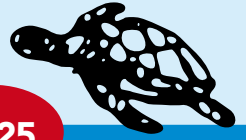




# Palm Island Voice

Your Community  
Your Newsletter  
Your Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 12th January 2012

\$1.25

Issue 95



## **...A New Year Message from the Mayor...**

**"First of all, I'd like to wish the community a Happy New Year for 2012, and my hopes this year will continue to be a very good productive year for our community as we move towards seeing more change happening around housing, health and general community issues," he says.**

"So for all our families on Palm I'd like to give a big, warm, Happy New Year and hope they all have a really good 2012.

"I want to also give my best wishes to all our students who will be at boarding school for the first time, and wish them well in their endeavours as they seek good education outcomes – we all know how important education can be.

"I think it's really good to see we have quite a few of our young people in our community saying they like boarding school and are keen to go back.

"It's important to remember that January means the return of the school year so I want to congratulate all of our students going

back to school and hope it will be a productive year for them as well.

"As the year starts to roll out we need to be mindful that we are into the cyclone season and that means we have to be diligent about cyclone clean-ups and make sure we're aware around the early parts of the year, of being vulnerable in terms of cyclones. "Contact Council if you need any information in terms of our cyclone clean-ups or cyclone preparedness for the community.

"Finally once again a very Happy New Year to everyone, and may the good Lord bless our community for the next 12 months."





# Out & About



Top: a wheelie bin conference between Ray Dennis and Eddie Walsh; Above: Deputy Mayor Ray Sibley in Cairns attending the Indigenous Policing Operational Performance Review pictured with Sgt Stephen Tillett, who grew up on Palm; Above Right: Ivan James, Margaret and Michael Conway shopping in Townsville last year; Right: mowing in 35 degree heat @ the airport.





# Palm to field team in Rocky

**A PALM Island Barracudas side will travel to Rockhampton to compete at the fifth Central Queensland Indigenous Development Reconciliation rugby league Allblacks carnival at the end of this month.**

This year's event, from 27-29 January, will be held at Central Queensland University (CQU), North Rockhampton.

Thirty-two men's team will play for \$50,000 prize money, with \$30,000 going to the winners, and \$10,000 to the runners-up.

Carnival spokesman Jason Field said close to 80 games would be played over the three days of the carnival on two adjoining ovals at CQU.

Teams beaten in the first round of the plate competition will enter a bowl competition. This means every team is guaranteed a minimum of three games.

The CQID carnival website says the event was the brainchild of two respected Woorabinda elders

who were representatives of the Woorabinda Uncles Association. These two elders, Anthony Henry (aka Big Uncle - pictured) and Greg Major, approached CQID about running a carnival in Rockhampton to encourage the Reconciliation process and celebrate indigenous culture. 2008 was the Inaugural Indigenous Reconciliation Carnival and it has been running annually ever since.



**For more information see <http://www.cqidcarnival.com.au/>**

***Dr Gracelyn Smallwood has graduated, picking up her diploma in December last year and celebrating the day before with a cultural ceremony at JCU. She is pictured below with Renarta Prior and brother Alfred (Bimbo) Smallwood.***



## 2011 Stable on the Strand

**Left: Bobbie Ryan with Robert Ryan, 11, Brian Lind, 14, Rannietta Lind, 8, and Ivy Rose; Right: Pat Morgan**



# Palm Island problems 'exaggerated', says Mayor Alf Lacey

**A REPORT card into the state of Queensland's 17 indigenous communities claims serious dysfunction still reigns on Palm Island, where residents are 30 times more likely to be hospitalised than other Queenslanders.**

While the Bligh government said overall it was succeeding in making the state's discrete indigenous communities safer, the report revealed offences on Palm Island were 17 times the state rate.

But the Island's Mayor, Alf Lacey, slammed the methodology of the government's report and said politicians were more interested in exaggerating problems rather than creating solutions.

"We'll continue to remain the victim because they're making us the victim," Mr Lacey told The Australian.

"Any community will always have its issues and problems, but it's up to all of us in

partnership to work together to sort it out."

Mr Lacey said government restrictions on indigenous communities, such as alcohol management plans, should be overhauled.

However, Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Minister, Curtis Pitt, said many communities had improved since AMPs were introduced in 2002.

"Reported offences against the person have declined in six communities, while seven communities show declining trends in hospital admissions for assault," he said.

However, the annual report, which measures progress in the state's indigenous communities between July last year and June this year, noted "many discrete communities have levels of offending at rates much higher than the state rate". "Some show no sign of decreasing over time," the report says. It singles out

Cherbourg, a community that is home to about 1200 people 280km northwest of Brisbane, and Palm Island, where 2200 people live, off the coast of Townsville, as particularly poor performers. In 2004, Palm Island was catapulted to national prominence when locals rioted following the death in police custody of Mulrunji Doomadgee.

Mr Pitt said school attendance had stayed the same or improved between 2007 and this year in 15 of the 17 communities. He also tabled the latest results from the Family Responsibilities Commission, which ties welfare payments with school attendance and is being trialled in four Cape York communities. "Although child safety figures fluctuate from community to community and from quarter to quarter, anecdotal evidence suggests family wellbeing is improving in Aurukun, Hopevale, Coen and Mossman Gorge," he said.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/state-politics/dysfunction-reigns-in-palm-island-indigenous-community/story-e6frgczx-1226227916331>





# Tassie-based cricketing pair keen to re-visit soon!

**PALM Island-born sporting stars Bernie and Colin Lamont live in far away Tasmania and are keen to return to their birth place soon to catch up with relatives.**

Recently Palm Island police arranged for their counterparts in Tasmania to contact Bernie just before his father Victor Parker died.

"I couldn't make it in time but we are both keen to visit Palm island as soon as we can," Bernie said. He said they were great mates with Palm Island police officer James O'Brien.

"We did an Indigenous police course down in Goulburn NSW some time ago," Bernie said.

They have many relatives on Palm including Council worker Victor Daisy, and long serving local fish shop employee Randall Parker. The brothers said they last met up with Palm relatives some years back in Townsville while representing the Australian Aboriginal XI. Bernie is one of just a handful of cricketers who have played in every Imparja Cup Indigenous cricket carnival since it commenced in 2001 and is looking forward to the 2012 event from 5 to 12 February at Alice Springs. The 39-year-old has been one of the genuine stars in the Cup and has been in great form for the Riana Club which



competes in the strong Tasmanian League. He is a change medium pace seam bowler and punishing middle order right handed batsman with the ability to score quickly. Lamont took a hat trick for Riana in a Twenty20 match this season and has consistent good scores with the willow.

"I have made a couple of thirties and have scored four centuries for Tasmania at previous Imparja Cups," he said.

Before moving to Tasmania, Lamont had played

A grade cricket in Townsville for Norths, and first grade for Balmain in the strong Sydney competition. In the Apple Isle he has played top grade in various leagues including at Devonport.

"Life is pretty good for me at the moment as I work for dad and love my 12-year-old daughter Krystal," he said. "Also I have a new woman named Tammy whom I met through friends."

Colin plays for Spreyton Club in the Tasmanian Mersey Valley competition. Krystal is pictured on the left there with her dad and Colin is on the right above.





**MORE than 500 Palm Island children were delighted to receive beautiful gifts from Santa at Mayor Alf Lacey's Christmas party in December.**

The youngsters waited in anticipation for Santa who arrived on the back of a yellow truck which followed a fire engine with flashing lights. The jovial Santa in his red suit placed was swamped by the kids as he walked to the stage on the park across from the Council offices where he handed out gifts to each one. They lined up with their parents or grandparents and at one stage the queue was 50m long.

Mayor Lacey spoke to the large audience who sat in chairs near the stage as the sun began to set over the idyllic Palm esplanade.

"Families are very special here on Palm Island and the children are our future," he said. "I wanted to ensure that every child would get a gift so it is good to see so many people here."

Local singers entertained the audience with Christmas carols and everybody enjoyed a feast which included a barbecue.

Every child was handed a Christmas light for the carols by candlelight and then a spectacular fireworks display took place after dark.

The fireworks display was provided by Above Ground Zero Company of Townsville and co-ordinated by Craig Tatnell and local Palm Island man Victor Daisy.

"There were 21 multi slots of fireworks which each

# It was a Merry outdoor C





# Christmas for Palm Island



constituted more than 100 individual units," Mr Tatnell said.

"It lasted for more than 20 minutes and I couldn't have done without Victor who has been a great help." As for Santa, many kids were looking for his sleigh and reindeers the following morning but they were nowhere to be found.

Santa and his contingent were obviously off to another destination.

Speaking later to the Palm Island Voice Mr Lacey said Council was very pleased to put on the Christmas Party. "We know it's about bringing our community together and our families together," he said.

"The smiles on our young people's faces, Santa was very popular again this year, and even the elders have enjoyed themselves.

"I want to thank the Council staff who got involved in all the preparation and the clean-up.

"I want to especially thank Lyn Freckleton for helping co-ordinate the all event with me, and also I want to thank the Council outside work force, they really did a tremendous job in cleaning up and setting up and things like that.

"It's very important to understand that it is that type of partnership that we have with our staff to make sure the community events happen in the way we want them to happen.

"So, I want to thank each and every one of them.

"And finally I especially want to thank the community for getting involved in being a part of it. "I hope everyone enjoyed their Chrissy presents and enjoyed the evening."



# ***Palm Island Voice 2012***

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18 point (about 1 cm), single colour, include your logo and/or multiple weeks by negotiation with the Editor - only \$99 (+ GST) per page! Your contribution will help us to print extra colour pages and photographs of your favourite sporting team or event as required.

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Sale Price over \$1000 & Other Notices – 4 lines – \$10

**Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day and material submitted no later than COB the next day. For more information contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at [chowes@westnet.com.au](mailto:chowes@westnet.com.au)**

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**Hard copies of the Palm Island Voice are available at the following shops and newsagents in Townsville, Ingham & Cairns:**

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**MOONEY ST**

**NEWS & CASKET**

- 86 Mooney St, Gulliver

**KIRWAN NEWS**

- 1 Forest Ave, Kirwan

**BAMFORD LANE MINI MART**

- 113 Bamford Lane, Kirwan

**MOUNT VIEW NEWS**

- 32 Bamford Lane, Kirwan

**NEWS ON THE AVENUES**

- 85 Burnda St, Kirwan

**PARKSIDE NEWS**

- 148 Bamford Lane, Kirwan

**CRANBROOK CONVENIENCE STORE**

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*IN INGHAM:*

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82 Cartwright St, Ingham

*AND IN CAIRNS:*

**ORCHID PLAZA NEWSAGENCY**

Lake St, Cairns

## ***Palm Island Voice 2012***

**DEADLINE                      ISSUE NO                      PUBLICATION DATE**

<b>Thursday 19 Jan</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>THURSDAY 26 January</b>
<b>Thursday 2 Feb</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>THURSDAY 9 February</b>
<b>Thursday 16 Feb</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>THURSDAY 23 February</b>
<b>Thursday 1 March</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>THURSDAY 8 March</b>
<b>Thursday 15 March</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>THURSDAY 22 March</b>
<b>Thursday 29 March</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>THURSDAY 5 April</b>
<b>Thursday 12 April</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>THURSDAY 19 April</b>
<b>Thursday 26 April</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>THURSDAY 3 May</b>
<b>Thursday 10 May</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>THURSDAY 17 May</b>
<b>Thursday 24 May</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>THURSDAY 31 May</b>
<b>Thursday 7 June</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>THURSDAY 14 June</b>
<b>Thursday 21 June</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>THURSDAY 28 June</b>
<b>Thursday 5 July</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>THURSDAY 12 July</b>
<b>Thursday 19 July</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>THURSDAY 26 July</b>
<b>Thursday 2 August</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>THURSDAY 9 August</b>
<b>Thursday 16 August</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>THURSDAY 23 August</b>
<b>Thursday 30 August</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>THURSDAY 6 September</b>
<b>Thursday 13 September</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>THURSDAY 20 September</b>
<b>Thursday 27 September</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>THURSDAY 4 October</b>
<b>Thursday 11 October</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>THURSDAY 18 October</b>
<b>Thursday 25 October</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>THURSDAY 1 November</b>
<b>Thursday 8 November</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>THURSDAY 15 November</b>
<b>Thursday 22 November</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>THURSDAY 29 November</b>
<b>Thursday 6 December</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>THURSDAY 13 December</b>

**Please support us so we can continue to support you!**



# Palm Island Voice

## Public & Community Notices

Palm Island Voice Public & Community Notices are your best choice for anniversaries, birthdays, Meeting Notices, sales & all your classified needs - and most of them are free!



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To make a booking phone 4759 3777

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MAYOR LACEY & COUNCILLORS  
CORDIALLY INVITE THE PALM ISLAND COMMUNITY  
TO ATTEND

The Official Unveiling of the  
Palm Island Community Monument

Including the opening of the:  
Indigenous Knowledge Centre  
Community Meeting Room and  
Arts Centre located within the Cultural Precinct

Official Proceedings to Commence at: 10.00am

Venue: Clock Tower

Date: 26th January 2012



**Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council**

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

**The next RDO is Friday 20 January.**

**REMEMBER:** the Bank and Post Office  
will now close each Council RDO.

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

**The following holidays have  
been appointed for Palm Island  
in 2012:**

**Monday 4 June**

STRIKE 57 COMMEMORATION DAY

**Monday 11 June**

BWGCOLMAN DAY

**Monday 2 July**

Townsville Annual Show Day

**Friday 6 July**

NAIDOC DAY

**Monday 3 September**

SPRING FAIR FESTIVAL DAY

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

# Happy BIRTHDAY!!!

**HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY TO  
MICAH BULLY GEIA! And big  
CONGRATULATIONS on graduating  
from Year 12 and securing an  
APPRENTICESHIP FITTER WELDER  
with the Townsville City Council...**

**Lots and lots of Love from Dad,  
Mum and your brothers and nieces  
and nephew...we wish you all the  
best in your future years....X.X.X.**

**Happy 50th Birthday to Noreen (Nina)  
Clay for the 22nd January 2012!!!  
Happy Birthday Norman Patterson  
21st January 2012!!!**

**Happy Birthday to Beryl Kyle for  
the 24th January 2012!!!  
With love from your family &  
friends...**

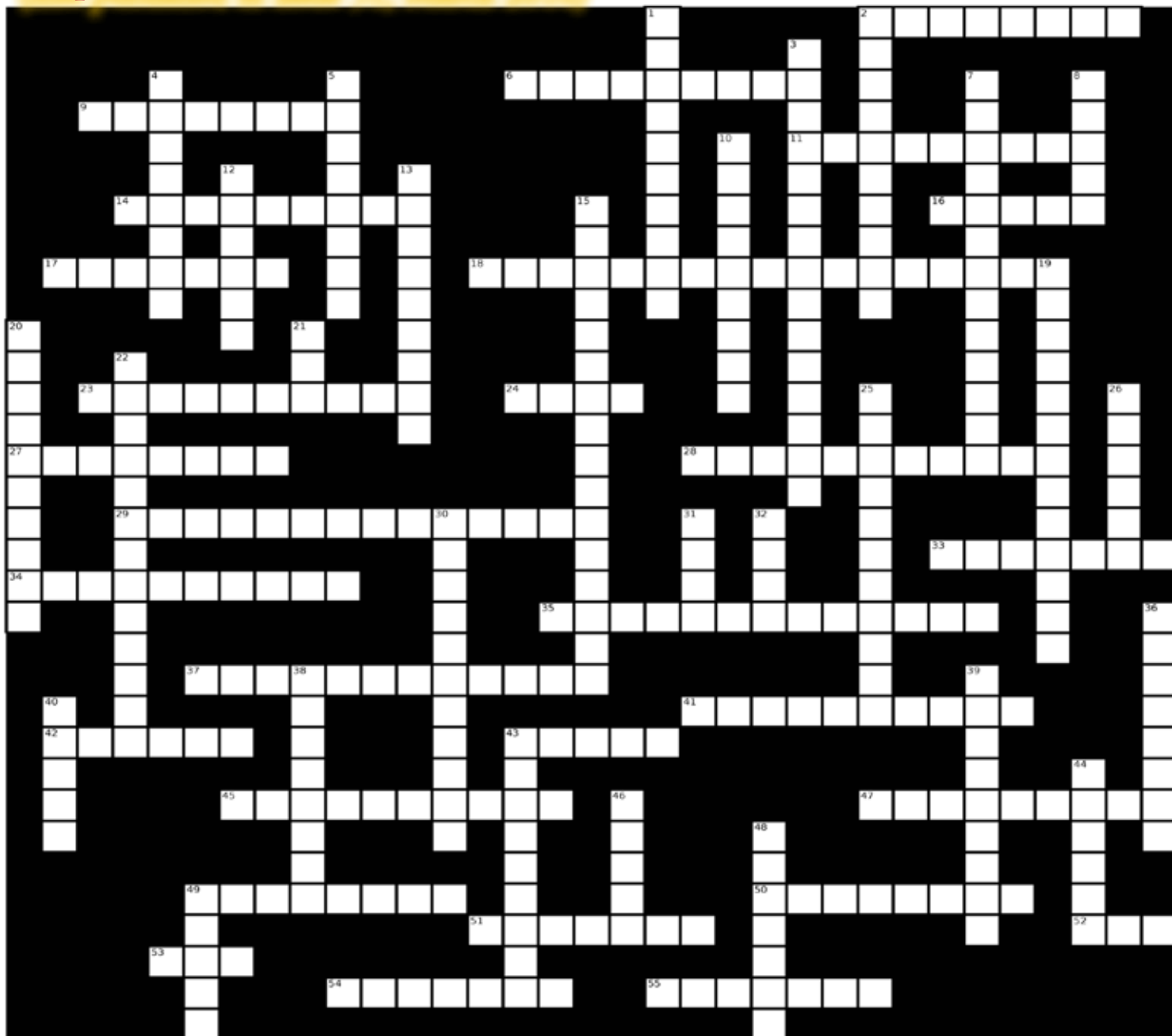


# Palm Island Voice Crossword 95

(first published in Issue 51, March 2010)

With thanks to  
David Goeldner &  
the puzzle makers @

<http://www.armoredpenguin.com>



## Across

2. Jan 26 can be referred to as ? day  
6. ATSI social justice commissioner who has visited Palm Island (2 words)  
9. The lunar phase at Easter (2)  
11. Palm Island school name  
14. Beams TV to remote communities  
16. May 26 each year is ? Day  
17. Cathy ? Foundation  
18. 2010 Indigenous All Stars skipper (2)  
23. Noodle made of rice – often cooked with chicken  
24. Indigenous Consumer Assistance Network (initials)  
27. Local PI family big with bull riding  
28. This Queensland politician opened the retail store in 2010 (2)  
29. Mosquito-borne disease named after a river (3)  
33. Called before a court to give evidence  
34. 4K1G morning radio host (2)  
35. Often blamed for Christ's crucifixion (2)  
37. Type of bread eaten on Good Friday (3)  
41. Christ died on this day (2)  
42. Religious holiday season  
43. Flat-bottomed boat  
45. Located 18 degrees south and 146 degrees east (2)  
47. Old style WW1 single engine bi-plane (2)  
49. Body of water to the east of Palm Island (2)  
50. Christian symbol  
51. Stinging insect and name of a fierce rugby league team  
52. Another name for satellite navigation (init)  
54. Represents the blood of Christ (2)  
55. Wharf in Cairns

## Down

1. Presides over a court hearing  
2. The ? All Stars won first match at Skilled Park in 2010  
3. Type of Palm Tree, sounds like a vegetable (3)  
4. Palm Island mayor (2)  
5. Church founded in England  
7. Local league legend related to Bronco's Sam (2)  
8. Older female member of the family  
10. Another name for Holy Communion/Last Supper  
12. Palm Island ? Store  
13. Large water storage  
15. This League team new to the PI footy comp in 2010 (3)  
19. First indigenous member of Australian parliament (2)  
20. North Queensland's largest city  
21. Car with a flat tray at the back  
22. Australian historian from JCU, author of "Why weren't we told" (2)  
25. Health service on Palm Island (2)  
26. Population count held in 2011  
30. Hotly contested NQ regional league comp (2)  
31. Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander  
32. Nickname of Queensland Rugby Union Team  
36. Another name for Dolphin Fish (2)  
38. Flying boat based at Palm Island in WW2  
39. Well-known Palm Island boxing trainer (2)  
40. TV, Radio and Newspapers are all part of this  
43. United Nations Secretary General (2)  
44. This sport packs a punch on Palm Island  
46. Your own newspaper, Palm Island ?  
48. Severe weather formation often at Easter time  
49. Where cases are heard



# David Sam wins chance to box for Aus

**Five Palm Island boxers travelled to Beenleigh, outside Brisbane, last month to compete in the Queensland State Titles which was also a lead up to selection for the coming Olympics.**

16-year-old David Sam (pictured right) won a gold medal after winning the final of the under-19 Super Heavyweight division, beating an older Sunshine Coast opponent.

The other four local fighters won silver medals against very strong opposition.

Winners will travel to Tasmania in February – a further step towards the 2012 Olympic Games and a chance to make the Australian youth boxing team.

As a bonus they also have the chance to train with the Australian Institute of Sport.

National Boxing coach Don Ablett was very impressed with David Sam.

"Mr Ablett has also been impressed with Reggie Palm Island who couldn't make the trip to Beenleigh," trainer Ray Dennis said.

"But Reggie still has the chance to travel to Tasmania if he gets back into proper training."

David Sam defeated R Foulds from the Shamrock Boxing Club on the Gold Coast to claim his win.

William Palm Island received a silver medal when he was defeated in the light flyweight division by a Gladstone opponent.

Female boxer Noby Clay (pictured right training at the PCYC with Ray Dennis) also



claimed a silver medal in the final of the flyweight class in which she was beaten by Julie Ryan of Brisbane.

Dennis Haines junior took home a silver medal when he was defeated by Harley Broom from Rockhampton in the 56kg senior division.

"Dennis easily won his first bout," Mr Dennis said.

Patrick Clarke won a silver medal losing the final of the 64kg division to an Australian champion.

"Patrick won his first bout against Yungaburra boxer Raymond Cupitt," Mr Dennis said.

Townsville based Dragon Do Jos Club's Joanne Morgan- French fought under the banner of the Palm Island Boxing Club and took

out a gold medal in the female 75kg class and also won her previous qualifying bout.

"She had to box with a club registered with the Queensland Association and we were happy to give her the chance to compete," Mr Dennis said. Mr Dennis said that Palm boxers did very well against the best competition in the Sunshine State.

The boxers travelled south on 8th December and returned home the following Monday by plane.

**2011 was a wonderful year for the Palm Island**

**Boxing Club, enjoying unprecedented success - Palm Island Voice would like to wish all the boxers - and their trainers, of course! - all the best for 2012!!!**





**UMAGICO** carpenter Brian Tamwoy-Yoell has been handing out a few lessons in pool (not the swimming kind) while he's been visiting his many family and friends of Torres Strait islander and NPA descent over the break.

Brian (*pictured above right with Zac Sam*) is a former top rugby league player for the champion NPA side Alau Eagles.

Only recently he caught up with his Palm relations during the Dan Ropeyarn carnival at Bamaga.

He even lined up for the Mount Bentley Barracudas when they were short of players.

"I have come down for a week to Palm and have been hunting, fishing and playing pool at the local grill," he said.

Experienced local pool player John Clay (*pictured below right*) said Brian had more than held his own against locals on the table.

"He is pretty good and is hard to beat," John said.

There are more than 200 men, women and children of TSI or NPA descent on Palm, which has a permanent population of 2500.

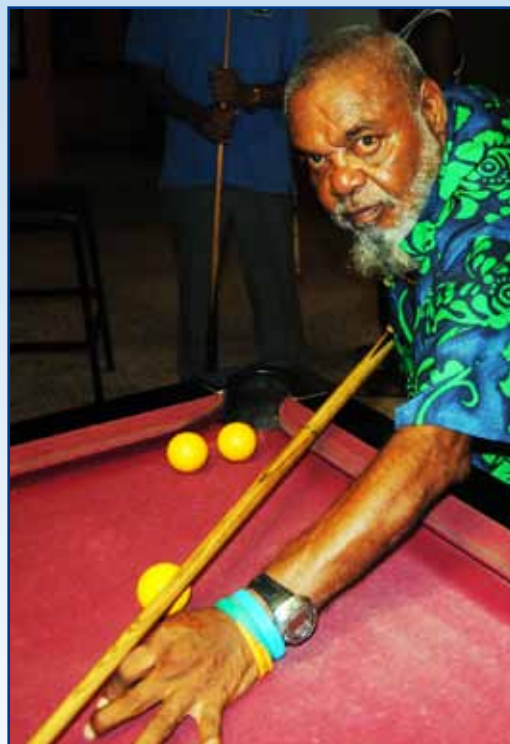
"I have many relatives here amongst the Baira and Sam families," Brian said.

Co-licensee of the bar, Zac Sam, is of Darnley descent and went with the Barracudas to Bamaga.

"Brian is my nephew and is going to be helping us get things organised early as we will be taking a side to the next Island of Origin Series in June on Badu Island," Zac said.

There is expected to an increase of players and some teams competing at TSI and NPA carnivals in 2012 including the Island of Origin, Zenadth Kes on TI, and the Dan Ropeyarn.

## Pool-playing Barracuda sharks through Palm



### **PUBLICATION DETAILS:**

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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*.

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