

# Palm Island Voice

**FREE!**

## Issue 284

Thursday 12 September 2019

PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.



Bwgcolman!  
Many tribes, one  
people.

# 2019 Spring Festival



Pic thanks to  
Mark Martin



It was **THE BEST** - a packed day, bigger than last year with an extra ferry which was chockers at 6am & 10am (600+ people! + the Maggie Island ferry) There was full program of dance groups too - our largest dance group had 47 people who travelled from Townsville to Palm - and, of course, the night finished with a bang (or two). Featured acts included:

**BLACK IMAGE DJ NOIZ**  
**KENNYON BROWN** *Donnell Lewis*  
along with local talent

**Milton Thaiday & Kalani Geia** (so young!!)  
+ heaps more!  
Special mention as well to our very own

**BWGCOLMAN DANCERS!!!**

**MORE PICS INSIDE!**



# Underwater Museum set to look for commercial operators

## Stakeholders on deck for underwater idea

Palm Island Council has been working with lead organisations and government in Townsville to develop a Museum of Underwater Art it is hoped will help to grow a sustainable tourism industry on Palm Island and provide jobs for young people.

Underwater art museums are artistic installations, usually involving sculptured works placed on the seafloor or riverbeds to provide a visual, emotional and physical experience for visitors.

Among the most famous and effective examples of this art form are works by Jason deCaires Taylor, who has installed major works in several northern hemisphere locations, including the Bahamas and Grenada (Caribbean), Cancun (Mexico) and London (Thames River).

"We call it a museum for a very important reason," Jason said. "Museums are places of preservation, conservation and education. They're places where we keep objects of great value to us, where we value them simply for being themselves."

High-quality, large scale installations can attract large

numbers of visitors.

In addition to experiential and artistic goals, the installations would have strong environmental and educational themes.

The vision is to create reconciliation and environmentally themed sculptural installation at one or two inter-tidal locations (The Strand, Geoffrey Bay on Magnetic Island), one offshore location (John Brewer Reef) and an installation off the coast of Palm Island that would be reflect the community's 100 year anniversary.

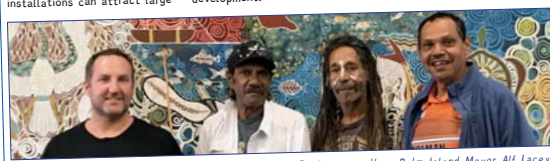
While the overall cost for the project is being finalised it has already received significant private sector donations and the Queensland government made a \$2 million election commitment to its development.



A launch of the project is not planned until April.

An installation off the coast of Palm Island could be a powerful way to demonstrate the island's connection with the marine environment and aspects of cultural heritage and reconciliation.

Together the sites can provide economic development opportunities and support small business development and employment.



Jason met with local artists Toby Castors and Billy Doolan as well as Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey during a recent visit to the region to conduct a scoping study

*Palm Island Voice 244: January 2018*

Work on the Museum of Underwater Art installations for the Strand, the John Brewer Reef and Palm Island was undertaken last week with world-renowned sculptor Jason deCaires Taylor in Townsville.

"Mr deCaires Taylor's work attracts global interest with tourists and divers eager to interact with his artwork," Tourism Industry Development Minister Kate Jones said.

Mr deCaires Taylor said it marked the start of a series of consultation workshops with local artists, Indigenous representatives, suppliers

and manufacturers.

Installations for the third project at Palm Island are planned for mid to late 2020.

MOUA Chair and SeaLink General Manager of Growth Paul Victory said over the coming months the Museum of Underwater Art would be advertising for commercial tourism operators to be officially licensed, to take people to the MOUA sites.

# New financial reporting system will ensure greater transparency

A new system of financial reporting is being put in place at the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, ensuring greater transparency for the community.

The move follows the appointments of a governance advisor and a financial controller six weeks ago, which was done with the full support of the Council.

A spokesperson from the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs said they were pleased with the progress being made.

"Some further time is required before a final report and recommendations are available

but the early strides the council is making, working closely with governance advisor Gary Kleidon and financial controller Neil Michel, have been positive and very well supported through the efforts of the council staff and the councillors," the spokesperson said.

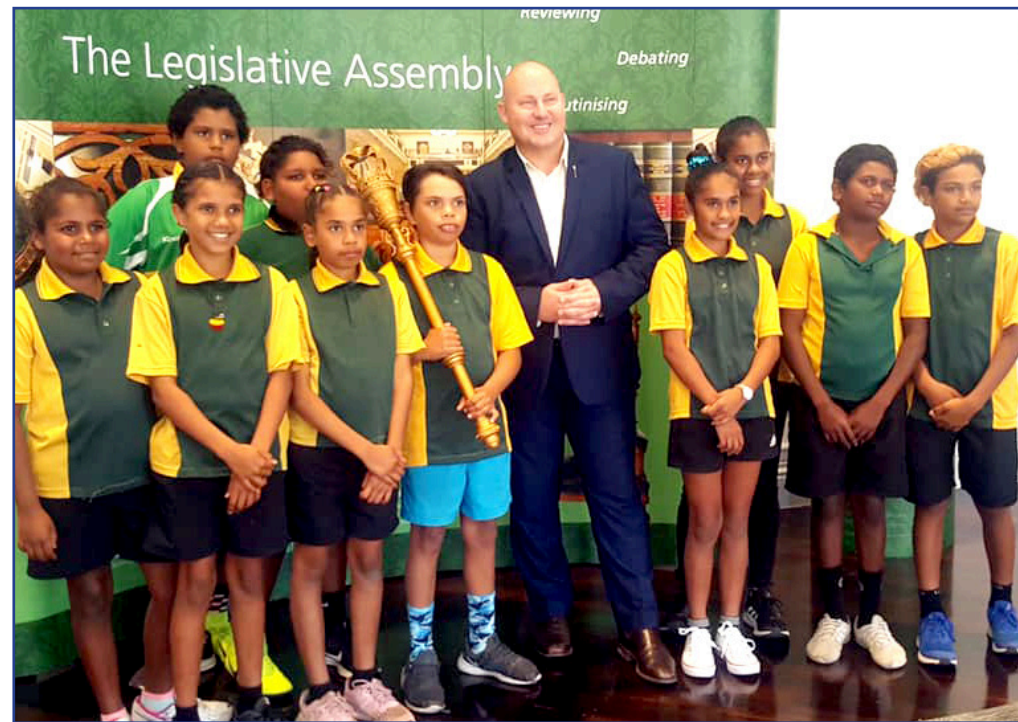
"During the first six weeks of the appointments, a tremendous amount of work has been undertaken to determine the status of the council's governance framework and financial position.

"Mr Michel is also working with councillors toward implementing a new, much more detailed reporting regime, allowing the councillors, and staff to fully understand the council's financial performance.

"The council's staff are its most important asset and Mr Kleidon and Mr Michel are working with the council to ensure that the current structure and staffing levels are appropriate to meet its operational needs."

<http://www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/about-us/news-media-and-events/media-releases/palm-island-council-moving-forward-with-greater-transparency-for-the-community.html>

# Youth Parliament opportunity enjoyed by 10 young hopefuls



Ten Bwgcolman Community School Year 5/6 students went to Townsville to participate in the Indigenous Youth Parliament late last month.

Supervisor Letitia Murgha said the event was structured like an actual Queensland Parliament sitting.

“Nine of our students were assigned as a member of an electorate and had to deliver a speech,” she said.

“Janiaues Shannon was chosen as the Sergeant At Arms and was given the duty of carrying the mace and to announce the Speaker of the House who was the actual Speaker of the Queensland Government, the Honourable Mr Curtis Pitt.”

She said she also had the duty of keeping time for all the speeches.

“Janiaues did a fantastic job in as the Sergeant At Arms,” Ms Murgha said.

“The other students also did a fantastic job delivering their

speeches with confidence and poise on their own, at the lectern, in front of 120 students from around the Region as well as Local Members of Parliament, teachers, parents and community members.

“Some were assigned to speak about a prominent Indigenous person such Cathy Freeman, Ashley Barty, Matty Bowen, Johnathon Thurston or Koiki Mabo, and some were assigned to speak about an issue such as the Great Barrier Reef, water issues on Palm Island, the environment, or NAIDOC.

“This was a great opportunity for these students to interact with other students and to demonstrate that they do have the confidence to participate at such an event.”

# Water works ready to start

A spokesperson from the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs says Palm Island’s cleaning the Island’s water storage reservoir is set to begin this month.

“The Department is continuing to work with the council to ensure priority projects are still being delivered, including six infrastructure projects to be delivered in the coming months,” the spokesperson said.

The infrastructure projects are:

- Installation of a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to the Water Treatment Plant;
- Internal clean, roof replacement and vermin proof the 4.5ML main drinking water storage reservoir;
- Decommission two undersized water treatment plant reservoirs and replace with a large 3ML treated water tank to increase capacity of treated water storage;
- Install additional backwash and sludge tanks and pump;
- New raw water line from Solomon Dam to Water Treatment Plant; and,
- New rising main from Water Treatment Plant to main reservoir.





# Palm Island Spring Festival 2019

Pics thanks to Kaiya Blackley; Telstan Sibley, Aicey Day, Stacey Friday, Nadine Hero, Lyn Freckleton & Cassie Bishop



"Thank you everyone who supported our stall The crowd looked the best I've seen since the concert back in 2001 . Need more of it, Palm Island Stood up today. Big Shout Out To All The Bwgcoldman People And Our Deadly Visitors," Telstan Sibley.



"Ocean and sunset. Thank you Palm Island community, we will see you all again soon," BLACK IMAGE

MORE pics  
NEXT PAGE...!







# North Queensland Regional Plan



## Have your say Palm Island

A draft of the North Queensland Regional Plan is now available for your comment and feedback.

The North Queensland Regional Plan will help shape the way our communities live, work and play, now and in the future. The plan includes Burdekin, Charters Towers, Hinchinbrook, Palm Island and Townsville. Get involved and help plan our region's future.

Have your say on the draft North Queensland Regional Plan

Visit > [qld.gov.au/planNQ](http://qld.gov.au/planNQ)

Or write to:

Draft North Queensland Regional Plan Feedback  
Department of State Development, Manufacturing,  
Infrastructure and Planning  
PO Box 5666  
Townsville QLD 4810



**Queensland  
Government**

Authorised by the Queensland Government, William St, Brisbane.

## WATER NOTICE

We still ask residents to

# REDUCE THEIR WATER USE

until further notice.



## PLEASE DON'T WASTE WATER!



YOU MUST CONTINUE to

# BOIL ALL WATER

even if you have filters on taps.

## POSITION VACANT

### REGISTERED NURSE



Palm Island Community Company (PICC) is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2007 to provide a broad range of social services and community enterprises on Palm Island. It is a partnership between the Queensland Government, the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and the Palm Island community. PICC is an Aboriginal Organisation committed to community control principles and protocols of self-determination through the provision of whole-of life services for people of the Island that reach across generations.

**The Registered Nurse (RN) works alongside a team of Health clinicians at the PICC Children and Family Centre.** The RN is responsible for the delivery, management and coordination of quality patient care and service delivery. The RN is also responsible for the total care of the patients, which includes triage, priority categorisation, early detection of health issues, clinical interventions, liaison with other members of the health care team, coordination of patient treatments and preventive care services.

### Selection Criteria

#### Qualifications and Experience

- Current Registered Nurse registration with AHPRA coupled with demonstrated clinical knowledge and relevant experience working as a Registered Nurse.
- Ability to communicate effectively with staff, patients, relatives and a broad range of health professionals.
- Ability to administer and document patient medications and prescribed treatment accurately.
- Ability to work independently without close supervision and to adapt flexibly to unexpected changes.
- Proven ability to work cooperatively as a member of an interdisciplinary team and show support and respect for colleagues.
- Ability to show initiative, discretion and good judgement in carrying out clinical duties.
- Experience in working in a remote or rural Aboriginal community health care setting.

#### Practical Requirements

- Ability to travel to and from Palm Island
- Willingness to work after-hours and stay overnight on palm Island several times per week.
- Current C Class Drivers Licence (QLD)
- Satisfactory Police Check – no Serious/Criminal/Court Record (if required)

**Remuneration:** An attractive remuneration package based on experience, which includes super and salary packaging, is on offer.

**How to apply:** Applications close **Wednesday 18th September 2019** COB. To apply for the position, (or for a copy of the position description); please email your application to Charmaine at [cchong@picc.com.au](mailto:cchong@picc.com.au)

# Ossy represents in touch footy state championships

The Junior State Championships in touch footy were held in Bundaberg last month, bringing together more than 400 players from six regions to compete.

Oswald (Ossy) Poynter was selected to play in the Under 12's North Queensland side at the three day event, which provided an opportunity to identify the best young talent and reinforce the pathways created to progress through to the elite levels of the game.

Proud Step Mum Desree Shepherd said Ossy was overjoyed when selectors announced he had made the 10 man squad.

She said he had been preparing for the championships since January.

As one of the youngest in the team Ossy said he was



“very happy” to be given the opportunity to represent North Queensland, as well as attend the training development camps.

He said he hoped one day to make the Queensland side.

Ossy scored two tries at the Championships, one of them being a full field intercept.

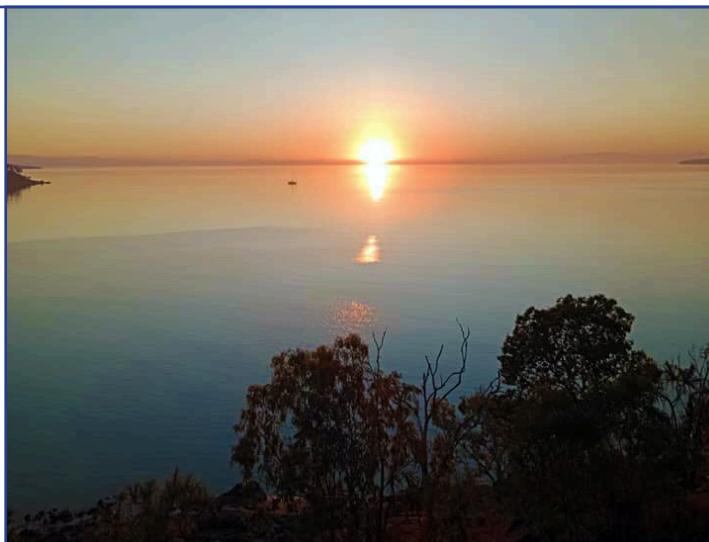
“This event has been a great experience for Ossy and made him even more determined to work harder after seeing first hand the level of skill required to make the finals,” Desree said.

“Ossy is only 11 years old so he can try out again for the 2020 NQ Cyclones Under 12's team.

“Touch football is one of Ossy's strengths and we support him with this as much as possible.”

With the State Championships behind him, Ossy is now playing up a grade in the 12-year-old division for Sharks Touch Club in the Summer Competition.

*RIGHT: Yarrabah's Brian Maloney is a regular visitor to Palm Island and reckons they don't make sunsets like this where he's from! Thanks for sharing Brian!*



## NEXT DEADLINE (Issue 285) THURSDAY 19 September for PUBLICATION on THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

The **Palm Island Voice** is published fortnightly by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and edited by Christine Howes. Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor. You can follow us on Facebook! We have 2,510 'likes'! We accept paid advertising. For rates and/or more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)

The **Palm Island Voice** is free and online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

**Operating Hours for Palm Island 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 3,346 'likes' on Facebook!!!

