



Palm Island Voice

Issue 87
Thursday 8 September 2011

Your Community
Your Newsletter
Your Voice

\$1.25



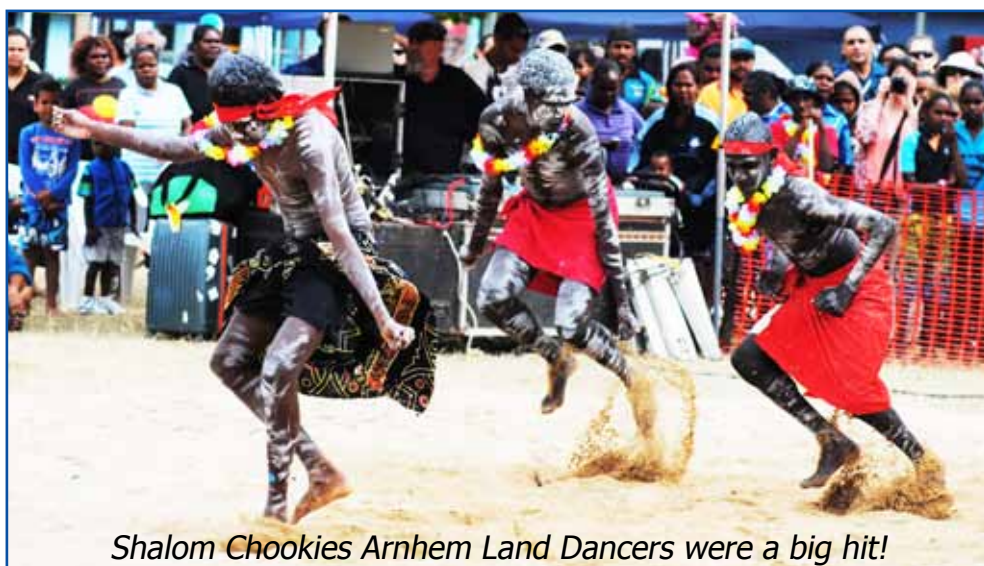
Kicking up the dust at the Palm Island Spring Fest!

THOUSANDS of men, women and children turned out at the inaugural Palm Island Spring Festival where wonderful entertainment, food and camaraderie was enjoyed by all.

Held from September 1 to 3, Federal MP Bob Katter was

among special guests at an event best described as a "celebration of life" on Palm Island.

It's been a huge couple of weeks since our last issue, with the



Shalom Chookies Arnhem Land Dancers were a big hit!

Spring Festival, boxing tournament and footy semi-finals.

Hence this 20-page bumper issue, funded with assistance from our very kind 'page

sponsors' for extra pics of the Spring Festival and boxing tournament. Did we catch you on camera?

See inside for more pics and yarns!!!

Crunch time for footy fans - who will win 2011?

Jets and Brothers will meet in a much anticipated rugby league Grand Final showdown on Saturday at the local football oval.

Brothers qualified for the right to meet hot favourites Jets after beating Skipjacks 38-36 in last Saturday's preliminary final before a large crowd.



The week before minor premiers Jets earned the first spot in the grand final when they beat Brothers 66-34 in the qualifying semi final.

In the elimination semi final, Skipjacks defeated last year's premiers Butler Bay Bulls 36-26 after leading 20-10 at halftime.

**FULL ROUND-UPS AND
MORE PICS PAGES 17-19**

Festival provides show case for corporate visitors

During the Spring Festival a chartered flight packed with business and industry leaders from across North Queensland made the trip to Palm Island with local MP Mandy Johnstone (right) to scope out future investment opportunities.

Mayor Alf Lacey welcomed the interest and said he hoped it would translate to a brighter future for the local economy.

Ms Johnstone said the visit was a continuation of the Palm Island Economic Forum, which took place in early August.

"The discussion generated during that meeting was very promising so the key now is to ensure we don't let that go to waste," Ms Johnstone said.

"These business leaders have displayed a keen interest in Palm Island as an investment opportunity and today's visit is about giving them a firsthand look at what the community has to offer.

"We said the Forum would provide the catalyst for economic growth and greater job opportunities for Palm Island people and this trip is the next step forward in that process.

Ms Johnstone said there was a lot of demand for a spot on the flight, which was a promising sign.

"The fact everyone is so eager to get on the ground and see Palm Island for themselves is proof that there is a lot of business interest out there and hopefully that is a big confidence



boost for the community.

"There are a lot of innovative ideas floating about to stimulate the Palm Island economy, so hopefully this helps to make those potential initiatives a reality."

Mr Lacey said showing off Palm Island was part of the Spring Festival brief.

"The Spring Festival is about showcasing to North Queensland and the rest of Australia what Palm Island has to offer, so this delegation is visiting at exactly the right time," Mr Lacey said.

"Situated right on the Great Barrier Reef, Palm Island is such a unique environmental, cultural and economic asset to the North Queensland region.

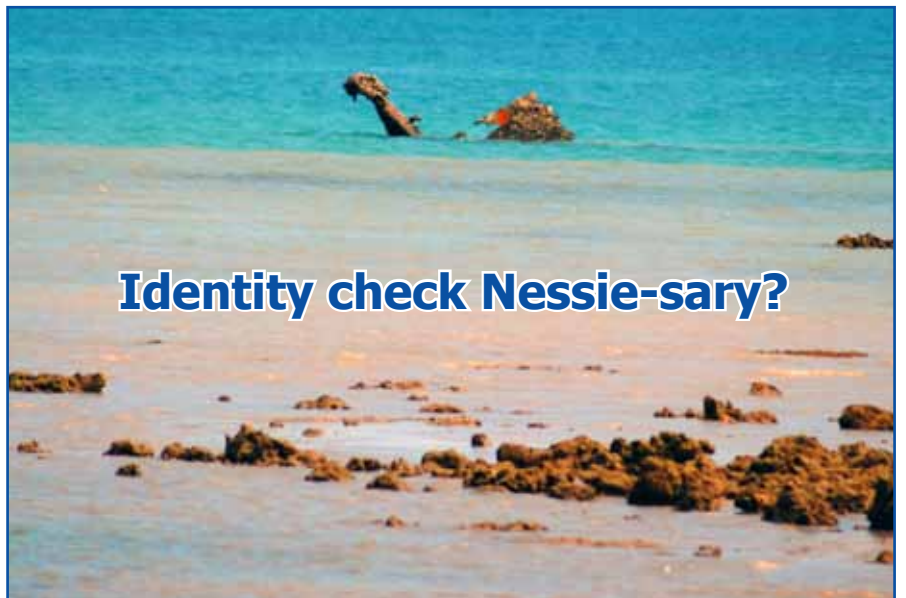
"So working on turning Palm Island into a popular attraction in the North really makes sense and would provide a wonderful opportunity to create and sustain employment.

"We need to continue to capitalise on all the positive attention and exposure we're receiving right now."

LOCALS with a genuine sense of humour have been telling visitors Palm Island has it's own "Loch Ness Monster".

And sure enough there it is – either a formation of rocks or an old wreck out from the Reel Women jetty beside the channel.

Make up your own mind but it certainly resembles the reported images of Nessie you see from time to time in the media!!



Bwngcolman celebrate mainland determinations

Last week Wanyurr Majay celebrated a determination by the Federal Court of Australia that they hold native title over their traditional country in the Wooroonooran National Park area.

Palm Islanders, including Delena Foster (right), were there with Yarrabah community mob at the Babinda RSL.



THE NEXT DAY, just as the Palm Island Spring Festival was swinging into action, the first tribal group to be sent to Palm – Djiru, from Mission Beach – celebrated not one, but two determinations.

The determination areas included part of the Tully Gorge, Clump Mountain and Hull River National Parks.

Treasurer of the Djiru Corporation Arthur

Clumpoint (pictured 2nd from right in the back row below) said it was a special day.

"For all of us here and for, this is a long time for us to wait," he said. "Our family was sent away under the Act and we were the first tribal group sent to Palm. A lot of us lost our connection with family and country and so this is a very happy day."

Mr Clumpoint said he wanted to thank the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council for their support.

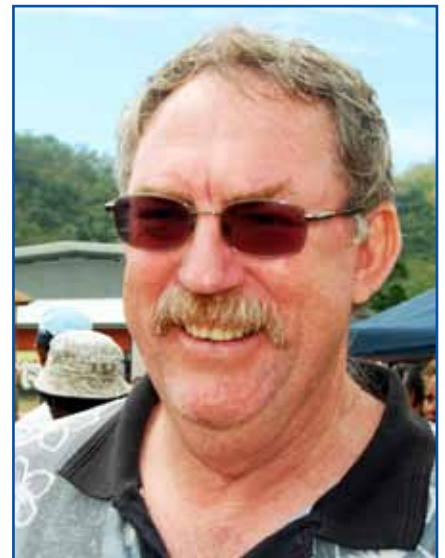
"If it wasn't for the Palm Island Shire Council, I wouldn't be here today," he said. "There's only a few of us because we also have the Spring Festival happening on Palm so just enjoy yourselves and have a good day."



...Out & About...



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council staff member Andrea Kyle-Sailor is pictured left with Cr Hal Walsh at the Palm Island airport early last month, and right is new CEO Ross Norman at the Palm Island Spring Festival last week.



Constitution reform on meeting agenda

Palm Islanders who have something to say about Constitutional reform will have their chance next week when members of a special panel on the subject will visit the community.

The best opportunity to have a say on any changes to the Australian constitution is coming up this Tuesday, 13 September, with special guests Megan Davis, Glenn Ferguson and Josephine Bourne expected to attend.

They are members of the Panel appointed by the Prime Minister to provide advice on how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples might be recognised in the Constitution.

Consultations around the country so far have shown there is very strong support across the community for recognition.

Over the course of the consultations many ideas about constitutional recognition which could happen have been proposed and are being carefully considered by the Panel.

They are keen to hear what Palm Islanders have to say and want to hear any ideas from young and old. The Panel will report to the Government in December on how best to give recognition to Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our Constitution, based on consideration of submissions, research and legal advice.

**For more information see <http://www.youmeunity.org.au>
Submissions can be lodged up until 30 September.**



VISITING PANEL

MEMBERS:

Mr Glenn Ferguson

Queensland solicitor Mr Glenn Ferguson is managing partner of Ferguson Cannon Lawyers with offices in Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast, Queensland. Mr Ferguson was the 2010 President of the Law Council of Australia and is Chair of the Law Council of Australia's Indigenous Legal Issues Committee. He also has extensive board experience in the not for profit, education, medical and charity sectors. He is chair of Sunshine Coast Rugby Union.

Professor Megan Davis

Associate Professor Megan Davis is from south east Queensland and has Aboriginal & South Sea Islander background. She is Associate Professor and Director of the Indigenous Law Centre, Faculty of Law at UNSW and a Commissioner of the NSW Land and Environment Court, and an Australian member of the International Law Association's Indigenous Rights Committee. Professor Davis is also an independent expert on the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Ms Josephine Bourne

Josephine Bourne is a mainland Torres Strait Islander born in Townsville. Her mother's ancestry is from Mabuiag Island and the Murray Islands and her father's from Mabuiag and Moa Islands (Kubin). Ms Bourne was co-chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples. She has made a significant contribution to many local, regional, state and national agencies through committees and working groups dealing with community capacity building, multi-media development and youth leadership.

Boxing tournament visitors well taken care of by jokey Assan

LOCAL carpenter Assan Clay earned glowing praise from visitors to Palm Island for his hospitality during the local boxing tournament (full story pages 9-11).

Mr Clay is a caretaker at Breadsell from Pioneer Valley near Mackay.

Constructions where visiting boxers and officials stayed. These included Visiting trainers Blair "Cowboy"

Wilson (Emerald), Dennis Clancy (Townsville Hawks Club), Woorabinda boxer Gary Huskic, Rockhampton's Des Upton and referee Greven Clay's joke telling.



The visiting contingent all said they would be singing the praises of Palm Island on their return to their home cities.

Nicely done Assan!!!

Memories re-made from rare 1970s DVD

ZAC Sam – pictured below with members of his family at the Spring Festival – admitted to shedding more than the odd tear as he 'time-tunnelled' back to 1978 via a DVD of himself playing for Aussie Rules team, the Garbutt Magpies thanks to well-known journo Alf Wilson.

The DVD was copied for a Wulguru club reunion last month from four super eight movies of games during the 1978 season.

"Straight after the Jets win I watched the DVD and it brought back many golden memories," he said.

"At first my sons couldn't recognise me and also Alf Wilson was in the same game playing for Magpies, we were teammates. "Everybody knows big Alf here on Palm and I just loved it. "Myself and Alf have shared many memories since I saw it."

Mr Wilson said they both "looked a bit different" back then.

"I was actually a bit embarrassed as I had told Zac he was in the DVD but to be honest I couldn't recognise him when I watched it before I went to Palm," Mr Wilson said.

"We both look a bit different these days.

"I was one of the three

non-Indigenous players in the Magpies side, the others were Killer Clarke, who was in the Army, and a tall fellow named Stretch.

"My dad Harold was born on Thursday Island and he used to come down to the football.

"(In the DVD) I saw my Monaro car parked on the sideline and my wife Jenny was at the games as well."

The venue for the game was the then Centenary Oval which has long been gone and is the current site of the Lakes in Townsville.

If you want to have a look at the DVD go down to the Coolgaree Sports Bar and Grill and Zac will arrange it.

There are other well-known identities many readers will know including Manny Ross, David Nogar, Morris Bowman, Michael Horope amongst a few.

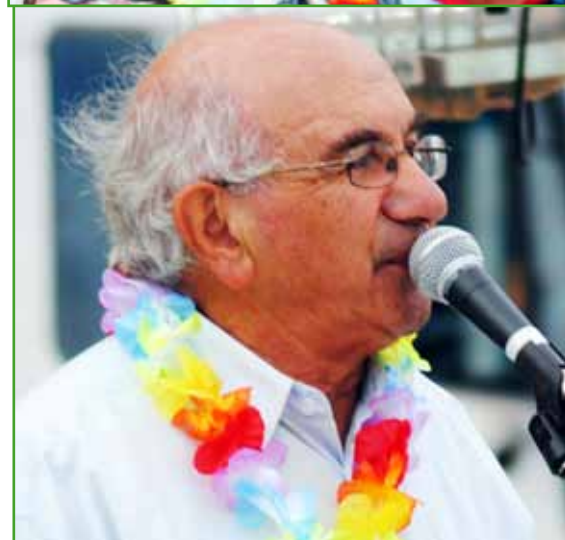
As for recognising them after 33 years...well that may be another story, but Zac will be on-hand to help out.





Palm Island

Spring Festival Celebrations
September 2011 1st, 2nd & 3rd



**THIS PAGE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY The Australian Red Cross
... committed to working in partnership with the Palm Island Community ...**

"This is a great festival and we have a zero tolerance to alcohol and drugs," Mayor Lacey said.

Federal MP Bob Katter said it was his first time on Palm for many years and he loved it.

"I have been here many times in the past," Mr Katter said.

The official launch featured Emcee Sean Choolburra, a prayer by Father Paul Hanna, Welcome to Country by elder Allan Palm Island of the Manbarra Tribe, and a speech by Advisory Committee chair Iris White. There were performances by the Great Northern Dancers; St Michael's School dancers, Murray and Darnley Island dancers, Chookie Dancers and singers Selina



Shepherd, Gerti Richardson, Maggie Walsh, Milton Thaiday and Mary G. Local St Michael's dancers proved a big hit with the huge audience who cheered throughout their performance. There were community stalls and rides down Palm Island's very own 'sideshow alley' and on day two a free breakfast for all at the Old Clock Tower near the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council building. An elder's dinner dance at the PCYC was popular and there was heaps of other entertainment. Organiser Jenny Prior is pictured above with Festival volunteers.

More pics next page & in the next *Palm Island Voice*...



THIS PAGE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY the Queensland Police Service who support drug and alcohol free events and congratulate the Community Elders on their hosting of the Spring Festival.



THIS PAGE proudly sponsored by Palm Island Justice Group

Boxing tournament massive success

Locals dominated competition in the first Palm Island boxing tournament held in two years late last month.

A huge crowd of more than 500 was there to see visiting boxers from Woorabinda, Rockhampton, Emerald, Charters Towers and Townsville fight it out.

Many of the visiting clubs made the journey in recognition that Palm Island boxers have travelled long distances many times to compete in their cities. Parents and relatives of the Palm lads were excited to be able to see what all the fuss was about when they travelled far for away tournaments.

MC for the night was former Newcastle Knights NRL rugby league star and Waratahs rugby union player Milton Thaiday, who did a great job.

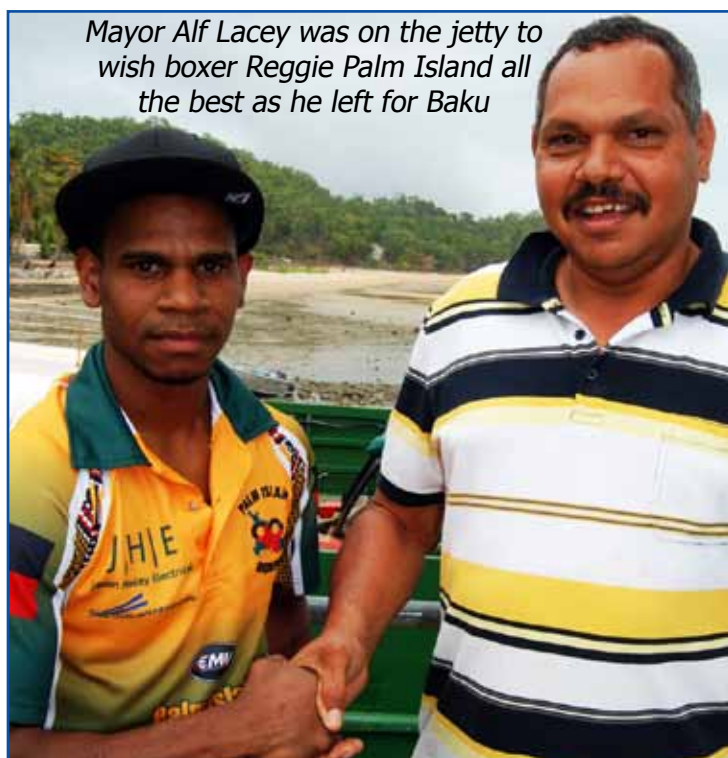
Renowned referee Greven Breadsell from Pioneer Valley was in control of most of the bouts. Seventeen Palm boxers competed including eight who fought exhibition bouts against each other, to the appreciation of the enthusiastic audience.

Classy local Dennis Haines junior fought twice and won both times defeating Rockhampton's Harley Broom and later Matty Grant from Emerald.

Steen Walsh won the main junior bout defeating Lincoln Martin from Rockhampton.

"Steen really did well as Lincoln is older and more experienced," said trainer Uncle Ray Dennis.

Jy Prior beat Sean Sweeney from Emerald after giving away 7kg. A blood-covered Josh Dorrick from Palm Island made an impressive debut to defeat Chris Nielsen from Emerald, who is a seasoned opponent. At one stage Josh had blood streaming from his nose and showed great courage. Young Joey Geia was a crowd favourite and showed he has the ability to



Mayor Alf Lacey was on the jetty to wish boxer Reggie Palm Island all the best as he left for Baku

become a future world champion Mr Dennis said. Joey beat Woorabinda's Charlie Huskic. Palm's Walter Richards was narrowly defeated by Woorabinda youngster Hazim Huskic in what was his third bout against an older opponent. In arguably the best bout of the night Palm Islander Patrick Clarke narrowly lost to tough-as-nails Rockhampton boxer Ben Bowes. Patrick gave away 6kg in weight and a feature of the bout was both boxers being pinned on the ropes on occasions as punches were traded fast and furious.

Locals Isaac Bulsey and Jerome Walsh fought the first exhibition bout followed by another between David Sam and Selwyn Seaton. Champion Reggie Palm Island and his brother William fought the third exhibition bout. Many of Reggie's family including his mum Peggy were in the audience.

Reggie left the following day to represent Australia at the Elite World Amateur Boxing Titles in Baku, Azerbaijan from September 22nd to October 10th.

This is the first boxing qualification event for men for the 2012 Olympic Games and Reggie is the first Palm boxer to represent Australia.

...Continued next page...

THIS PAGE proudly sponsored by Cr Hal Walsh & the Walsh Family

...FROM PREVIOUS PAGE...

IN OTHER BOUTS Albert Gorringe beat rising star in Hosea Murphy and an exhibition bout between Rashaun Creed and Dereck Creed had the crowd cheering for the duration as they threw hundreds of punches.

"The future of boxing on Palm looks bright with boxers of this quality," Mr Dennis said.

"Seventeen boxers took part and I think the crowd got their money's worth with the \$10 admission fee.

"Many tournaments on the mainland have half as many bouts."

Mr Dennis wanted to thank the Palm island Community Company, the PCYC for use of the hall, and Laurie Lindner Constructions who paid for construction on the new ring which was used. Mr Lindner also allowed the visitors to be accommodated at his staff barracks camp on Palm.

"Most of all I am grateful to the visiting boxers and trainers and also the ladies who did so much to make this tournament a great success," Mr Dennis said.

Visiting trainers Blair "Cowboy" Wilson (Emerald), Dennis Clancy (Townsville Hawks Club), Woorabinda boxer Gary Huskic, Rockhampton's Des Upton, referee Greven Breadsell thanked Mr Dennis for a wonderful tournament and praised Palm Islanders for their hospitality.





Dear Editor

On behalf of the Palm Island Boxing Association we'd like to thank the following organisations and people for their donations and support during our recent tournament.

They were the Palm Island Council, PICC, Sunset Snack Bar (David and Corrina Geia), PCYC, Palm Island Retail Store, Coolgaree CDEP and Danni Simm, Bob the butcher, Australian Finance, Jason Healey Electronics, Townsville Wholesalers Fruit & Vegies (John and Chris), Delena Oui and everyone who helped behind the scenes, Uncle Ray and our visiting boxers as well.

We'd also like to thank the community as a whole for all their support and, of course, the boxers themselves for all the work they put in to what they do.

We all owe our appreciation to everybody who makes boxing happen for Palm Island...thank you.

**Yours sincerely
Candice Walsh**

Dear Editor

Can I please pass on my congratulations to the Palm Island Community Elders for hosting the Spring Festival celebrations.

It was a terrific event and a credit to the elders, volunteers, Council, CDEP, entertainers and many others were involved with putting it on.

Everyone's support in making the event drug and alcohol free was much appreciated and the event created a terrific atmosphere of togetherness on the Island.

I know a lot of visitors were very impressed by the entertainment and friendliness throughout the event.

It was by far the best Spring Festival in my time on the Island and one of the best events since I have been here.

Once again my congratulations and I hope other people can emulate your success.

**Paul James
Officer in Charge
Palm Island Police Station**



Dear Editor,

I would like to submit the photos attached for your next edition of the Palm Island Voice Newsletter, as a matter of community interest.

They are "Before" & "After" photos of the effects of Cyclone Yasi.

The 'Before' photos were taken some time ago, however, the 'After' photo of Wallaby Point Road was taken a couple of days after Cyclone Yasi had passed over, and the heartbreaking 'After' photo of the pine forest up at Bamboo Creek was taken just a few weeks ago.

Both photos were taken from (almost) the exact same spot.

I would have submitted these photos earlier (straight after Cyclone Yasi), but the road to Bamboo Creek had been closed until recently and I also have only just had the time in the last week to download the recent photos from my camera.

**Regards
Ms Beryl Bunn**

Palm Island Voice

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Equality and Recognition.

CONSULTATIONS ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

Over the coming months the Australian people will be asked to share their views on how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples could be recognised in the Australian Constitution.

The Prime Minister has appointed a Panel made up of Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders from urban, regional and remote areas to go out and consult the Australian people on the most appropriate way to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution.

Three members of the Panel on the Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Ms Megan Davis, Mr Glenn Ferguson and Ms Josephine Bourne will be in Palm Island to hold a public meeting to discuss constitutional recognition.

This will give the people of Palm Island the opportunity to contribute to this national conversation.

WHEN: Tuesday 13th September 2011

WHERE: Police & Citizens Youth Club
Mango Ave, Palm Island

TIME: A BBQ will be held from 12pm with the meeting to follow from 1 – 3pm

You can find out more about the panel's work and ideas for change by downloading the discussion paper from the website www.youmeunity.org.au

The Panel members want to speak directly to as many Australian people as possible but if you can't get along to the meeting you can still have your say by writing a letter or email or a submission or by visiting our website.

Drawing on the results of these consultations, along with surveys and legal advice, the Panel will report to the Prime Minister in December 2011 on options to change the Constitution which could be put to the Australian people at a referendum.



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council

is closed every second Friday
(Council pay week) for RDO.

The next RDO is Friday 16
September.

**For emergencies on a Friday
please call 0458 789 011**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
THE COUNCIL ON 4770 1177

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Enquiries: Maria Walmsby-McMahon (07) 4752 5100.

Application Kit: (07) 4750 6778 or www.health.qld.gov.au/workforus

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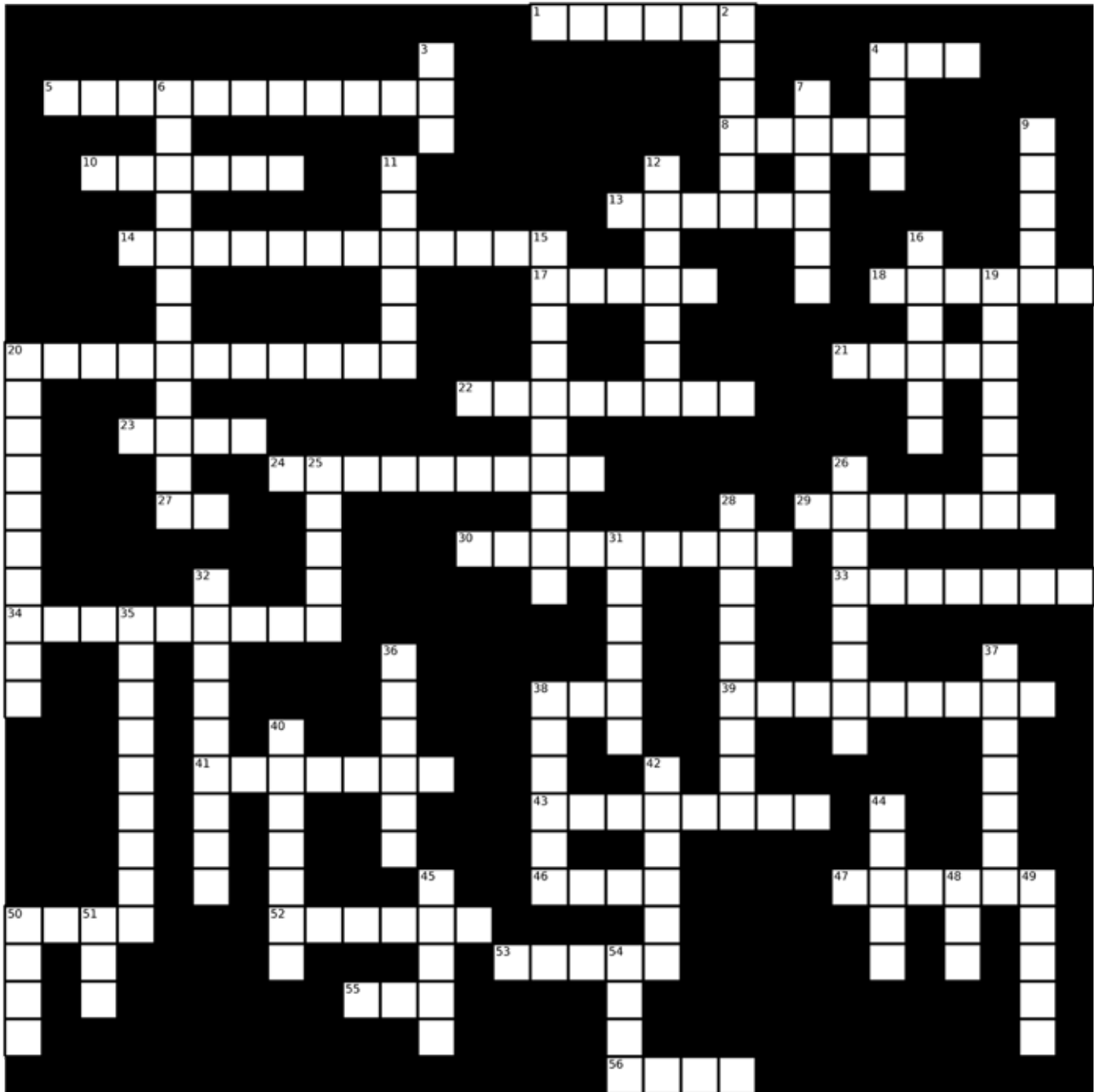
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PI Voice Crossword 87



Crossword completed with thanks again to David Goeldner & the Crossword
Puzzle Maker at www.armoredpenguin.com

Across

1. Process of extracting minerals
4. Employment
5. Doctor's listening device
8. Stealing
10. Broncos goal kicker, Corey ?
13. North Queensland city
14. Famous horse race each November (2)
17. Jets RL second rower, ? Sam
18. Temporary accommodation
20. Open air semi-circular tiered music venue
21. American president, Barack ?
22. Book of world records
23. A story to tell
24. Salt water reptile

27. Television

29. Townsville's NRL team
30. Portable power source
33. Leader of a state
34. Black, white & read by you
38. Wager
39. In charge of the money
41. Monkey stole these from turtle
43. World Wide Web
46. Precious glittering metal
47. Australian airline
50. Wild pig
52. Rabbitohs goal-kicking halfback, Chris ?
53. Protest gathering
55. Unit of pressure
56. Makes a lather

Down

2. Stringed instrument
3. Door opener

4. PI minor premiers

6. Between Cape York and PNG (2)
7. Football jumper
9. Equine animal
11. Sixty seconds
12. Japanese-style singing to a backing track
15. Picked to box at world titles, Reggie ? (2)
16. St George five-eighth, Jamie ?
19. Broncos captain in 2012, Sam ?
20. Palm Island ? Shire Council
25. Shaving blade
26. Where you go when very sick
28. Uncontrolled atmospheric waste

31. Land ?

32. Australia's rugby union team
35. Law professional
36. LA Lakers basketball legend, Kobe ?
37. Popular singer, ? Mauboy
38. PI's popular gloved sport
40. Coronial inquiry
42. Pretty good
44. Facial hair
45. Poisonous
48. A four-pointer in rugby league
49. Another name for wetland
50. Christians are said to be ? again
51. This brand of footy is the focus of the Marngrook footy show on NITV
54. Camera attachment



Season all over for Bulls & Skipjacks

The PIRL grand final stage is set after Butler Bay Bulls (*top*) and Skipjacks (*below*) fought and lost their respective battles to take centre stage this coming weekend.

Jets and Brothers will meet in a much anticipated rugby league Grand Final showdown on Saturday at the local football oval.

Brothers qualified for the right to meet hot favourites Jets after beating Skipjacks 38-36 in last Saturday's preliminary final before a large crowd. Lanky back Sterling Aden junior was again the star for Brothers scoring three tries including one in the final minutes which gave his side the final two-point advantage. ...**Continued next page...**



PIRL PLAYER PROFILE: Ian Ketchup

AT age 38, Brothers hooker Ian Ketchup is one of the oldest players to have competed in the 2011 Palm island domestic rugby league competition.

But age has not wearied this genuine warrior who is still a quality player.

"I have played six games this season for Brothers and like passing on my experience to the younger blokes," he said.

Versatile Ian has been enjoying the role of rake and distributes the ball from dummy half showing a considerable football brain.

Ian can also play in the vital role of halfback, which gives his side some options as tactics are worked out.

"I have been with Brothers for three years and used to play for Skipjacks," he said.

When asked who he considered

were amongst the best players in the competition Ian identified former teammates Tabua Oui and Moa Sam.

"Jets back Tabua Oui is a real star and scores a lot of points," he said.

"The hardest forward is another Jets player in Moa Sam."

Ian keeps fit, standing tall at just 155cm, with no plans to retire next year.

And, he reckons he will again be in Brothers colours.

Palm Island Rugby League President Ili Dabea said Ian was one of the oldest players running around.

"But he is still very good," Mr Dabea said.



...From Previous Page...

William Bramwell, Robert Johnson, Malcolm Larry and Gavin Johnson scored one try each for Brothers whilst Winston Noble booted three goals and Gavin Johnson one.

For Skipjacks ever-reliable Gabriel Geesu and Fred Bulsey each scored two tries with singles to Jason Bulsey and Kenny Wilson. Gary Pearson booted six goals. Jets finished minor premiers after the fixtures and earned the grand final berth with a 66-34 win over Brothers in the qualifying semi final a fortnight ago. On that form the Norman Bounghi-coached Jets should have little trouble taking out the premiership. In the second half of that clash, Brothers got to within 10 points of Jets midway through the second half.

However, grand finals produce a different brand of pressure than any other games because the stakes are so high.

Astute Brothers coach Robert Johnson is busy planning tactics he hopes will enable an upset.

The Brothers players chip kick a lot and will again do so in the decider whilst Jets send up plenty of high bomb kicks which have resulted in many scoring opportunities. Entertaining rugby league will be a highlight of the game.

KEY PLAYERS

CRAFTY Jets back Tabua Oui is the key man in the final and is arguably the best back in the Palm Island comp. Oui is clever in general play and fires out precision passes to running forwards and outside backs. An accurate goal kicker as well, if Brothers can control the brilliant Oui they will give themselves a chance. Forwards Costa and Assan Sam also ran riot for Jets in the semi final and will be dangerous. Brothers big forward Joiji Dabea has been in devastating form during Brothers two finals appearances and often breaks the first line of defence.

Another bonus is that Dabea even when tackled, often manages to get a one handed pass away to eager backs.

Mikeal Sibley is the other "X Factor" player for Brothers as he is a potential match winner on his best days.

Sterling Aden junior is also a quality back and if he scores a bag of tries, that will give Brothers a hope. A massive crowd is expected to be at the grand final, which looms as a ripper.

See local notice boards for kick-off time!



How it unfolded ...

MINOR premiers Jets earned the first spot in the grand final when they beat Brothers 66-34 in the qualifying semi final of the Palm Island domestic rugby league competition two weeks ago.

It was a first half blitz which set up the handsome Jets victory after they led 30-6 at halftime. But not to be denied, Brothers never gave up and at one stage in the second half had reduced the deficit to 44-34 before Jets steadied and ran away with the game. For the Norman Bounghi-coached Jets, Greg Walsh and Costa Sam each scored two tries with one each to Thom Walsh, Robert Bulsey, Tabua Oui, Gavin Barry, Jias Geia, Assan Sam and Germaine Bulsey. Tabua Oui booted seven goals and James Palmer two.



Brothers Costa and Assan Sam were both dangerous for Jets making lots of ground up the centre of the ruck.

Giant forward Jias Geia also was a handful every time he ran the ball.

For Brothers John Watson scored two tries and Joiji Dabea, Mikeal Sibley, Malcolm Larry and Winston Noble one apiece.

Gavin Johnson kicked four goals and Rod Shortjoe two. Rampaging forward Joiji Dabea made many metres in attack and also managed to get an arm free numerous times to launch a pass.

SKIPJACKS END BULLS CHARGE

IN the elimination semi final, Skipjacks defeated last year's premiers Butler Bay Bulls 36-26 after leading 20-10 at halftime. Blockbusting front rower Fred Bulsey and Gabriel Geesu each crossed twice for

Skippies. Kenny Wilson, William Marpoondin and Gary Pearson scored a try each. Gary Pearson also booted four goals. William Marpoondin, Fred Bulsey and his younger brother Jason Bulsey paved the way for the win which saw Skippies advance to the preliminary final against Brothers. Opinion had been divided in the lead up to the game over whether injured lock Raoul Miller would line up for Skipjacks after breaking his thumb in an August fixture. Miller did not play but indicated he hoped to be ready for the grand final if Skippies made it. For Bulls star centre Billo Wotton continued his dashing form with three tries and Sam Coutts and flashy Pita Morgan crossed once each. Val Fulford kicked three goals and Bulls were eliminated from the 2011 premiership race.

Kelsey's run to New York on track via WA

Palm Island runner Kelsey Youngblutt competed in Perth's City to Surf with seven of her Indigenous Marathon teammates late last month.

Ms Youngblutt has competed in a similar run in Sydney and hopes to be selected to go to New York in November.

The 19-year-old is keen to encourage young Palm Islanders to get involved in running.

"I do my training around the island and I just go to Townsville to do the long runs and some training in there as well," she said. "Most of us started with no running experience at all. I'm thinking of starting up a running group to get kids involved and I'm trying to get a Fun Run organised on the Island as well."

She said anyone who was interested should just ask her if they see her around.



Above is star boxer Reggie Palm Island with his brother William, mum Peggy, Aunties Christine and Andy, and Uncle Reggie Palm Island snr at the Palm Island Boxing Tournament - more on pages 9-11

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE

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Fax 4770 1305 With thanks to Alf Wilson
and to all the Palm Islanders who have contributed
to this issue of the *Palm Island Voice*.

Published by PIASC © 2011

Palm Island Voice

Editorial & Advertising Deadlines + Publication Dates:

DEADLINE

Thursday 15 September

Thursday 29 September

Thursday 13 October

Thursday 27 October

Thursday 17 November 2011

PUBLICATION DATE

THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2011

THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER 2011

THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER 2011

THURSDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2011

THURSDAY 31 NOVEMBER 2011