



FREE!

Issue 437
10 November 2025



PLEASE note there are images of deceased persons within this publication.

Tourism masterplan in play



Construction will soon begin on the first of five walking trails, marking the first step in Palm Island's tourism masterplan and ultimately up to 70 kilometres of walking trails across the island.

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Alf Lacey said the project was just the beginning for Palm Island.

"We're excited to see the Palm Island Tourism Masterplan Walking Trails moving along, aligned with our vision of long-term visitation and visibility for the region for people seeking sustainable Indigenous tourism experiences," he said.

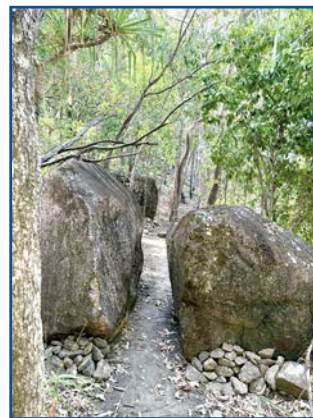
"After extensive community consultation in 2023 to ensure we're delivering what the region needs, we're excited to continue progressing the masterplan, and we thank the Queensland Government and local member – Townsville MP Adam Bailey for his ongoing

support.

"By investing in Palm Island walking trails, we're not only backing tourism for the region, we're also upskilling our people with hands-on experience in construction – tools they can use to explore future employment opportunities – a real game changer for our people, our economy and our future generations."

Member for Townsville Adam Bailey said the trails would help put Palm Island on the map for visitors.

Queensland Minister for the Environment and Tourism Andrew Powell (*pictured*) said the Government was proud to be supporting the Council.





Upcoming Community Events

Tuesday 11 November 2025

Remembrance Day-11am, PI ANZAC Cenotaph

Tuesday 18 November 2025

PIASC Community Engagement Day

Wednesday 19 November 2025

Memorial -Mulrunji Doomadgee

Memorial-Private Rick Jeffries

Wednesday 26 November 2025

Land Trust & Council Ordinary(General) Meeting

Tuesday 2 December 2025

PIASC Community Engagement Day

Friday 4-7 December 2025

Palm Island Christmas Cup

Wednesday 10 December 2025

Land Trust & Council Ordinary(General) Meeting

Thursday 11 & Friday 12 December 2025

Mayor Christmas Appeal

Thursday 18 December 2025 (Staff Breakup)

Council Offices early closure at 3pm

Friday 19 December 2025-Friday 2 January 2026 PIASC

Council Offices Closure

Monday 5 January 2026

PIASC Council Offices Reopen

Welcome Emma!

New Chief Executive Officer Emma Bradbury brings more than 30 years of leadership experience, with a background spanning local government, human services and regional development, to the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.



Emma accepted her new role in September, after her initial appointment as Interim CEO in late July.

Known for her steady, values-led approach to governance and engagement, Emma's career has been dedicated to serving rural, regional and remote communities across Australia.

Since 2012, she has worked with and for local government nationwide – including as an elected member in Campaspe Shire in regional Victoria, CEO of the Murray Darling Association, representing more than 100 councils across the Basin region; Interim CEO at Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council and CEO of Barkly Regional Council in the Northern Territory.

Emma said she was immediately struck by the vision and commitment of Mayor Lacey and the Council, and by the depth of local talent across staff and the broader community.

Inspired by that experience, she applied for the permanent role and said she felt privileged to have been selected.

Born in Mount Isa and raised in and around Townsville, Emma raised her own family in Ingham and Charters Towers.

Before entering the world of local government, she worked as a business owner, educator and advocate for regional communities.

She holds a Bachelor of Social Science from James Cook University, a Graduate Diploma in Education, and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Georgia's dance group stars at NRL



Proud Palm Islander Georgia Clay has grown from a shy, softly spoken teenager to a confident cultural leader, who has embraced every opportunity that's come her way since becoming a boarder at NRL Cowboys House late last year.

Driven by her passion for dance and cultural identity, Georgia has founded an all-girls Indigenous dance group that has grown from a handful of participants to more than a dozen performers.

"We named the dance group Indigenous Sistas to celebrate our culture and connect us 'as one'," Georgia said.

"I had the idea, and asked Miss Rae if she could help me get things started and then more girls kept wanting to join.

"There are a lot of girls from different communities from across Australia and through different movements and dance we can come together and share our culture with each other and audiences.

"I'm very happy I came to the House because they support you to do better things.

"Once I came here, I have become more positive, strong, brave and wanting to do all these incredible things I never did before."

The Indigenous Sistas first performed in front of their NRL Cowboys House peers at the Sorry Day event, then hundreds of family members and stakeholders at the NAIDOC celebration in September, before being invited to perform at Queensland Country Bank Stadium as part of NRL Indigenous Round.

"I feel very proud and happy that we did that," Georgia said. "It felt powerful.

"I felt like a strong, young Indigenous woman representing her culture. I'm very proud and I know my family are very proud too."

More pics from the...



#REEFCLEAN #GBRCU25

**GREAT BARRIER REEF
CLEAN-UP 2025**

PALM ISLAND CLEAN-UP



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 438*) will be
Thursday 20 November
for publication on
Monday 24 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!!!