



# Make Palm count!

“Make Palm Count” is the call from Mayor Alf Lacey for this weekend’s State Government election.

“It’s very important you make your vote count in the State Election because it brings more to the community....we’ve got to make sure we are counted,” he said.

He said the Council had been lobbying hard for the retail precinct, which was a really important project.

“We’ve placed that as our central push for the Queensland State Election

and we certainly will put both parties on notice not for funding welfare programs for Palm, but funding economic opportunities such as the business retail precinct,” he said.

“This project will be a once-in-a-generation opportunity for Palm to put this vital asset into our community.

“It will mean more jobs for local people and at the same

time will create opportunities for local family businesses to find their way economically on Palm. We need to make our votes count on Saturday, while we may not have the numbers to change the overall count, our polling booth figures will be noted by whoever wins our seat, that’s one thing we can definitely count on.”

*See pages 8 & 9 for candidates’ statements re Palm Island.*

## Inside!

- **Netballers travel to Gold Coast**
- **Mayor Alf Lacey’s take on 2014 and into 2015**





# Stolen wages back on the table

A Labor Government will establish a special fund to address the longstanding historical issue of the need for compensation for the wages stolen from Indigenous Queenslanders Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Curtis Pitt says.

“This is a legacy of discrimination against past generations that the current generation must resolve,” he said. “Action was taken by recent Labor Governments to right the wrongs of past governments.

“But more must be done to bring the matter to conclusion.”

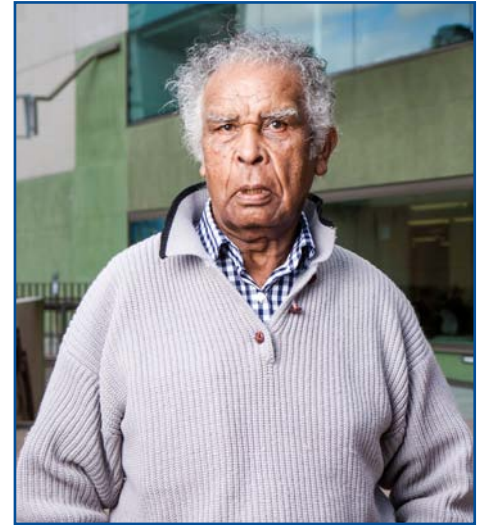
Mr Pitt said the next Labor Government would establish a fund of up to \$21 million to help reasonably compensate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders affected by those discriminatory policies of the past. He said Labor would establish a special task force of stakeholders to develop the criteria for the

allocation of funds as well as assess applications.

“I know we will never erase the hurt and sorrow caused in the past, but it is a genuine attempt to recognise injustice and to do what we can to right a wrong,” he said.

Mr Pitt said Labor was responding to the legitimate concerns of Indigenous communities.

“A significant number of Elders right across Queensland, from Brisbane, Cherbourg, Stradbroke Island, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns and Mackay have expressed their concerns and are seeking to ensure that any legitimate claims are finally dealt with,” he said.



Queensland Minister for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs Glen Elmes said he was not impressed.

“This is hypocrisy of the highest order because it was the previous Labor Government – of which Ms Palaszczuk was a member – which ended the Stolen Wages process,” he said. “It’s just another example of Labor going back to the past because they have no plan for the future. All successful claimants were provided with legal advice, and signed deeds of agreement foregoing any future litigation in relation to the claims. People who feel they have a legitimate, unaddressed compensation claim for losses they have suffered as a result of historical practices have the right to pursue remedies through the legal process.”

Pictured is Uncle Charlie Chambers who features on a QCU poster connected to the campaign.

Uncle Charlie told *Koori Mail* last week this latest offer was “a start” and that he would keep going with the campaign for his money.

## *Out & About...at the Goldfields Ashes*



*Left: local policeman Paul Enders ready to go into bat; Above: Charters Towers local Kenny Kennedy sporting a Palm Island Spring Fair shirt– he didn't go himself but has good local connections!*

# *A word from Mayor Alf Lacey...*

*I think if we reflect over 2014 and what's been achieved, we saw quite a few good projects happening in the community, especially in infrastructure which is about our long term future, Cr Lacey writes.*

Projects included the Sea Wall, Sandy Boyd Creek clean up and lining, Upper Lumaluma and Kitchener Bligh subdivisions, 45 new community houses, upgrades to the nursing quarters, Sports Complex, construction camp, several homes including fences and driveways, painting, plumbing and carpentry, the Bwngcolman Arts Centre, the motel and the Coolgaree Bistro roof, a joint project with Queensland Health to upgrade the hospital

renal unit, a general clean up of the Island, establishment of the Palm Island Economic Corporation, the floating pontoon, the Graffiti Stop program, community lighting and CCTV systems, skills development in tourism and a feasibility study for the retail precinct.

We are well aware there's more to be done.

I was busy in the later part of the year, I went on a delegation to Canberra, I spoke



to the Prime Minister himself and the Queensland Treasurer about opportunities and more opportunities for Palm.

I've also had a conversation with the Federal Aboriginal Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion about the Remote Jobs and Community Program (RJCP), encouraging him to change the thinking in the way they're delivering that to remote communities in particular.

As most would know there was a survey carried out just before Christmas and some small community discussions around what people thoughts and opinion around tourism were.

We're not talking about big-scale tourism; we're talking eco-type tourism or day visits and things like that to create another economy for Palm.

Discussions have been encouraging so Council will continue with open days for the community which means we will have more visitors coming to the Island and spending more money here. *Continued...*







Last year Council changed the name of our Community Delegation Day to Community Engagement Day.

We had a very successful open Community Engagement Day out at Butler Bay under a tree and quite a few residents came along and raised concerns, so Council feels this is effective in terms of meeting as many people as we can.

Our next Community Engagement Day will be in late January or early February and will be with residents down at the farm so we want to encourage people to come along, be a part of it, enjoy a free feed and talk to us about what their concerns are.

I think some of the highlights of 2014 was the opportunity to work on major infrastructure projects for the benefit of the community for Palm, there really has been a lot done.

The lighting and CCTV camera system in the community has certainly been really good in terms of crime prevention in the community.

The community was a bit sceptical about it in the beginning, but now really understands the purpose.

They're only around the CBD



area of the town; one is at the airport, which was damaged in the vandalism.

We've also worked on flood mitigation program, a new nursing unit for the nursing staff at the Aged Care Hospital is now being built through the RJCP and Council has made a big contribution towards that.

We hope the establishment of the Palm Island Economic Development Corporation will take on some legs this year and find its footing in terms of taking on economic projects for the community.

We've upgraded the Palm Island Construction Camp and supported the upgrade to the renal unit down at the hospital, which was state funded, but Council has been a key partner in terms of supporting it.

Council also picked up a lot



of work for our workforce in terms of community housing, fencing and driveway, the painting projects for community housing, plumber and carpentry, the graffiti-stop program, which is only a small grant – only about \$10,000 – so it doesn't go a long way.

I think my favourite for the year was seeing the seawall being completed and finalised





– that and the housing project I think, they would be the two projects I felt were really important to the community.

I think also the pontoon in terms of safer aspect given our mob use the boat a lot – one of the things that has come out of that is the possibility of a daily service to and from the Island which I think would make a big difference to lots of our people and workers here.

So those are probably some of the highlights and some of the achievements we've seen over 2014.

On the agenda this year, we have the AMP still being looked at and we'll wait until after the State Election to see what the government will do then.

There's more to be done on the community street-lighting program, which we worked with Ergon, and that will also be done in 2015 and Skill Development Project, which is just a little one-off grant fund just to help with the community consultation around the tourism project that Council is talking about with

the community.

And we just won a grant to do an extension on the Bistro on the island for an outside eating area, and that project is almost completed.

It will be a busy year, we can be sure of that, and we all need to seriously have to think about the future of Palm and where we need to go into the future.

Council always has an open-door policy for any community members to come forward and talk about any of these or other work we're doing for our community here.

Please feel free to come forward and have an open discussion and an open conversation about any community issue that you see that really affects you and your family.

Finally, in closing, I'd like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

*Mayor Alf Lacey*





# Palm Island well-represented

A team of Palm Island netballers, including family from Cairns, Weipa and Townsville, travelled to Tallebudgera on the Gold Coast to participate in the Australian Indigenous Schoolgirls Netball Championships earlier this month.



*Above: Back – Raezahn Sam, Vassenai Dabea, Dianne Fulford, Tareesha Baira Front – Jaiesha Castors, Tooya Gorringe, Jaylah Geia, Moara Sam.*

*Below: Hannah Gorringe, Danielle Kyle, Sharna Prior-Boungi, Janesha Robertson.*



# at national netball play offs

Supporter Tammy Sam said players from most other states competed for a chance to be selected in the Australian Indigenous Schoolgirls Budgies Team.

“It was a great experience and opportunity for the students to play,” she said.

“The students were part of the Queensland Indigenous sides and the Budgies’ Dingos (a mixture of students from different states) netball schoolgirl teams.

“The girls represented well considering most of them don’t play in a weekend comp and train weekly.

“Moara Sam was selected in the u14’s Australian Indigenous schoolgirls number 2 side.

“And Sharna Bounghi-Walsh was selected for the U18 Indigenous side.

“We look forward to the next event.”

Parent Ruth Gorringer travelled with the Palm Island representatives.

“I would like to say a BIG thank you to the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council for being our sponsors,” she said.

“And to the Bindal Sharks as well, for their sponsorship of Tooya, Janesha, Jariesha & Tarrisha.”

Cheering the girls on from Palm Island was netball supporter Leah Dabea.

“I didn’t travel but my girls played for Queensland Murries which was part of Budgies Indigenous Netball (the hosts of the carnival) as well,” she said.

“Dianne played in the U/16 who came third overall and Vasenai played in the U/12.

“They won as many games as they lost and Vasenai is also a shadow player.

“I’d like to thank my daughters Tuliana and Silina for travelling and supporting the girls and the Budgies Indigenous Netball association for hosting a successful carnival.”

Ms Sam, whose Mum Katie Castors represented Queensland in 1976–7, said Palm Island had a 40-years strong netballing history.

“Palm Island has always produced great netballers,” she said.

“At one stage the Palm Island netball competition was strong and would travel everywhere men and women teams and there were a few representative players.”





*Palm Island Voice* invited all six candidates for seat of Townsville to submit 400 words outlining their policy towards Palm Island if elected and a headshot picture. Here are the unedited submissions we received by our deadline.

**Scott Stewart**  
(Australian Labor Party)



Scott Stewart the Labor candidate for the seat of Townsville has been a teacher for almost 30 years and high school principal at Town High and more recently, Pimlico State High School. He is passionate about education and sees it as the key to a bright future.

As the principal at Town High, Scott introduced a boxing program with Indigenous students to help them re-engage with their schooling. 'The program was a lot of fun', said Mr Stewart, 'It involved Indigenous students training with a Trainer and then working with a psychologist to talk about hanging in there when things get hard'.

The program wasn't just all fun, he said. Students needed to be in class every day and they needed to stay out of trouble. 'If they did this, then we would spend one afternoon a week at the boxing program'. The program was ground breaking and recognised across the country with the television show 'Sunrise' interviewing Mr Stewart and one of his students.

Mr Stewart decided to run in the upcoming state election for Labor because witnessing the impact the devastating impact that Campbell Newman's cuts to schools and hospitals had on the community was too much to bear. 'I could either just

**Leanne Rissman**  
(One Nation)

I currently don't have a policy for Palm Island and that is simply due to time restraints because of the speed in which the election was called.



whinge about it, or do something about it', he said.

Mr Stewart has a long history of working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the community. He was an Education Officer for Indigenous Education with the Dept of Education when he was in Mackay. 'Working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community opened my eyes to cultures that seem to be forgotten', he said. I felt that I had not learned enough about Australian history until I learned more about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history too'.

Mr Stewart is meeting with Mayor Lacey to discuss key issues for Palm Island and to work towards solutions together. 'Each community has individual issues that need to be addressed and I need to talk with the key people who will help shape my thinking when I advocate for the Palm Island people', Mr Stewart said. Mr Stewart has already met Mayor Lacey during the All Blacks carnival in 2013 where they chatted informally.

'We will need to talk about future economic possibilities, infrastructure that needs to be developed to support the community, health and welfare issues as well as education. This is an important meeting and we need to get these issues and concerns on the table for the people of Palm.'

However having said that I know the island suffers from high unemployment and that you are attempting to get a tourism industry off the ground.

I guess in my experience of having worked in other Indigenous communities the thing that needs to be tackled head on is work ethic, school attendance and ongoing training. Would you agree with that?

How we tackle these problems, I believe has a lot to do with the input we get from the Indigenous community. Welfare and alcohol are tearing apart the communities so a move away from total and widespread reliance on welfare would be a great start. How we do that is the million dollar question. The residents of Palm Island need to feel they are steering their own ship in a direction that services them, their culture and most importantly future generations. Is there an interest in starting small businesses geared toward tourism?

One problem I identified during my time in the communities was if there were individuals that strived to get ahead, they were often burdened terribly by the 'tribal' mentality which saw them basically supporting anyone and everyone that claimed kinship. I tried to instill in these hard workers that they no longer lived in a tribal arrangement and what you have doesn't belong to everyone when you have been the only one working hard for it. This had a positive effect on at least one of the women but three years just wasn't enough time for me to change the mindset of more of the locals. I would hate to see people starting to get ahead only to be dragged down again.

I'm sure you would have lots of great ideas and I would be very keen to hear them.

If elected I am there to represent you and to present to parliament what the electorate needs that's why its so important that I talk to the constituents. I don't have all the answers so if we can all put our heads together I'm sure the brain storming will see some great initiatives come to the fore.

Look forward to hearing from you soon.



**Michael Punshon**  
(Family First Party)



I am 53 years old and have operated an Aeronautical Engineering Consultancy in Townsville providing Professional Engineering Services to north Queensland and beyond. I am married to Lyndell for over 20 years and we have 5 boys.

Over the past years I was appalled at the direction Queensland and Australia was heading under the government policies of the major parties and the greens. An opportunity came up in 2004 to become part of Family First Party Queensland and I took it.

I hope to achieve a true voice in Parliament for Townsville and Palm Island. To achieve this I will draw on my experience in successfully running my own business for over 25 years and have corporate experience before that. My profession is results orientated.

I stand for traditional family values: The family forms the basis of society, laws, economic base, health and security.

The remove of the incompetent labour government has stopped the rot. Now we need a government that can actually manage Queensland and not lease or sell it off. By electing a non-major party representative Townsville and Palm Island will get a true voice in Parliament.

For the Queensland 2015 Election Family First Party Queensland key policy platforms are:

a. Promote small business and reduce youth unemployment by removing payroll tax for 15 to 24 year old employees and then the eventual removal of all payroll tax for small business.

b. Re introduction of the Queensland Upper House to restore accountability and oversight to the Queensland parliamentary process.

c. Legislate family friendly Adds for Queensland on all public avenues. 96%

**John Hathaway**  
(LNP)



Since being elected as the Member for Townsville in 2012, I have seen significant, real and steady progress made by the Palm Island community. This has been a ground-up achievement and it speaks volumes for the Palm community itself but, more directly, its leadership.

I believe one of the biggest achievements of the Newman LNP Government was introducing legislation last year that will enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, only if they choose, the provision of ordinary freeholds land ownership. This legislation can allow community residents on Palm to convert leasehold to freehold (if the community chooses so) and in doing so enjoy the same property rights that freeholders on the mainland so routinely take for granted.

In addition, two sub-divisions worth \$27.5 million were handed over to the Palm Island Council. The sub-divisions contain 60+ residential building lots. This joint State and Commonwealth program will help make home ownership a reality for Palm residents. I have enjoyed, during my frequent trips to Palm, watching the progress in Kitchener and Bligh as the new homes have risen out of the ground.

In close collaboration with PIASC we have also delivered a number of key projects on Palm Island to boost jobs and the economy, as well as to help

of all business in Australia is either small or medium business. Small and medium businesses employ over 90% of all employees in Australia. The majority of small and medium business in Australia are family owned. Small business occur in every town in Australia, not just the major centres. Growing small business, grows the economy, reduces unemployment and is the foundation of a prosperous community.

increase tourism opportunities. I was a proud state government member to secure more than \$500,000 towards the \$1.7 million pontoon upgrade of the wharf on Palm Island to enable 24/7 non-tidally dependent ferry operations. This was a great collaborative project between, QLD Government, PIASC, the Federal government and also SeaLink. The decision to make the trial of a 5th weekly passenger ferry service into a permanent service was also a great result for the local community. I would also like to see expanding ferry services further to make it 6 services a week to/from Palm. This will provide greater flexibility for the Palm community and further opportunity to local economic development.... Aspirationally, I am sure we should be setting a target of a daily service each day and while that may be off in the distance, generating internal but importantly external and constant demand for ferry services should be a priority for the Palm community, its leadership and myself as well.

A number of other projects have also delivered vital infrastructure as well as providing more jobs for locals, including the rebuild of the seawall and town esplanade area, the expansion of the motel, improvements to the bistro, just to name a few. There are a number of ongoing and projects which should come to fruition during the next 3 years, water and sewerage plant upgrades, further new housing and upgrade refurbishment, and possibly even a revitalisation of the town's retail centre precinct. There is a lot of work to be done that is for sure, however I have witnessed first-hand the potential, drive and talent in the community, and in particular its hard-working leadership, that gives me a great sense of confidence that it is all achievable.

During my maiden speech in Parliament I spoke of the wise words once told to me by a high profile indigenous activist... 'We need to work with this community of First Australians rather than do things for them'. I can honestly say that I keep this at the forefront on my mind each and every day I work with the Palm community. I have the utmost respect for and also have enjoyed working closely with Mayor Alf Lacey, his Councillors and the community elders. It is through their eyes and strong advocacy that I have clearly seen the future vision for Palm. Representing the Palm community in the Queensland Parliament, to me is not a duty nor a task but simply, an honour.

The majority of the problems with the Queensland Government can be resolved by reintroducing the Queensland Upper House. The extreme decision by past governments can be avoided and more open government process achieved. By provided family friendly adds in Queensland is the start in changing the social fabric of Queensland from one of growing chaos and imbalance to a stable and just society.

# Palm Island Voice

## Public & Community Notices



### PALM ISLAND PILATES

#### exercise class at PCYC

run by Vatche & Joe SOS Health Physio

**Every Tuesday & Thursday - 6pm**

**Starting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

Nominal charge \$5 per session to raise money to purchase equipment.

Bring a water bottle and a mat if you have one.

#### EVERYONE WELCOME



SOS Health  
Palm Island  
Physiotherapy



Operating Hours for Council are  
Monday – Friday  
8am – 5pm Weekly

If you have any questions please contact

Reception on 4770 1177



Palm Island  
Aboriginal Shire  
Council has 499  
'likes' on Facebook!!!

### POSITIONS VACANT

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is calling on Expression of Interests from Qualified and or Experienced workers in various vacant positions within the PIASC Housing Department. These roles will include:

- Carpenters/Carpenter apprentices/Carpenters labourer

Experienced carpenters required for up and coming construction work. Must have your own basic carpentry tools or be willing to pay for them. Must have a strong work ethic and be a team

player. Training will be available for tradesmen wanting to further their skills and apprenticeships will be on offer to the right candidates. If you have previously applied with Council or know anyone that may suit these roles we strongly advise you to get in contact with the Works Department.

- Construction Foreman

A position has opened within the Housing Department for an experienced Construction Foreman with a strong background in domestic building. Previous foreman type experience a must. Please see Michael Swann within the Housing department for more information or if you know of any locals that may suit this role we urge you to forward their details.

- Plumbers/Plumbing apprentice/Plumbers labourer

Experienced plumbers including roof plumbers are required for up and coming construction work. Must have your own basic plumbing tools or be willing to pay for them. Must have a strong work ethic and be a team player. Training will be available for tradesmen wanting to further their skills and apprenticeships will be on offer to the right candidates. If you have previously applied with Council or know anyone that may suit these roles we strongly advise you to get in contact with the Works Department.

- Painters/Painting apprentices/Brush hand

Painters and brush hands are required for ongoing works around the council. If you have had painting experience and would like to pursue a career in painting we are also seeking energetic and reliable people to join our team. If you have previously applied with Council or know anyone that may suit these roles we strongly advise you to get in contact with the Works Department.

- Receptionist/ Department administrator

A position for a professional young person is about to open within the Works Department. We are seeking a dynamic person with good literacy and computer skills, experience with Microsoft office is a must and previous experience working with telephone would be highly regarded. Ability to follow directions from management and senior staff is also highly regarded along with time management. Training to suit this role will be included for the right candidate.

Please submit an expression of letter along with your resume addressed to the CEO at the Council Office with any relevant Certificates and Licences attached For further information please contact Michael Swann on 0747 701 557 or visit the Works Department Office at the New Compound. Positions will remain open until PIASC have adequately filled the role.

**"Vandalism in our community is something Council is really disappointed to see," Mayor Alf Lacey says in response to Ray Robert's letter in Issue 170 of the Palm Island Voice.**

**"This is not a Council problem, it is a community problem and it needs a concerted effort to stamp out the vandals who are wrecking community assets and wrecking community property and, at the same time, wrecking private properties of people in the community.**

**"I'm not immune from it. My house has also been broken into over that break, so it's really disappointing when they start entering the dwellings of individual families in the community, let alone damaging community property on Palm.**

**"Council is going to be taking this issue very seriously.**

**"We are already hoping to meet with the Chief Magistrate for our area to talk to him about how can the courts impose more stricter and harsher penalties for people vandalising and wrecking community property.**

**"It's also really important that the community doesn't turn 'deaf ears' to the amount of damage that's going on. The break and enters and the public property damage in the community really has to be pulled up because we can't keep on funding to repair properties.**

**"Thousands of dollars in damage which the Council has to pay from somewhere, in one case tens of thousands. We need the community's help with this and ask people who are concerned to come forward, come to the Council meeting, come to the Council offices and relay your concerns and ideas for how we can change this situation."**



# Palm Island Voice



## RATES & DATES 2015



### Issue No. Deadline / Publication

171	Thursday 22 January / 29 January
172	Thursday 5 February / 12 February
173	Thursday 19 February / 26 February
174	Thursday 5 March / 12 March
175	Thursday 19 March / 26 March
176	Thursday 2 April / 9 April
177	Thursday 16 April / 23 April
178	Thursday 30 April / 7 May
179	Thursday 14 May / 21 May
180	Thursday 28 May / 4 June
181	Thursday 11 June / 18 June
182	Thursday 25 June / 2 July

### Issue No. Deadline / Publication

183	Thursday 9 July / 16 July
184	Thursday 23 July / 30 July
185	Thursday 6 August / 13 August
186	Thursday 20 August / 27 August
187	Thursday 3 September / 10 September
188	Thursday 17 September / 24 September
189	Thursday 1 October / 8 October
190	Thursday 15 October / 22 October
191	Thursday 29 October / 5 November
192	Thursday 12 November / 19 November
193	Thursday 26 November / 3 December
194	Thursday 10 December / 17 December

### **ADVERTISE!**

Page Sponsorship: (1cm or 18pt high banner across nominated page): \$120

Quarter A4 Page: \$250 + GST

Half A4 Page: \$350 + GST

Full A4 Page: \$550 + GST

Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day (see above) and all material submitted no later than COB the next day. Print approval required by Monday COB.

To book an ad or inquire about subscriptions please contact the Editor,  
Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or via [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)  
PDF archives of the Palm Island Voice are available at <http://chowes.com.au>

*Don't forget...*

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND OTHER PUBLIC/COMMUNITY  
MESSAGES ARE FREE** *(subject to space!)*

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

### **SUBSCRIBE!**

Individuals & Families (hard copy): \$30

Community & NGOs (hard copy): \$60

Government & Corporate (hard copy): \$120

PDF (password protected): \$100

*\*All from now to 30 June 2015\**

Subscription rates vary according to when the initial subscription is taken out – eg if taken in January 2015 the rate will be half of the full year to take it to July 2015.

## BOXING

PALM Island boxers have been training hard since 5th January in preparation for several away tournaments. Their trainer Chris Evers said the first will be on 14 February in Gladstone, followed by the 7 March in Cairns and 21 March in Bundaberg. "The boys will also be fighting at the Queensland qualification fights for the national titles over the 27th, 28th and 29th of March in Brisbane," Mr Evers said.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

LOCAL Ambulance man Bill Landers is organising for some quality Palm Island footballers to travel to Cabramatta in Sydney for a nine's tournament this weekend. Mr Landers said confirmed players included Caleb Geia, Frank Baira, Simmeon Oui, Gresham Ross jnr and Mickeal Sibley. "It will be a combined side with some players from Mackay and will be called Northern Islanders," he said. Mr Landers said he had received a call from sports identity Doug Pitt. "It was shot notice but we will be going if we can get sponsorship," he said.

## NO BARRACUDAS

MEANWHILE the Palm Island Barracudas won't be part of the Townsville and District Rugby League competition in the 2015 season. A TDRL spokeswoman said the Barracudas had not applied to join. However Palm Islanders who compete in the local domestic competition will still be able to line up for individual TDRL clubs because of dual registration.

## GOLDFIELD

## ASHES

PALM Island police detective Paul Enders (see p2) lined up for the Wallabies XI in the B-2 division of the Goldfield Ashes Cricket Carnival at Charters Towers last weekend. A total of 225 teams competed in five grades with 132 in the B-2 grade. Numerous players of Palm descent lined up with the Garbutt Magpies XI also in B-2 grade.

# SPORT



*Above: Palm Island Community Company Program Support Worker Kamara Thompson played a leading role for the Townsville representative vigoro side which won the senior section of the State Titles in Cairns last month. Multi-skilled Kamara finished third overall in the individual batting average with 31, and finished in the top four bowling aggregate with 10 wickets. "Our first game was a no result against Ipswich. We then played Fassifern in which we won on the first innings. After that we played Cairns 1 team and beat them by outright win. Then played Cairns 2 team and won on first innings. Townsville was on 10 points and Ipswich was on 11 points. We played the final and won on the first innings. They made 63 runs and we more than 100," she said.*

*Kamara has been the star scooping the pool of the major individual awards at the recent annual representative vigoro matches between Townsville and Cairns at Queen's Park on 6 and 7 December. The 31-year-old was amongst a large number of Indigenous players who competed.*