



# PALM ISLAND VOICE

Issue 266

Thursday 29 November 2018

FREE



## Pride of Palm Island 2018



Pic thanks to Michael Chambers Photography

**Congratulations to all our Bwgcolman graduates (and their teachers!) for 2018 - more amazing pics on pages 4-5!**



# East-west historic connection 'locked' in with shared history

With support from The Healing Foundation, Western Australian visitors Kathleen Musulin and Bob Dorey from Carnarvon came to Palm Island last month, to help connect a shared history of medical incarceration between the two communities.

Kathleen Musulin, a Malgana/Yawuru woman, and Bob Dorey, an Yinggarda/Malgana man met with several Palm Islanders including Lawrence and Veronica Coutts, Magdalena Blackley, Winnie Obah, Regina James, Nina Clay and Jennifer Ketchell, to talk about their work to increase public awareness of the lock hospital history of Bernier and Dorre Islands via Carnarvon.

Ms Musulin said Palm Island was "absolutely beautiful".

"Everyone was so generous in sharing stories about their history and showing us around," she said.

"We were so grateful to have the opportunity to visit Fantome Island, and to see where the lazaret and lock hospital were.

"We could feel the strong connection that Winnie Obah and her family have to Fantome Island, connecting them to their ancestors who

had lived there.

"When I told them about my great grandmother being taken away to the lock hospitals on Bernier and Dorre Island, we felt the connection between us and our families' stories."

Mr Dorey said seeing and walking around Fantome Island was sad.

"I was pleased that we went," he said.

"I enjoyed the trip, and seeing Fantome Island.

"We were yarning with lots of people...(who) took time out and sat with us, and talked with us, and explained what had happened over the years."

They said a Centennial Commemoration for Carnarvon Lock Hospital in Western Australia would be held on Wednesday 9 January 2019.

Ms Ketchell said she was keen to encourage a delegation from Palm Island to attend.

"I am calling out to all interested parties to please show support via a delegation to carry our voices and listen to their stories," she said.



"Palm Island is at the end of a successful Centenary year, I believe in people power for a good cause, respect and acknowledge the strength and camaraderie that kept our brothers and sisters alive with the hope and dreams for a better future."

For more information contact Ms Ketchell on 0429 899 328.

*Pics and words with thanks to Mitchell Ward and Melissa Sweet. Photographs supplied by Kathleen Musulin, October 2018.*



# Yarning circle hears housing stories for new state plan

A good roomful of Palm Islanders took the opportunity to yarn with new First Nations Advisor to the Queensland Government on housing, Mick Gooda, earlier this month.

Mr Gooda said housing was not just providing somewhere for people to live.

“Of course, that is part of it, but it is actually providing a home and that is different,” he said. “And I think that’s what the opportunity we have in front of us now is, how can we provide the stable environment, a stable home for our tenants and help springboard off there with education, with health, addressing things like violence, addressing things like child protection issues?”

“I don’t think you can get to changing or closing the gap in those other areas unless you have a stable environment from which to work and I think that is our opportunity right now to talk to our mob.”

Minister for Housing and Public Works Mick de Brenni said the Palm Island ‘Yarning Circle’ with Mr Gooda was an opportunity for residents and stakeholders

to help shape the Government’s new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan.

Member for Townsville Scott Stewart said the Yarning Circle formed a critical part of the process in developing the plan.

“Yarning Circles in Townsville and Palm Island have played an important part in the targeted consultation process the government is conducting around Queensland to find out what we need to do to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing,” Mr Stewart said.

Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Ministerial Champion for Palm Island, Jackie Trad said they wanted to encourage everyone to participate in discussion.

“We want to provide opportunities to challenge current thinking and develop solutions that truly represent the needs of Aboriginal and



Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders,” said Ms Trad.

Mr Gooda said he believed it was a fundamental right for every Queensland, and equally a right for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to have safe, secure and stable housing.

Formal consultation will run until early December 2018 – everyone is welcome to share their ideas, stories and experiences on any aspect of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing.

For more information see [www.qld.gov.au/betterhousingfutures](http://www.qld.gov.au/betterhousingfutures)







# Pride of Palm Island 2018



*Pic thanks to Michael Chambers Photography. If you have graduation pics you'd like to share, make sure you get them to us before our last deadline for the year!*







# Palm Island Voice



Public &  
Community Notices



*Don't forget!!!*

The next DEADLINE  
for the LAST 2018  
PALM ISLAND VOICE  
(267) is

**Thursday  
6 DECEMBER**

FOR PUBLICATION

**Thursday  
13 December**

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**NIGHT  
CLINIC**

Men's and Women's Business  
Quick and Easy

**JUST TEST  
& GO**

**Monday Evenings**  
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Private buzzer entrance  
Behind the HACC building  
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Queensland  
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Come down to the new Men's and Women's Business  
clinic on Monday evenings. Consults are quick, easy  
and confidential. PLUS there's a private entrance  
behind the HACC building. 4:30pm to 8pm, Monday  
evenings at Joyce Palmer Health Service.

**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 2,884  
'likes' on  
Facebook!!!



Palm Island Community Company have provided three of our CDP job seekers support in carrying out ongoing maintenance of the Butler Bay walking tracks on Palm Island (above). In return Campbell Page's Community Development Program has donated the PICC Men's Group ten rehydration packs to ensure the team is well supplied with water for the upcoming summer.

MEANWHILE with the Christmas Season fast approaching the workshops has been working overtime on some amazing furniture in preparation for the Christmas Market Stall on Wednesday 12 December. Daniel Langdon (Alias 'Chilly') has just about finished this fantastic three-piece outdoor table and benches, which he has constructed from almost entirely recycled



timber.... amazing workmanship. They have also been working on some traditionally-made boomerangs with one of our very colourful local Elders 'Ringo', but more on that story later.

## Palm Island Services

Townsville  
Hospital  
and Health  
Service

*Yarn with these Services if too much  
is on your mind*



**Family Wellbeing Service** - (07) 4791 4051

**Women's Service** - (07) 4791 4010

**Diversion Service** - (07) 4791 4072

**Children and Family Service (CFC)** - (07) 4791 4031

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Prime Minister and Cabinet- 1800 079 098, can link families with the National Indigenous Critical Response Service (NICRS)



### Joyce Palmer Health Service

Marissa Nielsen, Social Worker - (07) 4752 5100



### TAIHS Ferdy's Haven

Ed Mosby and Tracy Richards provide counselling. If you would like to make an appointment please contact our Program Manager on (07) 4770 1745.

### Townsville Services

TAIHS Primary Health Clinic, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Service - (07) 4759 4001

Ask for either Aunty Erica Buttigieg (Manager SEWB), Kaylene Hale (Registered Nurse) or Denise Sheedy (Clinic Coordinator)

Address: 57-59 Gordon Street, Garbutt.



# Boxers set for big new year

Some exciting young boxing prospects from Palm Island looks set to do well in the ring come the New Year.

Veteran trainer Ray Dennis said that Cyril Haines (aged 10) and Eddie Nallajar (13) have been training strongly and look to have potential.

"There are no more tournaments that we can go to this year so they will be ready for events early in 2019," Mr Dennis told Voice.

Veteran Patrick Clarke has also been training well at the Palm PCYC and is a role model for the young fellows.

Mr Dennis is well on the road to recovery after having hip replacement surgery in Townsville recently.

The National Amateur Boxing Titles are on in Tasmania in the next week but Mr Dennis said for the first time in many years no Palm Island boxers were going to be there.



# Skipjacks hoping to sting Cherbourg's Hornets in home ground match

SKIPJACKS club players and officials will travel to Cherbourg to play the local team in a rugby league game next week.

The players have been seen busily running around the island getting fit in preparation for the big game.

One of the most determined in training has been veteran Raoul Miller, who will be a role model for the younger players.

"We will be taking a lot of young fellows down there," coach Fred Bulsey said.

They will include Clarence Nugent, Robbie Snyder, Fred's sons Isaac and Fred jnr and others.

Isaac Bulsey has started pre-season training in Townsville with the Blackhawks under 20 team.

Skippies lost April's match for the Bill Coolburra Memorial Shield to Australian Army Thunder at

1300Smiles Stadium in April.

The lads will be looking to finish the year on a winning note but will face a tough task against Cherbourg, who will enjoy huge home support.

Fred snr he was also looking to organise a Palm team to compete at next year's Dan Ropeyarn carnival in Bamaga.

## FLASHBACK: 2016 Skipjacks side

