

Palm Island Voice



FREE! Issue 457
THURSDAY 17 September 2026



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

Service providers open to feedback



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council's September Community Consultation Day was held earlier this month at the Mall precinct.

The event was an opportunity for community to enjoy a BBQ lunch while they engaged with local service providers about different services.

Stakeholders on the day included Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, who had information about the Environmental Health Survey, Funeral Support services such as Funeral Insurance, our Community Safety Plan and Container for Change initiatives.

Other participating organisations such as PACC Services (Social & Wellbeing and DV Family Connect), SeaLink, and TAFE Queensland were also there.

Community members offered the Council valuable feedback throughout the day.

Please note the Environmental Health Survey is still open for public input, see inside for QR code & details.





From Barracudas Juniors to an international footy stage



Thanks to Murielle Walsh, Leah Dabea, Megan Geegue and others for this story and pics.

A proud achievement for seven former Palm Island Barracudas Junior Rugby League players who have continued their footy journeys and are now competing in the International Divisions under QRL – Rugby League Townsville & District (RLTD).

In 2026, all seven earned the opportunity to play on Grand Final Day across the Townsville District. They were:

U13 Cowboys Division 1

- Phoenix-James Walsh – Centrals Gold
Grand Finalist – lost to Brothers White by 2 pts

U13 Blackhawks Division 2

- Benjiman Nomoa – Upper Ross Rams
Grand Finalist – went down to Brothers

U14 Blackhawks Division 2

- Ilikena Dabea – Charters Towers Miners
- Zayvin Oui – Charters Towers Miners
2026 PREMIERS – defeated Bowen Seagulls

U15 Blackhawks Division 2

- Anthonio Cannon – Herbert River Crushers
Grand Finalist – lost to Burdekin Roosters

U15 Cowboys Division 1

- Benjamin Morgan – Western Lions
2026 PREMIER – defeated Brothers White

U17 Cowboys Division 1

- Edward Luff – Brothers – Eddy kicked 4/4 conversions
2026 PREMIER – defeated Souths Bulls

Shout-out also to Calum Poynter-Johnson and Latrell Burns, who were a part of the success of the U14S Minors who made the finals, but couldn't play due to being injured during the semi-final.

Different clubs. Different colours. Different age groups. But they all share something in common – their junior footy journey started with the Palm Island Barracudas. Whether they walked away with a premiership or fell just short, reaching a Grand Final is an achievement in itself. It is great to see our young players continuing their rugby league pathways, developing their game and representing their families and Palm Island community wherever their footy takes them. **Congratulations to all!!!**

Five Catholic Bishops visit Palm Island



Queensland's five Catholic bishops visited Palm Island to prayerfully acknowledge the island's troubled history and the hope that is still very much alive in the community.

They took the opportunity to spend time with parishioners, school students and staff, as well as a quick boating visit to Fantome Island.

Parish Priest Fr Manh Le SVD said their trip was an occasion for an "Indigenous conversion to the wisdom of the heart" for the bishops.

"And I think our bishops really experienced that in a meaningful way during their visit here," he said.

Palm Island Environmental Health Survey



<https://bit.ly/3UVbN83>

SENIORS NEED TO BE STRONG!
Palm Island Gym is offering
25% less
on membership fees.
for people aged 50+
DAY PASS: \$8.25 6 MONTHS \$139.50

PALM ISLAND
ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

TENDER OPPORTUNITIES

2025 Natural Disaster Reconstruction Civil Works

Closes Friday, 25 September 2026

Palm Island Barge Ramp Upgrades

Closes Wednesday, 30 September 2026

Palm Island Walking Trails & Tourism Activation Project

Closes Friday, 30 October 2026



**Submission details are
available on the Palm Island
Aboriginal Shire Council
website at
[https://www.palmcouncil.
qld.gov.au/My-Council/
TendersProcurement/Open-
Tenders](https://www.palmcouncil.qld.gov.au/My-Council/TendersProcurement/Open-Tenders)
or via the QR code above.**

POSITIONS VACANT

- **Storeperson**
Applications close Tuesday, 22 September 2026
- **Administration Officer - Civil & Open Spaces**
Applications close Friday, 25 September 2026
- **Chief Financial Officer**
Applications close Friday, 25 September 2026
- **Plant Operator – Multiple Positions**
Applications close Monday, 28 September 2026
- **Community Recovery & Resilience Officer**
Applications close Wednesday, 30 September 2026

Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is entering an exciting period of growth as it delivers the bold vision of our Corporate Plan 2026–2031.

The current recruitment drive reflects progress and momentum—an opportunity for experienced and emerging local government professionals to join a high-performing, values-driven team committed to lasting change for current and future generations.

These will be hands-on roles where you can learn, grow and build your skills with support along the way.

A core focus of this transformation is building local capacity and creating opportunities for local people to step into leadership and grow their careers.

These roles may be based on Palm Island or in Townsville, with travel to Palm Island as required, and preference will be given to Palm Island community members in line with merit-based recruitment practices.

**Submit your resume and cover letter addressing the key responsibilities via Seek. Apply now via the QR code above (and watch this space!) or at:
<https://www.palmcouncil.qld.gov.au/My-Council/Jobs-vacancies>**



THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*

**(Issue 458*) will be Monday 28 September
for publication by Thursday 1 October**



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 3500 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 more than 8000 'followers' on Facebook!!!