



## Kids and Elders connect in historic Garbutt Magpies AFL competition



Palm Island teams Bwgc Colman Hunters and St Michael's Warriors competed at the Ausco Garbutt Magpies Aussie Rules 'Boys Into Men' carnival in Townsville last week with both teams winning two out of their three matches.

The Garbutt Magpies Cup chairperson, Leon Stubbs said the competition was reminiscent of a time when community members played a greater role in the lives of young people.

Former Palm Island Deputy Mayor Zac Sam and Palm resident Cedric Harvey were two of the star players for the Garbutt Magpies.

"From the 1950's through until

1989 the Garbutt Magpies Sporting Club was an important part of the Garbutt community," Mr Stubbs said. "It was more than just a sporting club – it was a second family to the local kids that played AFL, Rugby League, Basketball, Vigoro, Cricket and Softball.

"The coaches and other adults were genuine mentors and role models to these kids,

but unfortunately this sense of community connectedness doesn't exist as much today.

"Over the previous two competitions the Garbutt Magpies Cup has proved itself to be a wonderful way for elders to re-connect with local kids and teach some important life lessons—all whilst enjoying a good old game of footy."



# Out & About

@ the Sharon Finnan Netball Cup in Cairns



## Tribunal to consider oral evidence for government Stolen Wages payment

People without documentation will have a chance to access the Government's \$21 million stolen wages fund through a Reparations Review Panel which will accept oral history as evidence, Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Curtis Pitt says.

He said the Palaszczuk Government established the panel in direct response to community feedback from the Stolen Wages Reparations Taskforce led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda.

"For the first time unsuccessful applicants will have an opportunity to present oral testimonies about their personal experiences and other evidence to support their claims in the absence of formal documentation," Mr Pitt said.

"We recognise it's time to take a different, more people-focused approach to seek

better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who suffered direct disadvantage from racially discriminatory government practices of the past, such as stolen wages."

Mr Pitt announced in Parliament that to date more than \$5.8 million in reparations payments had been paid to more than 3,000 eligible claimants under the government's \$21 million Stolen Wages Reparations Scheme.

"The Queensland Reparations Review Panel includes Mr David Wragge,

Ms Susan Hamilton, Ms Rachel Malthouse, Mr Terry Stedman and Ms Leann Wilson," he said. "Indigenous Queenslanders wronged under previous governments' 'Protection Acts' must not be further disadvantaged by a lack of government record-keeping from centuries past.

"We want to remove barriers and red tape discouraging eligible Indigenous Queenslanders from progressing their claims to ensure no one misses out on their entitlements."

Applications close 16 December 2016.

For more information about the Stolen Wages Reparations Scheme call 1800 619 505 or visit <http://www.ald.gov.au/reparations>

# Palm Island contributes to Townsville Cultural fest



*Above: Deanne Dempsey at the Ferdy's stall; Middle: Karen Doolan; Below: Rachell Obah, Louise Lay, Stephanie Wyles and Kalie Obah*

ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander culture was on show at the Townsville Cultural Fest at James Cook University in Townsville last week.

The annual festival featured diversity in music, food, arts and culture, bringing tens of thousands of people together.

Palm Islander Rachell Obah said kangaroo tail, damper and other Aboriginal delicacies were cooked up in style.

“At this campsite we want to show we can retain our culture whilst living in a big city,” she said.

“We want to younger Indigenous people to keep our culture and enable others to see it.”

In the area was a Midja shelter being set up by Darren Butler.

Nearby were statues of an Aboriginal man, Johnathan Thurston the star Cowboys Aboriginal NRL player and the late singer Slim Dusty.

These had been created by longtime festival organiser Dr Farvardin Daliri.

The statues were of particular interest to young WA Aboriginal boys Eddie Drummond-Obah, aged 6, and David Mandijarra, 4.

Arnhem Land's Jaiseph Riley from Numbulwar was also impressed.

“They are so lifelike,” he said.

Indigenous performers were amongst 150 groups which offered everything from folk, blues, hip-hop and punk, to Australian music and dance, drum circles, foreshows, cabaret, poetry, theatre, and traditional dance groups from around the world.

TSI and Aboriginal craft was also available at stalls which included one run by Ferdy's and Bwgcorman Arts.



Sharon Finnan Netball Cup 2016





*Pics thanks to Andrew Castors & Beryl Bunn*



Several Palm Islanders, including Alfred ‘Tiny’ Bonner, attended a ceremony in Brisbane earlier this month where the naming of a new inner-city pedestrian bridge – the Neville Bonner Bridge – was announced. In what turned out to be a stunning 61st birthday present for Uncle Tiny, State Development Minister Dr Anthony Lynham told the gathering the bridge was to honour the life and legacy of Australia’s first Indigenous parliamentarian, Senator Neville Bonner. *Beryl Bunn*

# Palm Island Voice

Public &  
Community Notices



**Operating Hours for  
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 1,246  
'likes' on  
Facebook!!!

*Don't forget!!!*

The DEADLINE for the  
next NEXT  
PALM ISLAND VOICE  
(211) is

**Thursday 1 September**  
FOR PUBLICATION

**Thursday 8 September**  
*See our Facebook page for a full  
list of Rates & Dates for 2016*

To book an ad, make a contribution  
or inquire about subscriptions please  
contact the Editor, Christine Howes,  
on 0419 656 277 or  
chowes@westnet.com.au

Joyce Palmer Health Service is pleased to  
announce an upcoming event which will coincide  
with Women's Health Week 5th-9th September

**Wednesday 7 September 9am– 2pm**  
Community Meeting Room  
(the brown building next to Campbell Page)  
Light refreshment will be available plus tea  
and coffee.

**All women welcome!**

\*If your organisation provides a service for women, we  
would welcome you all to join in and support the event with  
promotional items, and if possible an interactive display table.

**For more information please  
contact Marion Turner at JPMS**

#womenshealthweek  
<http://www.womenshealthweek.com.au>

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the full year to take it to July 2015.

# Boxing News

Star 23-year-old boxer Reggie Palm Island will spend the rest of 2016 focusing on becoming a pro-fighter in the hopes of earning his living from his craft.

Trainer Ray Dennis said he was ready.

“Reggie had more than 30 amateur bouts and won many and even though still aged in his early twenties had been around a long time,” he said.

“It is time for him to step up and turn professional.”

Reggie is a member of the Palm Island PCYC Boxing Club who compete in the Sunstate Amateur Boxing League.

For the past two years Reggie has also fought under the banner of a rival Palm club and had bouts in the Boxing Association.

“Reggie has started training here on Palm again and will be competing at the State Amateur Titles in Townsville during mid September,” he said.

Mr Dennis said Reggie weighed in at around 56kg but hoped to get down to 52kg.

“There are not that many pro fighters around in those weights and I am confident Reggie will do well and earn money from his skills,” Dennis said.

Dennis has contacts with professional promoters around

the country and has also been helped this year by Townsville based Art of Strength Club trainer Greg ‘Scooter’ Hooper.

“When I haven’t been able to make it to away tournaments with other boxers Scooter has helped out and takes them from Townsville,” Mr Dennis said.

“He has been a wonderful help.”

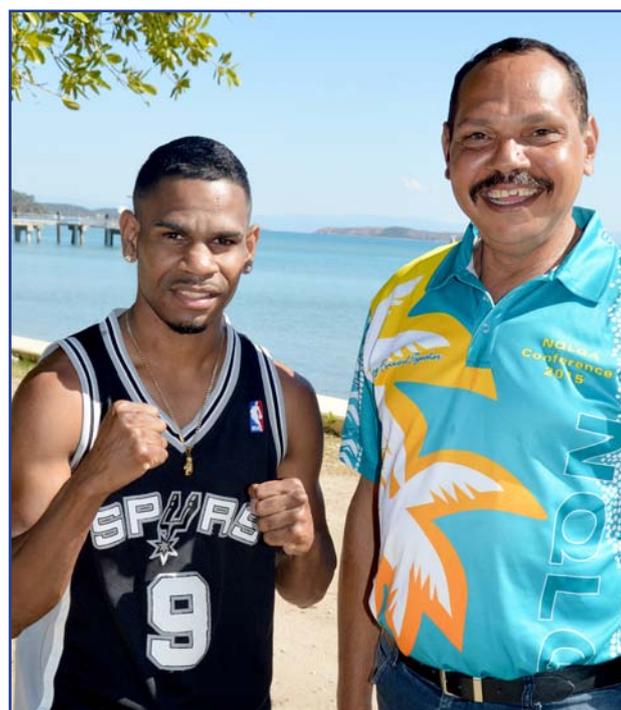
The most recent pro-fighter from Palm Island was Peter Bonner who was due to play his first pro-fight in Townsville in mid-2008 but, as reported in *Palm Island Voice* Issue 21, the bout was cancelled due to a bomb scare.

He won his only professional bout on 29 November 2008 in Maroochydore.



*Palm Island Voice* Issue 21: 27/10/08

Below: Reggie Palm Island & Mayor Alf Lacey



# 2016 Sharon Finnan Netball Cup pics - how high can they fly!

MORE PICS P 4-5

Thanks to Beryl Bunn & Andrew Castors  
AND more pics next Issue!!!



*Charters Towers' Columba Catholic College student  
Jada Kyle-Sailor broke the Interschool Athletics  
Carnival triple jump record last week - finishing at  
a massive 10.67 metres. Well done Jada!!!*