

Palm Island Voice



ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

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



FREE!

Issue 449

25 May 2026

Our workers at work!

A little out of their usual element, PIASC Animal Management staff Raoul Miller and Fred Bulsey attended the Annual Animal Management Workshop in Cairns last week.

The workshop was to assist workers in communities with the tools they need to deliver a high standard of care for our community.

Pictured on the far right are Raoul Miller and Fred Bulsey.



← MEANWHILE Civil Operators Fred Haines and Robert Castors Jr have been busy putting the finishing touches on a block of new housing units on Wallaby Point Road. Good job!

Pics by Christine Howes

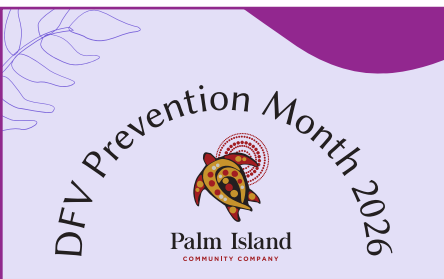




Sharing some beautiful moments of Mother's Day at St Anthony's Church, Fr Manh Le writes.

Thank you to all mums: praying mums, hurting mums, mums who have never been called "Mum," young mums, single mums, step mums, foster mums, and caring mums.

THANK YOU for your love.



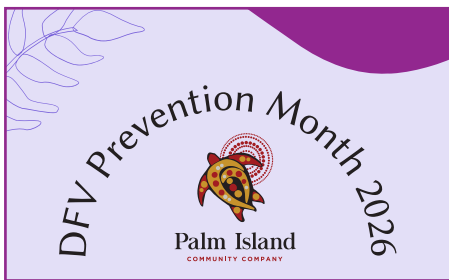
Palm Island Red Bench Launch

Tuesday 26 May – 3pm, Palm Island Mall



The Red Bench serves as a tribute to lives lost, a symbol of solidarity with those affected by violence, and a call to Pause, Reflect, Engage in Conversations, and Take Action

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The Palm Island DV Network has held two community BBQ events at the mall on the 11th and 18th of May as part of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month.

The team served kebabs, salads, and bread to community members while also providing information packs, resources, and bags to raise awareness of domestic and family violence prevention and support services available in the community.

It was wonderful to see such a strong turnout across both events and to continue important conversations around standing together to stop domestic and family violence.

The Palm Island DV Network Service will also be holding a larger community awareness event on Tuesday, the 26th of May 2026 and encourages all community members to come along and participate.

The Obe Geia Challenge returns to Palm Island next Friday, 29 May 2026, continuing the annual tradition of bringing together schools from Palm Island, Townsville and Magnetic Island for a day that is about far more than rugby league.

Hosted by the North Queensland Toyota Cowboys, the long-running carnival continues to celebrate teamwork, connection, culture and inclusion through sport.

Established in 2009 and named after former Cowboys player and Palm Island local Obe Geia, the Challenge has become a highlight on the schools' sporting calendar.

Schools including Bwgc Colman State School, St Michael's Catholic School, Marian Catholic School and St Joseph's Catholic School – The Strand have proudly supported the carnival since its inception, reinforcing the strong community spirit and lasting relationships built through the program.



This year's carnival promises another memorable experience, with teams travelling aboard SeaLink ferries before making the iconic walk along the Palm Island coastline to the playing fields.

Beyond the on-field action, organisers are placing a strong focus on the moments that make the event unique – team spirit, building friendships, sharing cultural experiences and creating lifelong

memories – while bringing the local community together.

Support from partners, including SeaLink Queensland, selectability, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and Palm Island Junior Rugby League continues to play a vital role in ensuring participation remains accessible for schools and families, while selectability will again provide catering for participants throughout the day.

What: 2026 Obe Geia Challenge

When: Friday 29 May – games commence 10am

Where: Palm Island Sports Reserve

All welcome!

THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*
(Issue 450*) will be Thursday 4 June
for publication on Tuesday 9 June



The *Palm Island Voice* is published FORTNIGHTLY (*unless we have paid advertising) by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council. Members of the Palm Island community and local organisations are welcome to submit birthdays, community information, pics, yarns and letters to the Editor.

For advertising rates and/or more information contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at howeschowes@gmail.com You can also follow us on Facebook, we have more than 3,400 followers! The *Palm Island Voice* is also available online at <http://www.chowes.com.au>

Operating Hours for Palm Island Council are 8am–5pm Monday–Friday
If you have any questions please contact Reception on 4770 1177 or 4770 0200
 Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council has 7,300 'followers' on Facebook!!!