

PORMPURAAW



ABORIGINAL
SHIRE COUNCIL

PASC News

April 2025

Please be aware there are images of deceased people in this publication.

Leaders meet in Cherbourg



In the last few days of April, Queensland's Indigenous leaders met in Cherbourg and Mooloolaba at the Local Government Association of Queensland's Indigenous Leaders' Forum. See inside for more.

*PICTURED ABOVE: The Indigenous Leaders' Forum in Cherbourg.
RIGHT: Mayor Ralph Kendall accepting the "shadow box" gift from
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Bruce Simpson at the
Indigenous Leaders Forum in Cherbourg.*

*BELOW: Cr Romena Edwards, Cr Keith Barney, Mayor Ralph Kendall and
Cr Tim Koo-Aga in Cherbourg in front of the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal
Shire Council banner. Pics by Michael Monk & Dean Saffron, thanks to
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council.*



Mayors' call for PDR funds

The Indigenous Leaders' Forum day in Cherbourg opened with a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country, followed by dancers and a tour of the town, including Cherbourg's famous historical precinct, The Ration Shed, and their hugely successful recycling plant.

Each of the Mayors were presented with a 'shadow box', carved and painted by local workers.

The next day, in Mooloolaba, the Mayors met with the LGAQ's policy executive to discuss and work on their priorities.

From the forum, Mayor Kendall helped to lead an appeal to governments to provide funding for the Peninsula Development Road (PDR).

He said Cape communities were frustrated by the lack of common sense when deciding which stretches of road received improvements.

"Communities are confused about why different sections of the road are being fixed when others are in far worse shape," he said.

"When the roads aren't reliable, some communities have no option but to move essential supplies by helicopter.

"It would make far more sense to have a reliable road that connects the Cape and the communities along it."

Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher said the PDR was critical.

"The PDR is the artery that keeps Cape communities alive and the roads off it are the difference between access or our communities being cut off from the world," Lockhart River Mayor Wayne Butcher said.

"A proper, reliable route to our communities would help unlock improvements and help us address the housing, education and health crises that are taking decades off our lives.

"A proper road would improve liveability and help with the cost of living, meaning cheaper, healthier food, reliable, affordable access to medical support and more housing would help our kids get a proper night's sleep and improve school attendance."

Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council Mayor Robert PoiPoi said the road his community relied on did not receive any Federal funding.

"With a proper road, we could lower the cost of living," Mayor PoiPoi said.

"Reliable road freight is far less expensive than what we have now.

"We, as a community, need all sides of politics to work together towards an all-weather road."



Pics by Michael Monk & Dean Saffron, thanks to Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council. *Michael lived in Pormpuraaw when his dad, Phillip Monk, was the principal at Edward River State School from 1971 to 1977.*





The highlight of the Indigenous Leaders' Forum, hosted by the Local Government Association of Queensland in the last week of April, was our visit to Cherbourg, Mayor Ralph Kendall writes...

It was a good little trip up there, only a couple of hours away, but it was the first time I've been to Cherbourg and it was fantastic.

We went on a quick look through the community, and the highlight for me was seeing their recycling plant or Materials Recovery Facility (MeRF).

It was a big eye-opener, and they take recycling from a couple of other councils in the region so

it's a major source of employment and revenue for the community.

It was inspiring and I hope we can start talking about something like that for the Cape, instead of things going into landfill.

It was also good to catch up with the other Indigenous Councils from Queensland.

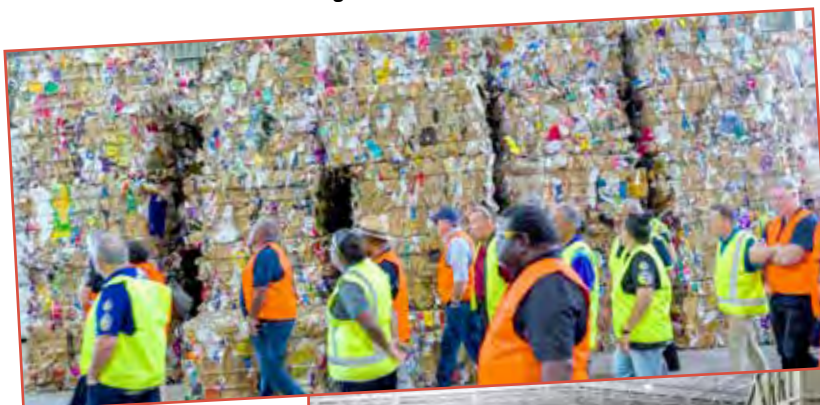
We spent the second day meeting in Mooloolaba, so it was a big couple of days for us.

One of the things we have really appreciated was our CEO Janelle's perspective, her experience with previous ILFs and her knowledge of the other Councils.

She is in her fourth month with us, and we're happy to have her on board.

Overall, it was a good experience for all of our Councillors to be there, and we hope to make it down to the bigger LGAQ meeting with all 72 Queensland councils towards the end of the year.

Ralph



The ILF visitors toured the Cherbourg Materials Recovery Facility (MeRF), which offers the only recycling centre within a 150km radius.



Pics by Michael Monk & Dean Saffron, thanks to Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council.

Lots of long weekends in April certainly made it go by quickly, CEO Janelle Menzies writes...

The highlight for the month was the fishing competition on Friday, 11 April.

Everyone had a great time, and we had a huge turnout for the prize-giving and dinner.

Congratulations to all the winners, especially Bella Ngallametta, who was the winner of the major prize – a new boat

Children from 2 to 5 were given a small fishing rod, and we were all amazed to see a couple of fish caught using these rods.

Thank you to Shelina for putting together a great event.

Thanks also to the volunteers who helped out during the day and evening, PPAC Staff for cooking the hot dogs and Donna Paradise for catering the dinner.

Our ATM has been working overtime and giving out lots of cash as the other two ATMs in Pormpuraaw have been out of order.

Council almost ran out of cash after the Easter break, there was such demand, and we ask people to be patient as we try to keep up with that demand as best we can.

On Tuesday 15 April, we held another all-staff event, with Tracey Graham, Nem Yesberg and new HR Advisor Jennifer Barlett on their visit to Pormpuraaw.

All staff worked on a set of values, completed a staff survey and we finished with a huge vehicle cleaning exercise.

Congratulations to our Aged Care staff for their outstanding efforts.

It was great to have all the staff together again and we enjoyed finishing with a BBQ lunch.



The staff survey results were encouraging and it was good to see most staff were happy to work for Council.

Every month, we are offering a \$50 CEQ voucher for our 'Star Employee of the Month' – a new initiative to encourage all our hardworking staff to "be their best".

Winners are nominated by their colleagues.

Clinton Williams was our March Star Employee for his initiative of putting our new letterhead branding as his email signature.

Josephine Szilagyi is the April winner for conducting a professional Community Justice Group Meeting.

Another quick thank you to everyone who participated in our ANZAC Day dawn service and refreshments.

Mayor Kendall, Cr Edwards, Cr Koo-Aga, Cr Barney and I attended the Indigenous Leadership Forum on 29 & 30 April 2025, visiting Cherbourg where we were able to see firsthand some of the wonderful things they have been doing, before getting down to business the next day in Mooloolaba.

The keys to ten new social houses have been handed to the Council and the Council will sign off on the 40-year leases as allocated by the Department of Housing Tenancy allocation processes.

Janelle



teamwork



ANZAC Day 2025 - 'Lest We Forget'





Thank You

FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

With everyone's help the fishing competition was a great success!





PRIZE WINNERS





Welcome to our new team members:



**Indigenous Knowledge Centre Community
Service Officer Bronwyn Sellars**

**Post Office & Cashier Customer Service
Attendant Georgina Ghee**

Executive Assistant Madlyn Conrad

Carpenter Richard Tarpencha

Aged Care Kitchen Hand Roseanne Holroyd



**Not Pictured:
Community Service
Trainee Grace
(Tsile) Tomun**





PORMPURAAW
**ABORIGINAL
SHIRE COUNCIL**



WE ARE HIRING!

Justice Group Mentor Bakery Manager + Assistant

APPLY TODAY!

Applications can be submitted at RISE
Please see Todd Sandes - Remote Employment Services Manager
Alternatively, you can contact Jennifer Bartlett on 0417 124 567
or via email: hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au



CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

Proposed Service Schedule 2025

Friday 30 May
Friday 27 June
Friday 25 July
Friday 22 August
Friday 19 September
Friday 17 October
Friday 14 November
Friday 12 December

**The Containers for Change pop up site will be in Pormpuraaw on the dates above under the tree across from takeaway shop.
Please note dates may be subject to change due to the weather.**

2025 Community Feedback Survey

Does the Council do a good job?
Are our Councillors approachable?
Do we provide enough services?
Is there anything we can do better?
What else should we be doing?



Prizes are on offer to those who fill out our '2025 Community Feedback Survey' on their phones, or online, via the QR code to the left.

It's easy – just follow the link, fill in some dot points, and you're in the draw!

PORMPURA AW

106.1^{FM}

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30 September 2025

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ABN: 34 103 787 081

Council Hours:

Monday - Friday 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 4pm

Cashier Window (Located in the Post Office)

Monday - Friday 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 3 pm

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