

Palm Island Voice



FREE! Issue 460
THURSDAY 29 October 2026



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



Councillors working hard to advocate for community-interest

Mayor Alf Lacey, Deputy Mayor Mersane Oui, Cr Ebanese Oui & Cr Germaine Bulsey were in Cairns earlier this month advocating for their community at a series of meetings, workshops and the state-wide Local Government Association of Queensland's Annual Conference.

Their other commitments included the Queensland Indigenous Council Leaders Accord, Indigenous Leaders' Forum and the now-annual Queensland Police Summit.

Captions: TOP: Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Cr Carla Fisher with Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Alf Lacey and Deputy Mayor Mersane Oui. MIDDLE: Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council (NPARC) Cr Bradford Elu & Palm Island Cr Germaine Bulsey. BELOW LEFT: Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council Mayor Terence Munns & Palm Island Cr Ebanese Oui Pics by Christine Howes. BELOW RIGHT: At the LGAQ conference, Mayor Lacey sat on a panel discussion with some of his fellow longest-serving elected local council members across the state. Pic thanks to LGAQ.





“Big love Palm Island” from Joe’s tour

The opportunity to catch up with the amazing kids at @ Bwngcolman Community School for a dance and ukelele workshop and present the *Rations to Wages to Treaty* show for the community last Friday was described by Joe Geia and his team as “fantastic”.

“Also the chance to catch up with family and friends,” they said.

“The band gave ukelele workshop (the Joe Geia Band donated 100 ukeleles to the school in 2024) and are putting them to good use with a workshop.

“We’re hoping to get a regular ukelele group happening at the school.

“The kids loved it.

“The band performed their *Rations to Wages to Treaty* show in the school hall on 16 October preceded by a community bba.

“Thank you to Tanya Haines and her team from Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council for looking after us and putting on Friday’s BBQ.

“Our hearts are full after the first leg of the Sing for the Black tour of significant locations for family and community connections: Yarrabah, Torres Straits, Hope Vale and Palm Island and the second leg will take us to all our favourite destinations too.”



RECEPTION



Darnell shines for Coastal Balaz

Blockbusting Palm Islander forward Darnell Geia was one of the stars for Coastal Balaz, who pocketed \$100,000 after beating Barba-Odo Descendants 22-10 in the grand final of the First Nations Dreamtime Knockout rugby league carnival in Townsville earlier this month.

15 teams contested the tournament, including the Palm Island Barracudas and Manbarra Manta Rays, held at the Townsville Sports Reserve from October 16 to 18.

After qualifying round games, the Barracudas finished a highly credible eighth on the ladder.

In the knockout round, Barracudas beat a well-drilled Black Bream side from Charters Towers, advancing to the quarter-finals. They lost their quarter-final to a skilful and “stacked” Coastal Balaz, who were hot favourites to take out the big money.

Manbarra Manta Rays finished 12th on the ladder and lost their knockout round game to Birri-Gubba Warriors.

The Cherbourg Hornets, featuring popular NRL Dolphin Selwyn Cobbo, finished 10th on the ladder and beat Kulpiyam Badu in their knockout game.

In their quarter-final, Hornets narrowly lost to Central Coast Cockatoos, 16-14.

FOOTNOTE: Some Palm Island footballers also travelled to Gordonvale last weekend to play for different teams, including Darnell, who was in the East Coast Connections lineup.



ABOVE: Darnell Geia. LEFT: Manbarra Manta Rays supporters Zantelle and Isjaiha. RIGHT: Selwyn Cobbo playing for Cherbourg. BELOW: winning team Coastal Balaz.



Palm Island Rent-to-Buy Home Ownership Scheme

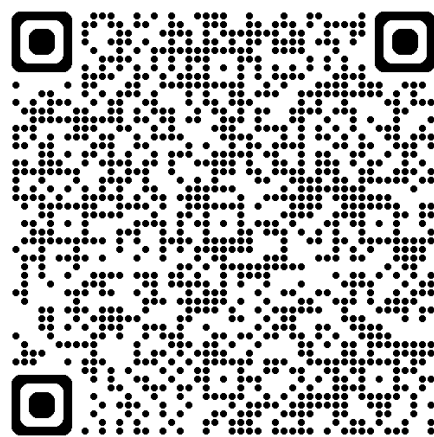
First Nations Home Ownership Team available 17, 18 and 19 November

The First Nations Home Ownership Team will be available Tuesday -Thursday this week to assist anyone interested in applying for the Rent-to- Buy Scheme. We invite you to join us, ask any questions you have about the Rent-to-Buy Scheme and submit your application.

Please register a time with us via the QR code:

Where: Rent-to-Buy Shopfront – TAFE building
or home visits on request

When: Tuesday 17 November 11am – 4pm and
Wednesday 18 November 9am – 4pm
Thursday 19 November 9am – 2pm



Missed us? Looking for more information?

Give us a call:  Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council on 07 4770 0200
First Nations Home Ownership team on 07 3008 3646



POSITIONS VACANT

- **Illegal Dumping Compliance Officer - closing Monday 2 November.**
- **Property Officer - closing on Thursday 12 November.**

Follow the QR code left or go to <https://www.palmcouncil.qld.gov.au/My-Council/Jobs-vacancies>

THE NEXT *Palm Island Voice* DEADLINE*
(Issue 461*) will be Monday 9 November
for publication by Thursday 12 November



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!!!