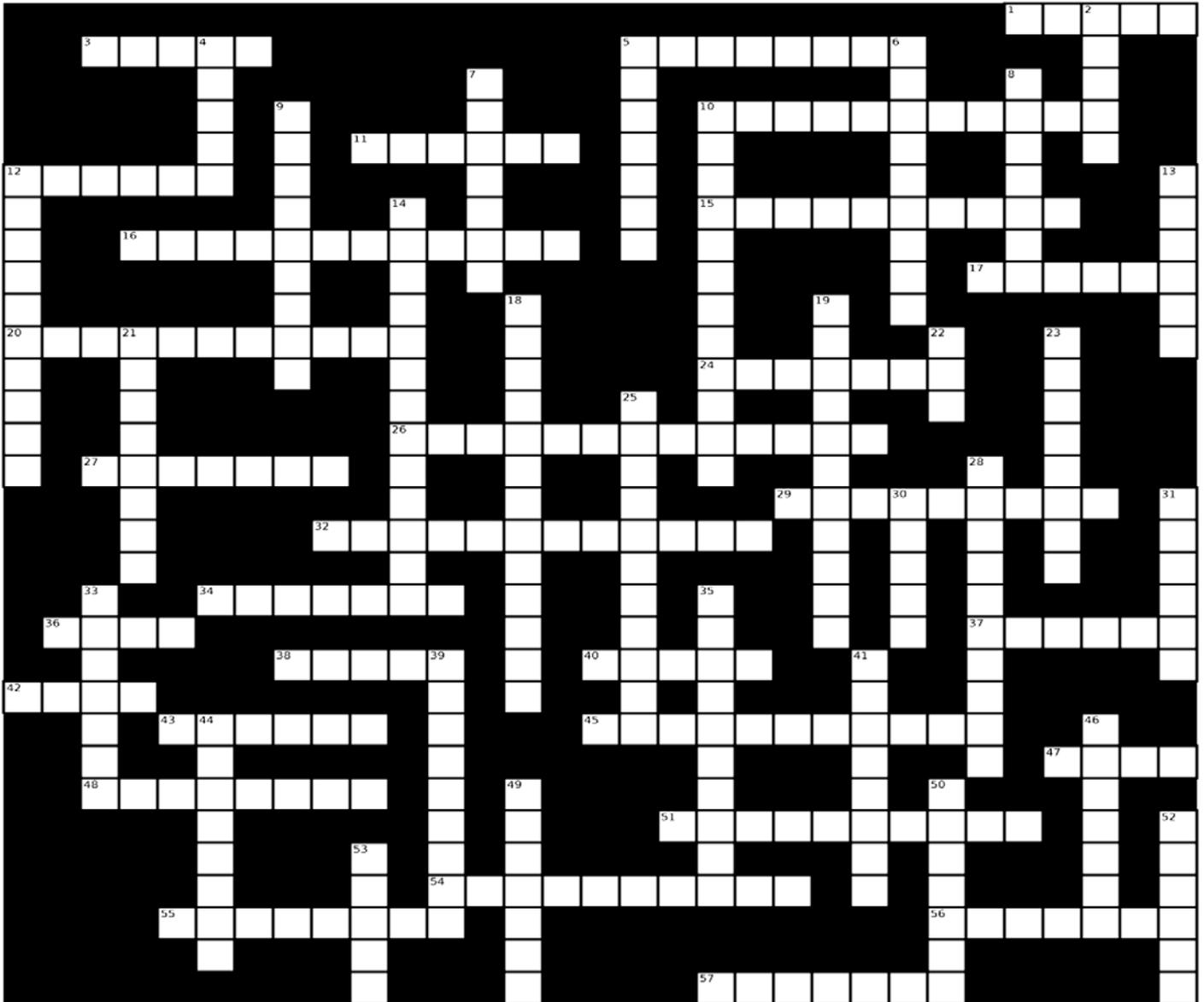
1 EWEN JONES (LNP)



Authorised by Senator Ian Macdonald, 131 Denham Street, Townsville Q 4810

PI Voice Crossword 61

With thanks again to David Goeldner & the Crossword Puzzle Maker at <http://www.armoredpenguin.com>



Across

1. Latin dance style fitness program
3. Tea brewed in one of these
5. Scott Prince plays this position for the Titans
10. Black and white AFL team
11. List of items for a meeting
12. Made of flour and cooked in oven
15. Catamaran operator PI to Townsville
16. A town called Alice (2 words)
17. Balloon gas
20. PI's most popular sport (2 words)
24. Used on farms and to haul grass cutters
26. First indigenous member of Federal parliament (2 words)
27. Popular summer sport with bat & ball
29. Vehicle used to carry sick & injured
32. Boomers basketball star (2 words)
34. Hand held protest sign
36. What you do on election day
37. A formal address to an audience
38. Contamination; poisonous
40. NT festival held in August
42. Money owed
43. Controls an AFL or cricket match

45. Law made by parliament
 47. A story or friendly chat
 48. This influenza is still around (2 words)
 51. This Townsville school has a campus on PI (2 words)
 54. Federal Labor candidate and former Townsville mayor (2 words)
 55. Banner on a newspaper's front page
 56. Controls a rugby league match
 57. Court sport with hoops
- Down**
2. PI league team, ____ Bay Warriors
 4. Gillard is boss of this political party
 5. Palm Island is in this Federal electorate
 6. Australia's rugby league team
 7. Jessica Mauboy is famous for this
 8. A non-government school
 9. Dead fish seen at this bay (2 words)
 10. Set of rules for a club, society or country
 12. Ancient wooden instrument
 13. Another name for hard hat
 14. Australia's highest political office (2 words)

18. Methodists and Presbyterians formed this church (2 words)
19. Disney cartoon character with big ears (2 words)
21. Leader of the Greens (2 words)
22. Opposite of wet
23. Palm Island Mayor - happy birthday! (2 words)
25. This piece of paper proves you passed the course
28. Winner at Ingham boxing event, Reggie _____ (2 words)
30. Workers join to form this
31. What your team gets for coming first
33. Matt Bowen is fullback for this team
35. Crime and Misconduct _____
39. An election contestant
41. Where you find information online
44. A politician in charge of a portfolio
46. Strong fighting leader into battle
49. Atmospheric colour spectrum
50. Abbott leads this political party
52. Townsville Mayor, Les _____
53. Queensland Premier, Anna _____



SEVEN Palm Island boxers won gold medals after a long bus trip to compete at a tournament in Rockhampton late last month.

A total of 10 boxers travelled 720km from Townsville to the central Queensland city with one, Harry Reuben, unable to be matched and therefore missing out on a fight.

Female star Noby Clay gave away at least 9kg and defeated an opponent from Kingaroy by unanimous point's decision.

"Although Noby's opponent was much bigger and the Australian Global Association champion in the 57kg division, Noby completely outclassed her," trainer Ray Dennis said.

Patrick Clarke proved once again he has developed into one of Palm's top boxers when he defeated 20-year-old Billy Joe Storch from Roma.

"It was the 63kg division and Patrick handed out some punishment and he has stopped his last three opponents inside the distance," Mr Dennis said.

Thomas Blanket was too strong for a Kingaroy opponent in the 54kg class and is another rising boxer.

Steen Walsh defeated Lincoln Martin from Rockhampton in the 38kg division putting up a great exhibition against a bigger and much heavier opponent.

Sachin Walsh beat Sam Cameron from the Sunshine Coast in one of the best bouts of the night according to Mr Dennis.

"People in the crowd enjoyed it so much they threw coins into the ring for them," he said.

Ten-year-old Isaac Bulsey defeated Ali Jerky from Pacific Boxing Club in the 38kg.

Fred Bulsey junior fought a draw against Jason King from Emerald.

Reggie Palm Island lost to two times Australian champion Harley Broom from Rocky in the 57kg in a split decision.

"Reggie gave away 5kg and was unlucky to lose to the local lad who is a great boxer," Mr Dennis said.

"Reggie is a flyweight who hits like a welterweight, and has never fought anybody his own weight.

"It is getting hard to get bouts for him in Queensland."

Selwyn Seaton lost to Sam Wade from Emerald in the 75kg division but Mr Dennis said he could "beat anybody in that weight in Australia if he trains hard."

The club needs assistance with finance and sponsorship to continue travelling to tournaments for bus hire, fuel and accommodation.

Mr Dennis said it was the only sporting body on Palm Island that continued to compete – and be competitive – against the best of the best in Queensland and Australia for nine months of the year.



Footy Round-Up: Saturday 31 July

In one of the most exciting games seen on Palm Island this season Jets scored a nail-biting 38-36 win over premiers and arch rivals Butler Bay Bulls on July 31.



For Jets Tabua Oui scored two tries with singles to Hosea Murphy, Gregory Barry, Dion Marks, Jason Thimble and Kareem Sam, Gavin Barry booted four goals and Tabua Oui one. For Butler Bay Bulls Billo Wotton scored two with one apiece to David Bulsey, Chris Walsh, Gresham White, Darryl Pearson and Alec Dennis, Brothers Darryl Pearson and Gary Pearson each kicked two goals. That was the first on field loss Bulls have suffered in season 2010 with their only other one being when they forfeited.

PI 'tanks'

Big forwards Fred Bulsey and Jason Bulsey earned the titles of the "Palm Island Tanks" when they turned in match winning performances in Skipjacks 42-24 victory over Mundy Bay Warriors in the main game. Fred and Jason steamrolled over the gallant and smaller

Warriors defence on numerous occasions like the "blitzkrieg" by German tanks in World War II.

They often managed to shove off defenders and fire off precision passes to running team-mates.

Try of the season

Dashing Warriors back Alan Brown scored what must rate as the try of the season against Skipjacks.

It was the last tackle and Brown was running towards a wall of Skipjacks players and chip kicked the ball over their heads regaining it and then running 70m to score. Another great moment of the day was the sportsmanship displayed by Warriors Tom Walsh and Skipjacks Cooper Kerr. Tom and Cooper had an on field "altercation" and were both sent to the sin bin for 10 minutes in front of the officials table on the sideline. They were both fired up and "wanted to go on with it" as

they sat near each other and at one stage had to be pulled apart by team-mates.

But when their time as up and they were ready to run back on the field, they shook hands, turning their attention back to the game at hand. For Skipjacks Fred Bulsey scored three tries, with one each to Jason Bulsey, James Sydney, Vaughn Charles, Kevin Morgan, Thomas Foster and Cooper Kerr. Mickael Sibley, Kevin Morgan, Jason Bulsey booted a goal each. For Mundy Bay Warriors Alan Brown scored three including his "gem" with one each to Luke James and Ezra Langlo. Sharp shooter Malcolm Barry snared four goals.

Brothers sting Hornets

In the first match Brothers 54 d Hornets 34. For the winners, Anthony Thompson III scored three tries with doubles to Terence Sibley and Robert Johnson. One try scorers were Sterling



Current League Table:

1. Butler Bay Bulls
2. Jets
3. Skipjacks
4. Raiders
5. Brothers
6. Mundy Bay Warriors
7. Hornets



Aden, Maverick Fox, Norman Langdon and Kevin Wilson. Anthony Thompson booted six goals to total 24 points for the match.

For Hornets Kenny Wilson scored a hat trick, Darryl Bramwell two, and Robert Snyder one.

William Bramwell kicked three goals and Robert Snyder two.

These games left the Butler Bay Bulls, Jets and Skipjacks equal on the ladder on 1st, from Raiders 4th, Brothers, Mundy Bay Warriors equal 5th, and Hornets 7th.

SPECIAL MENTION

No Townsville referees arrived for these games so locals took over duties. They performed very well including Hornets coach Rio Walsh who controlled the main game. Well done to all, without them there wouldn't have been any football that weekend.

Footy Round-Up: 7 August

Premiers Butler Bay Bulls bounced back from a narrow loss the previous week with a handsome 28-6 win over another contender Skipjacks before a large crowd.

Bulls is now the leader on the ladder and tries went to Pita Morgan, William Blackman, Gresham White, Clinton Pearson, Darryl Pearson and David Bulsey, with goals to Pita Morgan and Darryl Pearson.

Kevin Morgan scored a try which he converted for all of Skipjacks points.

Jets and Brothers played a hard fought 24-all draw in the first game at football park with two tries to Tabua Oui, and singles to rugged forward Jason Thimble, Jermaine Bulsey and Phillip Kyle. Gavin Barry junior chipped in with two goals.

For Brothers Sterling Aden scored two tries and one apiece to Thomas Ketchup and Anthony Thompson who also booted four goals.

The main game saw Raiders defeat Mundy Bay Warriors 48-24 in an entertaining game.

For Raiders Adrian Poynter and Ben Nomoa each scored two tries, with singles to John Watson, Owen Kyle, Morris Watson, Harry Reuben and Frank Aden.

John Baira kicked four goals and one each to Adrian Poynter and Owen Kyle.

For the Warriors ever reliable Alan Brown, Malcolm Kennedy, Markus and Luke James scores tries with four goals to the radar like boot of Malcolm Larry.

Hornets had the bye.

Busy Allblacks season kicks off in October

PALM Island rugby league footballers will have four major Allblacks carnivals to compete in even after their domestic club competition finishes in early September.

Already Palm Islanders are in demand for the 2010 Zenadth Kes Torres Strait Cup to be held at the Ken Brown Memorial Oval on TI from Friday October 8-10.

That follows the success of recruiting five Palm Islanders by the Mua Rajorbacks from Moa Island which won the Island of Origin Series at Badu Island in the Torres Strait over the Queen's Birthday weekend in early June. Some Palm footy players have said they will travel to TI.

But many more will compete in the October 8-10 Bindal Sharks Allblacks carnival will be held in Townsville (*action from last year pictured above*). It looks likely that two Palm men's teams as well as the Barracudettes (*pictured above*) will be there.

The biggest Allblacks carnival in Queensland is the Cairns one which will be held from October 14 to 16, organiser Sarah Addo



confirmed this week.

Many of the footballers who competed at the Torres Cups and Bindal carnivals will be on show in Cairns.

The Palm Island Barracudas entered two teams last year and look set to be there again.

Soon after the Dan Ropeyarn Memorial carnival at Bamaga will be held, another contest which will attract good players from around the region and some of the elite Palm Islanders have already been targeted by teams.

Whilst no date has officially been set it looks like being in early November.



... OUT & ABOUT ...

FORMER champion Barracudas rugby league player Vern "The Legend" Daisy looks set to return to Palm Island to watch the Skipjacks versus Army Thunder game on August 20.

Vern was rated one of the best forwards ever produced in north Queensland and led the Barracudas when they competed in the Townsville and District competition.

When the Palm Island Voice saw Vern at Parkside Shopping Centre in Townsville last month he said he would make every endeavour to return to Palm for the big clash.

"I work three days a week at Camooweal and will try and get time off to come to Palm and see all my friends," he said.



Vern was delighted to hear that his former Mount Isa Foley Shield team mate Josh Geia had made a return to football for Hornets in the Palm comp at age 48.

He said he was really looking forward to catching up with Josh and was not surprised to hear his friend had earned one referee's best and fairest vote in a recent game.



COURTNEY Walsh may have the same name as former champion West Indian cricketer but he plays a different sport.

20-year-old Courtney was spotted walking with the support of crutches a month or two back – hopefully he's off them by now!

"I injured my knee over in Townsville kicking the ball around and may need the crutches for a couple of months," he said.

If the injury heals quickly enough, Courtney hopes to have a run with Hornets club locally.

HAPPY Robert James is one of the many QBuild workers who can be seen around Palm Island.

Robert is pictured here with his assistant, Todd near the Reel Women jetty and barge ramp.

"We are here to pick up building material from the Day and Day Shipping barge which has come from Lucinda," Robert said.

Todd is one of the best footballers in the Palm rugby league competition for reigning premiers Butler Bay Bulls.

"I think we can win the premiership and make it three in a row," he said.



Patience pays off for autograph hunters

MIXING with the stars has been a regular occurrence for 16-year-old Palm Island girl Samelia Miller.

Samelia is a quality autograph hunter when the best NRL rugby league players come to Townsville when their team meets the North Qld Cowboys at Dairy Farmers Stadium.

The Brisbane Broncos beat the Cowboys 34-26 there last week and that night the visiting players stayed at the Holiday Inn in the Townsville CBD.

About 9.30am the next day, Samelia arrived there with her friends from a local boarding school and scored big time with photographs on Broncos footballers.

There was captain and superstar Darren Lockyer, Sam Thaiday, regarded as the best forward in the NRL, Corey Parker, Scott Anderson, Peter Wallace (*pictured with Samelia below*), Jharal Yow Yeh, Josh Hoffman,

two-try hero Matt Gillett, Justin Hodges (who didn't play against the Cowboys), and a few others.

"I was so excited to be able to get my photograph taken with some of the Broncos players by my mates and they will be good to keep," she said. Back in April, Samelia was at the Holiday Inn and got pics with Parramatta Eels players such as Jarryd Hayne, Fuifui Moimoi, Nathan Hindmarsh, Timana Tahu, Luke Burt and Krisnan Inu.

Another Palm Islander, Verna Snyder (*pictured below with Justin Hodges*), also was at the foyer of the Holiday Inn and got her pic snapped with many of the star Broncos.

"I am over the moon, this has been a dream come true," she said.



Latest footy fixture news + pics + the latest points table pp 16-17...

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Palm Island Voice

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Fax 4770 1305 With thanks to Alf Wilson and to all the Palm Islanders who have contributed to this issue of the Palm Island Voice.

Published by PIASC © 2010

Editorial & Advertising Deadlines + Publication Dates:

DEADLINE

PUBLICATION DATE

Thursday 19 August 2010

Tuesday 24 August 2010

Thursday 2 September 2010

Tuesday 7 September 2010

Thursday 16 September 2010

Tuesday 21 September 2010

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