



## Dancers tie in historic dead heat

This year's NAIDOC dancing groups were soooooooo good judges were unable to decide a single winner, instead opting to declare everyone a winner.

In a historic 'dead heat', the split result meant Great Northern Dancers organiser Owen Marpoondin accepted the 'Best Dancers' award on behalf of everyone.

Many dance groups and singers entertained the audience including the impressive young local singer Kalani Geia who was followed by Pacific Flower Hula Girls, Descendants of TSI, Mother's Dust, Great Northern Dancers, Simone Stacey and Band, Yindinji Dance Group, Normey Boy and Budda Bj and Bwgcolman Dance Group.



**MORE NAIDOC PICS & YARNS INSIDE!**



# Palm Island focus at national ACTU congress

The role of trade unions in supporting the Palm Island 1957 Strike commemorations and issues such as stolen wages and Community Development Programs (CDP) was the focus of local Queensland Council of Union (QCU) President Les Moffitt's speech to more than 1000 unionists at this year's Australian Council of Unions (ACTU) Congress in Brisbane earlier this month.

Mr Moffitt (*pictured below*) was selected by the ACTU to speak as part of a panel called, 'How to be a Good Ally – Indigenous Organising'.

He said he was keen to spread the word about the work he and other local unionists had done towards supporting Indigenous communities across the north and beyond.

"Over the past 13 years as President of the Townsville Queensland Council of Unions I have made many friends with local elders throughout the Townsville district as we have campaigned for fairness on a

number of different issues that had potential impact on the Indigenous community," he said.

"Queensland unions and the people of Palm Island – and Indigenous people throughout Queensland – share valuable and long-standing connections.

"Significant events like the 1957 Strike highlight what brings us together to stand up for one another, and to look out for those that need help, and then offer a hand.

"The story and bravery of the 1957 strike deserves to be told in the great halls of the world, because this story is so powerful about their courage standing up against injustice.

"It is a story which shows the power of unity, and how sticking together can make inroads into the harshest regime.

"Historians say that the Palm Island strike signified a further moment when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

they realised that they had allies in trade unions and the progressive movement that could also provide support for their community, already capable of enormous solidarity.

"Since then unions and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made great strides together in advancing working conditions, education, fair pay and rights at work."

Mr Moffitt gave an outline of the stolen wages campaign, and said history was threatening to repeat itself with the "unfair and unjust" CDP.

"This is a program that imposes extremely onerous conditions on the overwhelmingly indigenous population in remote communities just to receive basic support payments," he said. "It has elements of racial discrimination and exploitation that have no place in our modern nation."

He said unions were about campaigning for fairness and justice.

"No matter what, I can guarantee you that; the union movement will stay by your side," he said.





# Mystery ...solved!

A hot topic of conversation on NAIDOC Day was the mysterious wanderings of two police officers, who headed out from the foreshore to check out an old wreck in the middle of celebrations.

Several people speculated on what investigations they may have been carrying out.

Palm Island Officer-in-Charge Sergeant Dave Rutherford said there was nothing to it other than curiosity.

“Nothing exciting,” he said. “Both officers had never seen the tide that low so took the opportunity to try and walk out to the wreck. As you were probably aware, it was as the lowest tide of the year ... at least that’s what several locals told me.”

Well, that’s one mystery solved!



Palm Island CDP is proud as punch to share the news of Jennifer Bligh’s Nomination for Employee of the Month for CDP.

Jennifer started with Campbell Page in April 2015 and has been our Employment and Community Engagement Manager since October 2017 Program Manager Nathan Vinson said. “Jennifer has been able to secure placements in employment for nine local Palm Island job seekers, which is not as easy as it sounds,” he said.

“Furthermore, Jennifer was able to more than double our 13-week and our 26-week outcomes for this month, her nomination is well-deserved.”

## JPHS visiting clinics & services August 2018

Patients are asked to report to reception on arrival. Appointments should be made before each clinic date as most clinics require referrals from a doctor. Please note some will accept self-referrals. Walk-in patients, including staff, may be seen by any clinic with spare appointments.

- Mobile Women’s Health Nurse (Jan) – Tuesdays – No referral needed, see Leah or Monica
- Sexual & Reproductive Health (Men’s and Women’s business) Penny – Every Wednesday – No referral needed, see Leah, Tupu, Bernie or Owen
- Australian Hearing – Adult Hearing Clinic: Thursday 2
- Physiotherapy Clinic: Wednesday 8 + 22
- Dietitian Clinic - Tuesday 14
- Podiatry Clinic - Tuesday 14
- Chronic Renal Disease in Dialysis Unit – Tuesday 14
- Paediatric Clinic – Wednesday 16
- Australian Hearing- Child Hearing Clinic – Thursday 23
- Indigenous Respiratory Outreach Care (IROC) visiting respiratory Clinic – Thursday 30

**If you would like an appointment please book at Reception or talk to your Doctor or any other member of your Healthcare team.**



# Happy NAIDOC Palm Island!

This year's dance-off was held after the Tribal Banner March, one of the many highlights of this year's Deadly Family Day during Palm Island's week-long NAIDOC celebrations.

The march started at the front of Bwgcolman State School just after 11am with marchers holding their impressive and colourful banners high as they walked from Park Road, onto Dormitory Road, down Main Street and onto the Esplanade where hundreds were waiting at Frederick William Clay Park.

More than 2000 people attended, including more than 200 people from the mainland who arrived on a packed ferry over calms seas to be a part of the event.

First place in the best banner awards went to Yidinji, with Kutjala second and a representation of all of Charmaine Koroi's tribal connections came third.

Youngsters were well-catered for during Family day at the area near the Clock Tower where amusements included a mechanical bull, laser skirmish, bouncy boxing, large and small jumping castles and a merry-go-round.

That night a Unity Gala Dinner was held under a big tent beside the sea, which was enjoyed by all.

A spectacular fireworks Spectacular from the Reel Women Jetty started at 8pm to mark the official closure of this year's NAIDOC celebrations.











**MORE PICS IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!!!**

*Pics by Alf Wilson*





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# Palm Island Voice



**Public &  
Community Notices**



**Don't forget!!!**

The next **DEADLINE**  
for the  
**PALM ISLAND VOICE**  
(258) is

**Thursday  
2 August**

FOR PUBLICATION

**Thursday  
9 August**

*Check out our Facebook page,  
we have 2,345 likes!*

**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, make a contribution or  
inquire about subscriptions please contact  
the Editor, Christine Howes,  
on 0419 656 277 or  
[palmislandvoice@chowes.com.au](mailto:palmislandvoice@chowes.com.au)



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

If you have any  
questions please  
contact Reception  
on 4770 1177 or  
4770 0200



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**CATHY  
FREEMAN  
FOUNDATION**  
EDUCATION CHANGES LIVES

# JOIN THE TEAM

**Programs Coordinator (Wellness): full-time**  
**Programs Coordinator (Sprints): part-time**  
**Programs Officer (Sprints): casual**

## Cathy Freeman Foundation

The goal of Cathy Freeman Foundation is to empower Indigenous Australians through culturally supportive education.

## Application details/questions

Call Lekara Wallis on 4770 1555  
or email:  
lekara@cathyfreemanfoundation.org.au

**Applications close**  
5pm on Wednesday 8 August

## About the roles

The Wellness Program works with less-engaged secondary students to build their confidence, resilience and wellbeing through participating in a series of camps and workshops. The Programs Coordinator ideally has experience working with young people or disengaged youth and experience or training in youth work, social work, education etc.

The Sprints Program engages secondary students through after-school programs linked to school attendance. The Programs Coordinator & Programs Officer should have experience working with young people and knowledge of sport or recreational activities.

## Applicant requirements

The roles are identified positions and are only open for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants.

All CFF staff must possess or be able to obtain a BlueCard



## PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL – NEW WEBSITE

[www.palmcouncil.qld.gov.au](http://www.palmcouncil.qld.gov.au)

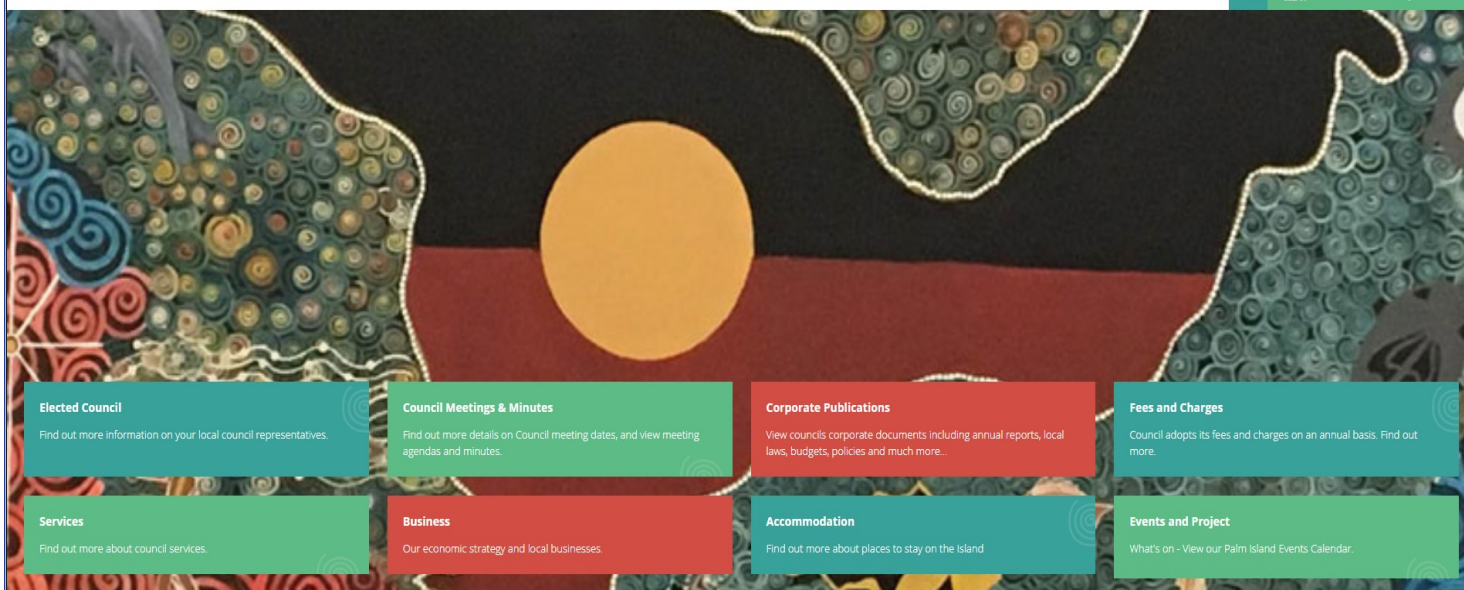
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HOME COUNCIL ABOUT CONTACT



PALM ISLAND  
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### Palm Island Office

1 Main Street, Palm Island QLD 4816  
☎ 07 4770 0200  
✉ reception@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au

### Garbutt Office

96 Dearness Street Garbutt 4814  
☎ 07 4770 0200  
✉ reception@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au







Palm Island has been well-represented in this year's rugby union competition with Sesoni Koro being selected to rep for schoolboys the U18 Nth Qld Rugby Union team in Brisbane earlier this month.



Sesoni (left) & Kini (3rd on the right above) played for All Souls Sr Gabriels team Sesoni teams 1 & 2 respectively at the 2018 Confraternity Carnival in Charters Towers held at the beginning of the month. Kini is pictured above with Palm Island school mates Liam Gibson-Kerr, Joseph Ross and Amilios Barry.



Star Palm Island boxer Patrick Clarke travelled to Townsville earlier this month for a boxing tournament at the Herbert Hotel hosted by Dreams Club but could not be matched.

Patrick was organised to fight an exhibition bout, which also didn't eventuate.

Dennis Haines jnr fought Joe Gabiola from Courage Club in the 78kg division to lose on points.

*Palm Island Voice* took the opportunity to yarn with Patrick and his trainer Ray Dennis on the 4.30pm ferry to the mainland that day.

Both were relaxed and looking forward to the evening's event where there was to be seven bouts and four exhibitions fights.

**SEVERAL** Palm Island rugby league players will participate in the popular three day Island of Origin Series on Badu Island in the Torres Strait tomorrow.

Six teams will battle it out: Badu Island, Goemu Bau Raiders, Injinoo Crocs, Magun Warriors, Panthers and Gladiators. Games will continue until Sunday when semi finals and the grand final will be played.

In previous year Palm Islanders with TS heritage have competed with success at the Origin.

In 2010, at the 25th anniversary carnival, Fred Bulsey, Walter Geia, Joiiji Dabea, Esrom Geia and Vernon Baira lined up for winning team Mua Razorbacks from Moa Island.

*Palm Island Voice* will have a full carnival report in our next edition.





# First-time hockey player makes the grade

In a series of 'firsts' – including first time on a plane and first time 'down south' – in his first year of playing hockey Oswald Poynter was selected to represent North Queensland at a carnival on the Gold Coast earlier this month.

The North Queensland Indigenous Hockey Team – the Kangaroos – won three of their five matches with Oswald scoring a total of three goals throughout the tournament.

He also made several new friends from different communities and went to Dreamworld, where he met Preston Campbell, which was the highlight of his trip.

Proud parents Adrian Poynter and Step Mum Desree Shepherd said they were happy to support Oswald all the way.

"This experience has given Oswald the chance to represent his region, something he has never

done before, which has been great for his self confidence," they said.

"Oswald has also been able to further learn the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, perseverance, respect for authority and rules, and the effort not the game result is what makes a player successful.

"Oswald was all smiles when his team was presented with a medallion at the end of the Championship.

They said he was now home and preparing for the Interschool Athletics Carnival to be held in Townsville next month.



## Who is reading the *Palm Island Voice*??!



*Spotted at Brisbane's famous Musgrave Park NAIDOC Day reading the Palm Island Voice was singer Dawn Daylight and author Melissa Lucashenko Goorie (left) and Paul Sandow Snr, Shenaw Sandow-Carlo, Greg Cummins, Jaquarn Sandow-Carlo & Estelle Sandow (right).*



*Pics by Christine Howes*



# Out and About @ Townsville NAIDOC 2018

