



Super welcome for Queensland Premier



Two Spidermen, a Batman and several Princesses were on hand to greet Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk on her second ever visit to Palm Island earlier this month.

The Premier said she saw “very important, positive changes” had occurred on the Island over the past seven years, since her first visit.

Three other senior Ministers – Deputy Premier Jackie Trad, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning Coralee O’Rourke, Minister for

Disability Services, Seniors, Assisting the Premier on North Queensland and Member for Townsville Scott Stewart – arrived with the Premier and were greeted at the airport by Mayor Alf Lacey and the relatively large contingent of superheroes (aka Bwngcolman State School pre-prep).

They said they were delighted to

be welcomed by the four-year-olds.

“It is not every day that superheroes meet you,” Ms Palaszczuk said. “I am honoured to be here.”

The four were then driven to the Coolgaree Sports Bar and Grill where they met locals, including elders, who spoke about various issues including unemployment.

Continued next page...



Premier's Visit to Palm Island 2016



Palm host to four State Ministers



...From page 1...

“(Mayor) Alf Lacey is a ferocious fighter to get things happening for Palm Island, I promised him I would visit and I have delivered,” Ms Palaszczuk said.

“I was here seven years ago and there has been some very important, positive changes.

“Employment is an issue here, that is getting young people into work.”

The Premier promised she would come to Palm Island again in March 2015.

After some snacks and coffee they walked to the Council offices and before entering Ms Palaszczuk spoke to Ringo about various matters.

The four had a private meeting with Cr Lacey, Cr Eddie Walsh, Cr Robert Castors, Cr Roy Prior and Cr Deniece Geia.

Then it was onto the nearby Joyce Palmer Medical centre where they were met by Tony Mooney and staff, who took them on a tour during which they also spoke to some patients.

A drive to the dam followed and then it was onto Bwgcolman State School where Ms Palaszczuk and Ms Trad made presentations to pupils.

They left Palm Island around 2pm.

Cr Lacey said the visit had been very positive.

“I want to thank the Premier and her Ministers for taking the time to visit us,” he said.

“It makes us realise how important our Palm Island community is to them and we look forward to working with all of them again as we progress and develop into our future.”

Dialysis patients grateful for Bwngcolman Unit

Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk paid a quick visit to long-term dialysis patient Colyning Walsh, a beneficiary of a much upgraded renal unit at the Joyce Palmer Health Service, while she was there.

The upgraded unit has meant patients such as Mrs Walsh didn't have to travel to mainland Townsville for their thrice weekly treatments.

Townsville Hospital and Health board chair Tony Mooney said the unit started treating patients in a renovated dialysis unit in June last year.

"The upgraded renal unit included refurbishment works which allowed for increased space, a new reverse osmosis machine, an additional haemodialysis machine and all-new dialysis chairs," he said.

"The renovation of the unit increased the number of dialysis chairs from three to four which allowed more patients to have their dialysis on the Island."

The refurbished unit was recently named the Bwngcolman Dialysis Unit and currently supports eight patients dialysing three times a week.

Mrs Walsh's husband, Cr Eddie Walsh, said it had made a big difference to their lives.

"This unit has been a huge benefit to Palm island as our people needing dialysis can have it here on the island and not go to Townsville," he said.



Mrs Walsh said she been receiving dialysis for seven years.

"I contracted Swine Flu in 2009 and have treatment three days a week on Monday Wednesday and Friday," she said.

"I have to say the nursing staff I have met over the years were always the best – first class all of them, and dedicated from when I started in Townsville to Myra and Matt, who are caring people.

"It makes one appreciate life even I have this dreaded sickness that I would not wish on anyone.

"There are a lot of things that I miss out on now that people take for granted, like looking after and keeping my little grandchildren with me

on long weekends, going for long walks along the beach and picking up beautiful sea shells to add to my collection, and going on long trips.

"My husband Eddie and I had planned years ago that he would one day take me to places he had been and meet some of his friends.

"Places like West Australia, the Torres Strait, Alice Springs, and go and see my mother's country and my father's country.

"But all and all life wasn't meant to be easy, you take what's given to you, accept it and get on with what you have. There are people worse off than us in the world they say, I believe I still have my family who love and care for me and I for them."

Health partnership hopes



Palm Island Council offered a James Cook University delegation a warm welcome when they came to meet about forming collaborative long term community health goals and projects with the community last week.

A key outcome of the initial meeting was to trial working arrangements between JCU and community leaders to address pressing animal and public health issues on the Island.

The move would provide JCU an opportunity to develop experience for their final year Bachelor of Veterinary Science students and promote the concept of a 'one health' approach to improving community health.

With the support of veterinarians and members of the community, it would also enable students to actively engage with priorities identified by the community that were relevant to their needs.

Managing water quality within constructed and traditional water sources, management

of local populations of dogs, horses and pigs, responsible pet ownership and care, raising awareness of zoonotic diseases and engaging with schools and the community to assist with educational needs was also discussed at the meeting.

The visitors were Pro Vice-Chancellor for the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Centre at James Cook University, Professor Martin Nakata and staff from the College of Healthcare Sciences at JCU (Dr Lynore Geia) and College of Public Health, Medical & Veterinary Sciences (A/Prof John Cavalieri, Dr Leo Foyle, Dr Caroline Mann).

In the longer term Prof Nakata and Dr Geia said they would like to see the

partnership grow to involve other disciplines within JCU to help improve community health and education generally.

They said the future of young people's capacity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) was also a priority. A focus on STEM education in Queensland schools was critical to ensuring the next generation of Palm Islanders were equipped with the knowledge and skills set needed to find meaningful educational and vocational opportunities after graduating from high school.

"An ongoing partnership between the Palm Island community and JCU makes sense on many levels," Prof Nakata said.

Gooooood football for Palm Island @ Bindal



PALM Island Barracudas won the plate section grand final of the 30th Bindal Allblacks carnival in Townsville, beating Elijah's Heroes 32-28 in a cliffhanger played over three big days of footy earlier this month.

Sixteen men's teams, as well as under 16 and under 19 sides, competed at North Queensland's biggest Allblacks carnival held at the Townsville Sports Reserve.

Gresham Ross jnr, was named player of the entire carnival after scoring three tries in the decider, while crafty back Darryl Pearson scored two four pointers.

The lead changed several times in the final and at halftime Elijah's Heroes, a side creating awareness about autism, led 18-16.

'Cudas coach Roy Prior said the team had a disappointingly slow start to the day.

"We didn't play to our team potential but we managed to regroup and to get the two wins before proceeding through to the Kevin Aldridge plate

grand final Sunday afternoon," he said. "The grand final the game was filled with mistakes and missed opportunities but we managed to get over them in the last five minutes to win.

"Our seniors played very well for us all weekend and were instrumental in getting our team in good positions to win those close games. And it was good to send one of Barracudas' old war horses, Fred Bulsey, into retirement with the win."

Mr Prior said he was grateful for the players' loyalty over the year.

"I just want to personally thank the players who stuck by myself and Lloyd Morgan this year and showed some loyalty," he said.

"It's been pretty tough but to

stick together and play through some real tough games shows character and commitment to our community supporters.

"As our representative team I could not be prouder, it's just an honour to be a part of it and to coach a bunch of players who been together now for few years. They have grown from teenagers to men who now have families of their own, and that is something special.

"I'll take great pride in being a part of this team for years to come."

He said he wanted to thank the team sponsors, Joyce Palmer Health Service, Laurie Lindner Construction and the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.

Barracudas also won the plate final at the 2015 Bindal carnival.

Pic thanks to Selina Hughes



Palm Island's under 16 team performed also magnificently, reaching the grand final before losing to Coastal Balaz.

Supporter Selina Hughes said she wanted to congratulate the team and Isaac Bulsey in particular.

“Congrats to the lil brother Isaac Bulsey who got Player Of The Carnival at the Bindal Sharks All Blacks Carnival 2016,” she said.

“You played really good games throughout this carnival. And as for the rest of you, our young, talented brothers who played for U16 Barracudas, you all did very well, put in a good effort and carved up.”



Continued next page...

From page 7...

MEANWHILE Ajas Boyz and Fantome Hunters also competed.

The Ajas Boyz consisted of players from the Geia family and reached a semi final of the winner's shield section before losing to eventual winners Coastal Balaz.

In their quarter final Ajas

Boyz beat Defence and in qualifying matches had two strong victories.

Fantome Hunters was organised by Tom Martin, who was born on the former leper colony of Fantome Island.

In qualifying games Fantome Hunters won one and lost one match.

The Hunters beat Boars United in a quarter final of the plate section before losing to Barracudas in their semi final.

Cannonball, named after the late and great Archie Smallwood, won the under 19 final, whilst Coastal Balaz took out the Men's Shield final for the second year in a row.



MORE PICS NEXT ISSUE!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

The PICRL Inc would like to advise we had initially withdrawn from the recent Bindal Sharks Tournament due to lack of financial support. We faced a similar scenario in 2015.

We would like to remind the community that Palm Island has a strong and proud history in rugby league and that can only continue with ongoing support.

On behalf of the PICRL committee we'd like to congratulate the Palm Island Boys who competed last weekend, they've done themselves, their families and the community proud in their efforts.

Yours sincerely
Algon Walsh
PICRL Chair

Palm Island Voice

Public &
Community Notices



Don't forget!!!

The
DEADLINE for
the next NEXT
PALM ISLAND
VOICE (213) is
**Thursday 13
September**
FOR
PUBLICATION
**Thursday 20
October**

See our Facebook page for a full
list of Rates & Dates for 2016

ADVERTISE!

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across nominated page): \$120
Quarter A4 Page: \$250 + GST
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Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm
on deadline day (see above) and all material
submitted no later than COB the next day.
Print approval required by Monday COB.

To book an ad, make a contribution or
inquire about subscriptions please contact
the Editor, Christine Howes, on
0419 656 277 or chowes@westnet.com.au



Community Consultation

WITH SCOTT STEWART MP

*Scott + his team will be on Palm Island to discuss
any issues with the community.*

Wednesday 26th October 2016
9:00am - 2:30pm
Coolgaree Bay Hotel Bistro

All Welcome



APOLOGY: Palm Island Voice would like to apologise to Palm Island Community Rugby League Inc Chair Algon Walsh for comments published on the front page of Issue 214 of the Palm Island Voice. Mr Walsh said he was committed to his position with the Palm Island League and had no official affiliation with any other team, including Northern United, as anything other than a long-time supporter.



**Operating Hours for
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 1,259
'likes' on
Facebook!!!

**IT ALL
STARTS
HERE** →



Palm Island

(07) 4770 1793

Activity Schedule

MONDAY 10/10/2016 4pm – 8pm	TUESDAY 11/10/2016 4pm – 8pm	WEDNESDAY 12/10/2016 4pm – 8pm	THURSDAY 13/10/2016 4pm – 9pm	FRIDAY 15/10/2016 4pm – 9pm
NIGHT PROGRAM Sport & Rec: 4:00pm – 4:30pm Ball Activities: - Practice Basketball and Netball Shooting 4:30pm – 5:30pm Kick Ball Rounders 5 – 7 players each team TEA BREAK (5:30pm – 6:30pm) 6:30pm – 8:00pm Touch Footy	NIGHT PROGRAM Sport & Rec: 4:00pm – 5:30pm Ball Activities: - Practice Basketball and Netball Shooting 5:30pm – 6:00pm Netball Drills and Warm up 6:00pm – 7:00pm Women's Netball 7:00pm – 8:00pm Mixed Teams Netball	NIGHT PROGRAM Sport & Rec: 4:00pm – 4:30pm Set up Arena for Activities 4:30pm – 5:30pm 1st Game: Mix Teams Soccer 5:30pm – 6:00pm YMT Yarning Circles & Tea Break (5:30pm – 6:00pm) 6:00pm – 8:00pm Soccer – 2 Rounds (1hr each Game)	NIGHT PROGRAM Sport & Rec: 4:00pm – 4:30pm Set up Arena for Activities 4:30pm – 5:00pm U12 Volleyball 5:00pm – 5:30pm U16 Volleyball TEA BREAK (5:30pm – 6:30pm) 6:30pm – 9:00pm Volleyball (13yrs and over)	NIGHT PROGRAM Sport & Rec: 4:00pm – 5:00pm Kick Ball Rounders 5 – 7 players each team 5:00pm – 6:00pm Half Court Arena Activities 6:00pm – 6:30pm Yarning Circles Tea Break 6:30pm – 7:00pm Kick Ball Rounders 7pm – 9pm 3 on 3 Basketball

It All Starts Here

PCYC NEWS

By Acting Sergeant Scott Pogan

Palm Island PCYC was lucky enough to have the opportunity for a free community performance of 'Proppa Solid' this week.

Over 100 adults and children enjoyed a performance that had the audience laughing and cheering as we watched the antics of the time travelling Topp.

We were also very fortunate to have the leadership group from Annandale Christian College come to the PCYC each afternoon and participate with our kids in sports, activities and entertainment.

The and kids of Annandale participated in community and school based activities amongst the Palm Island community and returned to the PCYC each afternoon for a session and some good times with the kids here at the PCYC.

Annandale Christian College cooked a free community BBQ on Thursday before our Proppa Solid performance, which gave families, kids and adults alike the opportunity to stand and yarn amongst themselves with a free feed.

Friday night saw a Disco run by the Bwgcorman Brothers Rugby League Club which was very well attended given that a very large number of the community were in Townsville for the All Blacks Carnival.

About 50 kids enjoyed a night of music, lighting and dancing organised by the Bwgcorman Brothers.

Last Friday another Disco was held at the PCYC by the Bwgcorman Brothers to raise money for the Palm Island boys to participate in the forthcoming All Blacks competition in Cairns.

Bwgcorman PCYC was host on Wednesday the 12th of October to a community consultative meeting to start discussions on the Palm Island Health Plan which will shape the direction of health care here on Palm Island for the next 10 years.

Discussions were held on the development of a community engagement strategy and implementation of the Palm Island Health.

Members of the community participated in discussions about the direction of health care and health facilities for the Palm Island people throughout the day here at the Bwgcorman Pcy.

PCYC have just started a new afternoon/evening schedule of activities with activities and sports every afternoon from 4.00pm till close.

We are still looking for a Sport & Rec officer to assist at the PCYC – if you have a Blue Card and would be interested please stop in and see the PCYC Branch Manager Acting Sergeant Scott Pogan and ask for details. We are also looking for volunteers – come down and talk to Scott if you would like to volunteer your time at the PCYC in the evenings/afternoons to help with activities/sports or supervision.



Fireys remembered

Palm Island's Nui Rabuka was one of many fire fighters to participate in Firefighters Remembrance Day march held in Townsville earlier this month.

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) and Fire and Emergency Services Minister Bill Byrne paid tribute to fallen firefighters on Firefighters Remembrance Day on 10 October.

Mr Byrne said every year the tenth day of the tenth month was a day of reflection for firefighters across the State.

“Firefighters Remembrance Day provides an opportunity to acknowledge and recognise the dedication firefighters display to protect Queenslanders,” he said.

“Each day, firefighters face uncertainty in their line of duty, sacrificing their own



safety in order to protect lives and properties of the community.

“They respond to a wide variety of dangerous and hazardous incidents, and their commitment to protecting others during these incidents is nothing short of courageous.”

Palm Island Sunsets

