



FREE!

Issue 428

7 July 2025



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

Recognition for Shirley's great work

Queensland Aboriginal & Islander Health Council (QAIHC) Youth Advocate of the Year award has been won by Palm Island Community Company's Youth Leader and Community Events Officer Shirley Curley.

The award was presented to Shirley by Dr Simone Nalatu at the QAIHC Awards for Excellence gala in Brisbane last Wednesday night.

Shirley leads health promotion and youth engagement work on Palm Island as the local face of the Deadly Choices' Tackling Indigenous Smoking program, Shirley runs events, shares knowledge, and supports young people to quit smoking and vaping. She also runs prevention activities, helping young people make strong, healthy choices early.

Beyond health, Shirley is a mentor – guiding and supporting young people as they find their way through life in a remote community. Shirley always stands for culture, equity and a better future.



Goood football is back!

Four teams will play off in a new local rugby league competition set to start this coming Saturday on Palm Island.

The teams and coaches are Skipjacks (Fred Bulsey), Bulls (formerly Butler Bay Bulls – Thomas Lloyd), Palm Island Jets (Germaine Bulsey) and new side, Bayside Tridents (William Blackman).

It's ten years since the last domestic competition, which was also played out between four teams (see next page for more).

Long-time advocate for a local competition, Telstan Sibley, said it

had been a long ten years.

"Super excited," he said.

"Massive thanks to sponsors Palm Island Council, Bindal Sharks, and Fast Sportswear.

"QRL have been very supportive and we want to push to get back into the TDRL."

Palm Aboriginal Shire Mayor Alf Lacey confirmed the Council would sponsor player insurance payment.

Fred Bulsey is also the PIRL Vice-

President and said locals welcomed the return of footy.

"I am sure it will be a great success and our aim is to get a team back into the Townsville comp as soon as possible," Fred said.

Fred said the comp would be played over 10 rounds and whilst the first matches would be on a Saturday, that may vary during the season.

Continued next page...



Join our team!

Looking for a rewarding career?

Become a lifestyle support worker!

Play a vital role in supporting our recipients to live their best lives.

Empower individuals to build confidence, work towards their goals and improve their mental wellbeing and connect with the community.

casual | palm island | flexible

If you are passionate about helping others and making a difference in the community, we want to hear from you!

Apply today!

Contact us for more information on:



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mental wellbeing and suicide prevention

Palm Island Mental Health Hub

Joyce Palmer Home and Community Care Centre
(HACC) Beach Road



Careers with Queensland Health

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker – Advanced

The opportunity

Joyce Palmer Health Service is seeking a dedicated and compassionate Health Worker to join our team in providing high-quality, culturally safe primary healthcare to the Palm Island community.

In this important role, you will:

- Provide advanced, contemporary primary health care with minimal supervision.
- Focus on key health issues and promote healthy lifestyle initiatives.
- Advocate for client needs in a culturally respectful manner.
- Collaborate closely with community members, healthcare professionals, and service providers to drive positive change.

If you're passionate about improving health outcomes and building strong community connections, we'd love to hear from you.

What's on offer?

Permanent full-time position.

Remuneration package of up to \$117,817 p.a. comprising base salary range of \$75,090 - \$103,261 p.a. (+ applicable allowances/benefits) (HWF3), recreational leave loading (17.5%), and employer contribution to superannuation (12.75%).

Other **employment benefits** include the remote incentive scheme, attractive salary sacrificing options, generous leave entitlements, professional development opportunities, flexible working arrangements, staff wellness programs, access to corporate discounts and a supportive workplace environment.

Role requirements

- *Under s25 of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991, there is a genuine occupational requirement for the incumbent to be indigenous to the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community.*
- Appointment, and future increment progression, between paypoints HWF3.1 to HWF3.5 requires:
 - Certificate IV in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care, or
 - Certificate IV in Mental Health, or
 - Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs, or
 - Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work.
- Appointment, and future increment progression, between paypoints HWF3.2 to HWF3.7, or HWF3.8 (limited to employees who meet the requirements of HED 04/23) requires:
 - Diploma of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care, or
 - Diploma of Mental Health, or
 - Diploma of Alcohol and Other Drugs.
- Potential applicants are advised that the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000 requires Queensland Health to seek a 'working with children check' from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian prior to appointment to this position.
- This position requires the incumbent to operate a manual and automatic vehicle, and a 'C' class licence endorsement to operate this type of vehicle is required.

For more information about this role, or to submit an online application, please visit the website below.

Enquiries: Karen Thorne (07) 4752 5174

Online applications: <https://smartjobs.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-TV643050>

Closing Date: Thursday, 24 July 2025

You can apply online at www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au

A criminal history check may be conducted on the recommended person for the job. A non-smoking policy applies to Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles.

**DELIVERING
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**Queensland
Government**

Goood football is back!

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“We will fit in with the juniors and some games will be played under lights on a Thursday or Friday night which will be popular,” Fred said.

Skipjacks looked set to have a powerful team with star backs Clinton Pearson and Mickeal Sibley and tough forward Isaac Bulsey signed up.

Palm players who were already with TDRL clubs this season may not be available to line up for a local team.

“We are not sure about dual registration,” Fred said.

To the locals ready for these games, a Palm island team will meet a visiting Dau Dai side in a representative clash during NAIDOC celebrations.

This will fine tune players for the home games.

A match which was to be played against a Thursday Island side has been cancelled.

Kerri Ritchie, FNQ Area Manager for Townsville, Mount Isa/Midwest and Gulf regions said the body was excited to support the launch of a new four-club Open Men's competition on Palm Island.

“This initiative will help boost local participation, while promoting positive health and wellbeing across the community,” she said.

“We look forward to seeing the competition kick off soon and watching the local talent in action.”

Palm Island hosted a successful Christmas Cup carnival in December which received praise from locals and visiting teams.

Telstan said to watch this space for local referee training – essential for keeping the competition sustainable – was coming up soon.

“Denise from QRL will be doing referee courses,” he said.

Community urged to “think before you flush”

The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is urging all residents and visitors to help protect the island’s environment and essential infrastructure by only flushing the 3Ps: Pee, Poo, and (Toilet) Paper.

Recent blockages and damage to the island’s sewerage system have been caused by non-flushable items being flushed down toilets – including baby wipes, nappies, cotton buds, sanitary products, and even clothing. These materials do not break down like toilet paper and can cause major problems in our pipes

and pumps.

Mayor Alf Lacey said that these avoidable blockages not only disrupt household plumbing but also place unnecessary pressure on council resources and the environment.

“What gets flushed ends up in our sewer system, and when things like wipes and rubbish get in there, they block the pipes and pumps,” he said.

“That can lead to overflows, backups in people’s homes, and damage to our environment. It’s everyone’s job to do the right thing.”

Flushing the wrong things doesn’t just cause inconvenience – it can result in expensive repairs, health risks, and pollution of local lands and waterways.

Palm Island Shire Council is reminding the community that the toilet is not a rubbish bin. All household rubbish should go in the bin, and only the 3Ps should ever go down the toilet.

“Every small action helps keep our island clean and our infrastructure working,” Mayor Lacey said.

“Together, we can protect Palm for future generations.”

The Council thanked the community for its continued support in caring for Country, protecting the environment, and ensuring our essential services work properly.

For more information, contact the Council on (07) 4770 1177 or visit our website at www.palmcouncil.qld.gov.au

Items NOT to flush:

- Baby wipes and “flushable” wipes (they don’t break down)
- Sanitary items (pads and tampons)
- Nappies
- Cotton buds and dental floss
- Cigarette butts
- Rags, towels, or clothing
- Food scraps and cooking grease

Information about Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council services and activities, including ramp and jetty closures, water supply issues, vet visits and meetings, etc, is regularly updated on our Council’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PalmCouncil>

THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*
(Issue 429*) will be Thursday 17 July
for publication on Monday 21 July



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!!!