Palm Island Voice

FREE! Issue 461

THURSDAY 12 November 2026

PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

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

Potential careers taking off from Cowboys House

Cowboys House students have been building some practical aviation skills through an interactive workshop with Jet Zero, Airbus and Townsville Airport.

Held in Townsville Airport's International Departures area, the hands-on Regions to the Runway workshop connected the students with aviation experts, emerging technologies and education on sustainable aviation fuel.

Through practical activities and behind-the-scenes access, students could see how the skills they developed today could translate to future opportunities across aviation, engineering, energy and the wider supply chain.







NRL Cowboys House students Kayshiah Nicholas, Ta'Hani Vuni (above) and their classmates taking on new skills in aviation and flight theory

PALM ISLAND JELLYFISH WARNING

Jellyfish stings are increasing around the island.



Take extra care when swimming.

- Wear a protective stinger suit.
- Carry a bottle of vinegar.

STUNG? CALL 000 IMMEDIATELY

Or go to the hospital emergency department.

Accord's promise to meet with Cabinet met

Indigenous council and rural and remote leaders, including Palm Island, had the opportunity to raise their communities' priorities with the State Cabinet in Brisbane last week.

The meeting between the Rural and Remote Compact, Indigenous Leaders Accord and full State Cabinet in Brisbane delivered on a key commitment under the Queensland Indigenous Council Leaders Accord, which provided for Accord Committee members to meet annually with Cabinet.

Mayor Alf Lacey, who attended with CEO Emma Bradbury, said they had a seat at the table for the first time in decades.

"I think it went really well for our community, as more work needs to be done in terms of continuing to push the issues that are important to our people," he said.

Minister for Local Government and Water Ann Leahy said it was important.

"We will continue building strong, productive partnerships with our remote council leaders and working as equal partners to deliver better outcomes for the communities they represent," she said.



Mayor Alf Lacey and CEO Emma Bradbury with Housing MinisterSam O'Connor at the meeting in Brisbane.

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Fiona Simpson said the Accord was a practical mechanism to bring decision-makers together.

"This is about less bureaucracy, more decisions getting made and delivering tangible outcomes," she said.

The Accord was formally signed at the 2025 LGAQ Annual Conference.

Orange Sky has partnered with Palm Island Community Company and will return to service next Monday.

Orange Sky Regional Coordinator for Remote Services Luke Miskimmin, said he would be on Palm Island for the re-launch and was keen to connect.

"We are really looking forward to working with the PICC teams to evolve our ability to service the Palm Island community and lean into that local knowledge and leadership," he said. "This will also include a refreshed shift schedule, which we are working on and will share once finalised before the service resumes.

"I would love to connect with anyone or organisations to look at how we can work together to ensure Orange Sky is available and accessible to those who need it most."



The Palm Island Voice is published by the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council and is free and online @ www.chowes.com.au

Butler Bay Bulls U15 Girls make their mark

by Murielle Walsh

The Butler Bay Bulls U15 Girls proudly competed in the inaugural Matty Bowen Rugby League 9s Carnival in Townsville earlier this month.









In their first carnival together, the girls delivered an outstanding performance, holding second place on the ladder and advancing to the semi-finals, where they unfortunately lost to the U15 Hotshots.

Our girls proudly wore purple to raise awareness and stand against Family and Domestic Violence, honouring those affected and promoting safer families and communities.

Congratulations to our Players of the Match – Kalani Geia, Asiana Geia and Lexi Shehan, for their outstanding efforts throughout the carnival.

A massive thank you to our sponsors, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, Palm Island Community Company and Merle and Millison Robertson, along with coaches Kristen Morgan and Tony Morgan, team manager Patricia Morgan, and all our wonderful parents, families and supporters.

First carnival, semi-finalists and a proud achievement for our girls and Palm Island community!

Palm Island Foundation's newly appointed General Manager, Dallas Hure, grew up in Ipswich, near Brisbane.

"My mother is a Wulli Wulli /Wakka Wakka woman with her grandpar-ents from the Nipps family and Joyce," he said.

"When I finished high school, I worked for state government with Anna Bligh as Minister, and across various departments in the Peter Beattie era.

"From there I went onto University in Sydney before relocating to Towns-ville in 1999.

"The rest of my work career has been in community-controlled space."

He said that included Wuchopperen Health Services, EmployNET, NATSIHA and TAIHS.

"I have been on many state and federal boards as a director, working on health, business and renewable energy," he said.

"I am also a director on the Auburn Hawkwood Corporation RTNBC, the recognised native title entity for mum's people."

Dallas said he was excited about the Palm Island Foundation's unique vi-sion and goals.

"During my tenure, I will achieve the foundational work, build the work-force and work with Directors to ensure we have strong governance and accountability," he said.



"I will work with the staff and community to position the Foundation in a very healthy and productive state to provide economic sustainability for the people of Palm Island."

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

- **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 462*) will be Monday 23 November for publication by Thursday 26 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!!!