

Palm Island Voice



FREE!

Issue 388

6 NOVEMBER 2023



PLEASE note there may be some images of deceased persons within this publication.

Rangers accept keys to new car



Keys to a brand new Toyota dual cab were handed over to the hardworking rangers of our Community by Mayor Mislam Sam last week.

“These unsung heroes play a vital role in keeping our island safe, clean and vibrant,” Mayor Sam said.

He said he had wanted to personally hand the keys over to the rangers as he expressed his immense gratitude for their tireless efforts in preserving and enhancing the local environment.

“This handover is more than just a practical contribution, it is a symbol of our unwavering commitment to our indigenous rangers,” he said.

“It signifies our respect for their

deep connection to the land and their tireless efforts in protecting it.

“It is a gesture of appreciation for their wisdom, their dedication, and their perseverance.

“As we pass the keys to this new car into the capable hands of our rangers, we do so with a sense of pride and gratitude.

“We are honoured to stand by their side as they continue to carry out their important work, connecting the past and the present, and ensuring a

sustainable future for generations to come.”

Traditional Owner Uncle Allan Palm Island thanked the council for their support.

“This vehicle will allow us to be even more efficient in our work,” he said.

CEO Michael Bissell said many of the rangers were also members of the community-led Night Patrol, and they would also have the use of the vehicle.

Palm Island Digital Service Centre starts taking calls

Late last week the Palm Island Digital Service Centre started taking calls.

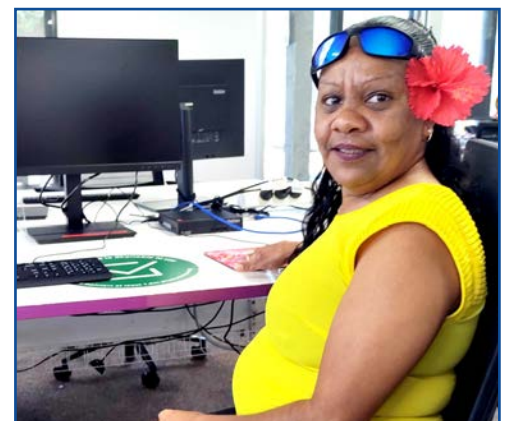
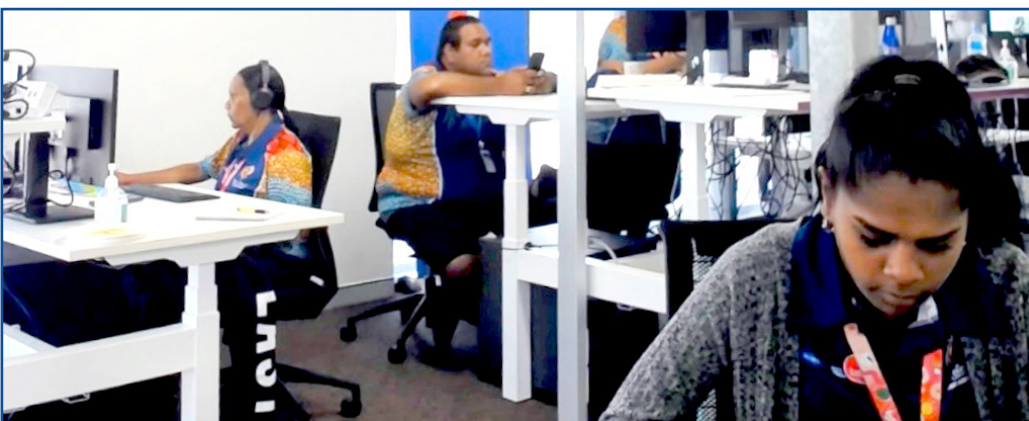
Call Centre Specialist Perry Thompson said the team was looking after Prepaid Mobile Services for First Nations people.

Members of the team include Juelisa Geia, Teri Foster, Shauna Clumpoint, Bethel Clay, Gary Prior, Yvette Nicholas, Vida Nicholas, Tooya Gorringer, Clarissa Wales, Tarita Spencer, Sunshine Smith and Janine Sibley.

Earlier in the week Digital Services Minister Mark Bailey visited the Centre.

“I visited Palm Island today and went to the Telstra Digital Service Centre where locals are being trained and employed to deliver essential digital services,” he said.

“It’s a unique opportunity that allows for digital literacy to be expanded and good jobs to be delivered in these communities.”



Trial-a-Trade set to run for another year

Rainbow Gateway Ltd CDP and the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council have met with Myuma Group Managing Director Colin Saltmere, his management and staff, to negotiate 15 positions for a second round of the Trial-a-Trade project.

An MOU has been progressed and the project will be funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) until October next year.

The project offers CDP placements in various trades and enterprise opportunities for training and employment.

The first program was a huge success between the partnership with nine CDP placements from 12 positions gaining employment with PIASC and contractors.



Those pictured include Alf Lacey, Steve Hironvonen, Rhiannon Friday, Nugget Whitehead, Colin Saltmere and Wayne Yasserie.

Start saving water - now!

The Bureau of Meteorology has predicted a hot and dry summer for far north Queensland over the next two years, with a lower than average rainfall forecast.

This is a cause of concern for the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.

“Palm Island only has two dams to provide drinking water for the entire island,” PIASC Manager, Water and Sewer, Micah Geia said.

“One of those dams was not available for the last few weeks because of a Blue Green Algae infestation, but with careful management, we hope to be able to use the dam again soon.

“Our other dam is at 70% capacity.”

He said that meant everyone on the island should conserve as much water as possible over the summer period.

“If we don’t, the consequences could be that we have to impose harsh water restrictions for the whole community as our water supplies drop,” he said.

He said the main areas for water wasting on Palm Island were:

- Leaking taps, toilets and pipes – if you have any water leaks in your home, please report them so that they can be fixed.
- Hosing down footpaths – use a broom or air blower to clean outside surfaces, not a hose.
- Letting the garden hose run continuously – thousands of litres of water get wasted

each day to either entertain the kids or over-water gardens.

“We all know kids want to have a bit of fun when it’s hot, which is great, but please don’t leave the hose on for extended periods,” he said.

“We need to work with the whole community on this, to ensure we can collectively maintain a good water supply over the coming months.”



How to save water at home on Palm Island ...



Take a shower of 5 minutes or less.

saves up to
70 litres
per shower



Re-use your bath and shower water in the garden.



Close taps properly.

Don't rinse dishes under a running tap.



Use a bucket of water to wash your car without a hosepipe.



Department of Youth Justice,
Employment, Small Business and Training

Palm Island Business Yarnz - Start Your Own Business

Are you a sole trader, small business owner, or wanting to start a small business? We can offer you support. Come have a yarn with us and find out how we can help.

What: Start Your Own Business, Rachel Wainwright, Many Rivers

When: 12.00pm to 3.30pm, Wednesday 22 November 2023

Where: PCYC Conference Room, Palm Island

Rachel Wainwright, Many Rivers will be visiting to yarn with you about developing business ideas

- Business vs Hobby
- What does thriving in business look like to you?
- Researching and planning your business idea and protecting your business
- Are you ready for to start your business?
- Is Many Rivers right for you?

Rachel is "propa" deadly too and is looking forward to meeting you!

Rainbow Gateway Ltd will be doing bus pickups and drop offs, so please reach out to Steve or Uncle Alf for a lift.

Program:

Black Coffee 12.00pm – 12.30pm

Palm Island Business Yarnz 12:30 – 3.30pm

Service Provider Expo and light lunch

For more information

Email: jeanie.mcintosh@desbt.qld.gov.au

Phone: 0428 864 257



Palm Island

COMMUNITY COMPANY

Call for Nominations

Nominations are called for candidates for Election as Member Elected Directors of Palm Island Community Company Limited ACN 640 793 728.

Persons interested in nomination for election at the Company's Annual General Meeting on 27th February 2024 can obtain the necessary form and information pack by email on picc@picc.com.au or by telephoning (07) 4421 4300.

Nomination Forms should be received by no later than close of business Monday 29th January 2024.

THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*

(Issue 388*) will be **Thursday 16 November** for publication on **Monday 20 November**.



The *Palm Island Voice* is published *weekly if we have paid advertising, or otherwise fortnightly by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council. For advertising rates and/or more information contact the Editor on 0419 656 277 or at howeschowes@gmail.com Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor, Christine Howes. You can also follow us on Facebook! We have 2,900 'likes' and more than 3,000 followers! The *Palm Island Voice* is free and online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

Operating Hours for Palm Island Council are Monday–Friday 8am – 5pm
If you have any questions please contact Reception on 4770 1177 or 4770 0200
Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 5,400 'followers' on Facebook!!!