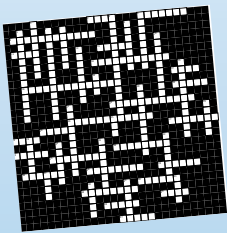


Issue 28
Tuesday 24 February 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!



**Timely return
of a 'long lost'
dozer p 3**



**Crossword
Number 27 -
the answers!
p 4**

**NEW
SUNFERRIES
TIMETABLE
P 7**



'Great privilege' to represent Palm Island - Mike Reynolds

Retiring Townsville MP Mike Reynolds can step down knowing he has proved his commitment to Palm Islanders says Mayor Alf Lacey.

"It's pretty sad for Palm to lose a Member of Parliament who was very outspoken and very supportive on social justice issues," he said.

"Mike leaves Palm on a very good note, he's been very supportive of Palm issues over the time he's been our representative in Parliament.

"I've had a lot to do with him from when he first took on the seat of Townsville, we've given him a lot of support over the years and certainly he's returned that commitment to the community."

Mr Reynolds told the *Palm Island Voice* he was "reluctantly" stepping down.

He said for health reasons he could not commit to serving a full-term if he was re-elected.

"It is with deep regret that I am standing aside, however both my doctor and specialist have cautioned me against continuing the constant air travel I undertake as Member for Townsville because of the effects on my long term health," Mr Reynolds said.

(Continued p 02 ...)



Mike's favourite pic from his years of service to Palm Islanders: at the community engagement for the Palm Island PCYC as Emergency Services Minister

'Great privilege' to represent Palm

(Continued from p 01 ...)

"The continuous flights I must take have led to an overall deterioration in my health over the last few years, and in particular acute sinus infections and asthma have been exacerbated," Mr Reynolds said.

"It has been my great privilege and honour to be the representative of the Palm Island community in the Queensland Parliament over the past 11 years.

"I have enjoyed working with Palm Island residents over these years and I have always endeavoured to keep the needs of the Palm Island community central to my role as the local Member.

"Palm Island has been the

source of the most challenging, inspiring and complex issues which I have dealt with.

"I am very proud of the campaigns we have fought together to highlight the social, economic and cultural needs of residents.

"The many victories we have achieved together have been great ones for Palm Island, and I am proud we were together in solidarity in the tough times as well.

"Palm Island will always mean the world to me and I wish every one of you good fortune and happiness in the future."

Mr Lacey said Mr Reynolds had done a lot for Palm Island.

"Mike can walk away knowing that his contribution to Palm hasn't gone unnoticed and he's

done a lot for us," he said.

"We'll see the new Emergency Services Centre completed this year, from when he was the Minister for that portfolio, and he's the one who pushed for that.

"Mike has pushed for a lot of other infrastructure on Palm and especially also in recent times, particularly around the alcohol issue and the Queensland Police Service, he stuck his neck out for the community and made it known that we weren't going to be trodden on.

"As a local Member he's proved himself to be committed to our issues and community so PIAC and the community would like to wish him and his wife the very best."

New candidate keen to visit (again!)

The new Labor candidate for the seat of Townsville is Mandy Johnstone, a mother of two children aged 3 and 6 respectively, and married to former professional golfer and Federal Government public servant Carl Johnstone.

Townsville MP Mike Reynolds said he commended her to the community.

"Mandy has held many positions with various non-government organisations and has dedicated herself to improving the lives of North Queenslanders," Mr Reynolds said.

"She has indicated to me that Palm Island is of particular interest and concern to her as the new candidate and she will not be a stranger to Palm."

Ms Johnstone told the *Palm Island Voice* our community was very important to her and was one of the first things she asked Mr Reynolds about when her pre-selection was confirmed.

"Mike Reynolds has been a strong campaigner for the people of Palm Island, he will be missed as your local member, but I can assure you

that I will keep up the fight in campaigning for the rights of residents on Palm," she said. Ms Johnstone also said she was looking forward to visiting the Island (again) in the near future.

Mayor Alf Lacey said whoever replaced Mr Reynolds would have "big shoes to fill".

"Certainly there's going to be big shoes to fill," he said.

Last week the Townsville Bulletin reported Ms Johnstone was educated at St Margaret Mary's and is a graduate with a Bachelor of Community Welfare from James Cook University.

They also said she has been working two days a week for the Catholic Church's Centacare office in Cranbrook as a community educator and filled a voluntary role as president of the housing service Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville.

Ms Johnstone told the Bulletin she had been a party member for five years and had always had a strong commitment to social justice issues and working people.

Vandals rock local police vehicle



Vandals have thrown a rock through the window of a patrolling police car.

Police said the incident occurred just after 8.30pm on Sunday the 15th of this month.

Sgt Adrian Geary of the Palm Island Police said the vehicle was on Farm Road at the time.

"A large party was noticed and when the police then drove past a rock was hurled through the passenger's front window," he said.

Nobody was hurt during the incident but police wanted to remind the community that

this type of incident makes it difficult for them to help the public when they were needed.

"The vehicle is off the road and the cost of repairs is considerable with it having to be sent over to town for repairs," Sgt Geary said.

People with any information should contact Palm Island Police on 4770 1800 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

'Much needed' dozer back in action

A bulldozer that has been out of action since 2006 and has cost Council around \$70,000 to repair, is finally back in operation.

Council CEO Barry Moyle said heavy machinery staffs have welcomed back to the fold the long lost dozer.

"Council sent the dozer to Townsville two years ago to get quotes for its repairs," he said.

"Unfortunately it has taken much longer than anticipate to have the repairs done.

"On its return the priority was to carry out urgent repairs to the Pencil Bay Road and it may also be required for the airport apron extension job."

He said Council had submitted funding

applications under the disaster relief to repair this and other roads on the island.

"Early estimates of the recent damage carried

out by consulting engineers Cardno from Townsville are in the vicinity of \$1.8 million," he said.

"It's good to see this important piece of machinery back operating and that staff members are working hard on trying to address the urgent road repairs as soon as possible.

"Once again Council is seeking the communities' patience as we continue to repair the roads around the Island."



IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE PALM ISLAND VOICE:



How you can be involved in developing the Palm Island Markets and new retail precinct

The great Palm Island Music Crossword!!!

Palm Island Elders' profiles starting soon!

Deadline: Thursday 5 March

I am a Palm Islander, born on Palm Island in the days of the Superintendent who ruled our people severely.

One of our Islands was called "Punishment Island".

I remember one of our men who was forced to live there on his own.

A boat was called Irex was used for the skipper to drop of food supplies.

He was a very young man who was angry because of how he being treated.

Our mother, who cared for those who were down-trodden,

We've got mail!

sent word with the skipper to ask him if there was anything he would like.

His response was, "send me something to read".

At that time all our father had was the Readers Digest from a priest. When I was the Mayor, Council moved a resolution to silence me from making public statements.

I requested the statement that caused this outrageous action and to this day I have been

deprived of the statement.

I have been a fighter for our rights for many years and I will never give up until my days are ended.

I encourage all Bwgcorman to stand tall and to be proud because our old people's spirits are with us now.

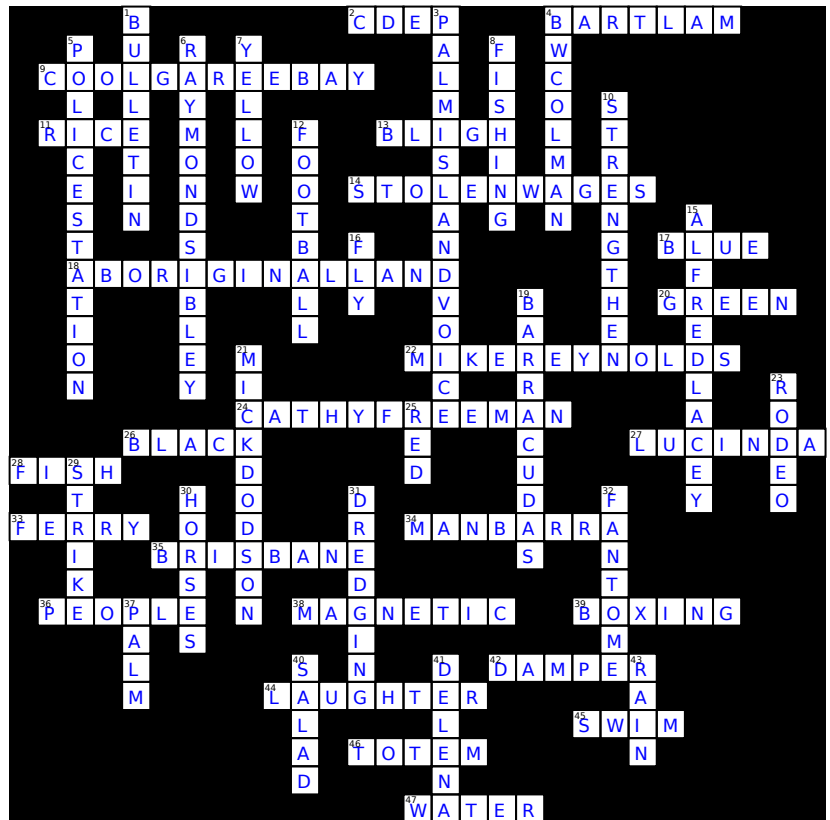
Our great God knows our struggle...Just don't give up. Be strong.

E.Kyle

Bwgcorman Forever

Crossword No 27 Answers

- Across
- 2 Our work for the dole system
 - 4 Palm Island's worst reputed superintendent
 - 9 Palm Island's own special viewpoint and landing place
 - 11 Goes with fish
 - 13 Queensland Premier Anna _____
 - 14 The target of a current campaign by the Queensland Council of Unions
 - 17 A colour on the Torres Strait Islander flag
 - 18 Palm Island always was and always will be ...
 - 20 A colour on the Torres Strait Islander flag
 - 22 A champion for Palm Island in state politics
 - 24 World class athlete with connections to Palm Island
 - 26 A colour on the Aboriginal flag
 - 27 Nearest mainland port to Palm Island
 - 28 Goes with rice
 - 33 The other of two ways to get to Palm Island
 - 34 Palm Island's Traditional Owners
 - 35 The capital of Queensland
 - 36 Palm Island's best asset
 - 38 An island between Palm Island and Townsville
 - 39 A sport Palm Island youngsters excel in
 - 42 One of our favourite cooked foods
 - 44 A direct result of humour
 - 45 Something to do on a hot day (not a way to get to or from Palm Island!)
 - 46 An item of great cultural significance
 - 47 Surrounding Palm Island
- Down
- 1 Townsville's local paper
 - 3 Your newsletter
 - 4 Those with historical connection to Palm Island
 - 5 Where you can get the latest boating guide from
 - 6 Deputy Mayor of Palm Island
 - 7 A colour on the Aboriginal flag
 - 8 Palm Island's favourite pastime
 - 10 What cultural awareness can do for people on Palm Island
 - 12 Palm Island's second favourite pastime
 - 15 Mayor of Palm Island
 - 16 One of two ways to get to Palm Island
 - 19 One of Palm Island's many teams
 - 21 The 2009 Australian of the Year
 - 23 Held on Palm Island in 2008 for the first time in more than 30 yrs
 - 25 One of the colours on the Aboriginal flag
 - 29 In 1957 Palm Island workers went on _____
 - 30 A common form of recreation and transportation on Palm Island
 - 31 Happening now off the Palm Island jetty
 - 32 A neighbour to Palm Island
 - 37 A famous and favourite tree
 - 40 Healthy food (good on a burger!)
 - 41 The first name of the previous Mayor
 - 43 There's been a bit too much of this lately



Got a clue (and the answer!)?

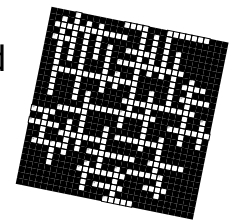
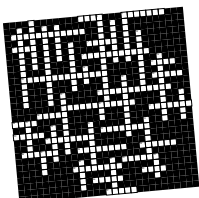
Palm Island Voice would like to acknowledge the assistance of the crossword maker at: <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/crossword/> for last Issue's Crossword No 27.

The next crossword will appear in Issue 29 of the *Palm Island Voice*.

If you have some ideas for clues (and answers please!) you'd like to

include in the next PI Voice Crossword send them on to either Tim in the Council offices or email to Christine (chowes@westnet.com.au) to make sure they're included!!!

**NEXT MONTH (Issue 29) - The Palm Island Music Crossword
FOLLOWED BY (Issue 31) - The Palm Island Sports Crossword**



For our good (Mental) Health...

Palm Island Mental Health Unit would like to announce that, after all that cyclonic weather and all the heavy rain we are back in full operational mode.

Our office is situated at Joyce Palmer Health Service, Beach Road, Palm Island.

Our Mental Health Staff consists of our Team Leader Ron Hocking, along with Health Workers Helene Mouloff, Bernadette Johnson, Thomas Prior, Leonie Hopkins, Tony Olander and Maryanne Kirkman, who is currently backfilling for Aroha Webbke.

We would sadly like to say good-bye to Kylie Strawb who has moved to Darwin with her husband, good luck to Kylie and her husband in their new careea.

The Mental Health Unit would like to inform the community that when you come into Community Mental Health, everything that you say or bring up is strictly confidential, so don't be afraid to come in and have a talk to our friendly caring staff.

We at the Mental Health Unit want our clients and everyone in the community to be healthy in mind, body and spirit

As I am still covering for Mrs Hopkins, I will try my best to follow on in her footsteps by creating community programs such as the arts & crafts sessions that were held on a Monday or Tuesday evenings at the Bwgcolman School.

If you have any ideas about programs that you would like to see happening in our community please feel free to call our office and have a yarn about what you would like to see happening.

You can contact us on 4752 5163 or 4752 5100.

**Tony Olander
(Indigenous Health Worker)
Mental Health Unit**



Palm Island Ambulance First Aid

Hints and Tips

Stinger Season Count - Palm Island
Number - 05

000

The Emergency Number When to call

We encourage Palm Island residents to use this number when they require an ambulance

- **Don't ring the hospital for an ambulance**
- **Don't ring the ambulance office**
- **Don't ring Ian**
- **Don't put sick or injured people in a car and race to hospital**

In all circumstances ring 000 – Stay Calm – Do First Aid

When Telstra operator answers – say you want an ambulance –if you are ringing from your mobile phone, say you need an ambulance on Palm Island – Queensland near Townsville – wait to be connected to Ambulance Comms – few seconds

When the ambulance operator answers state where you want the ambulance to go to – who's house – street name – area for example Nallajar's place, Dee Street, Mission Area

Tell them what's happened – who's hurt/sick and why – the patients age – can they talk to you are they breathing

While you are giving this information another operator is letting us know here on Palm and we are responding – sometimes we have many calls so we go to the most urgent first Stay calm – follow instructions from operators – look out for us and wave us down

Palm Island Voice

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, Barry or Deniece 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

AA Meetings

@ Ferdy's

are held day and night to help support people with drug or alcohol problems. Meeting times are 9am and 7pm. Call day staff at the centre on 4770 1152 in the morning to be picked up for the 7pm meeting.

Community Notices

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 back page).

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.

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.

Do you want to write for the Palm Island Voice?

If you're a bit of a 'dorrie' and want to get some words and pics out there about what you see, a series of easy media workshops could be just the thing to get you started!

Palm Island Voice editor Christine Howes has been working as a freelance journalist and photographer, mostly for Indigenous media and community organisations in the far north, for nearly 15 years and is keen to share her skills and knowledge with anyone who is interested.



If you or someone you know has an interest in writing and/or photography, a two-hour workshop could be all it takes to start having your work published in the Palm Island Voice. A small payment for those who commit to writing for us on a regular basis may be negotiated.

If this is you, please drop in to the Council reception and register your interest. Everyone, including our regular contributors from community organisations, is welcome. Dates and times to be confirmed soon!



POSITION VACANT
COOLGAREE CDEP

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
 (PURCHASING, ASSETS & INSURANCE)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
 MICHAEL FRIDAY ON 4770 1233

PALM ISLAND SERVICE

MARCH 2009 TIMETABLE

	<u>DEPART</u>	<u>VSL</u>	<u>TOWNSVILLE</u>	<u>PALM ISLAND</u>	<u>TIDE</u>
1st	SUNDAY	RC	7.00 am	9.00 am	2.40
4th	WEDNESDAY	PC	9.00 am	11.00 am	1.75
6th	FRIDAY	PC	8.00 am	10.00 am	2.00
8th	SUNDAY	PC	8.30 am	10.30 am	2.35
11th	WEDNESDAY	PC	10.00 am	12.00 pm	2.35
13th	FRIDAY	PC	11.00 am	1.00 pm	2.15
15th	SUNDAY	PC	9.00 am	11.00 am	2.30
18th	WEDNESDAY	PC	9.00 am	11.00 am	1.75
20th	FRIDAY	RC	8.00 am	10.00 am	2.15
22nd	SUNDAY	RC	8.30 am	10.30 am	2.10
25th	WEDNESDAY	PC	9.00 am	11.00 am	2.20
27th	FRIDAY	PC	10.00 am	12.00 pm	2.00
29th	SUNDAY	PC	10.00 am	12.00 pm	2.30

CORRECT AS AT 20 FEBRUARY 2009

DEPARTURES FROM BREAKWATER FERRY TERMINAL
 ENQUIRIES PHONE 4726 0800

* Circumstances beyond our control may cause alterations to departure times without notice

**** PLEASE NOTE DEPARTURE TIME CHANGES ****

Palm Island Voice

Palm Island Voice is a fortnightly community newsletter, first launched in August 2007. Advertising space is available to any businesses, organisations or 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.

Congratulations!

As of 3.15am this morning Deputy Mayor
Raymond Sibley and his wife Ruby
are the proud new parents of a
beautiful baby boy!!!



HAVE YOU PICKED UP YOUR VERY OWN PALM ISLAND RODEO POSTER YET? ON SALE NOW!!!

Featuring local & visiting riders, these A3 full colour
posters are available now from the Council offices.

\$8, or \$12 laminated

PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE **Palm Island Voice**

Editor: Christine Howes (chowes@westnet.com.au)
Chief Reporter: Tim Miller (editor@piac.com.au)
Ph 4770 1177 Fax 4770 1305
Many thanks to all the Palm Islanders who have
contributed to this issue of the Palm Island Voice.
Published by PIAC © 2009

Editorial & Advertising Deadlines + Publication Dates:

DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Thursday 5 March 2009	Tuesday 10 March 2009
Thursday 19 March 2009	Tuesday 24 March 2009
Thursday 2 April 2009	Tuesday 7 April 2009

Repeat advertising rates available upon request.