



FREE!

Issue 432

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

CEQ delivers cost-of-living relief



Remote store operator Community Enterprise Queensland (CEQ) has launched a major cost-of-living support initiative – the Palm Island Essentials Support Scheme – to help residents balance their household budgets.

Funded under CEQ's Good Pasin' (Give-back) program, the scheme will deliver up to \$500,000 worth of subsidies on a wide range of everyday products on Palm Island, helping to ease cost-of-living pressures for families and individuals.

Price reductions under the scheme will apply to staple grocery items such as eggs, fresh milk, beef mince, flour, rice, women's hygiene products, baby food, chicken, bread and pasta.

CEQ Chairperson Joann Schmider said the relief measure reflected CEQ's values and its commitment to community wellbeing.

"This investment to support Palm Island residents means a lot to the Board of CEQ," Ms Schmider said.

"We are especially mindful of Palm Island's uniqueness and the financial pressure on families to access the everyday items they need at affordable prices."

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Alf Lacey welcomed the support.

"Palm Island Council is extremely grateful to the CEQ Board of Management for their unwavering support and commitment towards our community," Mayor Lacey said.

"We highly value our partnership with CEQ, and this initiative shows what can be achieved when we work together to deliver a community-led solution to the cost-of-living crisis."

"It's a practical and positive step forward."

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Fiona Simpson welcomed the idea.

"CEQ truly is part of the social and economic fabric of the communities they service, and these latest subsidies on everyday essentials continue to deliver for the residents they support," she said.

Ms Schmider said the Board was proud to have made this significant decision for the community of Palm Island.

"We've listened to the needs of the Palm Island community, and we're acting to help ease household pressures," she said.

For more information on CEQ, visit www.ceqld.org.au

National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day



Palm Island Early Years Reference Group



THANK YOU

Everyone who helped at the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander CHILDREN'S DAY

Thanks to **PICC** for the sausages, bread and the bags of goodies.



Special Thanks to **Bwgcolman Community School** and **Belinda** for hosting and coordinating the collaboration

Services:

- St Michael's School
- PICC Early Childhood Team (CFC)
- Murrup
- PICC BEEAI Officers
- PI Ambulance Service
- Positive Partnerships

Thanks for the great pics. Stacey





Proud Palm Islander Stephen Lowatta, 13, goes to Currumbin State Hight School and plays rugby league every weekend for the Currumbin Eagles' U14 side, who made, played and won the 2025 Gold Coast Titans Challenge last weekend!

Stephen plays in the backline at fullback, five-eighth or half-back. His proud mum says he always plays with pride and all his mates know he comes from rugby league-loving Palm Island.

Boxing @100%

The "Pride of Palm Island", Patrick Clarke, lost his pro welterweight division bout over four rounds on points to James Phusomsai at a Fortitude Valley Boxing tournament in Brisbane last month.

Thai boxer James, who is known by his ring name of "Jimmy Two-Shoes" at age 19 was much younger than 30-year-old Patrick.

It was the 14th pro bout for the 31-year-old Patrick who came out of retirement for the event.

"I went the distance and he had a record of knocking opponents out in each of his other five bouts," Patrick said. "He hit me with some good punched but never hurt me and I landed some powerful ones as well."

Female boxer Leah Reuben, who has Palm connections through the Blanket family, won her bout by KO.

The 24-year-old Leah defeated



Above Patrick Clarke (Pic by Mick Richards). Pic below Leah Reuben (supplied).

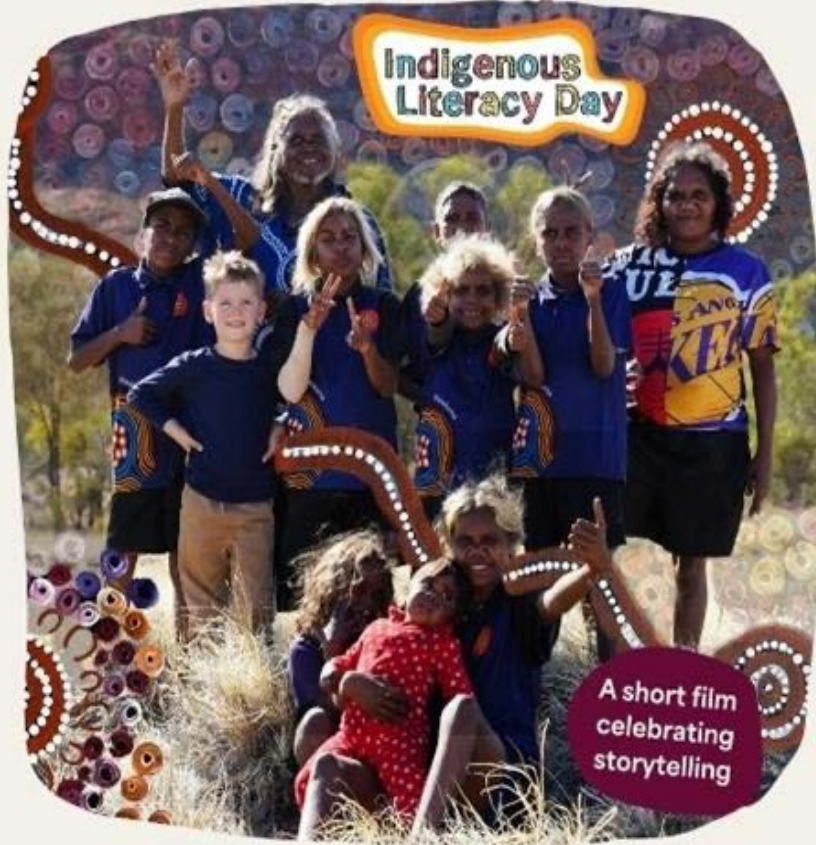
Jittamat Phomta by seventh-round KO in a scheduled eight-round encounter.

Known as "Princess Leah", she had lost her two previous pro bouts to much heavier opponent Mariah Turner for the Australian Super Featherweight Title in April after her debut bout in Tasmania last March.

Leah's brother Laphya Reuben also fought, losing by points to Cairns boxer Riley Allen.



by Alf Wilson



Register your workplace, library or friends and family
for the **FREE FILM and LIVESTREAM event.**

An Early Years Reference Group

Coordinated activity

Hosted by MURRUP

Come read and tell your stories
to the young ones.
Bring your Pre Kindy kids along.

"Building confidence in reading and writing is an important part of a child's education journey. This is so much easier when they are interested in the material and connected to the person they're sharing it with." Mercedes Reed, Qld
Murrup Program Coordinator.

When: Wed 10 Sept 10:00 am

Where: Mall

Light morning tea supplied.

Activities after the mall at the CFC for pre-kindy kids.

To RSVP & for more information, please contact Murrup Team Ldr.

derri.burns@murrup.org.au, 0459078545

Palm Island Spring Fair 26-27 September

Program launch this Wednesday – full details in the next *Palm Island Voice*!

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 433*) will be Thursday 11 September for publication on Monday 15 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 more than 3400 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 6800 'followers' on Facebook!!!