

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!



Rodeo on track for this coming weekend



Cert III success out of Wujal training



Palm Island Careers Expo 2008 - were you there?



Hair today, gone next week!

Is it an emergency?

It might look like it, but thankfully it's not — this time

Early last Saturday morning vandals endangered lives when they slashed the tyres of an ambulance that was out on call.



Palm Island Ambulance officer Gemma Armit said they were called to a job at close to 3am. "We went inside to tend to the patient to see how she was," she said. "The other officer walked out to the car to get the equipment, but while he was walking out he heard the air going out of the tyre. It was in a matter of three minutes that we had been in the house, but he went back out the tyre was down."

She said the police took photos of the tyres while the officers took an hour or more to walk their patient to the hospital.

"We then had another call out and could not attend," she said. "We took the equipment out of the ambulance and walked, and then got told it was not a job, that the patients had driven themselves to the hospital - too bad if it had been an emergency."

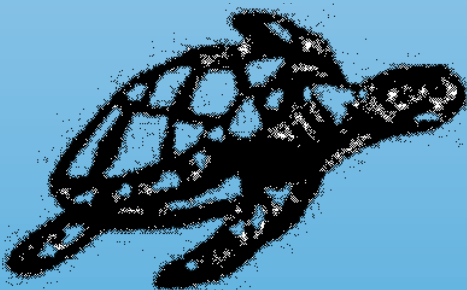
6 years, less parole, for Lex

Last Friday's protests and sentencing of Lex Wotton were peaceful affairs, in line with the Doomadgee & Sibley



families' requests for all involved to show them that respect, and to remember there was still an Appeals process.

It was a day filled with love and support for everyone involved, with sandwiches and drinks even being supplied from the Last Stop Café. Eventually the sentence was handed down - six years, with parole in 19 months (meaning a possible release in 2010). Lex smiled broadly and looked relieved when the announcement was made. He hugged and kissed family members before he was led away. The families said they were happy with the outcome, calling it a victory.





Palm Island Ambulance First Aid

Hints and Tips

Stinger Season Count - Palm Island
Number - 16

Funnel Web Spider Bite

Funnel webs are common along the east coast and island communities. They can be quite large (7cm long) and aggressive. The smaller males are five times more venomous than the fatter females, and you can find them inside houses as they look for a mate. Common homes for funnel webs are under rocks and logs, where they build a funnel-shaped web



Effects of Bite

- Venom is highly toxic and acts on the central nervous system

Signs and Symptoms

- Tingling around the mouth
- Muscular spasms
- Pain at bite site
- Sweating profusely, copious amounts of saliva being secreted
- Confusion leading to coma
- Breathing difficulty

Management

- Rest and Reassure the patient
- Call 000 – remain calm – be ware of Danger
- Apply a pressure immobilisation bandage
- Monitor the patient
- Is it Important to take the spider to hospital for identification? If it has been killed or caught yes

Palm Island pride — one of our best admitted to the Bar



Emmakita & her family celebrating in Townsville last month. Pic courtesy The Townsville Bulletin

On the 27th of October Emmakita Pryor received her admission into the legal profession after studying to get her degree for nearly six years. For the past few months Emmakita has worked as a field officer for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Legal Service where she now hopes to gain employment as a solicitor.

She also aims to return to Palm Island where she feels her experience can best be used for her people. Her advice to the youth over here is "just work hard and you can achieve anything".

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS to the
Palm Island Voice
 are welcome.
 Contributions may include news, yarns, pics,
 letters-to-the-editor, poetry,
 community notices or advertisements.
 Contact Tim Miller or Barry Moyle
 at the Council offices:
 Ph 4770 1177 or Fax 4770 1305.
 If you have email you can write to us at
 editor@piac.com.au

CORRECTION

Please note Palm Island Crs Raymond Sibley & Zina
 Prior have both accepted responsibility for PIAC's
Sports & Recreation portfolio, not just Cr Prior
 alone, and as was listed in Issue 21 (27 October
 2008) of the *Palm Island Voice* - sorry about that.

Rodeo preparations well under way for this weekend

The Palm Island Indigenous Rodeo is all ready to go over this coming weekend with competitors expected from Cherbourg, Mt Isa and Kowanyama, as well as a lot of places in between.

Organiser Pauline Shortjoe said things had reached "hectic".

"At the end of this week it will be all here, so we're flying now," she said.

"I've had nominations from Kowanyama and Cherbourg, inquiries from Coen and Pormpuraaw, I've even had a call from Melbourne.

"The greatest thing about it is that they're all Indigenous and they're all willing to give it a go," she said.

"The cattle are still on their way from Mareeba and Charters Towers, John Moss is organising that and they'll be here on Friday morning.

"John is the contractor for the event, he actually runs the Charters Towers Rodeo.

"He's worked really hard for this, he said we're doing everything the right way, the rules are done, we're affiliated with Queensland Rodeo Association, so he's been our backbone with a great big push for Palm Island.

"At the moment we're looking at well over 150 rides for the whole weekend, which is just amazing, that will be

80-90 head of cattle coming. "Everything is set up for the yards, it's all portable so they'll be here this week.

"And we've already worked out a deal with John Moss that he doesn't take much of it back, we'll actually buy what he's bringing over here.

"So that will be here permanently

for the next rodeo we hold. "Without John and his wife from Townsville, and Kym Dann from ICAN, this wouldn't have happened.

"It's been a big effort from everybody, it just goes show this really is happening and Palm Island can do what we set our mind to do."

PALM ISLAND INDIGENOUS RODEO

15-16 November 2008

WEEKEND TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

\$40 Family – two adults, three children

\$20 Single

\$15 Pensioners & children

\$10 Children 3-5-year-olds

COMPETITORS PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRATION FOR EVENTS CLOSES 12PM SATURDAY!!!

Tickets available from Pauline Shortjoe or Jenny Prior (outside the store)

Pauline particularly wants to acknowledge the following sponsors from Palm Island, with apologies for anyone we might have missed – make sure you let us know so you can be included in the next issue of the *Palm Island Voice*.

Main sponsors from Palm Island

Coolgaree Bay Constructions

Coolgaree CDEP

Indigenous Consumer Assistance Network (ICAN)

Quality Meats Palm Island

Queensland Ambulance Service Palm Island

Queensland Police Service (Michelle Sawtell)

Palm Island Aboriginal Council

Palm Island Barge Services (David Tapp)

PCYC

+ many more from Townsville

(see the next *Palm Island Voice Update* for more details)

Pauline also wanted to offer a huge vote of thanks to one of her youngest helpers, 13-year-old (soon to be 14!), Dimitri Shortjoe, who she says has put heart and soul into helping to make the rodeo happen.

ATODS News

The Palm Island Alcohol Tobacco Other Drugs Service (ATODS) is located at the Joy Palmer Health service.

We are on the Island to support the community, individuals, couples and families to help sort out any issues or concerns that they may have with any drugs and/or the grog.

Recently we had two new people join our team, our clinical nurse Ann Sims and Mersane Oui who is our therapy assistant.

If you have any concerns, queries or are seeking help with

any matters involving drugs or alcohol please drop in and have a yarn with one of us.

You can also call us over when we are out and about in the community.

Recently we have had a number of people tell us about concerns that they have about grog and drug issues.

There is no safe alcohol level for women who want grog whilst they are pregnant.

If you drink while you are pregnant you place your baby at risk of serious harm.

When drinking on pay days and the days after it is best to have a plan about what limit you will set yourself to keep you safe.

Any more than six gold cans put you at risk of harm with your body and how it works. A number of people have been getting sick or going off with the hydro.

There is no safe limit for hydro or bush; there is no control about how it is grown.

Bottom line all the chemicals

rubbish of speed mixed with whatever.

This is very dangerous to your health and people are being ripped off.

Safest way is no way.

Again, we are happy to have a yarn with you in more detail.

In closing we thank the community for the great response to the

voluntary program No Grog No Drugs here project.

It supports those families who have declared there home grog and drug free.

A sign is generally placed on the door to inform family and community members that in that house grog

and drugs are not used.

If your home is grog and drug free and you do not have a sign please contact us.

We have over thirty homes in the community who are drug and grog free.

This highlights how many families are attempting to live healthy lives free of grog and drugs.

Congratulations.

ATODS is based in the hospital from Monday-Friday 7.30am-5pm Ph 4770 1648

After Hours – attend the hospital for support or call 1800 177 833



ATODS workers Mersane Oui, Uncle Owen Creed & Craig Thorssell

that hydro is grown in makes your body sick and the strength of the chemical THC makes your mind sick.

The only safe way is no way no yarndi.

Yarndi is a thief that pretends to give you a good feeling but then takes away your body and mind.

There have been reports of other stuff on the Island like speed, ecstasy and ice.

This stuff again has no quality control and you just don't know what it is mixed with.

The true stuff can make you really mind sick.

What we find is that what is often said to be ecstasy and ice on Palm is the left over

Training success in water management

Training in Wujal Wujal for students from Palm Island and Cherbourg has been a success for local worker Phillip Coutts, who has just passed his Certificate III in Water Management under the program.

Trainer Michael Dobell-Brown (pictured on the left there with Phillip) said the Government had decided that training in individual communities was too expensive, hence the journey to Wujal Wujal, just south of Cooktown, every few months.

"Over a 12 month period we got together three times for two weeks each at Ayton, which is just near the Wujal Wujal community," he said.

"They have high end technology there, similar in some ways to the technology that is going



in to the treatment plant here."

He said Phillip was to be congratulated for his efforts after holding his Cert II since 2001.

"We did a review and upgraded that to a Cert III which took six weeks with the boys from Cherbourg and Wujal," he said.

Coolgaree Bay Constructions moves on lease

As reported in the last edition of Palm Island Voice, Coolgaree Bay Constructions Pty Ltd is negotiating a lease with Palm Island Council.

Company director Valentine Nona said he was happy to see things moving ahead and looked forward to being able to start re-furbishing works at the Farm. "Having a lease is important, as it will allow Coolgaree Bay Constructions Pty Ltd to set up their Palm Island base," he said.

"The Council has also given their approval for a Scoping Study,

funded by DEEWR, to go ahead. "Beyond Consulting is talking to local community members who will conduct community based research."

Mr Nona also said the workshops need upgrading.

"The photos, taken last year, show the workshop needs upgrading," he said.

"Many Palm Islanders will recall that one of the workshops at the Farm was at one time controlled by the Department of Community Services.

"They had a diesel mechanics workshop, and used it to maintain

all their heavy earthmoving equipment and vehicles.

"Another workshop in the Farm precinct was refurbished as a TAFE training centre."

Mr Nona said he used to work in that shop from the late 1980s to the early 1990s.

"It was a general workshop, also used for light metal fabrication by the Palm Island Council," he said.

"The third workshop at the Farm is the existing joinery."

Watch for more news to come in the next issue of the Palm Island Voice.



In need of upgrading: the old mechanics workshop



Palm Island Careers



The Palm Island Careers Expo this year boasted more than 30 booths representing federal and state government departments as well as private enterprise late last month.

They were all here to show off their wares in the hope of recruiting the brightest and the best of our community into the various jobs, careers and training opportunities available through their organisations and agencies.

Coordinator for the day, Ronelle Bobongie, who is also an Indigenous Employment Training Manager from the Department of Employment, Training & Industrial Relations, said they had anticipated up to 300 people on the day.

"It's not just for the schools, the whole community comes through," she said.

Munburra Traditional Owner Alan Palm Island welcomed the Expo to Palm Island.

Mayor Alf Lacey thanked participants for coming to Palm Island for the day.

"It's people like yourselves who are sitting on the booths and offering words of advice to our young people who can help us to move forward and take Palm in a direction we hope will be prosperous in the future," he said.



careers Expo 2008



Pictured: Top Row Left: Ronelle Bobongie with Education Qld's Learning & Engagement Centre workers.
Top Middle: Australian Agricultural College.
Top Right: Noel Gertz, Alan Palm Island and Merv AhKee from Construction Skills Qld.
Middle Row Left: Police Recruiting.
Middle Row Above: Inclusion Support's Sue Wilkinson.
Bottom Left: William Landers, Ian Day & William Obah from the QAS.
Left: Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey with former Centrelink colleague Cecilia Stanley-Taylor.

"We actually go over to Townsville to do training every Friday." Petty Officer Narelle Geesu says of the Palm Island Navy Cadet group pictured above.

"We do it because it's great and it's fun, we march and do parades," the rest agreed.

"They're Cadets for now but they'll become Able Seamen when they get their badges," Narelle said.

"This program goes for six months and then once they finish they graduate, and then the next group can come in, so that'll be fun. When school starts that's when we're having the next group, aged 12 and a half to 15-years-old,"

A couple of the group said they intend join the Navy after their schooling, especially for travelling around to different places.

**IN THE NAVY
(CADETS!)**

Palm Island Voice

Advertising Information & Rates

Palm Island Voice is a fortnightly community newsletter, first launched in August 2007. Advertising space is available to any businesses, organisations and individuals who have an interest in promoting services and events to members of the Palm Island community. The hard copy format is black and white, hopefully soon to be colour, with an electronic versions available in full colour PDF for email distribution. A system of paid subscriptions for non-Palm Island residents will be implemented early in 2009.

Palm Island Voice is published by the Palm Island Aboriginal Council with support from a Queensland State Government initiative through the Community Renewal program.

Display Advertisements (14 days to pay, invoiced on publication)

Full Page \$440

Half Page \$231

Quarter Page \$121

Eighth Page \$66

Sixteenth Page \$44

Classifieds (payable in advance)

Items for sale under \$1000 – FREE

Public Notices – Births, Deaths, Marriages, Birthdays – FREE

Sale Price over \$1000 & Other Notices – 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be submitted by no later than 5pm on deadline day (see p12 for details).

Article and photo submissions to the *Palm Island Voice* are welcome. Original submissions of articles or photographs must belong to the contributor, and/or delivered with an indication of the owner's permission to publish, no later than 5pm on deadline day (as per details on p12). Articles should be no longer than 500 words and digital photographs should be as high quality as possible (no thumbnails please!). Final say on advertising, news items, other contributions and photo reproductions is at the discretion of the *Palm Island Voice* Editor.

Have You Had Your Health Check?

**Hey my Bwgcorman people
have you had your health
check yet?**

**If not please come and see
us at Community Health.
Everyone between the age
of 15 and 54 should have a
proper Adult Health Check
every two years.**

**Call us on 47525100 to make
an appointment or come up
on Thursdays or Fridays.**



Stinger Season is here

1 Confirmed case all ready on Palm Island
QAS Palm Island has received stinger suits for the
season. As last year 1st suit \$30 there after in the
same family \$20 - available from the QAS office at
JPHS - these suits normally retail for \$75 - \$150

Adult Suits are now available

For the safety of the entire community of Palm Island - proudly supported by the Queensland Ambulance Service, Joyce Palmer Health Service, and the Motivational Camp's Project

Space permitting, in each issue of the *Palm Island Voice* we hope to help bring a better understanding of our different community groups and what they do for us here on Palm Island. This fortnight we speak to Manager of Kootana Women's Centre, Delena Foster.



"I've been employed at Kootana for about 13 years," Ms Foster said.

"We currently have about seven staff on board, five permanent part-time and two relief workers that we use when we need them.

"Kootana was actually set up in 1986 to assist women and children in crisis situations.

"We assist women and children in domestic and family violence situations to escape domestic and family violence.

"We have a safe house that caters for women and children in crisis situations also women and children that are homeless, so we take them in if we have the room.

"We also have an administration section in this building that I work out of, as well as a reception and the administration officer.

"Then we have the safe house where we have domestic violence workers, a safe house co-ordinator and an intake officer who deal with all the women who come through the safe house.

"We would eventually like to offer a service that caters to all the family members affected by domestic and family violence.

"The reason for that is so that when they go back home they go back into a safe situation.

"So we are looking at the bigger picture to deal and assist the whole family in combating the violence.

"Some of the other programs we have had running here is the young parenting program.

"We had funds for 12 months through the alcohol demand reduction program.

"We are looking at accessing funds to continue on with that program because we had about 35 young parents involved in that.

"And for the men's support perpetrators program, we are looking to access funds to actually work with partners of our clients in how we can assist them and maybe a referral service so they can stop the violence.

"We also have a child and family support worker through the assistance of the Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care program."

Kootana is not a 24 hour a day seven day a week Centre but with the public's support and help we can make it so.

If there is an emergency after hours Delena says to contact her on 4770 1378 or 0407 072 746 and she can make arrangements for a worker to be available. Also every Tuesday Night from 6pm to 9pm there is a women's meeting which all women are welcome to attend.



LIQUOR ACT 1992

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A LIQUOR LICENCE

Applicant's Name: Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar and Bistro Pty Ltd, **Nominee:** Zacchias Sam

Premises: Coolgaree Bay Sports Bar and Bistro, Beach Road, Palm Island.

Primary Purpose: General Licence – The sale of liquor for consumption on the premises, or on and off the premises.

Trading Hours: 4:00pm to 10:00pm Monday to Thursday
4:00pm to 12 Midnight – Friday and Saturday, and;
12 Midday to 6:00pm – Sunday.

OBJECTIONS TO THIS APPLICATION MAY BE FILED BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC OVER THE AGE OF 18 WHO HAS A PROPER INTEREST IN THE LOCALITY CONCERNED AND IS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY THE GRANT OF THE APPLICATION.

Grounds for Objection

1. Undue offence, annoyance, disturbance or inconvenience to persons who reside or work or do business in the locality concerned, or to persons in or travelling to or from an existing or proposed place of public worship, hospital or school is likely to happen; or
2. The amenity, quiet or good order of the locality concerned would be lessened in some way.

Format of Objections

Objections must be lodged in writing individually or in petition form and must state the grounds for objection. **An objection in the form of a petition must be in a format stipulated in the Act and the principal contact person should discuss the proposed petition with the Licensing Officer listed below.**

A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY MAKE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE REGARDING whether the granting of this application is in the public interest particularly relating to matters which the Chief Executive must have regard under Section 116 of the *Liquor Act 1992*.

For further information on what is being proposed by the applicant, please contact **Miss Kelly Jameison, Darveniza Barron Wood & Assoc., on (07) 5574-0144 or email kelly@dbw.com.au**

Closing Date for Objections or Submissions: 1 December 2008

Lodging Objections or Submissions:

Objections and/or Submissions should be lodged with: Licensing Officer
Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing
PO Box 1885,
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
Phone: (07) 4760 7625

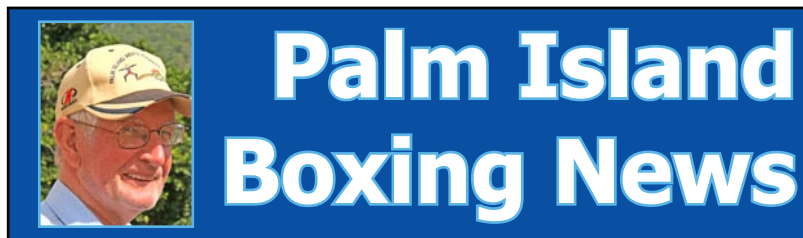
Objections Conference

All objectors, other than those objecting on a petition, will be advised individually of the details of the objections conference. The principal contact for a petition will be responsible for advising all signatories of the conference.

Copies of any objections or submissions will be forwarded to the applicant.

**Executive Director
Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing**

Palm Island Boxers are training hard for the Australian Boxing League Championships, which will be held at the show grounds in Townsville on the 27th, 28th and 29th of November.



At least eight Palm Island Boxers will be competing against the best from South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Alice Springs, New Guinea and Queensland.

Over the past eight Years our boxers have always performed well against the best amateur boxers from all over Australia.

Since I started training on Palm Island our boxers have won 28 Australian Titles, 41 State Titles and 60 Queensland Golden Gloves.

One boxer has been fighting for Palm Island since he was 10 years old.

He is 16 years old now and had 60 bouts; he has won the Australian title four times and twice been judged the best junior boxer in Queensland.

Another Boxer started in 2005 and has won the Australian title twice and three times been judged best junior boxer in Queensland.

The following boxers are expected to represent Queensland at the Australian Titles:

Nat Seaton – Super Heavy Weight Under-19

Luke Lenoy – 71kg Junior Under-17

Selwyn Seaton – 67kg Junior Under-17

Patrick Clarke – 57kg Junior Under-17

Reggie Palm Island – 51kg Junior Under-17

Dennis Haines – 48kg Schoolboy Under-15

Allan Walsh – 38kg Schoolboy Under-15

Anthony Browne – 35kg Schoolboy Under-15

Steen Walsh – 32kg Sub-Junior Under-12

After missing out on his first professional fight in Townsville last month because of a bomb scare, Peter Bonner will now be having his first professional bout in Maroochydore on the 29th of November.

Ray Dennis

Hair today, but gone by next week!

If you go to the back of the JobFind building this week you will see Black Pearl hairdressing has once again set up shop for all you people who want to style up for the big weekend.



But you only have until next week to make an appointment to see them.

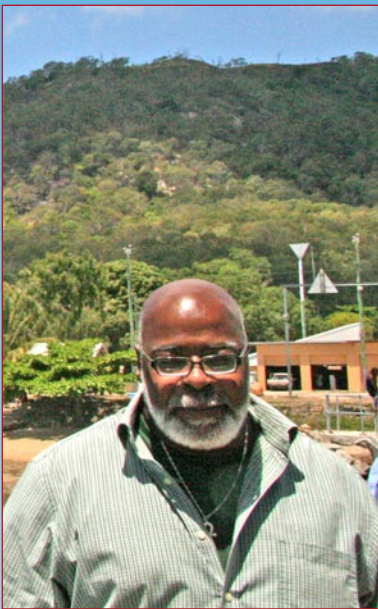
The pair have been travelling around communities for four years now as the brain child of Jonathon Links of the Royal Flying Doctor Service mental health service. Mr Links saw the service as a way to help people in remote communities build a little confidence. Michael Billy started his apprenticeship four years

ago and on 29th November this year completes his training after doing all of it on the road.

They've been trying to get to Palm twice a year for the past few years, but they hope in future to come more often.

Both are keen to train young people in hairdressing.

Michael has just taken over the business and will continue to provide the same service we have come to enjoy each time they are over here.



African American historian Runoko Rashidi (above) recently paid Palm Island a visit with an interest in trying to put current events into a global historical context. Runoko spoke at a forum in Townsville that same evening called "The Struggle for Black Justice Continues".



Caught on camera by Townsville journalist Alf Wilson while they were in the Torres Straits for the first time, were Palm Islanders Fred Bulsey & Caleb Geia. They played in the Zenadth Kes Cup (formerly the Torres Cup) on Thursday Island last month for the Arkai Brothers. Unfortunately their adopted team lost the grand final 36-6 to the TI Stingers after beating Wagadagam Storm from Mabuia 33-30 in last 10 seconds of the semi-final.

Fast Feet!

Palm Island was also recently visited by Aunty Phyllis Iker from Fast Feet promoting the latest in electric bikes, which recharge as they are ridden. They only cost around \$1000 and about \$1 a week to run. Aunty Phyllis was also talking up developing some eco-tourism here, with input and help from local people. Contact Tim at the *Palm Island Voice* if you'd like more info about the bikes.

Pictured: Alfred Lacey Jnr &

Ngukis Baira got to try the bikes out for size



PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE **Palm Island Voice**

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DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Thursday 20 November 2008	Tuesday 25 November 2008
Thursday 4 December 2008	Tuesday 9 December 2008
Thursday 18 December 2008	Tuesday 23 December 2008

Advertising rates available on request.