

# Palm Island Voice



**FREE!**

**Special Issue**

**JANUARY 2021**



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

## We are...



## ...living with COVID-19

Palm Island has the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in transmission across our community.

The rest of this week is **NOT** business as usual.

This is a one off period while we try to work out who has it and where they are.

It is our only chance to stop or slow down the spread of this highly contagious disease.

You can have it and not know it, which means you could spread it to others without realising it.

Please wear a mask.  
Please get tested.  
Please stay home.



**WEAR  
A  
MASK**



**GET  
TESTED**



**STAY  
AT  
HOME**

**WEAR A MASK:** Cr Deniece Geia, pictured with her brother Garry:

“I’ve chosen to be COVID wise to keep me and my beautiful grandchildren and our lovely Elders safe and blessed,” she said.

“Thanks to our people who are following the rules: getting tested and vaccinated, staying home, and ensuring they wear masks outdoors.

“It’s very important that we as a community work together to keep the spread of this virus at bay.”

**GET TESTED:** Cr Andrea Kyle–Sailor, pictured with her grandson Kendrick:

“We all need to be safe and look after each other,” she said.

“We are survivors and need to take care.

“I made sure my grandson was swabbed with me, it’s not nice but get it done.

“Stay safe Bwngcolman.”

**STAY AT HOME:** Cr Derek Haines, pictured with his family at home:

“We need everybody to get on board, get tested and do what we have to do to get through this – wear masks, stay home and stay safe,” he said.

“Please think about your family and community.”

**THINK OF OTHERS:** Cr Castors, pictured right:

“I got tested, not only to protect myself but to also protect my parents, my immediate families, all my extended families, my new grand babies, my friends,” he said.

“It is time we all – especially the younger ones in our community – stop thinking about ourselves and start thinking about everyone around us.”



**GET YOUR VACCINATIONS or BOOSTER:** Mayor Mislam Sam, pictured above having his booster shot last Saturday.

“Our community has been tested ever since it began in 1918,” he said.

“Our families have endured more severe circumstances but through all of those hard times they found hope – hope through unity, respect and helping one another.

“We need everyone to be united against this virus.

“Understand that if we don’t do the right thing, someone’s life could be lost.

“Help one another to listen to our pleas – do the right thing by yourself and your family.

“This is us now, this is what we have to do.”



# Long standing water problems on again

Water leaking at Gribble Street has been fixed but had little effect on overall water level issues, PIASC's water team says.

"To ensure we don't run out of water in the main reservoir, immediate restriction of no unattended hoses and no sprinklers for the rest of the January are necessary," they said.

"It is a long standing problem.

"Managing raw water and treating clean water and storing it is very difficult when the plant is not large enough to produce water fast

enough in the wet.

"When you are short of storage space it is a double problem.

"We are very concerned about water levels at the main reservoir.

"Slow production and high use at this time of year is also causing problems."

They said sprinklers and unattended hoses were banned for the rest of the month.

"Thank you for your ongoing support," the water team said.

"We continue to work with the Government for additional storage capacity, but for now it is a tightrope juggling through these conditions.

"The one thing we can influence is the rate we use the water."

Please monitor the Council's Facebook page @PalmCouncil for the latest updates.



*"Please don't forget to respect and protect our Elders," Cr Andrea Kyle-Sailor says.*

If you see a home with this sign at the front, please do not enter.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND THOSE AROUND YOU



Stay at home if you are sick



Wash your hands regularly



Cover your coughs and sneezes



Keep 1.5 metres away from others (as much as you can)



Avoid touching your face



Get tested if you have symptoms

**OUR next DEADLINE\* (Issue 342) will be Thursday 6 January for publication on MONDAY 10 January!**

The **Palm Island Voice** is published \*weekly if we have paid advertising, or otherwise fortnightly by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council. For advertising rates and/or more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au) Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor, Christine Howes. You can also follow us on Facebook! We have 2,773 'likes'!

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

**Operating Hours for Palm Island Council are Monday–Friday 8am – 5pm**

If you have any questions please contact Reception on 4770 1177 or 4770 0200 Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 4,738 'followers' on Facebook!!!

