



Issue 73
 Thursday 24 February 2011

**Your Community
 Your Newsletter
 Your Voice**

\$1.00

**INSIDE:
 2011 Palm
 Island
 Footy
 Preview**

Foreshore erosion prompts warning



Mayor says repairs waiting on full report

Residents and visitors to Palm are urged to be extremely careful around erosion along the foreshore in the town area and further along past Coolgaree Sports Bar & Bistro in the wake of Cyclone Yasi.

As can be seen in the pictures on pages 1 and 2, large chunks of grass and sand under and behind the retaining walls have been taken out by wind and waves, making the area a hazard for pedestrians.

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey said the focus of clean-up operations – now almost half way complete – was shifting to public infrastructure, but it was not exactly known when the areas affected would be fully-repaired. "The foreshore area is going to be one of our biggest tasks," he said. "We need to get onto that so erosion doesn't continue to

cause problems for us.

"Last week we had coastal engineer, Gildas Colleter, from the Queensland Government on the Island and he is an expert in mending breakwaters and walls and dealing with erosion of this type."

Continued next page...



Gildas Colleter & Mayor Alf Lacey



...From previous page

"Coastal engineer Gildas Colleter walked the length of the foreshore with myself and the CEO, he's taken the photographs we have on these pages so he will now do an assessment and write up a report," Mr Lacey said.

"A preliminary report will come to Council in the first instance

which will allow us to put up a submission under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement (NDRRA), which is funding from the Commonwealth and the State.

"A lot of Councils are going to be bidding for this money because they have a lot of damage in their Shires but we're probably one of the Shires most on the ball at the



moment, given we're almost half way through our clean up now.

"That gives us a bit of room to move and we've been given the assurance from the Premier that the Reconstruction Authority will fast track these sorts of submissions.



"As soon as the report is done we'll send that submission on to them.

"But it's going to take a bit of time and a lot of work, so at the moment we ask the community to be very careful when they are walking or swimming in the foreshore area there. There are barriers up there to warn people and they need to be vigilant about using the foreshore with caution."

Mr Lacey said Mr Colleter's visit was a direct result of his attending a meeting with the Premier and other Shire Council Mayors in Brisbane earlier this month (**more reports pages 6 & 7**).

"Insurance assessors have also been here to give their assessment and okay for different repairs on our Council and public buildings and infrastructure here in the community," he said.

"I think the important thing for us here at Palm is that we've been on the ball and will continue to be on the ball with keeping on top of the damages in the community.

"The community is responding very well, quite a few people are very happy that the debris caused by Cyclone Yasi is well on track and going so well."



Council staff and Mayor Alf Lacey with insurance assessors

Vandalism to toilets sparks ferry anger

VANDALS causing damage to Sunferries' catamarans to and from Palm Island will face considerable community anger when they are identified and caught, say passengers.

Last Friday's ferry was delayed after deliberate damage was done to onboard toilets.

The catamaran left from Sunferries Ross Creek terminal in Townsville at 10am, when it is suspected the damage was done.

"We were told that plastic bags had been shoved into the toilets forcing them to be closed and not available to the public," a passenger, who asked not to be named, told the Palm Island Voice.

"The crew worked hard to try and fix them whilst at Palm but had difficulty."

Passengers wanting to go to Townsville who were not under the covered sections at the end of the Reel Women jetty had to stand for an hour and a half in 30 degree plus temperatures waiting for their departure, fuelling their anger about the situation.

"It was very unpleasant and no fault of anybody from the ferry company," another said.

Ferry crew were praised for their efforts after reportedly apologising a number of times to passengers for a situation not of their doing and out of their control.

They said one toilet was partially able to be used



WELL-known Palm Islander Victor Daisy and his relations were all smiles in the Townsville suburb of Cranbrook last week. With Mr Daisy was Shane Robertson and youngsters Jahmarley Kerr, aged 2, and Zshkeen Robertson, 10.

for emergency calls of nature.

Several passengers said the person or persons found to be responsible for the vandalism would be extremely unpopular and could find themselves in a good deal of strife from irate passengers.

As of last weekend the ferry was reportedly running ...comfortably... with all repairs successfully undertaken.



Answering a call for volunteers to re-stack shelves so the Palm Island Retail Store could re-open as quickly as possible after Cyclone Yasi, was Councillor Zina Prior and Council Executive Assistant Lyn Freckleton.

Pre-selection bid unsuccessful for former PI Mayor



FORMER Palm Island Mayor Delena Oui-Foster was unsuccessful in her bid to be the LNP candidate for the State seat of Thuringowa at the party pre-selection vote last weekend.

Ms Oui-Foster stood against former Townsville Metropole Hotel publican Wayne MacDonald and business owner Sam Cox who won the vote by a narrow margin. An LNP spokesman said, "it was a very close vote".

It was the second pre-selection for the seat after Max Tomlinson won the first last December and withdrew soon after due to medical reasons.

Ms Oui-Foster has served Palm Island with distinction as Mayor and was defeated at the March 2008 elections by current Mayor Alf Lacey.

A strong advocate for women's rights and a staunch Indigenous activist, Ms Oui-Foster ran for the seat of Townsville at the 2004 and 2009 State elections as an independent candidate.

Pooch offered home on Palm

ANIMAL lover Darren Wood has helped find a home on Palm Island for a small dog facing an uncertain future in Townsville.

Mr Wood, a Palm Island resident, was visiting his Mum in Townsville in early February and went to see a mate who lived nearby.

When he got there he saw a brindle-cross female dog, 'Sally' with his friend's daughter.

Her owner, who inherited Sally from a relationship breakup, lived in a government unit and had no place for the pet to stay.

Initially the plan was to have the dog de-sexed in Townsville and advertise for a loving home.

But after realising Sally may end up getting "put down" if things didn't work out, Mr Wood offered to take the friendly mutt back on the barge from Lucinda to Palm with him.

Back on Palm, where his wife is a teacher, he then went about finding a new home for the dog.

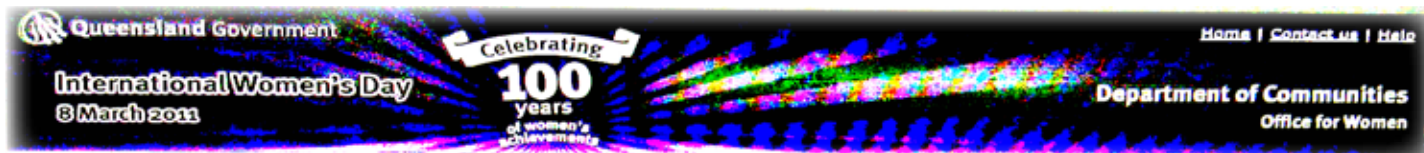
"Sally is in good spirits she has settled in with next door neighbours and is enjoying Palm," Mr Wood said.



"We already have two dogs, this worked out well.

"Sally is close to me and our dogs, 'Topsy' and 'Chillie', who are teaching her how to be 'a dog on Palm'.

Sally's original owner in Townsville said she was very grateful.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Minister Desley Boyle has called on Queenslanders to nominate unsung Indigenous women for a special online gallery celebrating the centenary of International Women's Day this year.

"Right across Queensland Indigenous women are making big contributions as mothers, daughters, role models, volunteers, employers and employees," Ms Boyle said.

"In many communities they serve on Councils, community groups, Elders groups, NGOs and other organisations and are the backbone of many communities.

"If you know an everyday Indigenous woman living an extraordinary life then I encourage you to provide their story and a photo for the tribute gallery."

For more information about International Women's Day and to nominate someone on the tribute gallery visit www.women.qld.gov.au

Tree clean-up may take several weeks

Council groundsman Joe Reuben estimates there will be several more weeks of work on Palm Island to clear fallen trees and branches from houses around the community.

Mr Reuben (*pictured right*) said Council gangs and CDEP workers had been toiling hard to pick up debris from trees. "Residents have to pick up the branches and place them on the footpath so they can be picked up by workers using a backhoe," he said. "A lot of trees fell down, around the clock tower there is just one tree standing." He said around the esplanade

and the farm had been the worst affected.

"There is still a lot more to clean but everybody is working hard," he said.

He said his own house in Halifax Street has suffered damage to the gutter which he has already repaired.

MEANWHILE in Townsville, Palm Islanders living in Railway Estate, Kelso, Garbutt, Pimlico and Vincent



are amongst those who had fallen trees in their yards.

More than 63,000 trees are estimated to have fallen across the city and suburbs.

...MORE CYCLONE AFTERMATH REPORTS PAGES 8 & 9...



WEATHER OR NOT...

Weather has certainly been on everyone's minds of late, with these pictures showing the many moods of Mother Nature herself and the beauty of our Island home regardless.

The third photo (*left*) was taken during Cyclone Yasi from the Townsville Strand looking over to where Palm Island can usually be seen across the water.

2011 PI Footy Preview



The Palm Island team which won against Bowen in 2010

Foley Shield contenders will play-off soon

A Foley Shield selection match between Palm Island and Bowen should be held in Townsville within the next six weeks.

The end result will produce a combined Palm Island/Bowen team ready to make its Foley Shield debut in the 2011 season.

Contenders will include reigning champions Townsville, runners up Mount Isa/Mid West, Cairns, Innisfail/Eacham, Torres/Cape, Mackay and Townsville Country.

The prestigious competition commenced in 1948 and is named after late champion player Arch Foley.

Games will be played in late May at the Jack Manski Oval at the Brother's League's Club in Townsville.

Palm Island Rugby League President Ili Dabea said the date for the selection trial would be finalised in the next

fortnight after consultation with Bowen and Northern Division officials.

After that match, a squad of players from both centres will be named and applications will be called on for a coach and officials.

"We are all looking forward to the Foley Shield and the date and when training will be held will be decided soon," Mr Dabea said.

Scott Nosworthy, Division Manager for QRL Northern Division (*pictured right*), said Bowen players had completed their paperwork and were ready to start playing within the next few weeks.

"I have all of Palm's paperwork in my office and will contact Ili and get it to

him as soon as possible so it can get started over there," Mr Nosworthy said.

Palm Island impressed northern division officials during the 2010 Foley Shield carnival when they played a curtain raiser against Bowen, winning convincingly.

NRL scouts from various clubs also have frequented many previous Foley Shield carnivals.



Local league expects to play seven teams for 2nd year in a row



PALM Island looks certain to have a seven-club rugby league competition for the 2011 season, which is scheduled to commence on the second weekend in March.

Premiers Butler Bay Bulls and runners up Jets, along with Skipjacks, Mount Bentley Raiders, Brothers, Mundy Bay Warriors and Hornets are looking certain to battle it out for premiership honours.

The draw and other associated matters with the administration of the new season will be discussed at the meeting of the Palm Island Rugby League this week and reported on in the next edition of the Palm Island Voice.

With about 3000 permanent residents, many rugby league fans on the mainland continue to be amazed that seven strong clubs can compete making Palm Islanders the biggest fans of the sport, taking into account pro rata of population in Australia. In comparison, Townsville has a population of 180,000 and also hosts seven clubs. Included in the Townsville and District Rugby League competition are out-of-town sides from Herbert River, Burdekin and Charters Towers which adds another total population of 30,000 to the equation. Once again Bulls, Jets and Skipjacks look to be the powerhouse clubs with Brothers and Mount Bentley Raiders are tipped to be sharp improvers, capable of charging up the ladder.

Mundy Bay Warriors and Hornets made their debut in 2010 and both showed good form at different stages of the season. Expect some players to change clubs when the football begins while some intense recruiting is going on and will continue in

the lead up to the kick off.

Palm Island club games are renowned for the quality play and flair, which ensures big crowds attend every fixture round.



Financial assistance helpers brought to

The State Government's Department of Communities Disaster Recovery team and Centrelink workers who have been working with Palm Island should be congratulated for their efforts, Mayor Alf Lacey says.

"Centrelink have been here for the past couple of days," he said. "The Department of Communities' Recovery Team has also helped our people as well, and getting their financial assistance out of the road.

"They both brought teams out to Palm and canvassed the community in terms of organising financial where they've been needed.

"I think the community certainly appreciated it so I'd like to say to both those teams thank you very much for getting in here on the ground.

"Their work here hasn't gone unnoticed and we all want to thank them for working with us so very well.

"It is about good leadership and it is about working together and we can achieve things when we have those good relationships."

Centrelink workers who were sent to Palm Island to assist residents to complete Disaster Recovery Payments after Cyclone Yasi flew in on Australian Defence Force Black Hawk helicopters. Hundreds of Palm Islanders queued outside the Centrelink office

when power was cut and most services were down for at least two days on Palm Island.

The majority of eligible Palm Islanders are so Centrelink General Manager

important to support them in the

"To reach Palm Island our teams

Defence Force Black Hawk helicopter

"Like all the communities we're v

have really appreciated the effort

"It's meant long and often hot da

it's a contribution they've been h

More than 270 Centrelink staff

Queensland from across Australia

victims of Yasi, rated as Australia's

Mr Jongen said Centrelink reco

Indigenous communities at Jumb

The Australian Government D

(AGDRP) is \$1,000 for affected

of affected children.

Claims will be accepted up until

The Disaster Income Recovery S



L-R: Former Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Minister Desley Boyle (replaced earlier this week by Minister Curtis Pitt), Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey and Member for Warrego Howard Hobbs at the Premier's meeting in Brisbane

Red tape after talk

Premier Anna Bligh and CEOs from Queensland to a recovery meeting earlier this month.

Palm Island Mayor

he and Mayor Sa

Cherbourg were the

Shires represented a

The meeting was ab

government leaders c

Reconstruction Autho

"The rebuilding an

facing us is immer

impossible," Ms Bligh

"The Authority will h

fast track the rebuild

"We fully recognise

vital role of local go

reconstruction task, p

use and building ap

Island via ADF Black Hawk Helicopters

st phone lines including mobile
three days after Yasi struck Palm

landers could not claim by phone
Hank Jongen said he felt it was
eir time of need.

s initially flew in on an Australian
opter," Mr Jongen said.

visiting, the Palm Island residents
t that Centrelink has put in.

ays for the staff involved but
happy to make."

ff were deployed to north
lia to provide assistance to
a's worst ever tropical blow.

very teams had also visited
oin, Kennedy and Yarrabah.

Disaster Recovery Payment
adults and \$400 for parents

3 August.

subsidy payments (DIRS) are

for people who have lost income and can be the equivalent to the
Newstart Allowance payable for up to 13 weeks.

Claims for this payment close on Monday 28 February.

"If you have been affected by Cyclone Yasi, we encourage people
to call the Australian Government Emergency Assistance hotline
number 180 22 66 or drop by their nearest Centrelink customer
service centre or recovery centre," Mr Jongen said.

**"Information including claim forms and eligibility criteria
can also be found on the Centrelink website at
<http://www.centrelink.gov.au>"**



Will be cut for rebuilding and recovery works between Premier and Mayors

**n invited Mayors
Councils across
special disaster
g in Brisbane**

Alf Lacey said
m Murray from
e only Indigenous
t the meeting.

out briefing local
on the Queensland
priority.

d recovery task
se, but it's not
said.

ave a mandate to
ing of the State.

the primary and
overnments in the
particularly for land
approvals, and the

Authority will work together with local
government to expedite reconstruction
works in the first instance.

"But the Authority's powers will ensure
it is also able to intervene where
necessary to get the reconstruction
moving."

Mr Lacey said the Government was
determined to take the "red tape" out
of reconstruction efforts.

"The people involved in the
Reconstruction Authority have assured
myself and the other Mayors that there
will not be a lot of red tape involved
in our recovery, that money will be
coming through as quickly as possible
with their help and expertise," Mr Lacey
said.

"One of the questions I did ask was
for us smaller Councils, who don't have
big planning or large technical works

departments, would they assist us in
particular, and they assured us we
would have all the technical support
we need.

"So they're going to do as much as
they can in terms of assisting us with
damages."

The Premier said with 75% of the State
affected, it made sense to include the
Mayors.

"We are going to explain how the
Authority will work effectively and
efficiently to assist regions to rebuild,"
she said.

"This will also be a chance for Mayors
and senior council officers to brief
the Government on flood and cyclone
issues in each of their constituencies.

"We will continue to work closely
with these local councils in the weeks,
months and years ahead."

(Advertisement)



Cyclone Yasi posed a huge threat to Palm Island residents and in its aftermath many people were in need of assistance.

Both before and after, Palm Island Community Company (PICC) staff were there to help. Before the storm hit, they were right on hand to help people move out of low lying areas like Butler Bay to safer designated accommodation available in the community which included the Palm Island Womens' Service and Safe House. Staff handed out flyers explaining the safety measures needed to be taken and just what dangers to look out for after the cyclone. After the storm had passed, staff from the Diversionary Centre and Family HUB worked closely with the Queensland Police Services to assist the Counter Disaster Committee to deal with the subsequent damage and to help families in need.



And they were quick to arrange for two planeloads of food and other needful items for the 63 families who found their own resources insufficient. It was very rewarding to see services pulling together to help the community through such exceptional circumstances as Cyclone Yasi.



In other (happy!) news, the Palm Island Community Company sponsored the Palm Island Youth Council Leadership Program to send 15 participants to Brisbane earlier this month. Leadership candidates aged from 13 to 22 joined 25,000 other fans to watch the Indigenous All Stars take on the National Rugby League All Stars in a close fought game at Skilled Park. PICC hired a Greyhound bus for the candidates and the four PICC staff who accompanied them. These outstanding young men and women used the trip as a leadership bonding exercise.

Next for the Palm Island Youth Council Leadership Program is a meeting with the Burdekin Shire Council Youth Council on February 27.

The Burdekin group is well-organised and it is expected that the Palm Island candidates will gain valuable knowledge on running a youth council and the many ways that they can assist the local community.

The Burdekin Area Youth Watch, 'BayWatch', is providing accommodation and other facilities for our participants. Many of the people in BayWatch have family on Palm so it is hoped a strong network will be built between the two groups.

Youth are not the only groups sponsored by PICC on the Island. The Elders Advisory Group is also taking an active role in community affairs. They are helping with the Community Justice Group, training to take part in the Magistrates Court, acting in an advisory capacity to the PICC Service Manager on service delivery, and working very hard to re-establish their place in the community.



Bottom left: Charter flight organised by PICC on the Sunday after Yasi


Top left: Winnie Obah assisting with YASI recovery food items that PICC sent to Palm Island
Top pics: Elders' group meetings

Above: Narelle Gleeson-Henaway & Jason Obah assisting with YASI recovery food items

They are very committed and enjoy an enthusiastic attendance at their fortnightly meetings with regular guests such as the Queensland Police Service, the Community Justice Group, and the PICC Service Manager.

It's been a busy time for everyone of late and the Palm Island Community Company has been among the busiest. Staff have hit the ground running in 2011 and still have a full year ahead of them.

Palm Island Voice

 BIRTHDAY WISHES TO DAD SID
CASEY, LAWRENCE KERR AND
DANIEL NALLAJAR, HAPPY
BIRTHDAY TO YOU MAY YOU
ENJOY THIS SPECIAL DAY
WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS....
LOVE YOUR FAMILY

Public & Community Notices

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WILL BE FUNDRAISING IN THE MALL EVERY THURSDAY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR A TEAM OF LOCALS TO ATTEND WORLD YOUTH DAY IN MADRID, SPAIN, FROM 16-21 AUGUST 2011. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISING EVENT. WE WILL BE SELLING KNICK-KNACKS, POT PLANTS, TEA/COFFEE, CAKES, CLOTHING, ETC. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TOWARDS THIS EXCITING EVENT PLEASE CALL CHRISTINA ON 4770 1176 OR EMAIL CHRISTINAMCGLYNN@YAHOO.COM

Advertising Information & Rates

Display Ads

(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication - smaller ads by negotiation with the Editor)

Full A4 Page \$450 Half A4 Page \$230

Quarter A4 Page \$120

ADD GST + 10% for design work

Classifieds

Items for sale under \$1000 – FREE

Public & Community Notices – FREE

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Birthdays – FREE

Sale Price over \$1000

& Other Notices – 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day (see back page for details) and material submitted no later than COB the next day.

For more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at chowes@westnet.com.au

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WE CAN CONTINUE TO
SUPPORT YOU!!**




Flying to Palm Island 7 days a week

To make a booking
phone 4759 3777

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The **Palm Island Voice** is delivered to Palm Island courtesy of West Wing Aviation & PICC

 HAPPY 18TH
BIRTHDAY
YOLANDA
From all the
Staff at the Palm
Island Aboriginal
Shire Council!!!!!!

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is closed every second Friday (Council pay week) for RDO.

The next RDO is Friday 4 March.

**For emergencies on a Friday
please call 0458 789 010**

**For more information contact
the Council on 4770 1177**



Expressions Of Interest

Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation for CDEP wishes to employ an individual in either a full time or part time positions to increase the rate of success of CDEP participants in completing training and being made ready for available employment opportunities.



Purpose of the role

The role of the **CDEP Youth Mentor** is to support CDEP youth participants as part of the work readiness stream, including participation in community development projects. The Mentor will respond to training and employment issues experienced by individual youth and their families as they navigate the interrelationship between CDEP, Job Services Australia (JSA) and Centrelink, trainers and employers. The Youth Mentor will achieve this by doing the following things:

- Provide support and assistance to participants with issues impacting on their ability to attend training;
- Assist in building of trust with CDEP participants, families, support agencies, training organizations, and potential employers;
- Identify gaps in participant's skills that could jeopardize success in either vocational training or employment;
- Support participants to attend the training programs;
- Refer participants to relevant Community Support Services that can assist in achieving success in training and employment;
- Maintain strict confidentiality and respect for participant information;
- Assist in the coordination of vocational training programs with appropriate service providers (Internal, TAFE, and other service providers);

- Assist in building a positive relationships with agencies (Job Services Australia [JSA], Centrelink, etc) to facilitate transition and engagement with new arrangements;
- Prepare and provide reports on outcomes achieved to the Coolgaree management;
- Ensure that vocational training is directed towards the achievement of milestones and outcomes to meet the requirements of the CDEP Employment Pathway Plans;
- Work closely with other mentors and the Employment and Training Manager (ETM) to ensure that vocational training fits in with CDEP objectives and budgetary guidelines;
- Assist with CDEP participant's involvement in the Community Development Projects that can provide opportunity to develop or demonstrate employment skills
- Work harmoniously with staff from diverse backgrounds and promote a safe workplace that is free from discrimination and harassment.

Essential qualifications (or eligible to obtain):

- Blue Card;
- Current drivers license;
- Capacity to travel for work;
- Cleared Police checks;

THIS POSITION CLOSSES ON FRIDAY 4TH MARCH 2011.

COOLGAREE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION FOR CDEP

Employment & Training

Ph: 4770 1233

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

What a start to a brand new year!

Thankfully Cyclone Yasi did not bring major damage to Palm, unlike our neighbours of Cardwell and Tully Heads area. Certainly my thoughts and prayers are with our families in the Jumbun/Tully community.

Back to normal, what is normal?

I often wonder what is the Council doing about the amount of wild horses that constantly roam our streets all hours of the

day and night.

I'm often a pretty quiet bloke, but the horses are starting to ruffle my feathers.

We try to do the right thing, go and make a formal written complaint to the Council but still no reply or public response as to what is happening about the horse problem on Palm Island.

In all honestly, I don't think the Council has a clue as to how best to solve this problem.

Well if they don't, then why aren't our local

leaders asking for help?

I would if I needed it.

Every day I am sick and tired of chasing horses out of my yard, eating my banana and paw-paw trees, and knocking my rubbish bins over.

Come on Council, please do something.

I think the Council should seriously do something quick or what – we are all waiting for a bad accident to happen and a life is gone? Then it would be too late.

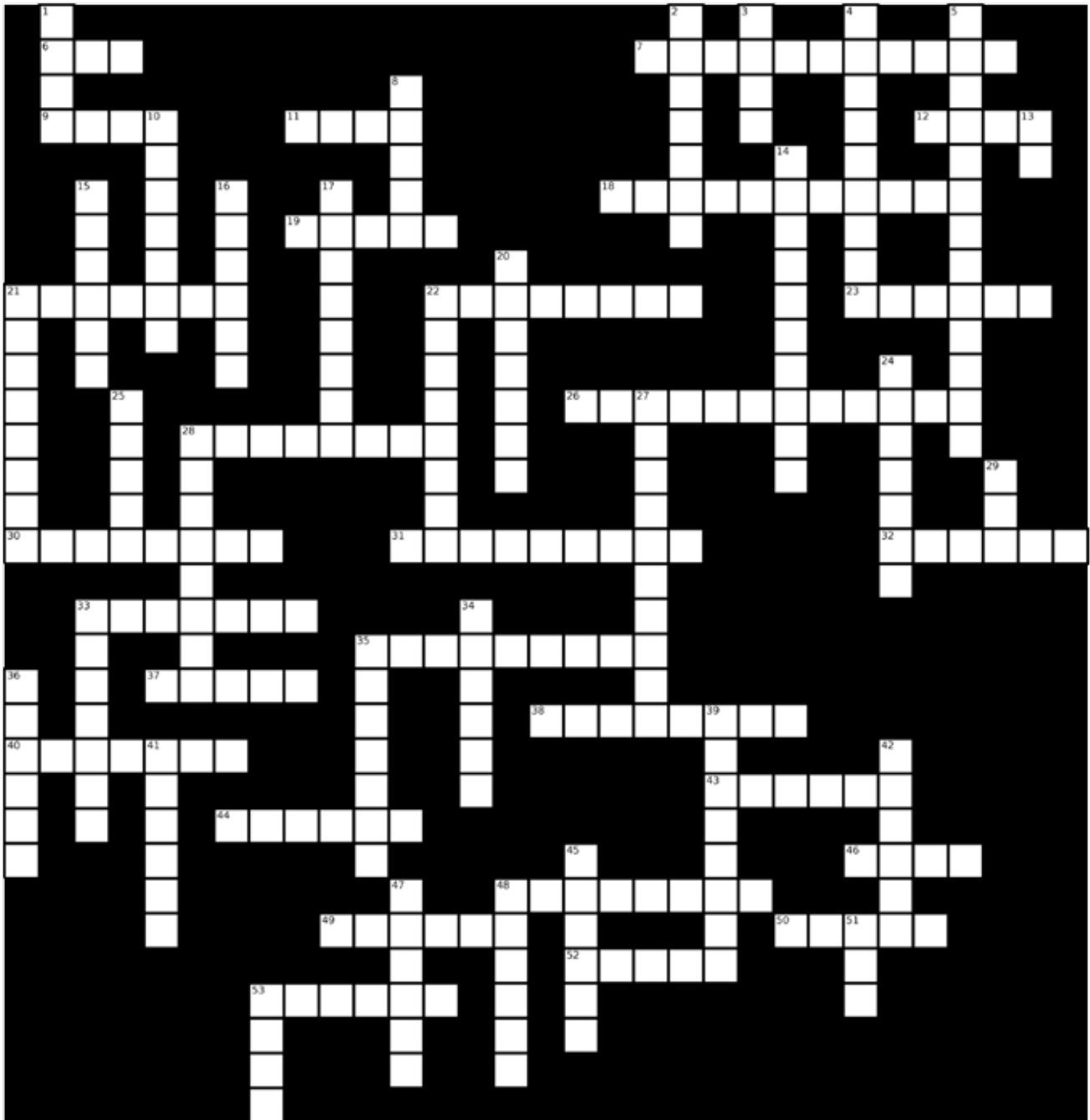
Regards

Ron Geia

Bentley Street, Palm Island

PI Voice Crossword 73

With thanks to David Goeldner & the Crossword Puzzle Maker at <http://www.armoredpenguin.com>



Across

6. Footy code with four sticks
7. Setting laws by Parliament
9. Former Origin Greats (initials)
11. Brothers behind Bangarra's dancing success, Stephen and David _____
12. Rhyming verse
18. Mosquito-borne disease (2 Words)
19. Land of the rising sun
21. School or community assignment
22. Queensland's capital
23. Population count held later this year
26. Advance payment for magazine or newspaper articles
28. National capital
30. Waiben Island is this day of the week
31. Type of court lawyer
32. This NT crew dance the 'Zorba' way, _____ Dancers
33. International Humanitarian Organisation
35. Medical condition affecting the lungs
37. Term of respect for a senior citizen

38. PI mayor (2)
40. Pre-formed art done by tracing and cutting
43. Australian of the Year 2011, Simon ?
44. Black and white bird
46. precious metal
48. Blood sugar disease
49. Opposite of male
50. Cricket trophy
52. Letter sent by the Internet
53. Aboriginal flag - red, black and ?

Down

1. 50 percent
2. A part of a hundred
3. Given freely with good will
4. Ambulance officer
5. Ground-breaking indigenous band from the 1980s (2)
8. TV, radio and newspapers all part of this
10. Long or short, you put your arms through them
13. Member of Parliament (initials)
14. Government welfare agency
15. Mammal living among sea grass

16. Indigenous rock singer, Dan ?
17. Tree that grows in salt water
20. Prime Minister Julia _____
21. Said to be 'with child'
22. Australia's famous dance company
24. You need this to drive
25. A group of singers
27. Ball, court and two hoops - slam dunk!
28. NQ town bearing Yasi's force
29. Chief Executive Officer (initials)
33. Where you live
34. Six-stringed musical instrument
35. World's largest ocean
36. Temporary crisis accommodation
39. Originator of NRL All Stars match, Preston ?
41. Where parishioners worship on Sunday
42. Money coming in
45. father or mother
47. Opposite of rough
48. Moderated discussion between two parties
51. Opposite of cold
53. Devastating cyclone that hit PI

PIRL to gain support from successful traineeship



PIRL's Ili Dabea, successful trainee Tanya James & QRL's Scott Nosworthy

PALM Island's Tanya James has completed a 12-month traineeship with the Queensland Rugby League northern division during which time she has learnt all aspects of the sport including administration.

The experience gained by Tanya will be vital for the Palm Island Rugby League, which is about to play a combined side with Bowen in the 2011 Foley Shield competition.

Tanya was often seen helping Palm Island Rugby League President Ili Dabea on games days. During the week she was also on hand at the local football office at the former Kirwan High Campus, in the park across from the Council office.

Tanya was one of 10 young Indigenous trainees appointed 12 months ago in February, 2010. She was with her proud mum Maisie James and Grandmother Helen Wacando and early on in her traineeship worked under the supervision of former NQ Cowboys and NSW State of Origin coach Graham Murray.

Treasurer and Minister for Employment and Economic Development Andrew Fraser said the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative's First Start program had to similar positions in Mackay, Cairns, Townsville, Mount Isa, Weipa and Bamaga.

"Each trainee worked with QRL Northern Division staff while also studying for a Certificate II in Community Recreation, and are all together this week to complete their induction training," Mr Fraser said.

"Employing Indigenous people in positions promoting the game help communities, clubs, players and others by encouraging healthier lifestyles and improving the QRL's operations across North Queensland."

He said each trainee performed office duties, organised and took minutes at meetings, and helped organise and run promotional events.

They also helped out at training and on game days where they helped set up fields and training equipment and also learnt some first aid training.

"These trainees also helped improve the cultural awareness of the QRL and how the organisation works with Indigenous people and communities in the region," he said.

QRL northern division manager Scott Nosworthy praised all the trainees and said they would be assets to the code into the future.

PIRL PLAYER PROFILE: Tabua Oui

***IN the lead up to, and throughout the footy season this year Palm Island Voice will profile a local Palm Island Rugby League player each fortnight...
...who will be next??!!***

TABUA Oui is one of the genuine stars of Palm Island rugby league and has the ability to make it in a much higher standard, although the dedicated Oui loves his Island so much he has been reluctant to leave.

Oui is a gifted five eighth or half back for Jets club and has the ideal pedigree to be the quality footballer he is. His father was champion outside back Hector Poynter who delighted crowds playing for the Palm Island Barracudas when they competed in the Townsville Rugby League competition.

Oui is a talented attacking back with an elusive side step and kicking game in general play and also uses the chip kick to advantage. During the 2010 Bindal Allblacks carnival, Oui scored what many considered the best try of all games when he chipped over the head off the defence, regathered, and ran the length of the field to score.

Some of his efforts for Jets, which narrowly lost the 2010 Palm grand final 24-22 to Butler Bay Bulls, had to be seen to be believed. Oui was amongst Jets best.

Because of his ability, Oui was always the

target of the opposition defence who tried to smother his attacking flair.

At the 2009 clash with Girringun Pirates at Cardwell, Oui scored 20 points from two tries and six goals in the 48-40 loss.

Oui won the best back of the carnival award at the Bindal carnival in Townsville last October as he shone for Barracudas which reached the grand final.

More recently in late January, Oui fine tuned his skills playing with the Barracudas at the Rockhampton Allblacks and stood out in their second game scoring a try as his side lost 14-12 to Yeppoon.

These are just some of the achievements of this outstanding and often quietly spoken footballer who will be the subject of talent scouts when Palm Island/Bowen make their debut in the 2011 Foley Shield competition to be held in May.



Boxers working towards Olympic try-outs

STAR local boxers Reggie Palm Island and Patrick Clarke should have all the documentation required by the end of this week to enable them to obtain the passport required for them to push their bids for selection to compete at the next Olympic Games.

Reggie and Patrick need their passports to be allowed to compete at the Australian Boxing Association national titles in Melbourne on March 5. Only boxers who are members

of the Association are eligible for Olympic selection.

"It has been a big job getting all the documentation for the lads needed to get their passports," trainer Ray Dennis said.

Four Palm boxers missed the Association Queensland trial recently due to Cyclone Yasi.

"We can still get them available for Olympic selection if they get to the national titles," Mr Dennis said.

Palm Island boxers who are members of the Association

have been given permission to compete at tournaments run by the rival Sunstate Amateur Boxing League.

A team of boxers will travel to Townsville on March for a pro/am card being run by promoter Fozzy Hooper.

They will also get to Rockhampton on March 19 and Townsville in early April for a Hawks club tournament. Mr Dennis is still seeking sponsors for future travel by his team to give them the best opportunity to impress.

Women's comp ready to kick off



Palm Island women love their rugby league just as much as the men although generally they only get to play when they represent the Barracudettes at Allblacks carnivals a few times a year.

A new ladies rugby league competition, being run for the first time in 2011 by the Townsville and District Rugby League, may be about to change all that.

This comp is scheduled to commence on the second weekend in March and four clubs will compete – Brothers, Centrals, Burdekin and Western Lions. Potential players attended a “try out” day held a couple of weeks ago for anyone wanting a run.

Townsville Local League Administrator Kerri Ritchie said a total of 47 girls turned up, the eldest of whom was 42.

“We do need more players and Palm Islanders would be very welcome,” she said. Ms Ritchie recently visited Palm Island for the annual Obe Geia jnr carnival and said she was impressed.

Four Baira sisters Rothana, aged 34, Romeenah, 20, Seneva, 33, and Sonja Watson (nee Baira) will line up for Brothers. Their father Roy Baira snr is a Palm Island man.

Making it a real family affair, the team manager will be their mother Maria Baira and the assistant coach their brother and top league player Roy Baira jnr.

“It is all systems go and we are getting very excited about it,” Mrs Baira said.

“Rothana, Romeenah and Sonja will play in the forwards and Seneva as a back.

“I expect whole families to get out watching the games as ladies football is full of action.”



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