



FREE!

Issue 431

18 August 2025



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

New digital skills on board



Getting hands-on with new tech and learning digital skills to support connection, creativity and culture was all happening at the State Library of Queensland's (SLQ's) digital workshops at the Indigenous Knowledge Centre (IKC) last week.

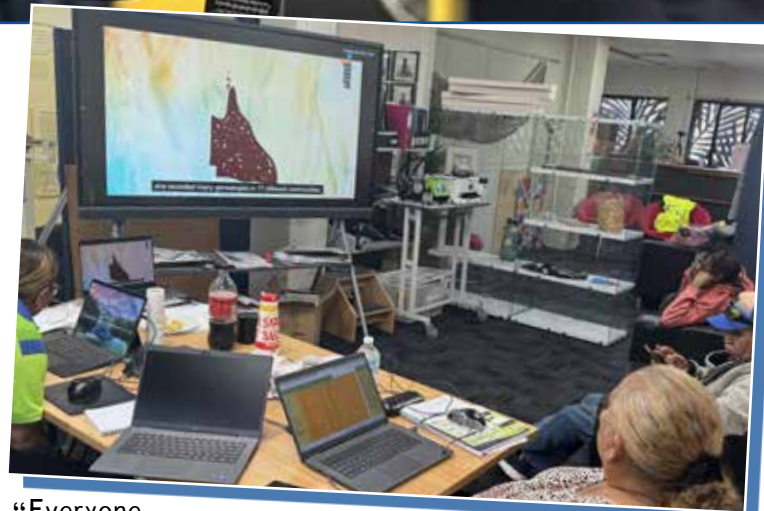
From digital design to setting up live streams for funerals, the free workshops provided practical tools to meet Palm Island's needs.

Learning how to create artwork using the IKC's new tablets and sublimation printer was a huge hit, with everyone taking home their own custom-designed T-shirt.

The workshops were part of SLQ's Growing IKCs project, which supports 16 First Nations councils to build their IKC digital capacity through access to equipment, digital skills programs and training for staff.

IKC Coordinator Regina James said the workshops built digital confidence and sparked ideas for local applications.

"The workshops were informative and engaging and well-paced for all who attended to learn and gain new tech skills in research, especially family history," she said.



"Everyone was very keen and looking forward to doing more workshops."

The IKC will continue to offer regular digital activities, including the chance to fly drones and create 360° videos—perfect for the Palm Island ranger team and local storytellers.

The Growing IKCs project was supported by the Department of Customer Services, Open Data and Small and Family Business through its Digital Inclusion program.

MORE PICS NEXT PAGE...

New digital skills (...from p 1)

Contact the IKC on 4770 0262 for info about upcoming workshops.



Orange Sky board welcomed



Pics by Benjamin Knight

Manbarra Elders Council (MEC) welcomed Orange Sky co-founder and CEO Lucas Patchett, chair Andrew Fraser and board members Paula Holden, Keiron Landers, Sommer Davies and Maygan Grischy to Palm Island last Friday.

Also in the group were co-founder Nic Marchesi and Remote Communities Program Senior Impact Manager Judith Meiklejohn.

The visit was facilitated by the Mingga Mingga rangers, led by coordinator Natalie Friday, with a Welcome to Country offered by Traditional Owner and MEC Executive Officer Richard Cassady.

Palm Island's Orange Sky was the second remote service out of 21 laundry facilities offered across 18 communities in Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Richard and Ranger Eb Oui were the first two employees of Orange Sky when they came to Palm Island in September 2018.

The Board joined several shifts of the service, meeting current Orange Sky service assistants Trenton Bligh and Cecilia Wotton along the way.

"It was so good to have the Board visit Palm Island," Judith said.

"I'm really grateful they took the time to visit to meet the team and some community members who use the service.

"It's valuable that they understand the importance of community-run services and the challenges some people face in accessing essential things like washing machines.

"It was great to show them the impact the locally run service has on the community."



New bubs and building celebrated

The PICC Child and Family Centre celebrated the re-opening of the service earlier this month with a Welcome Bwgcolman Bubs ceremony.

The PICC Early Childhood and women and children's health team, and the Early Years Reference Group organised the ceremony.

Allan Palm Island did the welcome, PICC CEO Rachel Atkinson spoke on the importance of early childhood and Deputy Mayor Mersane Oui gave a speech about parenting, the community and the significance of the event.

Rachel and Mersane then presented the children and their families with certificates and gift bags.

Ida Richardson danced with her daughter Ajarliah, who was part of the first welcome baby ceremony, along with Matai Sam.

The significance of the first 1,000 days was highlighted, focusing on encouraging families to visit the CFC and become engaged with the program and external services that we collaborate with.

There were lots of smiles with everyone enjoying the new spaces, including the infant room, sensory room and reading tree.

The CFC is now back in full swing, open each day in the blue building.

Big thank you to everyone who supported us when the building was damaged and to all who helped and came to this event.

Pics supplied.









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Mahie Club!

Monday - Friday | 7am - 8:30am

Start your day with a meal, cuppa and a yarn!



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mental wellbeing and suicide prevention

Palm Island Mental Health Hub

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





☎ 0448 133 445







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Palm Island District Rugby League - latest results and this coming weekend's draw (round 7) thanks to the MyLeague app!

 20	FULL TIME	26	
Jets Palm Island			Butler Bay Bulls Open Mens
Palm Island Rugby League, PALM ISLAND			
 18	FULL TIME	20	
Mundy Bay Warriors			Palm Island Skip Jacks
Palm Island Rugby League, PALM ISLAND			

	04:30PM RD 7 SAT, 23 AUG	
Jets Palm Island		Palm Island Skip Jacks
Palm Island Rugby League, PALM ISLAND		
	06:00PM RD 7 SAT, 23 AUG	
Butler Bay Bulls Open Mens		Mundy Bay Warriors
Palm Island Rugby League, PALM ISLAND		

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 432*) will be Thursday 28 August
for publication on Monday 1 September



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!!!