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CSIRO works with CDEP on sponge farm development



From the Mayor's Desk ...



Day Care Centre to offer apology

Goodoo Day Care Centre has been at the centre of a controversy around 19-month old Susan Morgan who was found to have a broken leg after being in their care. Father, Walter Morgan, said when he picked Susan up on the day concerned, he was told she "might" have been in an accident.

"After carrying Susan into the house we put her down so she could run around playing like every other day but this time she just took half a of a step and dropped to the floor," he said. "I immediately took her to the hospital to see a doctor. When I confronted the worker on the day of the incident they only had guesses as to what happened like: "she might of", or "she probably" – as yet we still have no straight answer or not even an apology."

Goodoo President Steven Foster said Mr Morgan should expect a formal apology for the incident within the next couple of days. He also said the committee was determined to make sure this never happened again.

"The lady has been put off now, that's already been in the news," he said. "She was fully qualified, but she was new to the staff, and I put it down to poor supervision, I think that the staff who were responsible for that group need to take responsibility for what happened – she should have been taken straight to hospital. "The committee is determined that something like this is not going to happen again and we've made sure that staff now will have processes in place to make them fully aware of their responsibilities should there be another accident.

"We're also going to get the Ambulance to come in and do some further first aid training with our staff and we're looking at getting all the staff certificates."

Mr Foster said the committee was also aware of some process issues. "We're going to ensure that this doesn't happen again and we're also going to make sure we stay in constant dialogue with the Department about any changes to the requirements of our running the centre," he said.

"There was also the issue of getting the complaint to the table at the board meeting and we want to address that too.

"We've taken steps to ensure it doesn't happen again because it's never happened before."



Palm Island youth voices in print

Last week young people from Palm Island did screen printing at PCYC, Jimeka Richardson and Rae Rae Clumpoint wrote this report for the *Palm Island Voice*:

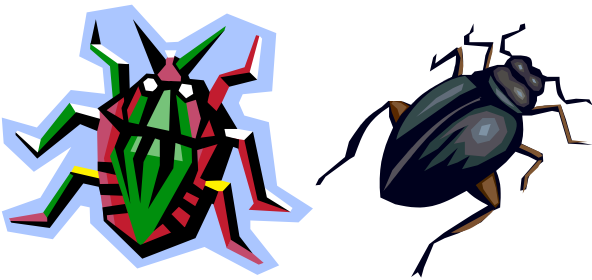


Palm Island Ambulance First Aid

Hints and Tips

Stinger Season Count - Palm Island
Number - 5

Ticks



Ticks are found in warm and moist regions of Australia. They often attach where they may not be easily found, such as in nooks and folds of skin over the body. Paralysis ticks are small and if signs and symptoms appear, a detailed search may be necessary. The tick burrows its head into the skin and feeds off blood

Signs and Symptoms

- Local irritation
- Lethargy (the person is weak and not very mobile)
- Weakness of muscles, particularly in children
- Double vision
- Difficulty swallowing or breathing
- Unsteady gait or staggering walk

Danger

Never squeeze the ticks abdomen because a further release of venom will occur

Management

- Use forceps to grasp the tick near its head – lever or lift out without squeezing the abdomen of the tick
- After removal of tick apply antiseptic cream
- Signs of allergic reaction include, rash, headache, fever, aches and pains in joints – if these occur seek medical aid
- Anti-venom is available for Australian paralysis tick envenomation

We did it with Bernadette Boscacci and also with Bwgcorman Community School teacher Michelle Hall. We were writing about what we want on Palm Island. Some of the things we wrote about were: more houses, respect, stopping violence, racism and keeping drugs off Palm Island.

In the workshops we learned how to make stencils and print our designs. It was easy and we had a lot of fun.

We would like to have more workshops in the future.



The young people of Palm Island would like to thank Ms Michelle, Bernadette Boscacci, the PCYC and Bwgcorman Community School.

We've got mail!

Dear Editor,

Just letting Palm Island know that this year's Rodeo will be held on the 15th & 16th August. We are looking for sponsorship and/or cash donations to make this event happen, so your support would be greatly appreciated. Without the support of Palm Island this may be our last rodeo as the cost of it all is our biggest downfall. Last years rodeo was a hit for our community, but financially we lost out, especially with the children jumping fences. We all must remember that this is for you and our community. Once again I ask that everyone put in for this Rodeo too make it bigger and better.

**Regards
Pauline Shortjoe**

CSIRO looking at sponge farm

The proposed sponge farm project was the focus of two visiting scientists from the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) recently.

CSIRO Regional Futures Analyst Erin Behensky and Research Assistant Tom Stevens met with Coolgaree CDEP chair Steven Boyd to look at the environmental and ecological sustainability of the project, as well as what social benefits could be achieved.

The CSIRO, one of the largest and most diverse research agencies in the world, is Australia's national science agency and an Australian Government statutory authority. Ms Behensky said the visit came about when they heard about the development of the sponge farm project.

"We are here to have conversations about how to move forward with the Palm Island future visions project," she said. "There was a lot of interest in the sponge farm as being a sustainable livelihood option for the Palm Island community.

"In looking at that, we want to look at some of the other alternatives as well the broader context of what people can do and want to do on the island.

"(So we're) looking at the sponge farm the benefits and trade-offs of that, alongside some of the other options.

"For example other aquaculture and agricultural enterprises, what are the different things that are on the table, what are the community perceptions and aspirations, and what are some of the potential pitfalls that they may encounter."

She said some of the methods they were looking at included community surveys & interviews. "We are going to be using some of the methods that we specialise in and have used in other places, and that will include participatory planning and visioning, we will be doing some interviews with people in the community, and possibly

doing some surveys to ask people some of their insights into some of these issues that we are facing," she said.

"We want to get a sense of what is important to the community really where they want to go in the future so we're looking at it from a couple of different perspectives.

"There is the environmental and ecological sustainability perspective, and how can social benefits be achieved or improved along with economic benefits.

"Ownership and empowerment I think are really important in that." Mr Boyd said the project would particularly benefit youth on the Island as well as the CDEP as a training organisation.

"CSIRO is talking about traineeships for some of our participants into the research for this project, and it will be a great benefit for some of our youth," he said.

"It will also be a benefit for the corporation because as of 1 Coolgaree will be seen as a training enterprise for the community."

Pictured L-R: Steven Boyd, Moe Lenoy, Tom Stevens, Erin Bohensky, Margret Conway, Cr Zina Prior, & Brendan Roberts



From the

Mayor's

Welcome to another update from myself and the Council in the *Palm Island Voice*.

Desk

I try to give an update as often as possible in terms of our activities.

Not too much has happened in the past couple of months given the rain, but these are some of the latest things that have happened.

One of the things the community might have noticed is that the new Government Building is nearly completed and we've been talking to them about the opening.

We've made it clear to the Government that we feel the community has the right to name the building in honour of past leaders who have done so much for Palm.

Also recently there's been the removal of the old justice building and the old Fantome Island Ward, that was up at the hospital.

They're now in or near the town square – one of them will be turned into a museum and one of them a community library or knowledge centre. That's something really exciting for Palm.

There's a lot of other work happening here at the moment, the work-for-the-dole/CDEP crews are doing some good things in terms of brightening up the parks and some of the main areas of Palm – they're doing a wonderful job.

There's been a negotiation with CDEP and the Indigenous Coordination Centre which means we can now officially say that those two, along with the Palm Island Council, have \$650,000 on the table to upgrade the sports complex.

So there will be a lot of activity down there at the sports field and the netball courts.

We're asking the community to come on board with that project and look after the work that's being done.

It's something new for Palm, the Council is very excited about it and we think once we get it up and running it will be very useful to the community in terms of maintaining healthy lifestyles.

The other interesting thing is that Sunferries and Queensland Transport have agreed to a



*At the rep body conference in Adelaide, PIAC Mayor Alf Lacey & Lowitja O'Donoghue. **Pic courtesy Koori Mail.***

fourth ferry service to Palm.

From next month there will be a service on Mondays now, as well as Sunday, Wednesday and Friday, so that's good for Palm.

They're committed to that and that will bring a benefit for our people in terms of access to the mainland so it's a win-win situation all around.

Some of the other things I've been involved in, recently I met with the new Minister for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Policy, Desley Boyle, who is also the Member for Cairns. Importantly, she's also the Local Government Minister.

I met with her in Cairns as a member of the Mayor's Steering Committee.

The Minister has indicated she's interested in sorting our land matters for a lot of our communities because unless the land is sorted, in terms of administration especially, then other things can't really happen.

So when we talk about development or other activities for Palm we can't do that unless these issues are sorted.

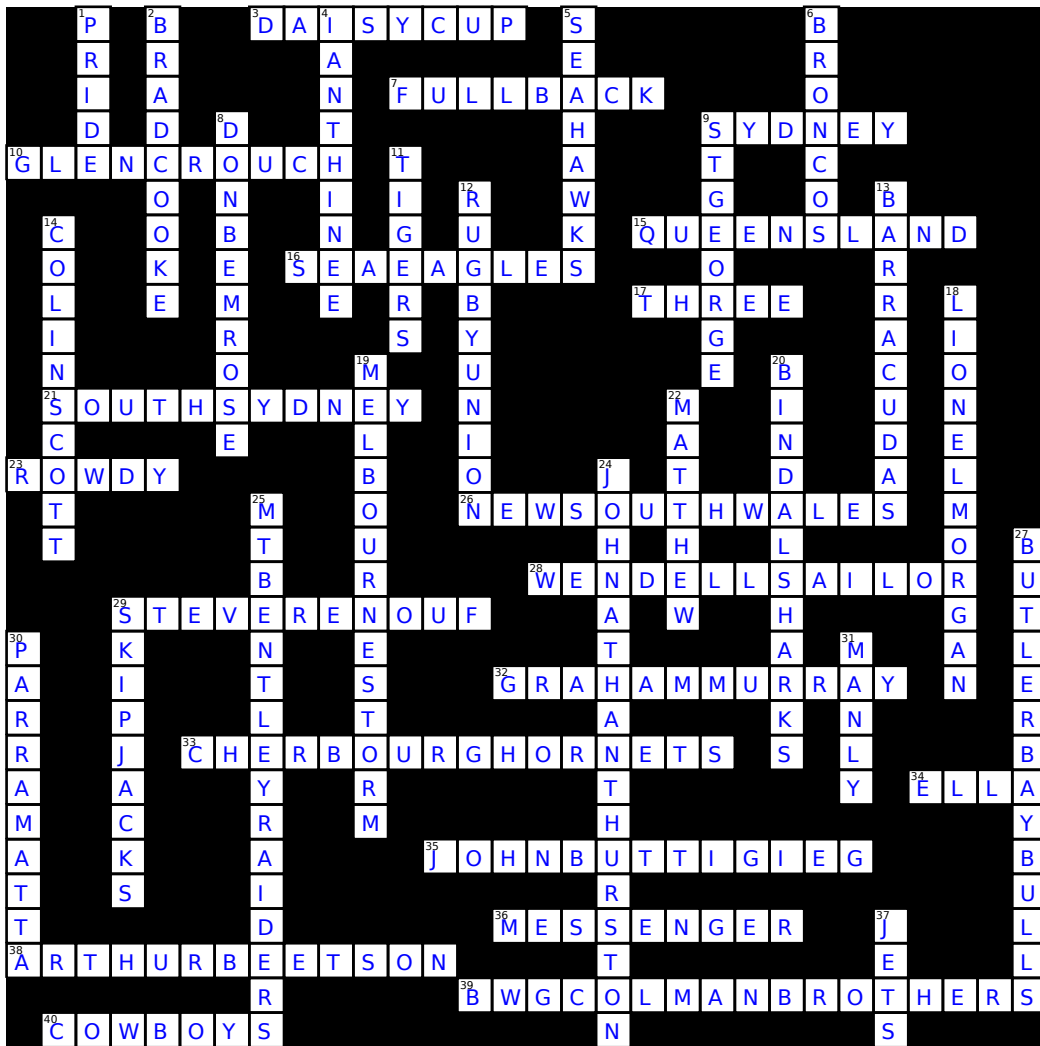
Currently Yarrabah and Palm Island have Land Use Programs that are pilots for the rest of the communities.

So we've had three meetings with the Department of Natural Resources, Manbarra and Bwngcolman representatives since we've been elected, to find a way forward for Palm Island.

Palm Island Council is committed to that process, we believe unless we sort out our land arrangements, in terms of long term leases and all the other issues that other people take for granted, it will be very difficult

Palm Island Voice

CROSSWORD NO 31 - It's all Rugby League... ANSWERS



Palm Island Voice would like to acknowledge the assistance of the crossword maker at: <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/crossword/> for Crossword 31 - It's all Rugby League...

to find a way forward.

Dealing with land is not easy, so that's very intense, and there's a lot of negotiation that needs to happen, but we want to keep going with that and there will be ongoing community consultation on that so everyone can have their say. The other thing that's happening at the moment is a new Emergency Services building is going up down at the farm area and we're looking forward to that project going ahead. It's important to have the one-stop shop for the ambulance and fire brigade as well as the SES and this is something we've talked about for many years.

The foundations have been laid and building will start shortly, so that's exciting as well.

Other than that, it's been raining! And raining

lots, so there's not much more to say other than to continue to remind the community that the Council is keen to hear what you have to say on our Community Delegation Days.

These are the days when the community has the chance to speak directly to Council, so it's very important these opportunities are taken. Keep an eye on the Palm Island Voice and community notice boards for when those days will be, we really are keen to have your input, we're there for you and we look forward to hearing from you.

I hope everyone had a happy Easter and a safe holiday and I'll look forward to seeing you all around the community very soon.

**Yours in community spirit
MAYOR ALF LACEY**

Palm Island Voice

Community Notices

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday for the 21st of April
Reuben Snyder, Love Sharon

Happy 18th Birthday **Nikita McKean** for the
9th of April and hope you have many more,
Love Aunty Sharon and Reuben.

Happy 18th birthday
To **Patricia Morgan** (PJ)
Wishing you all the best
For your birthday
Love from Nana Aggie
Nana Sue, Aunty Ruth,
Uncle Albert, All your
Aunties and Uncles, and all
Your cousins, Morgans, Ouis
and Blighs

2 **LARBARA** HAPPY
SWEET 16 BIRTHDAY MY SON
FOLLOW YOUR HEART
N PUT YOUR MIND 2 IT
N KEEP ON DREAMING
N MANY MORE 2 COME
LOTS OF LOVE
MUM, UNCLES, AUNTYS,
BROTHERS N SISTERS
NAN, N POPS,
XOXOX

Raisjana Bulsey
Happy 15 Birthday My
Baby Gurl
Stay strong
N Focus on your Dreamz
Babe
N many more 2 come
We Love U
From Mum Auntys Uncles
Brothers N Sisters, Nanny
N Pops xoxox

Thursday Night is Market Night!

This is a Community initiative to bring the family and community together. People who make jewellery; clothing; art work; food; drinks; toys; etc can come along and put up a table to sell their goods. No cost for a table. All money you make is yours. People with bands can come along and play a few tunes to entertain the community. People entertain on their own accord no payment of money involved.

Where: Palm Island Mall
When: Thursday Nights 5-9pm

'Stolen Wages' deadline!!!

Indigenous Wages and Savings

Reparations Scheme

Closes 30 April 09

For more information

PH 4799 7611 or 1800 809 097

Palm Island Youth Council

Aim: to get the youth active in the movements of this community and to be aware of where their future lies.

A meeting will be held at the Government Co-ordination centre from:

1-2.30pm Tuesday 21 April 2009.

Any youth interested in being a voice and knowing what's in this community should come along. There will be various discussions around issues on Palm Island.



The Palm Island Community Company is a not for profit organisation established to offer business services to non-government organisations, manage the delivery of a range of human services, and provide business advice and support to Palm Island non-government organisations and community members.

The company is a partnership between the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, the Queensland Government and the Palm Island community. The Family Hub will be a based for delivery of a range of services on Palm Island.

The company is seeking to fill the following position:

Administration Officer, Family Hub

The position has a salary range of \$35867 to \$36852 and the company offers generous salary sacrificing options. This role requires experience in working in setting up and maintaining an office area for service delivery. The person needs to be skilled in using a range of office equipment, computer programs and organising administration for services. The person needs to have a good telephone manner, be able to organise mail, meetings, appointments for clients and support the administration required of the senior staff of the centre. Ideally, the person would be mature, responsible and be able to communicate well with a wide range of people.

The person also needs to have or be able to quickly acquire a Blue Card and it would be ideal to have a current "C" Class Drivers Licence or ability and willingness to acquire a current driving licence during the period of employment.

Position descriptions for the position are available from Coolgaree CDEP, Job Find and the Palm Island Office in the Community Centre next door to Bwgcolman radio. The description outlines the duties in more detail and describes what is needed to make an application for the position.

Applications close on Thursday, May 7.

Interested persons can contact Sue Howard, Services Manager for PICC on 4721 2277.

DO YOU NEED A JOB?

Positions are now vacant at Goodoo Day Care Centre for:

Cook **Centre Manager** **Cleaner**
 Admin Officer

If you are interested please write to Mr Steven Foster, President, by Mon 4 May.

Palm Island Voice

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).

For more information or bookings contact

Tim at the Council on 4770 1177 or

email editor@piac.com.au

Please support the Palm Island Voice so we can continue to support you.

Weekly Roster For Rubbish Truck Pick Up Times

MONDAY	<u>MANGO AVENUE BENTLEY STREET & AREAS RESIDENTS (MORNINGS)</u> <u>AFTERNOONS</u> - STORE AREA - MOTEL -
TUESDAY	<u>TOP END RESIDENTS (MORNINGS)</u> <u>AFTERNOONS</u> SCHOOLS - OLD PEOPLES HOME - COUNCIL - SHOPS AREA - CANTEEN
WEDNESDAY	<u>BOTTOM END RESIDENTS (MORNINGS)</u> <u>AFTERNOONS</u> COUNCIL - SHOPS AREA - MOTEL - HOSPITAL
THURSDAY	<u>FARM CHOOK CITY RESIDENTS (MORNINGS)</u> <u>AFTERNOONS</u> COUNCIL - SHOPS AREA - OLD PEOPLES HOME
FRIDAY	<u>RESERVOIR RIDGE - BUTLER BAY RESIDENTS (MORNINGS)</u> <u>AFTERNOONS</u> AIRPORT - SCHOOLS - CANTEEN

IF YOUR AREA IS NOT DONE BECAUSE OF A PUBLIC HOLIDAY THEN DON'T PANIC IT WILL BE DONE THE NEXT WORKING DAY OR COUNCIL APPROVED WEEKEND WORK DAY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.



PALM ISLAND BOXERS at the Sunstate Amateur Boxing Tournament in Townsville last Friday night. *Pic courtesy Alf Wilson.*

STOP PRESS – Vandalism attack on new govt building ‘disappointing’ : Mayor



Graffiti and other damage to the new government building over the weekend is ‘disappointing’ says PIAC Mayor Alf Lacey.

“The police have been informed,” Mr Lacey said. “This kind of mindless destructive activity is disrespectful to the families of those this building might have been named after. We’ve all worked very hard to have buildings like this for our use on the island – to have it vandalised like this before it’s even opened is disappointing to say the least, and completely unacceptable.”



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DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Thursday 30 April 2009	Tuesday 5 May 2009
Thursday 14 May 2009	Tuesday 19 May 2009
Thursday 28 May 2009	Tuesday 2 June 2009

Repeat advertising rates available upon request.