

Palm Island Voice



FREE!

Issue 401

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



Hundreds of Palm Islanders joined police, government and social workers in a march from Kootana Women's Shelter to the Palm Island foreshore last week to mark this year's Domestic and Family Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

Speakers included Queensland Police Union President Shane Prior, local policeman Snr Sgt Darren Tamblyn, Aunty Barbie Lenoy, Dianne Foster, Janet King and Uncle Alfie Clay. Entertainment included music and a bbq lunch.

See inside for more...

How to recognise coercive control

- Isolation
- Monitoring activity
- Restricting autonomy
- Gaslighting
- Name-calling
- Controlling money
- Reinforcing roles
- Jealousy
- Controlling your body
- Making threats
- Sexual coercion

Coercive control is behaviour aimed at dominating and controlling another, and is mainly perpetrated by men against women.

It's in our control to end coercive control

www.qld.gov.au/domesticviolence





"It starts at home. I'm thankful but I still look around and see our young ones still growing up in that violent situation at home." Auntie Barbie Lenoy.



"It's a big job working at the Shelter, and I'm glad we're all here today to talk about it. Nobody really knows a lot about coercive control, so we need to educate our people and ourselves too, about what it is. DV has gone on for a long time, not just on Palm but in Australia." Dianne Foster, Women's Shelter.



"Police are dealing with this issue every single day and we can only arrest it by working collaboratively with the community – it's really as simple as that, and more of these conversations need to be had, not only here on Palm Island but around the country." Queensland Police Union president Shane Prior.



"It can not only impact people physically but also mentally, emotionally, psychologically, financially – the cost is just too high. So there are plenty of support services here on Palm, there is no shame. And it's not just a Palm issue, it's everywhere, unfortunately. But it's wonderful to see people here and spreading that message." Co-ordinator Specialist Domestic and Family Violence Service (PICC) Janet King.



"QPS and members of the community must deliver a victim-centric, trauma-informed response to domestic violence and investigate all matters wholistically." Snr Sgt Darren Tamblin.

"There are too many women on the island getting bashed. We on Palm have to ask ourselves, how has that become acceptable? How do we want Palm Island to be? How do we want other people on the mainland to view us? That's not our culture. We know it's not. There's a lot of reasons why these things happen. One of the things we fail at, is our men not taking responsibility for our actions, we choose not to do anything about it, or ourselves. They are choices we make every day." Uncle Alfie Clay.



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Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation Ambassador Jeremy Donovan spent two days on Palm Island working with students on several projects around the community last week.

“Coming to Palm Island is always like coming home for me,” he said.

“As a proud Kuku Yalanji man, Palm Island has always felt like home with family connections throughout the Island community.”

He said he had been an Ambassador for the ALNF for 15 years.

“The ALNF also have a strong connection to the Island, working with staff at St Mary MacKillop Goodoo Early Learning Centre,

St Michael’s Primary School and Bwgcorman Community school since 2010,” he said.

“The Early Language and Literacy (EL&L) team Jo and Ilona were here the week before, working with Goodoo and St Michael’s and look forward to returning in August.”

He said in January he had started a conversation with their ‘Subtext: Art for Literacy’ team about bringing the program to Palm Island.

“Working alongside Sarah Donnelley who heads up the ‘Subtext’ team, we worked to capture the Stories of the Island through the eyes and voices of the young people,” he said.

“We worked across all the schools on the Island inspiring learning through the expression of Art and Culture.

“My story of success has always been grounded in both of these.

“Having travelled the world Sharing



On our last day on the Island, Jeremy supported Bwgcorman students to repaint two of the pillars damaged with graffiti. “Using one of my Basic art concepts, I talked with students about a shared desire to use this approach to cleaning up some of the graffiti on the Island,” he said. “I am hoping this is just the beginning and I can return soon to work with the students to paint them all in detail capturing and creating their stories.”



Ambassador Jeremy works to make a difference in literacy and numeracy

Music, Art and Culture, nothing is more rewarding than bringing this passion back to young people on community – even more important when many of these young people are my family.”

He said he was born in Mossman Gorge but raised in foster care.

“I know what displacement looks and feels like,” he said.

“Having failed in school and spent much of my young life incarcerated I could of been defined by pain.

“But pain became my foundation of inspiration and success.”

He said he was excited to support students to share their stories and create online ‘eBooks’ to share and celebrate.

“The students we worked with at St Michael’s and Bwgcolman were incredibly respectful and engaged,” he said.

“We were so impressed by their creativity, storytelling and pride in this special place.

“The Island should be very proud of its young people.”



Book Links:

Bwgcolman boys- Palm Island Adventures

<https://read.bookcreator.com/C7NBFMrSWsZGJBdpGSAdqVeXitF2/B6nbA2evQCG7NKqA0Hm9lg>

St Michael's Year 6- Our Palm Island Home

https://read.bookcreator.com/C7NBFMrSWsZGJBdpGSAdqVeXitF2/BZg3UkGJSxGSK_GzlwBjVw

St Michael's Year 5- When I Grow Up...

<https://read.bookcreator.com/C7NBFMrSWsZGJBdpGSAdqVeXitF2/5Xy8S8zkTMWRBCHKdn0GNQ>

More information about the ILNF: <https://alnf.org/>



Australia's Biggest Morning Tea



Palm Island's Biggest Morning Tea was sponsored by:





The Reel Women jetty repair works are making good progress and are on schedule to be completed by next weekend. Pics by Cr Telstan Sibley and Tanya Haines.

Palm well-represented on state-wide body



Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Councils will be well-represented at state level in local governance with Mayors Alf Lacey and Wayne Butcher elected to the Local Government Association of Queensland Policy Executive.

The Executive sets the policy agenda for the Association's 77 local councils.

Additionally Councillors Germaine Bulsey and Ebanese Oui have been

appointed to the LGAQ's Dangerous Dogs Taskforce. They are pictured above with LGAQ CEO Alison Smith.

"This is great representation from

Palm Island to the LGAQ and gives us the ability to have a strong influence on matters of importance," CEO Michael Bissell said.



Palm Island under 9s Barracudas team, was invited to participate in the Indigenous Round at the NQ Cowboys Stadium on Friday night. Thanks to Deadly Choices and Hinterland Aviation for making this possible for our juniors. Thanks to our staff for dedicating your time ensuring our kids can experience this event.

THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*

(Issue 402*) will be **Thursday 6 June** for publication on **Monday 10 June**



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>

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