

Palm Islam
Voice

Your Community Your Newsletter Your Voice



Issue 45 Tuesday 20 October 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Stinger program wins state award



No date set but bar to re-open soon



Palm sides 'unlucky' in Townsville

Students recognised for good, solid work



Brand new bikes were the rewards for 19 hard working students at St Michael's and Bwgcolman schools last week, thanks to the Catherine Freeman Foundation.

Catherine was there to join in celebrating the high attendance and good behaviour of the best students from each year level, chosen by each of the schools respectively.

"I feel it's always a privilege when I'm going back to Palm," she said.



"And the community allows me into their lives, it's really lovely when the children are happy to see you and they give you their lovely smile and want to share their time with you.

"To keep up those important relationships, especially with the children, means so much to me.

"I think the impact of the bike program is all positive and I think for me the real reward is it allows us an opportunity to share precious time with the kids, with the schools, the staff and the parents.

Continued p 2...

...From page 1...



"It's really important that the kids recognise that they've got support around them.

"The team at the Catherine Freeman Foundation are fantastic and the fact that the community are opening their arms is really part of the winning formula.

"Obviously there are a lot of challenges that lie ahead, lots of work to be done, but this is a wonderful start."

Pics on page 1 courtesy Serge Ou, Bearcage Films



Disaster funds to fix roads

Disaster relief funding announced on Friday will help Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council meet the costs of repairs caused by flooding and cyclone damage earlier this year, Local Government Minister Desley Boyle says.

"Monsoonal rain and flooding following Cyclones Charlotte and Ellie did significant damage to Palm Island's roads and other public infrastructure and left Council with a major clean up job," Ms Boyle said.

"After any natural disaster it is essential to get the local road network back in working order so that residents get back to their daily routines."

Member for Townsville Mandy Johnstone welcomed the funding and said it was important that all levels of government worked together in the aftermath of natural disaster events.

"The cyclones did considerable damage on Palm Island.

"Damage to Bamboo Creek Road made access to the weir difficult while damage

to other roads, like Wallaby Point Road and Mango Avenue, made it hard for residents to get around," Ms Johnstone said. "Obviously, the burden of these repairs would have severely impacted on Council's balance sheet.

"That is why State and Commonwealth Governments have contributed \$2,308, 807 to help council meet the cost of repair works.

"This funding has also helped support local jobs during these uncertain economic times." Ms Johnstone said some of the major roadworks included:

- Bamboo Creek Road
- Banfield Highway
- Bentley Street
- Bypass Tip Road
- Cooktown Street
- culvert washout at Beach Road
- Francis Creek Dam Road
- Wallaby Point Road
- Mount Bentley Road
- Mango Avenue
- Pencil Bay Road

Book now for free Family History Workshops

A series of free family history workshops will be held in Townsville in November, and Palm Islanders are among those being encouraged to participate.

Government archivist Kathy Frankland will be taking the workshops.

The public workshops will be held from 8.30am – 3pm on Wednesday & Thursday November 4 – 5. Lunch will be provided.

Bookings can be made by calling Townsville City Libraries' Kerry Clarkson on 4727 8329 or Annette Burns on 4727 9661.

Palm Island stingers program makes national awards final

Palm Island paramedics took out top honours at the state finals of the Australian Safer Communities Awards in Brisbane last week.

Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services Neil Roberts said the project was now a finalist in the national awards to be held in Canberra in early December.

"Palm Island paramedics Ian Day and David Kain were deserving winners in the State Government category for their development of a program to decrease the number of marine stinger envenomations (stings) on the island," he said.

"The Palm Island program, which included community education, vinegar stations and making stinger suits available at a discounted price, had reduced the number of (stings) from 25 to five from one season to the next.

"To have decreased the number in one community in one year by such a huge amount is phenomenal.

"I congratulate the work of these individuals and all those here today who have recognised a need and have acted upon it."

The Australian Safer Communities Awards recognise best practice, and innovation by organisations and individuals that help to build safer communities across Australia.

The awards are an initiative of the Australian Government's Attorney General's Department - covering all aspects of emergency management including risk assessment, research, education and training, information and knowledge management and prevention,



Paramedics David Kain (now on Horn Is) & Ian Day

preparedness, response and recovery.

"The people behind these innovative projects are deserving recipients and demonstrate the remarkable calibre of Queensland emergency services staff working to enhance community safety in our state," Mr Roberts said.

Mr Day said he and Mr Kain wanted to thank everyone concerned.

"David and I are ecstatic about our win and look forward to representing Queensland at the National awards," he said.

"To all the allied people who have supported us with this project, thank you so much, we share this award with you."

Mr Day said he would keep the Palm Island Voice informed about how they do in Canberra!



Ingai reaches 'huge' milestone

QBuild trainee Ingai Geia has just signed a Host Employer agreement with Smedley Plumbing. He is on a three month trial here on the island and then will be taken on as an apprentice. QBuild Indigenous Training Support Officer John Newbould said it was a huge milestone for Ingai.

Upgrades mean better radio



Palm Island's radio station, Bwgcolman Radio 97.3FM (4PALM), has been upgraded to allow for a better sound generally and outside broadcasts for community events.

PCYC Manager, Sgt Bernie Mead, said the money had come from the Federal Government.

Sgt Mead is responsible for the station which is currently being coordinated by Tim Miller (who also works with us on the Palm Island Voice, of course!).

"The transmitter has been upgraded which gives us a better range and we've got all new microphones and headphones so it's better quality radio," Sgt Mead said.

"We can also do outside broadcasts so we can go down to the football and broadcast."

School set to work '4 PALM'

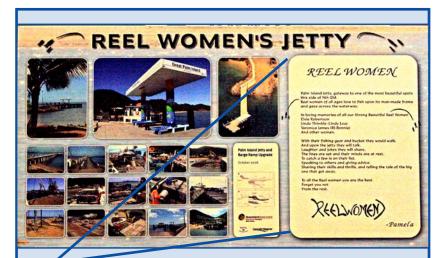
In the next few weeks listen out for the Year 6 and Year 7 students of Bwgcolman Community School try out their style on the local radio station 4PALM!!

As a part of a health unit this term, students will be learning about healthy eating choices, and the way these choices affect their health. They will be looking at different advertising mediums and the use of advertising to influence their choices in what they eat. Once they have explored this, it will be their turn to get their messages across to the community.

Getting the students voices out to the wider community is an important way to make their learning real, and connected to their immediate world, and what better way to do it than broadcasting on the local radio!!

I have already heard some great "radio voices", and look forward to hearing many more...

Sarah Hogg Teacher Bwgcolman Community School



Palm Island Jetty, gateway to one of the most beautiful spots this side of Nth Qld.

Reel women of all ages love to fish upon its manmade frame and gaze across the waterway.

In loving memories of all our Strong Beautiful Reel Women

Elsie Robertson

Linda Thimble (Lindy Lou)

Veronica James (BJ-Bonnie)

And other women.

With their fishing gear and bucket they would walk,

And upon the jetty they will talk,

Laughter and jokes they will share,

Their lines are set and their minds at rest,

To catch a few is on their list.

Speaking to others and giving advice,

Sharing their skills and thrills, and telling the tale of

the big one that got away.

To all the Real women you are the best

Forget you not

From the rest.

REEL WOMEN

Pamela

No date yet, but bar opening on the way

Renovations to Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar & Bistro are well underway and should be completed within the next 2 -3 weeks, licensees Zac Sam & Shane Stratton (pictured right) have told the Palm Island Voice.

"At the moment we are considering new artwork inside and outside the premises so local artists are welcome to submit an expression of interest," they said.

"We are also advertising for staff and want to encourage anyone who would like to learn about Hospitality to apply [see page 13].

"Full training will be given on-site before and after the opening.

"After the renovations, there are a number of building inspections that need to be carried out.

"They include Qld Fire Services / Electrical / Workplace Health and Safety and a final inspection by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing.

"These inspections are out of our control and therefore we can't give an exact opening date because there may be additional requirements set out by the various inspectors.



"Once the hotel is open it will be up to the community to help it stay open.

"Restrictions governing our operations are very strict, however we believe they are a good starting point.

"We will need the support of everyone to ensure that patrons do not do the wrong thing on and off the premises.

"And we will be holding some meetings on the premises with patrons prior to opening to discuss problems that have plagued the hotel in the past such as people congregating on the outside of the garden bar, leaving the hotel premises with alcohol, bringing alcohol onto the premises and consuming alcohol in the vicinity of the hotel premises.

"These issues will need to be addressed in order for us to keep the hotel open.

"Overall we believe we can make these small changes and still provide an enjoyable and safe place for adults to meet, mingle and have a pleasant evening."









Crystal Ramic, Sharon Wardle & Desley Thompson

New RAATSICC workers meet with local stakeholders

Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care (RAATSICC) Advisory Association staff visited Palm Island last week to introduce new staff to the community.

Crystal Ramic is the new RAATSICC Child Counsellor and Sharon Wardle is the Engagement Officer.

RAATSICC Director of Services Desley Thompson was also with them.

Although on Palm Island for just two days; they said they were very busy catching up with people.

"Our first stop was Palm Island Council, then Kootana Women's Service, a quick stop to see Selena at the Justice Group and then onto the Palm Island Community Company," they said. "We even made the time to be interviewed by Tim and the Radio Station and joined in a game of basketball and cricket with the kids at the PCYC.

"The second day was just as fruitful as the first day.

"Meeting Carmel at Goodoo Childcare Centre was great.

"The ladies there are doing a wonderful job with the kids, they were all on their best behaviour too, although they seemed a bit shy with the new faces in the room."

They also said Crystal and Sharon would be visiting Palm Island again next month.



"In the meantime if you would like to know more about RAATSICC and the Programs we deliver, we left some information at the Council office or you can call us direct on the toll free number – 1300 663 411," they said.

"Thank you everyone for your kind hospitality and hope to see you soon."

RAATSICC is a Cairns-based non-Government network made up of member representatives from remote Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander communities in Cape York and across the Gulf regions as well as Thursday Island, Yarrabah, Mossman and Palm Island. Network members work together to respond to the needs of children, youth and their families in a culturally appropriate manner relevant to their local community.

Local tradie recognised for good work

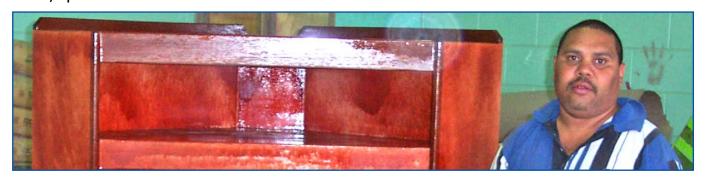
CDEP tradesman Albert Gorringe was nominated by his work colleagues for 'Construction Indigenous Person of the Year' at the Construction Skills Queensland Excellence Awards 2009 last month. The nomination was unsuccessful, but CDEP Manager Roy Prior wanted Mr Gorringe to have special mention in the *Palm Island Voice* for the "outstanding work he's done in the community". "Not to mention the apprenticeships he has developed over the years," Mr Prior said.

"Albert, pictured here with one of his tv

cabinets, is capable of doing pretty much anything – tables, beds, chairs, cabinets, bedside tables and much more," he said.

"He has recently come back from Townsville where he and his apprentice, Daryl Huddy, have had some additional training on new equipment and the fabrication of outdoor tables and chairs settings.

"Albert is a leader within the organisation and will do his up most best to assist any youth as he sees this as development of our future local tradesmen."



Maths project brings empowerment

Exposing people's natural ability with mathematics is the focus of the YuMi Deadly centre at QUT, which is currently conducting a research project on Palm Island.

Recent visitor to Palm,
Roger Smith (pictured), is a
Coordinator for Accelerated
Indigenous Mathematics
(AIM), a QUT research
project led by Dr Annette
Baturo and Associate
Researcher Prof Tom Cooper,
along with Dr Grace Sarra
and Dr Chris Matthews, both
of whom are Indigenous
Researchers.

After some initial success in Woorabinda, the project is now working with Columba Catholic College, Charters Towers; Abergowrie College, Ingham;



Bwgcolman Community School; Djarragan College, Gordonvale, Wangetti TAVEC; and Wadja Wadja High School, Woorabinda. Mr Smith said the focus of the research was empowerment at community level.

"The centre has been created to help mainly Indigenous students," he said.

"We want to enable the kids to see that they have great worth and great

talent and that they have the intelligence to go much higher in their education. "We are looking at Indigenous students that are in Year 8 who are under performing in maths.

"We have very special ways to help them accelerate with the three year project, so we are looking at the children who would be able to go into vocational accelerated learning projects and also higher mathematical learning. "The focus is at empowerment at the community level ¬ within the school and the broader community.

"We want to involve as many people as possible to help the kids switch on to their innate ability with mathematics."

Palm Island Voice editor Christine Howes and reporter Tim Miller have been working together for just on 12 months now, bringing us to our 25th Issue already (give or take a couple of mid-Issue updates earlier on!)!!

On this page is a quick review of what's happened over the past 12 months. you'd like an electronic version of any of our previous issues, including Issues 1-20 edited by Catherine Lawler and Alfred Clay who led the way for us, drop us a line (see back page for details).

Our first issue (Issue 21) came out 27 October 2009. Leading with what was to be a feature for several more issues was the Palm Island Rodeo, but there was also news about the Coolgaree Bay Hotel, the new jetty was nearly finished and the evercommitted Ray Dennis was there for us with an update on the boxers!



Palm Island Voice

It's all systems go for the Palm Island Rodeo!

haun Shortine to the stockmen who were here on Palm Island

Palm Island's first rodeo for many years has been dedicated

Queensland Register, ABC Radio and other media outlets have already reported that the alcohol-free event will be held from Friday 14 to Sunday 16 November

As President of the Palm Island Indigenous Rodeo Association, Pauline said it

Palm Island so did everything else, all their work and there was no more rodeos," she said. "We haven't bed"

"We haven't had one for a long time and a lot of people don't know what a rodeo is, so it's for them to know, to develop skills and to bring it back into

like, because everyone knows our island for the bad side and

our island for the bad side and not for what it really is.
"We all know for ourselves that Palm Island is beautiful place." Rodeo sponsors have already agreed to provide an eatery and mechanical bull for the event, and "Deadly's" winner for most promising new talent in music, Adam James, is expected to come, along with

the Gold Coast Titans.
"We were very happy about that because the more black people we have to show what talent there is no show that talent there is and that we can all combine as a whole

community," she said.
"We've also got people wanting to come from the Gulfto nominate for skills and to pring it back into the community, it became the community, "We also want tourists and visitors to come over and see from Cherbourg, Woorabinda what the real Palm Island is & Townsville." (continued p2)

STOP PRESS: Wotton sentencing set for 7 November
In Brisbane on Friday Lex Wotton was found guilty of inciting an ion
Defence lawyers say they will appeal internationally if they have to.
Mayor Lacey told ABC Radio on Saturday morning: "I want to say
to Lays family that the companying has been included under the say indyou takey took and, kaulo on saturday morning. I want to say to Lex's family that the community has him in mind and in spirit and in prayers, and certainly at this time everyone is thinking of them."



Tuesday 9 December 2008 INSIDE THIS ISSUE!











Palm Island Voice

Reports of a somewhat Reports or a somewhat threatening visitor to Palm Island over the past week or so – a crocodile, which may be as big as 3.5m - have prompted Police and the Palm Island Council to issue warnings to swimmers between Francis Creek and the other side of the jetty.
Oueensland Parks & Queensland Parks & Wildlife Services and the Environmental Protection Agency have been notified of the sightings and are monitoring the situation.



monitoring the situation.

They say before any action can be taken they have to wait to see whether the croc concerned is just passing through or has decided to take up residency.

In the meantime Police and the Council have issued strong warnings to the community that people — especially children - should stay out of the water in these areas.

Eyewitness, apprentice butcher Marcellus Clay said he saw the croc at 7.30am last Monday while walking to work.

"There were no waves or ripples, it was like glass," Mr Clay said.
"I just kept seeing this thing, it looked about 2m long and I watched it swim away towards Francis Creek."

Crocodiles, while common throughout North Queensland, are not regularly sighted here.

not regularly sighted here.

MrClay, 17, said he had never seen one in the waters surrounding the island before.

"I never thought there were crocodiles here until I saw it," he said. He said he raised the alarm with the Island's Animal Control Officers who immediately warned local children to get out of the water They said parents need to make sure their children heeded warnings as there were still children and young adults swimming near the jetty after the croc had been reported.

It has been about 50 years since a croc has been spotted here, though slide marks have been found in the past few months as well as the body of a small crocodile in a crab trap.

(continued page 2...)

A seemingly appropriate croc warning led Issue 24 (9 December 2008), which included the news that the pub was shut and, unknown to us at the time, was to stay shut for most of the next 12 months (see story on p 5 of this Issue for the latest update).

It rained and it rained...and then it rained some more... Issue 27 (10 February 2009) led with a warning about taking care on water damaged roads.





Issue 27 Tuesday 10 February 2009 INSIDE THIS ISSUE









Palm Island Voice



Council urges caution around washed-out roads Palm Island Aboriginal Council is urging residents to take particular care on our roads over the next few weeks, as water and flood damage is assessed and repaired as quickly as possible – weather-permitting, of course.

as water and flood damage is assessed and repaired as quickly as possible —weather-permitting, of course. Mayor Alf Lacey has also warned parents and children in particular to stay away from creeks, all of which are running fast, or can do so without warning if it rains upstream. "We're calling on all community members to keep an eye on that as much as possible," he said. With roadworks likely to take some time to complete, PIAC CEO Barry Moyle said particular care should be taken on the Amport and Beach Roads (pictured above and below), which were only half open due to land slips and vaster damage. "Propie need to take It very easy out there, and to be aware because they're still underwater," he said. Mr Lacey said in the meantime the Courol was working in conjunction with emergency services to do what they could to ensure the safety of all residents. "We've been having some bad weether and our roads are not

D-G promises PICC review 'within the month'

Increasing concerns about the roles and functions of the Palm Island Community Company have prompted Palm Island resident and PhD student Lynore Geia to circulate a paper outlining a series of issues around the Island and to government.

Ms Geia said the paper was being treated as formal complaint by the Department of Communities and would be addressed as such.

When the *Palm Island Voice* spoke to Palm Island Community champion and Department of Communities Director-General Linda Apelt yesterday, a number of assurances were given that the paper would be taken seriously.

Amongst other things, Ms Apelt said a midterm 'independent' review of the Company would allow for public input and be carried out within the next month.

She also said she would be responding to Ms Geia's paper personally.

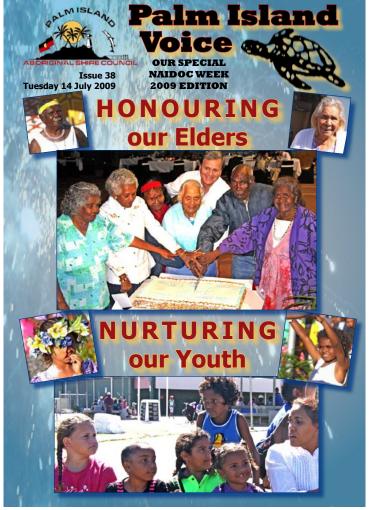
PICC CEO Rachel Atkinson said she was unable to comment while the paper was under review by the Department.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Alf Lacey said the PICC, and specifically the Council's role as shareholders in the PICC, was on the agenda for this Thursday's general Council meeting. For more information about the meeting contact Council on 4770 1177.



From respect to disrespect in two weeks?
While Issue 33 (5 May 2009) focussed on commemorating ANZAC, Issue 34 (19 May 2009) saw Cowboys star Jonathan Thurston having to remind youth that 'Palm rocks!'





Possibly, maybe, arguably our best issue yet was Issue 38 (14 July 2009), celebrating NAIDOC. This issue drew praise from all over the state for its 'exciting' coverage of a great community week.



Adopt-a-Cop supported by Palm Island schools

On the 14th of October 2009 six police officers were adopted by the three schools at Palm Island.

Sergeant Dave Allan and Acting Senior Constable Kate Ringberg were adopted by the Bwgcolman Community School.

Sergeant James "Jim" O'Bryan and Acting Senior Constable Gary McNeil were adopted by the Saint Michael's School.

And Sergeant Tony Hosie and Acting Senior Constable Rohan McDonald were adopted by the Palm Island Campus of the Kirwan State High School.

Palm Island has not had an active Adopt-a-Cop program for some time and the adoption ceremonies were well attended by the three schools with students and teachers welcoming their respective Adopt-a-Cops with open arms.

The program provides the opportunity to forge better relations between the police and the youth of our community.

This provides the foundations for future relations when these youth – the future of our community – take their positions as the leaders of the community.

Adopt-a-Cop is also a valuable resource for the schools to provide information and education in relation to a range of topics including drug and alcohol education, road safety and protective behaviours, for the children.

All of the adopted 'Cops' involved in the program on Palm Island look forward to getting to know the children of their respective schools better and providing them and their schools with any information or assistance they can.







If any member of the community requires further information regarding the Adopta-Cop program on Palm Island please contact the Palm Island Police Station.

Paul James, OIC Palm Island

Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices

HAPPY 17TH
BIRTHDAY
AMY BOYD (JNR)
20 OCTOBER 2009
WE hope you have a

WE hope you have a wonderful day!!

LOVE FROM: Mum Vera & Uncle Bully, Mum Jenny, Mum Stephanie, Mum Sharon & Uncle Rueben and sisters Nikita, Alison & Joyce and brothers Norman, Joe and Uncles Cowboy, Ashley, Sandy & BO, Grandmothers Lorna, Elizabeth & Evelyn, Nan Marg & extended families



Election of new Bwgcolman Community School P & C

Congratulations to the new Bwgcolman Community School P & C! The executive members are:

President: Jeanie Ling Vice President: Elsa Morton Secretary: Leonie Bligh

Treasurer: Merle Geesu-Robertson

In addition, the assistant secretary/ publicity is Yolanda Coutts. One of the items on the agenda after the election of office bearers was getting the tuckshop up and running for lunchtimes this term. Thank you to all community members who came to the P & C AGM. Your support shows that the sky is the limit for the children of Palm Island.

Palm Island Voice

Advertising Information & Rates Display Advertisements

(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication)
Full Page \$440 Half Page \$231
Quarter Page \$121

Eighth Page \$66 Sixteenth Page \$44 Classifieds (payable in advance)

Items for sale under \$1000 – FREE

Public Notices – Births, Deaths, Marriages, Birthdays – FREE Sale Price over \$1000 & Other Notices – 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be submitted by no later than 5pm on deadline day (see p 16 for details).



PUBLIC NOTICES

Please be advised there is a current **fire ban** in Queensland, and this includes Palm Island. It is an offence to light fires, if you are found lighting fires you may be prosecuted. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please also be advised there are **water restrictions** in force – no sprinklers, no hoses. Please use grey water to water gardens and plants. Thank you for your cooperation.

October 2009, enforced until further notice.



Learn To Talk With Your Hands for:

- © Deaf people living on Palm
- © Family members losing their hearing



Every Tuesday at PCYC 11am -12pm

Starts 20th October – Ends 24th November

Free Lunch provided at 12pm



Palm Island Service Schedule "MV OLYMPIC"

Monday

Depart Lucinda: 7.30 am Arrive Palm Is: 10.15 am Depart Palm Is: 11.30 am Arrive Lucinda: 2.00 pm

Tuesday

Depart Lucinda: 9.00 am Arrive Palm Is: 11.45 am Depart Palm Is: 2:00 pm Arrive Lucinda: 4:30 pm

Wednesday

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am Depart Palm Is: 12.30 pm Arrive Lucinda: 3:00 pm

Thursday*

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.30 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 3:00 pm
*Thursday departure from
Palm Island is subject to
change. Please call on the
day to confirm time.*

<u>Friday</u>

Depart Lucinda: 8:00 am Arrive Palm Is: 10:45 am Depart Palm Is: 12.00 pm Arrive Lucinda: 2:30 pm

Please note that loading of the barge commences 60 mins prior to departure time. Scheduled departure and arrival times should be checked at time of booking.

For all bookings please contact our office on (07) 4776 5055



Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar & Bistro

POSITIONS VACANT

Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar & Bistro (CBSBB) is seeking the services of:

- 1) Manager
- 2) Bar Staff
- 3) Security Staff
- 4) Cleaners

The following are requirements for all the positions:

TRAINING

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Training will be made to all individuals to effectively perform their functions.

EDUCATION &/or EXPERIENCE

No experience is required. However for the position of the manager, he/she will require some experience in management of staff and cash handling.

DETAILED RESUME & AT LEAST THREE REFEREES

Interested candidates should send an application and recent resume by **30th October 2009** to Shane Stratton or Zac Sam (at the hotel) or email to shane. stratton@cbsbb.com.au or zac.sam@cbsbb.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: SOME POSITIONS WILL REQUIRE POLICE CHECKS

Obe Geia Jr

Rugby League Challenge

Friday 23rd October 2009

Bwgcolman Community School Oval 11am-4pm

Participating Schools:

Bwgcolman Community School

St Michael's School

Heatley State School

Vincent State School

The Marion School
St Joseph's on the Strand

There will be a Kuppa Murri Lunch &

Cowboys players visiting

ALL WELCOME!





A quick word from... Murielle



Morgan

In January last year 20-year-old Murielle Morgan started with PIAC as a Clerical Assistant, but just the other week was promoted to Senior Administration Officer, including the position of Youth Officer.

Murielle said she was happy.

"I love it, I'm really happy with this job because it keeps you on your toes - I like to do work," she said.

"I'm always busy and like that, I don't like it when it's slow because it's very boring when it is. I normally just help out with the minutes at the meetings, preparing the business papers and stuff like that, also letters and corresponding in and out.

"My portfolio is also the youth with the councillors - I attend meetings and we get

together with youth to see what we can do.

"I'm happy with it.

"We had a couple young kids come through now from the PISC campus and I was in charge of them – seeing how they work and organising around the them workplace here, so I have about three or four young kids in the office with me.

"I also work on updating the council webpage.

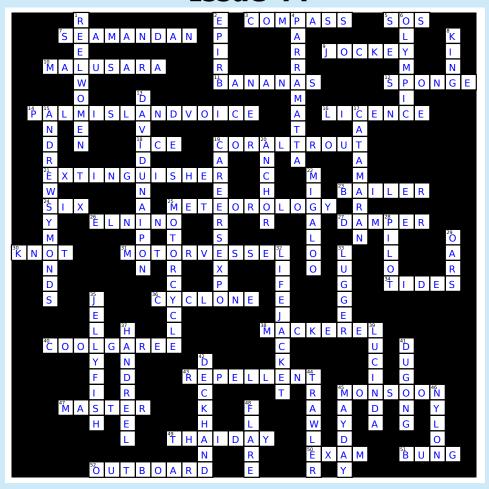
"I'm not studying at the moment, when I first started work I did a **Business Administration** Certificate III I finished in 2007.

"I still want to do some studying but with this new job I don't really know what I actually do vet....I do a lot..."



Murielle Morgan at her computer desk in the Council

PI Voice Crossword Answers Issue 44



Palm 'should be proud' of footballers

...Continued from p 16...

More than 5000 men, women and children watched the two days of competition and Palm Island had by far the biggest supporter base of any team.

Each Palm team looked great in their jumpers and players represented their beloved island with pride.

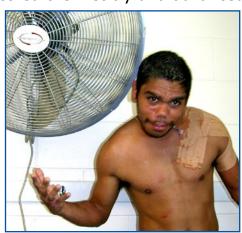
Barracudas Green was the best performed winning their first three round games before lining up against the high rolling Central Queensland Warriors on day two with the prize being a semi finals berth.

Palm Island fans were barracking loudly from the sideline as their team ran to a 22-16 lead in the last 10 minutes.

Included in the team was young North Queensland Cowboys back Obe Geia junior. However the CQ side with players mainly from Woorabinda scored in the dying minutes and many in the crowd felt the try was a "DOUBLE MOVEMENT" and should have been disallowed.

The referee awarded the four pointer and the following conversion saw the game a tie at 22-all.

Under the rules CQ won the game because they scored the first try and advanced to the





Top: Mid-field action against the CQ Warriors; Above Left: Green hooker Patrick Charles cools off in dressing rooms after game under a fan; Left & Right: some of the many Palm Island supporters at the games



semi final against Mackay Stallions.

Star Barracudas forward Fred Bulsey and players and supporters protested to officials about what they considered was a double movement but the decision stood.

Palm Island Voice entered the Barracudas Gold dressing room and found the players in good spirits.

"How can we not lose and still not make the semi final," one player said.

Mackay Stallions won that semi and Bindal Sharks defeated Charters Towers in the other semi final.

In the grand final Mackay Stallions led by NRL player Ben Barba won 30-22 against Bindal. Sharkettes won the ladies grand final 40-10 against Eagles United and in the men's losers comp Cairns United defeated Bowen Stingers 32-22.

Some of the Palm Island identities the *Palm Island Voice* spotted at the carnival were Council Deputy CEO Deneice Geia and her family, Palm Island Rugby League President Ili Dabea, former star player David Baira, and a host of others.

Palm Island can justly be proud of their footballers.



Palm sides 'unlucky' at Bindal/Townsville All-Blacks

Words & pics by Alf Wilson

Palm Island teams performed well at the Bindal Sharks United All-Blacks rugby league carnival held at Townsville on October 10 and 11 with Barracudas Green team considered unlucky not to qualify for the semi-finals.

Barracudas Gold was the other island side in the 16 team men's competition. Barracudettes contested the six team ladies comp with all games played at Jack Manski Oval at Brother's League's club behind **Dairy Farmers Stadium.** Continued page 15...



Pictured Left: The happy, but unlucky, Barracuda Green team in the dressing rooms after their match; Below Left: the Barracudettes; **Below Right:** Barracudas Gold **MORE PICS ON P 15**





Alf's coverage of the Cairns All-Blacks Carnival will feature in the next issue of the Palm Island Voice (Issue 46) on Tuesday 3 November

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE Palm Island Voice

Editor: Christine Howes (chowes@westnet.com.au) Chief Reporter: Tim Miller (reporter@piac.com.au) Ph 4770 1177 Fax 4770 1305 Many thanks to all the Palm Islanders who have

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