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**This week Kowanyama Mayor Thomas Hudson tells us what's going on down his way...**



Kowanyama Mayor Thomas Hudson

As Mayor of Kowanyama I'm seeing 2009 a bit different from 2008 because I was bogged down with the canteen issues until Christmas time.

The canteen is still on the agenda but has taken a lower profile because it's out of our hands.

There is an applicant for the license now and the process at the moment is a public notice has been posted for 28 days to allow public comment.

So what I'm looking at is my Council team's vision for the community is, for example, enterprises.

Community enterprises were on the drawing board from the previous Council but we're going to push it along this year so it becomes reality.

I've said to my CEO that we want to focus on one enterprise at a time.

The first thing will be a bakery and that will lead into the next ones which include a service station and butcher's shop.

That would be my biggest thing at the moment and we want to work towards seeing these enterprises privatised in the future.

I also want to work on developing partnerships with our neighbouring Shires, that's Carpentaria, Cook and Pormpuraaw Shires.

I want to look at our boundaries because we have two stations Orieners and Shefton which come within those other Council boundaries and I want to come to some agreements with them about that.

We're negotiating with Cook Shire at the moment about their border and they seem willing to work with us so our borders could be extended.

If they do that maybe we can persuade Carpentaria to do the same.

With Pormpuraaw Shire, we have a homeland right on their border, with some other infrastructure, and we want to come to a gentleman's agreement as to how we use that in the future without stepping on anyone's toes, we're looking for neighbourly spirit.

Sharing resources helps to stretch everyone's dollar and also means a sensible outcome for everyone.

A few weeks ago the CEO and myself were at the Road Alliance meeting in Cairns.

For years we've been trying to get permission to take over maintaining the road from here to Dunbar.

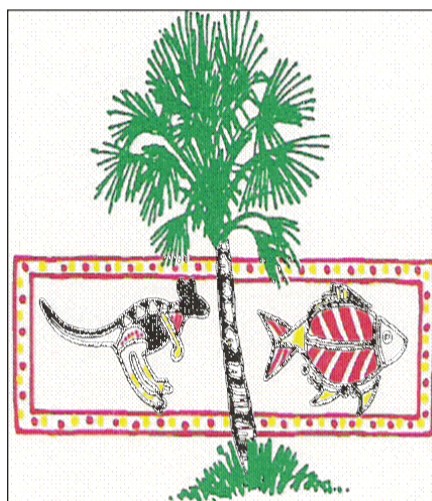
At the moment Carpentaria takes care of that but by the time they get here it's the middle of the year and then the wet arrives.

So we want to try to work closer with Carpentaria on that, even if we don't get the funding to make some agreement there because the road to Kowanyama is important to us, most of the attention goes on the road from Chillagoe to Dunbar and Normanton, which is where the tourists run.

At this stage we have also collected most of the money for a multipurpose sports and recreation centre.

That will be built as soon as the road is open and people can start coming in with all the material.

In the meantime my Council and I will continue to work hard to support anyone in our community who wants to start an enterprise because we are keen to start creating jobs and generate money for our community.



## Major boost for Indigenous eye and ear health

The Federal Government will invest \$58.3 million over four years to help tackle eye and ear diseases in Indigenous communities, including diseases rarely seen outside the third world.

The funding will allow for at least 1,000 additional ear and eye surgical procedures to be made available.

It will also facilitate a major increase in services to address trachoma, which will enable at least 10 regional teams to treat and help prevent the disease in NT, WA, SA and other states where trachoma is identified

The funding will also see

an expansion in the Visiting Optometrist Scheme, to provide new and increased numbers of optometrist visits to remote communities.

There will be increased training of health workers to ensure they can pick up any hearing problems of Indigenous people as early as possible

Investments will be made in hearing medical equipment, including audiometers, tympanometers (machines used to test hearing loss) and video-otoscopes (devices for looking inside the ears)

Hearing-health promotion

will increase awareness of ear disease and the importance of providing and following treatment to reduce hearing loss in Indigenous communities.

The measure will also boost the qualifications of health professionals by increasing accredited training and will improve co-ordination of care.

Approximately 20,000 Indigenous children suffer from trachoma in Australia.

Many Indigenous children suffer from significant hearing loss. Rates of ear disease and hearing problems for Indigenous children are three times those of

non-Indigenous population.

Hearing problems are commonly linked to poor school attendance and educational outcomes.

The early onset of middle ear infection, which results in fluctuating hearing loss, reduces active participation in education and limits future employment opportunities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are also at increased risk of developing avoidable blindness and vision loss and are less likely to visit eye health care practitioners than other Australians.

bp



## Weipa Servicentre

Phone: 4069 7277 Fax: 4069 7156

OPENING HOURS: Boundary Road:  
7am-6pm 7 DAYS  
Evans Landing: 7am-6pm MON-SAT,  
7am-12noon SUN

EFTPOS & ATM FACILITIES AVAILABLE

Fuels

BBQ Gas

Bait & Tackle

Ice & Cold drinks

Hot & Cold Food

Servicing & Parts

TWO  
WEIPA  
LOCATIONS  
BOUNDARY ROAD  
EVANS LANDING

**2/5 TRANSMISSION ST, ROCKY POINT** - Modern 3 brm unit, only two years old, in a complex of three units. Main brm with ensuite. The kitchen leads off the central dining/living area, and there is a small rear patio and a large front porch. Built-in robes, tiling, full airconditioning, ceiling fans, all conveniences including carport and visitor parking. Fully tenanted until July 2010, at \$525 pw. **\$350,000 neg.**

**1a EASTERN AV, ROCKY POINT** - Architect designed, airconditioned duplex on approx 1100m<sup>2</sup>. Both properties f/f with well fitted kitchens, built-in appliances and dishwasher, fridge, freezer. Modern bthrm & laundry in each. One x 2 brm tenanted 'til April 09. One x 3 brm tenanted 'til Jan 10. **\$795,000 neg.**

**18 TRANSMISSION ST, ROCKY POINT** - This 4 brm house is app 12 mths old and features separate bthrm & ensuite. Split system aircon & fully tiled throughout. Fully fenced & double carport. Leased at \$650 pw. **\$480,000 neg.**

**7 ALLOWGU WALK, ROCKY POINT** - 4 brm 'poptop' features 2 bthrms, large open-plan living/dining/kitchen with separate laundry & storeroom. Carpeted, aircon brms - a great family home or keep as investment. Tenanted 'til June 09 returning \$650 pw. **\$465,000 neg.**

**18 INA COURT, ROCKY POINT** - Professionally managed units, already corporate leased on 3 x 3 yr term, selling off plan. Each unit has 3 brm with built-in wardrobes. Main bdrm with ensuite. Fully aircon. A spacious open floorplan, and study alcove. Almost completed now these units will be fully landscaped plus lock-up garage. Excellent value at **\$390,000 neg. UNIT 3 UNDER CONTRACT.**

**4/7 ALAKANUM, NANUM** - This immaculate unit, located in a complex of six, has open plan living, 3 brms, main w. ensuite. All have built-in wardrobes. Fully tiled throughout, split system airconditioning, ceiling fans and separate laundry. There is a small fenced rear yard and a carport plus visitor parking. Fantastic value at **\$330,000 neg.**

**2 EUODIA CRT, NANUM** - Modern duplex now available. Each separate unit has 3 brms, the main bedroom w. ensuite. Fully airconditioned, ceiling fans, and spacious dining/living/kitchen layout. Approx 3 yrs old, these units are in top condition. Both are fully fenced, and one has a large yard with a garden shed. 1 x carport space each and visitor parking also. Tenanted until 2010. **\$680,000 neg.**

**6 EUODIA CRT, NANUM** - These 3 yr old, 3 brm detached duplexes feature ensuite, full aircon, ceiling fans, lounge/dining/kitchen combo. Each unit is fenced separately. Currently tenanted till 2010 at \$465 pw making these units a sound investment. **\$680,000 neg.**

**15 KANTHIN RD, NANUM** - 4 x 4brm newly completed contemporary homes. Modern design, very well appointed open-plan living. Ensuite with main brm. Great large patio with two undercover carport and visitor parking. 1800 high Colorbond fence also. **\$480,000 neg.**

**16 CIRCULAR WAY, TRUNDING** - Immaculate 3 brm family home on very large block. Fully carpeted and aircon throughout, there is no work necessary on this home. Upstairs modern kitchen, separate toilet and bth, downstairs the laundry and storeroom. Big backyard is perfect for Weipa lifestyle - plenty of room for the boat. So much to offer at this price. **\$409,000 neg.**

**45 BAUHINIA AV, TRUNDING** - A must see property unique to Weipa market. Set on a large 2424m<sup>2</sup> fully irrigated block this has plenty to offer. Consisting of a huge 6 bay shed, with 2 living areas. 2 bays at one end convert into a comfortable home with gardens and above-ground spa. At other end a bay has been converted into a granny flat. Huge storage capacity in bays in between that can be locked up. Mature fruit trees and full hedge for privacy. **\$560,000 neg.**

**7 WATTLE TERRACE, TRUNDING** - 4 brm, fully airconditioned highset with open-plan living, and large rear entertainment deck. This large block, 1356m<sup>2</sup> also has a shed with its own carport. A granny flat downstairs has a kitchen and bathroom. **\$420,000 neg.**

**10 PANDANUAS ST, NANUM** - Neat, well presented 2 brm home, with front patio overlooking beautifully maintained landscaped lawn. Split system aircon throughout, open plan living/dining/lounge, and separate bth and toilet. A 3 carport space make this property a must see. **\$359,000 neg.**

**GEOFF BRYANT - 0408 772 592**