

PORMPURAAW



ABORIGINAL
SHIRE COUNCIL

PASC News

September 2026

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



**MORE PICS
INSIDE!**



Left & Top pics: Open Winner Hamish Gothakchalkenin,
Above & Right: Juvenile Winner Perseus Cecil; Right:
Galf Winner Andre Ambrum with Mayor Ralph Kendall.

At the beginning of September, I travelled to the Gold Coast for the Local Government Managers Association Annual Conference, where I was involved in a Panel Discussion about our Artificial Intelligence (AI) maturity.

I was joined by CEO's from Tablelands Regional Council, Moreton Bay City Council and Quilpie Shire Council.

Each Council was at a different point in their journey, and it was great to see even though Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council was still in the early stages, we are making progress.

Our Executive Leadership Team, Human Resources Team, Managers and Supervisors have also attended Caring Leadership training where we looked at the different needs of our team members and how we can adjust the way we manage individual team members.

I am, as always, very proud to acknowledge some outstanding achievements by members of our team.

Congratulations to Bronwyn Sellars on her acceptance into Queensland's prestigious Library Leaders Program.

This is a remarkable accomplishment and a testament to her dedication and professionalism.

Congratulations also to Leona Worrell and Michele Dunk on completing the LGAQ Human Resources and Industrial Relations Practitioners Program, a significant achievement that will further strengthen our organisation.

Looking ahead, I am pleased to share some exciting news for the community.

In about May next year, Pormpuraaw's Orange Sky Laundry Services, working with Pormpur Ngamplin Pam Mongthak (PNPM), will launch.

This will be a valuable new service for our community and an additional source of support for our residents.

We look forward to welcoming this important new initiative.

Thank you to everyone for your commitment, hard work and willingness to support one another.

It is these contributions, both big and small, that help make Pormpuraaw such a strong and connected community.

Janelle



*A word
from
CEO
Janelle
Menzies*



The LGAQ HR/IR Practitioner Development Program is part of the Local Government Workforce Strategy 2024–2028, designed to build practical human resources (HR) and industrial relations (IR) capability for council staff. Congrats to our graduates Michele and Leona.

A change of location – to a bigger paddock – has made this year's Pormpuraaw Rodeo one to remember, with space for stalls, a photo board, three grandstands, a bar and, of course, the arena and yards themselves.

PORMPURAAW RODEO 2026

Most of the 700-strong town turned out for the event which was won by Hamish Gothakchalkenin in the open, Perseus Cecil in the juvenile and Andre Ambrum in the calf.

Mayor Ralph Kendall said they were all “a lot tougher than me”.

“Two nieces and two nephews of mine rode, and everyone had a bull. Some boys came over from Kowanyama from their event a

couple of weeks ago, so they were familiar but all the winners were local, so I love that.”

He said there were plans next year for an even bigger arena.

“I'd like to see it go further,” he said.

“Thanks to everyone behind the scenes and all the work that's been done.”

MC Darryl Paradise said there had been some good rides.

“It was a difficult job to pick the winners, there wasn't much between them,” he said.



The Pormpuraaw 2026 Rodeo was absolutely spectacular, CEO Janelle says...

We hope everyone enjoyed it.

Thanks to Shelina Bartlett, Gavin Kendall, Glen Simpson, Eddie Kendall, Emily Kendall, Clinton Williams, Josie, Patti,

Grace Milindi, Gus Yates, Hannah Hasing, Michele Dunk, Leona Worrell and Will, who helped out over the weekend, and to Tracey Graham and Melanie Halpert, who came up from Cairns for the weekend with their families and helped with registration on Saturday morning.

I would also like to sincerely thank everyone who donated clothing for the Rodeo Ball.

Thanks also to everyone involved with the set-up and pack-down over the last week, the weekend and on the Monday.

There was plenty happening throughout the weekend, with Pormpuraaw Dancers, stall holders, delicious food from the BBQ Brothers, a photo wall capturing some great memories to go with Christine's pics, music by Josie, Walter Whip and the Flames stunt show, and a bar where everyone could cool down and relax at the end of the day.

Our riders put on a fantastic show, bravely taking on the bucking bulls while the crowd watched in awe and cheered them on.

Several staff rode and there were a few minor injuries – Glen Simpson, who came second in the Open ride, was flown out and required surgery.

Big congratulations to Hamish, Glen and Rozonda for taking out the prizes in the open division, and, of course, all our other winners, especially Perseus and Andre.

At the meeting on Wednesday 23 September 2026 Council:

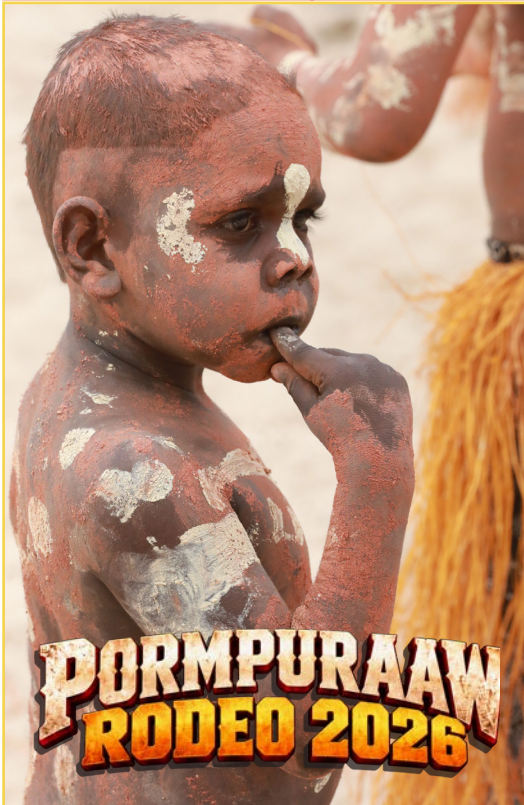
- adopted the Social Housing Design Principles.
- accepted the minutes and reports from the Audit Committee Meetings on 7 & 31 August 2026.
- approved the changes to the trading hours for Pormpuraaw United Brothers Leagues Club and supported further extensions to the trading hours.
- adopted the Queensland Audit Office's Audit Closing Report
- received and adopted the August 2026 Monthly Financial Report
- resolved and received the Audited Financial Statements for 2025/26
- approved the development application for a material change of use for the new Aged Care Centre
- approved the development application for a material change of use for Staff Housing Multiple Dwelling at Wirran Street
- approved the rescheduling of the next Council meeting to 19 October 2026.





PORMPURAAW **RODEO 2026** *Ball*





PORMPURAAW RODEO 2026









STAFF WELCOME



Stephen Ambrum

Council is delighted to welcome Stephen Ambrum back to the team, he has joined the Roads Crew. As Stephen restarts his journey with Council, we encourage everyone to help make him feel welcome.



Melissa Anderson

Please join us in welcoming Melissa Anderson to Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council. Melissa joins us with extensive experience across community services, aged care, health and service coordination. She has a strong track record of supporting Elders and aged care clients and leading the delivery of quality services.



Hassan Binawel

Council is delighted to welcome Hassan Binawel back to the team as Procurement and Store Team Leader. Hassan is no stranger to Pormpuraaw, having previously worked with Council for 10 years as Admin Store Team Leader. He has many years of experience in procurement, stores management and logistics, including extensive experience supporting remote communities across Far North Queensland. We are pleased to have Hassan and his wealth of knowledge, experiences and familiarity with Council operations back – it's great to have you on the team again Hassan!

If you see any of our new employees around the workplace or out in the community, please take a moment to introduce yourself, say hello, and extend the welcoming spirit that makes our organisation such a great place to work.

Star Employees of the Month:

★ **Chris Birthisel** for stepping up to support aged care services and ensure they continued during the Coordinator's sudden medical absence.

★ **Kristine Ryan** for her outstanding work, carried out with diligence, commitment and dedication.

Kristine works hard to ensure our Guest Houses are all prepared for the next client. With limited staff, she works tirelessly to ensure the rooms are clean and fresh and the keys are ready for the next client to check in. Her efforts are exceptional.

KRISTINE DELIVERS A LOVELY HOME AWAY FROM HOME!

★ **Star Team of the Month: Shelina and the Rodeo Event Team**

★ **WHS Stars of the Month: Clinton and his team**

A big shout-out to Clinton and his team for the excellent work putting up the bull riders' fenced area for the 2026 Rodeo. The fencing was incredibly strong and secure—even with the bulls pushing and hitting it, not one section came down. It was a great example of careful preparation, teamwork, and prioritising safety. Well done to Clinton and the team for creating such a sturdy and safe area for the event.

Steven champion for Pormpuraaw

Opposition Leader Steven Miles was in Pormpuraaw in September as part of their ongoing unofficial Government Champion program, which the current government has officially discontinued.

While he was here, he joined Pormpur Ngamplin Pam Mongthak's (PNPM's) Youth Summit activities, including the Colour Run, and met with councillors.

Mr Miles also toured the new Primary Health Care Clinic, for which he helped secure funding, to be opened on Wednesday 14 October (*see below*).



Come see the Indigenous Drivers Licensing Unit in Pormpuraaw

DAY	LOCATION	TIME	SERVICES
TUESDAY 13 October 2026	RISE Boardroom	8:30am - 4:00pm	Licence Testing (Written & Practical) Licensing & ID Services and all enquiries
WEDNESDAY 14 October 2026	RISE Boardroom	8:30am - 4:00pm	Licence Testing (Written & Practical) Licensing & ID Services and all enquiries
THURSDAY 15 October 2026	RISE Boardroom	8:30am - 4:00pm	Licence Testing (Written & Practical) Licensing & ID Services and all enquiries

Learner Licence Testing daily at 1:00pm

Practical Driving Tests
It is now a requirement that the Hazard Perception Test is completed before doing a driving test.
For more information, visit <https://www.qld.gov.au/hazardperceptiontest>
Applicants must provide a vehicle for testing. IDLU do not provide a vehicle.

Register your interest now.
Scan the QR code or see <https://events.humanitix.com/host/indigenous-driver-licensing-unit>

No Cash - EFTPOS available | Bring all I.D - Originals only

Scan the QR Code for more information or, Call 1800 130 886 | Email: idlu@tmr.qld.gov.au

DELIVERING FOR QUEENSLAND | **Queensland Government**

Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service

You are invited

to the Stage One opening of the new Pormpuraaw Primary Health Care Centre

When?
Wednesday 14 October 2026
11:30am to 1:30pm

Where?
Pormpuraaw Primary Health Care Centre
New clinic main entrance
Please enter via Yalu Street

Lunch and refreshments provided

www.torres-cape.health.qld.gov.au | [@torresandcapehhs](https://www.facebook.com/torresandcapehhs)

Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service

PORMPURAAW



WE ARE HIRING!

Join our team and help make a difference in Pormpuraaw.
We have a range of rewarding opportunities available across Council services.

CURRENT VACANCIES



Aged Care Support Worker

Make a real difference by supporting our Elders to stay connected, independent and cared for.



Aged Care Support Worker – Bus Driver

Support our Elders by providing safe and reliable transport to appointments, activities and community events, as well as providing aged care support.



Bakery Assistant

Join our busy local bakery team and help prepare fresh food for the community.



Culture & Land Worker

Work on Country and support important cultural, land and community activities.



Post Office Customer Service & Cashier Officer

Provide friendly, reliable service while helping community members with their everyday postal and counter needs.



Community Justice Group Mentor

Support positive change by mentoring community members and helping strengthen local connections and pathways.



HOW TO APPLY

Pick up an application form from the Council Office, email your resume to hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au, or apply through RISE.

*Could one of these roles be for you?
We'd love to hear from you.*

PORMPURAAW



PORMPURAAW ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL



07 4060 4600 or 07 4032 8221



24 Thinraathin Street, Pormpuraaw QLD 4892

www.pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au

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

**For more information
about any of the articles
in this newsletter, please
contact Council on
07 4060 4600**