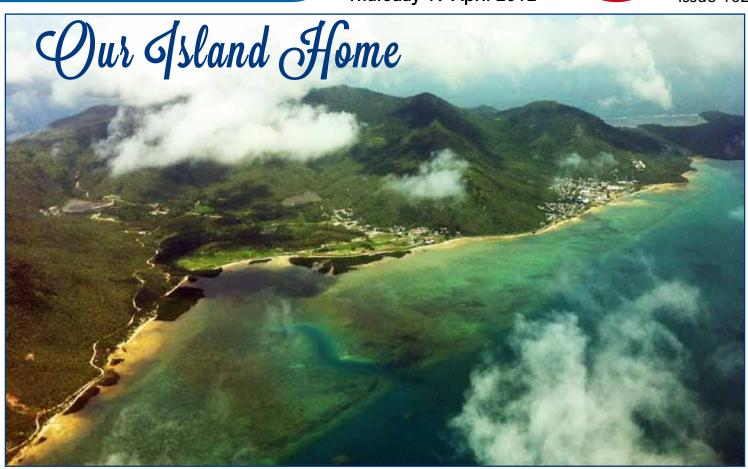


Palm Island Voir Community Your Newsletter Your Voice

Issue 102

ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 19 April 2012



Island's 1056 voters ready to have their say

PALM Island Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Alf Lacey will face three opponents on Saturday 28 April at the Queensland Local Government elections.

Also standing for the Mayor's position will be current Deputy Mayor Cr Raymond Sibley, former Mayor Delena Oui-Foster and former rugby league player Obadiah (Obe) Geia senior.

At the last election on 15 March 2008, Mr Lacey claimed 45.99% of the votes to win from Mrs Oui-Foster with 39.71% with the other candidate, Josephine Mayoral Geia, gaining 14.31%.

For the election of Mayor, firstpast-the-post will win the position. Meanwhile 14 candidates have nominated for the four Councillor positions.

The four candidates who poll the

most votes on a first-past-thepost basis will become the elected members of the new Council.

Voters are required to place the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 in order of preference in the squares next to the candidates of their choice.

In the running is Mislam Sam, Edward Walsh, Frank Conway, Owen Marpoondin, Ruth Gorringe, Roy Prior, Archie Fraser, Collette Wotton, Georgina Haines, Deniece Geia, Albert Gorringe, Selene Shepherd, Arthur Clumpoint and Luella Bligh.

Ruth Gorringe is the only current Councillor who will stand for reelection.

Zina Prior has not nominated, Hal Walsh resigned his position two months ago and Cr Sibley is standing for Mayor.

A total of 13 candidates stood for the four positions on the Council in 2008. Zina Prior claimed 13.18% of the votes, Ruth Gorringe 11.59%, Raymond Sibley 10.71% and Mick Thaiday 10.26%.

Mr Thaiday passed away in March 2010 and Mr Walsh was elected as a Councillor at a bi-election.

Palm Island has 1056 voters (504 males and 552 females) according the Australian to Electoral Commission's Close of Roll Figures.

Art Centre hosts first local Exhibition

A group of local artists has opened the first art exhibition at the Palm Island Arts Centre says Mayor Alf Lacey.

"Since the opening of the Arts Centre we've seen artists start to congregate and use the arts centre for what it was established for," he said. "It's good to see the Arts Committee doing some good work already. This exhibition was put together by Rani Lind, a local mother, and it was a project funded through Link-Up Old, the Townsville cultural centre and a small grant from the Prime Minister & Cabinet office."

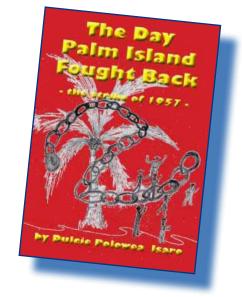


L-R: Moarna Sam, Cindell Palmer, Michaela Robertson, Oriel Palmer, Larbara Robertson, Rani Lind (coordinator), Loyla Morgan & Alf Lacey

Hopes for Island launch of Dulcie's Strike yarn

Black Ink Press of
Townsville has published
a book by Dulcie Isaro,
"The Day Palm Island
Fought Back – The Strike
of 1957" (paperback, RRP
\$15) and hopes to hold
dual launches - on Palm
Island and in Townsville
- to mark the 55th
anniversary of the Strike.

Dulcie was a teenager at the time, and her family was sent to Woorabinda. An elder now, she tells the story as if it were yesterday and she has also done her own simple line drawings to go with the text. "We are now making plans for launching the book, and would like to do it in the first week in June, the (55 year) anniversary of the strike," Black Ink Press coordinator Jeanie Adams said, "Dulcie lives in Townsville now and would like to have the



launch here. But perhaps if the anniversary is being celebrated on Palm Island, there could be a launch there too."

Mrs Adams said she was putting the word out in the hope that Palm Islanders would be interested in being involved. "This seems a great opportunity for an organisation like 4K1G or the Catherine Freeman Foundation to become a partner



with us, to play host, to provide a really positive media event and a good experience for the youth of Palm Island," she said. "We will also publish Dulcie's play about the strike, and hope to re-publish the book written by her father in 1981, 'Under the Act'."

For more information or to get involved contact Jeanie on 4723 4546.

Culture Love @ IKC

Palm's new Indigenous Knowledge Centre (IKC) hosted a school holiday project known as 'Culture Love' over the Easter break.

The project was the result of a partnership between Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, the State Library and the PCYC.

Renowned filmmakers Jan Cattoni and Dan Marrola, and Indigenous author and anthropologist



Photographs above courtesy Michael Aird



Michael Aird shared their skills throughout the week.

Children learned the finer points of interview structuring as well as filming and editing short movies on iPads and more traditional cameras with Jan and Dan while Mr Aird opened the week with a presentation to elders and children from the Norman Tindale collection.

Elders and children responded with joy to some of the familiar faces and names shown on old photographs as they were presented.

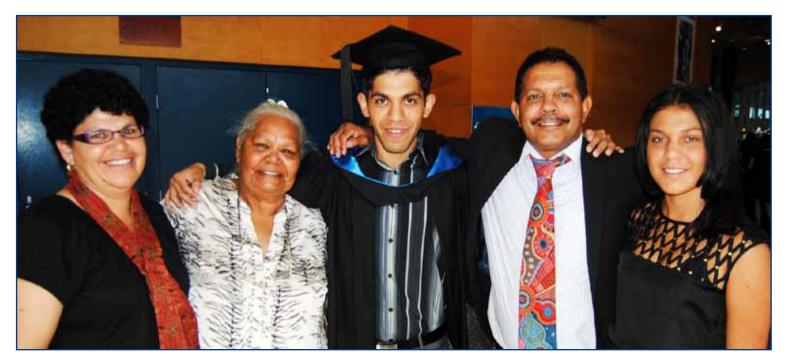
Children were then asked to interview their elders with a particular focus on their reactions to the photos and the relevance of local history research and availability on Palm Island.

The overwhelming responses were that more should be done to make sure these and other historical resources available to the community along with education programs for the children of Palm Island. Children then worked with the filmmakers to set up shoots in a variety of settings, both outside and

inside.

The week ended with a showing of the children's interviews, which will be available for the community to view at the IKC very soon.

Story kindly provided by IKC Support & Development



Families celebrate JCU graduations

GRESHAM Congoo graduated with a Bachelor of Business at a James Cook University ceremony at the Townsville Entertainment Centre last Friday.

Hundreds attended graduation ceremonies to celebrate with various members of their families.

23-year-old Gresham is the son of Chris and Shirley Congoo.

His grandmother Carol George was also at the ceremony.

Chris Congoo's parents are Bill and Rosemary Congoo from Palm Island.

Gresham works for Centrelink and Chris, who was employed on Palm Island for some time, said everybody was proud of him.

Jasmin Onus, the daughter of well known Healing Foundation chair Florence Onus, also graduated with a Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Business.

Jasmin will work for the Darwin-based Northern Land Council as a legal advisor.



Bowen fronts for Macca's House

When family members become ill many Palm Island families stay at the Ronald McDonald House near Townsville Hospital.

North Queensland Cowboys star fullback Matthew Bowen has become a community ambassador for Ronald McDonald House and was there earlier this month when it was also announced that Stage Two of the facility, currently under construction, would double the number of rooms to 24.

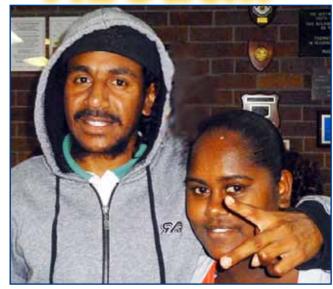
"This is a great community thing and helps many families including a lot of Indigenous ones," Bowen said.

"They can be close to loved ones."
Ronald McDonald House spokeswoman Emma

Meeking said Bowen's decision to be an ambassador would increase the profile of the facility.

Whilst there Bowen met staff, volunteers and families currently using the facilities.

About...





Above at the PCYC Night Programs was Sam Coutts (PICC youth patrol worker) and Yolanda Kerr (PCYC volunteer). Above right: Maggie Blackley at the Arts Centre. Right: Kevin Morgan & Lex Wotton Below: Mayor Alf Lacey and local Alf Clay with SES visiting workers involved in Get Ready Scheme at the Palm Island Allblacks last

month.





flags plan to end alcoho

of alcohol bans in Indigenous communities in its first 18 months of office. A Liberal National Party government in Queensland would review the effectiveness

LNP leader, Campbell Newman said he would one day want to see the bans lifted but could not commit to taking action in his first

lifted in his first term but he did commit to a said the bans would "probably" not be He

of alcohol management plans and that will set the course for the future," he said. "What I'm talking about here is the future of Aboriginal people on Cape York and other "We'll undertake a review of the effectiveness parts of the State.

"I'm talking about them ultimately having a proper dignified lifestyle like all other

Queenslanders."

review within 18 months.

should go because they were not working "very effectively". Mr Newman argues ultimately the bans

"Alcohol management plans are a bandaid which is people living in conditions of despair and misery because they are in a welfare trap the Australian Labor Party, both at a Federal and State level, has created for them," he said. for the symptoms of the fundamental problem.

In some areas, there is no alcohol permitted and in others the amount a person can carry is communities to reduce violence. limited.

The alcohol bans have been in place since 2002 in 19 Queensland Indigenous

Mr Newman said the LNP had talked about lifting the alcohol bans for many months



Palm Island Mayor, Alf Lacey



Indigenous leader, Gracelyn Smallwood

Alf Lacey welcomes LNP plan,

Smallwood clams Anna Rligh

Paul

in my

Queensland Premier, Anna Bligh

LNP leader, Campbell Newman

PALM-as a ca For the upmark hung or "My wo "It is go place co story of He said "Whilst

Gracelyn Smallwood described Ms Bligh

increased violence if alcohol was again shown it was linked to family violence. "When the rate of alcohol-fuelled violence

comments as "obscene" and rejected the notion

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey commended

Aboriginal communities, arguing Labor

people, then there's something very wrong

'Prohibition does not work, it will not work and these stupid laws that were implemented

and when school attendance rates all reach

"You turn people who would never get into

big sigh of relief for Indigenous Queenslanders

Cherbourg Mayor Sammy Murray said

by the Labor government have never worked "Certainly the news from the LNP brings

In some areas there is no alcohol permitted

communities to reduce violence.

Queensland Premier Anna Bligh has been accused of taking an attack on

women safer has

Deputy Premier Andrew Fraser backed Ms

's 'hidden' talent on show at Holiday Inn

born Paul Conway hopes his recently discovered artistic talent will act talyst for youth on the Island to find their own skills.

next month 48-year-old Mr Conway will have a display of his paintings at the et Holiday Inn in Townsville. Mr Conway said his paintings had previously been nly on his own wall until visiting friends told him how good they were. rks incorporate my Palm Island clan totem the rainbow serpent," he said.

ood they are on display at the Holiday Inn where tourists from all over the ome and look at them. The animals of the land and sea have been used to tell the

my Bwgcolman people who have a kindness in their hearts." his mother had told him to surround himself with colour to strengthen and warm the spirit within. thow to paint has been handed down from generation to generation, I am the only one family to have kept going with it," he said.

"I want to be a role model for youngsters and hope they can

develop their own talent whether it be painting, boxing or football we all have skills."

Mr Conway said 15 paintings were hanging at the Holiday Inn.

"It takes me about three to four days to finish a painting," he said. He said he was delighted to hear an Art Committee had been formed on Palm Island to encourage and support painters and sculptors.





Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices

Palm Island Voice Public & Community Notices are your best choice for anniversaries, birthdays, Meeting Notices, sales & all your classified needs - and most of them are free!





Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council

is closed every second Friday (Council pay week) for RDO.

The next RDO is Friday 27 April.

REMEMBER: the Bank & Post Office now closes each Council RDO (every second week).

For emergencies on Friday please call 0458 789 011
For more information contact Council on 4770 1177

Palm Island Voice 2012

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Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day and material submitted no later than COB the next day. For more information contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at chowes@westnet.com.au

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PIRL FOOTY

Roundup Week 2

SKIPJACKS started their 2012 campaign off in fine form with a hard fought 32-24 victory over a gallant Butler Bay Bulls in round two of the local domestic rugby league competition.

The star-studded side had the Round One bye last week and is one of the early favourites to take out the flag.

A major boost for Skippies has been the signing of Obe Geia jnr who played two A grade NRL games for the North Queensland Cowboys several seasons back. For Skipjacks James Sibley scored two tries with singles to classy Clinton Pearson and awesome forwards Jason Bulsey and Fred Bulsey.

Clinton Pearson chipped in with two goals whilst his brother Gary Pearson and Obe Geia jnr each booted one.

Skipjacks coach Alex Morgan was impressed with the performances of Owen Wilson, Raoul Miller and Bennett Blanket and said they were his best players.

For the Butler Bay Bulls Gresham Ross, David Bulsey, Billo Wotton and William Blackman crossed for four pointers.

Robert Bulsey booted three goals and Pita Morgan one.

RAIDERS SCORE 100 POINTS.

HIGH rolling Mount Bentley Raiders continued on their winning way with a 100-12 victory over reigning premiers Jets.

Tabua Oui scored seven tries for the second week in a row with three to Kevin Morgan and two apiece to blockbusting Caleb Geia and John Baira.

Lleyton Sam, Wayne Barry, Kristin Baira, Costa Sam and Ben Nomoa jnr each scored one try, Tabua Oui booted seven goals, Kevin Morgan landed three and John Baira one.

Jets try scorers were Christian Walsh and Jordan Prior with Gavin Barry booting two goals. Tabua Oui scored 42 points in the game two add to his 54 in round one which gives him an amazing 96 points in just two games.

WARRIORS ON FIRE

MUCH improved Mundy Bay Warriors had a handsome 64-26 win over Hornets in the other Round Two encounter.

For the Warriors, Morris Watson, Michael Noble, Frank Conway and Malcolm Kennedy jnr each scored two tries with singles to Brian Brown, Norman Lymburner and Ian Palmer.

Michael Noble kicked six goals and Michael Noble one.

Hornets leading try scorer was Josh Landers with two and one each to Nui Rabuka jnr, Owen Robertson and Victor Courtney. Landers had a fine game also guiding two goals home and Owen Robertson snared one. Bwgcolman Brothers had the bye.

Mount Bentley Raiders topped the ladder at the end of the Round, followed by Mundy Bay Warriors, Skipjacks, Butler Bay Bulls, Bwgcolman Brothers, Hornets and Jets.

Roundup Week 3

SKIPJACKS and Mount Bentley Raiders remain the only undefeated sides after round three of the domestic rugby league competition played last Saturday 14TH April at the Palm football oval.

These results have left the mouths of all local rugby league fans watering with anticipation for when Raiders and Skipjacks meet in a few weeks time in what looms as a Palm sporting showdown.

The star studded Skipjacks scored a handsome 84-34 victory over last year's beaten grand finalists Brothers.

Hooker James Sibley was the hero for Skippies scoring five tries and other standouts were prop Fred Bulsey, lock Raoul Miller, local teacher Jeremy Pulleh, Obe Geia jnr and Darryl Pearson.

Genuine workhorse Miller received a cut lip which required stitches but will be raring to go for the Barracudas against Bowen next Saturday.

Classy back Darryl Pearson is back playing Palm football after having lined up with Townsville and District Rugby League comp clubs Burdekin and University earlier in the season.

...Continued Next Page...

...From Previous Page...

Palm teacher and tough Skippies forward Jeremy Pulleh gave the Brothers defenders some "lessons" during his hat trick of tries. Crafty five eight Robert Johnson was by far and away the best for Brothers and blockbusting forward and club stalwart Gavin Johnson scored two four pointers.

Full Results: SKIPJACKS 84 (Tries: James Sibley 5, Obe Geia jnr 3, Jeremy Pulleh 3, Mickeal Sibley 2, Sam Coutts 1, Len Noble 1, Raoul Miller 1, Goals: Obe Geia jnr 7 goals, Mickeal Sibley 1, Darryl Pearson 1, Anthony Thompson 1) d BROTHERS 34 (Tries: Gavin Johnson 2, Rod Shortjoe 1, Len James 1, Robert Johnson 1, Malcolm Larry 1, Goals: Gavin Johnson 3, Gavin Charles 1).

RAIDERS RUN OVER WARRIORS

Mount Bentley Raiders proved too good for the much improved Mundy Bay Warriors winning 74-24.

Point scoring machine Tabua Oui crossed for five tries and booted seven goals for a personal tally of 34 points. In the first three rounds of fixtures Oui has scored an amazing 130 points which must be a record. Special mention must be made of consistent Morris Watson and Ezra Langlo who each scored two tries for the Warriors who were in the game at halftime. Full Results: MOUNT BENTLEY RAIDERS 74 (Tries: Tabua Oui 5, Lleyton Sam 2, John Baira 2, Frank Baira 2, Caleb Geia 1, Reggie Palm Island 1, Alan Baira 1, Goals: Tabua Oui 7, Kevin Morgan 1, John Baira 1) d MUNDY BAY WARRIORS 24 (Tries: Morris Watson 2, Ezra Langlo 2, Ian Palmer 1, Goals: Raymond Noble, Michael Noble).

BULL STING HORNETS

In the other game Butler Bay Bulls consolidated third spot on the ladder by defeating Hornets 76-6. With more players to return to the fold in coming weeks the Bulls will keep the top two sides honest throughout the season.

STOP PRESS: PALM Island Rugby League selectors have named a powerful squad of 22 players from which a Barracudas side will be selected to meet Bowen in a representative game at Bowen on Saturday.

The squad was picked after last Saturday's round three of local fixtures and will train during the week.

It will be trimmed to 19 players and the Barracudas co-coaches are Genami Geia and former NRL Newcastle Knights star Milton Thaiday.

The squad is: Esrom Geia, Tabua Oui, Obe Geia jnr, Billo Wotton, Mikeal Sibley, Darryl Pearson, John Baira, Georgie Dabea, Pita Morgan, Fred Bulsey, Costa Sam, Caleb Geia, Raoul Miller, James Sibley, Jeremy Pulleh, Luke James, Gary Pearson, Morris Watson, Robert Johnson, Michael Noble, Clinton Pearson, Robert Bulsey.

Points Table: Week 3

- 1 Mount Bentley Raiders 6p
- 2 Skipjacks 6p
- 3 Butler Bay Bulls 4p
- 4 Mundy Bay Warriors 4p
- 5 Bwgcolman Brothers 2p
- 6 Jets 2p
- 7 Hornets Op

For Hornets the only try by Josh Landers came after a clever chip and chase, which was a ripper and impressed everybody at the ground.
Landers is proving to be an elusive player.
Full Results: BUTLER BAY BULLS 76 (Tries: Gresham Ross 3, David Bulsey 2, Alan Brown 2, Gelam Geia 2, Michael McLean 2, Adrian Poynter 1, Michael Wotton 1, Goals: Robert Bulsey 7, David O'Shea 3, William Blanket 1, Gresham Ross 1 goals) d Hornets 6 (Try: Josh Landers 1, Goal: Cooper Kerr 1).
Jets had the bye.

There will be no matches on the coming weekend due to the Barracudas match in Bowen.

10

Noby in training to pack some punches

STAR female boxer Noby Clay is back in full training much to the delight of local trainer Ray Dennis.

"Noby has been working out on the running machine for the past three days and will soon be at peak fitness and ready to fight again," he said last week.

Mr Dennis said Noby was so enthusiastic that she may even travel to Caboolture with Palm Island male boxers for a Boxing Association tournament in three weeks time. "We will see how she goes during the week but it is looking good," Mr Dennis said.

There has been some talk around boxing circles that Noby may turn professional this year.

As a light weight amateur Noby in the past has had to fight heavier ladies.

Palm boxers are mostly competing these days in Boxing Association competitions which require long travelling down south.

Association boxers are eligible for Commonwealth Games selection.

Mr Dennis said some Palm boxers stayed in the rival State Amateur Boxing League, which has tournaments mostly held in North Queensland.

"We are still to renew our League membership as I haven't received paperwork from their officials," he said.

Whilst Mr Dennis is still heavily involved in training a large number of boxers at the Palm PCYC, his assistant Chris Evers have been taking them away for tournaments.



Mr Evers said numbers at training had been down a little during school holidays with many families away. "It will get back to normal with school back this week and I expect to take 12 boxers away to Caboolture," he said.



...Out & About...

Waiting for the ferry in Townsville last week were: Far Left: Bronwyn Kerr; Left: Marita Nomoa; Below Left: Vince Thimble; Middle: PI Ferry Terminal; Below: Eddie Walsh and Below Right: Russell Sarabo



Barracudas ready to tackle Bowen in annual blockbuster



Above: combined Palm Island/Bowen side at the 2011 Foley Shield

A LARGE number of Palm Island residents will travel to Bowen this Saturday to watch the Barracudas take on the home side in a representative rugby league game.

Last year a combined Palm Island/ Bowen team made its debut in the prestigious Foley Shield which commenced in 1948.

This season only three centres – Mackay, Townsville and Cairns – will contest the Foley Shield with games to be held at different venues.

The dumping of Palm Island/Bowen was heavily criticized by local rugby league supporters.

However they will get behind the Barracudas on Saturday and already

many residents have indicated they will travel the 200km south of Townsville for the game.

The Barracudas side was selected after three rounds of the seven-club Palm domestic club competition.

The game is expected to be hotly contested if a similar match held in Ayr last year was any indication.

Talent scouts from the Mackay and Townsville clubs will be in Bowen on Saturday checking out Barracudas talent.

Full report and pics in the next Issue!

SEE STOP PRESS ON PAGE 10 FOR FULL BARRACUDAS LINE UP FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MATCH AGAINST BOWEN!

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