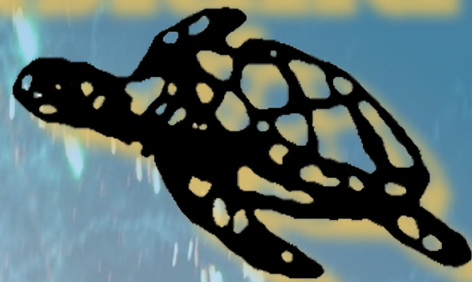




Palm Island Voice



Issue 38
Tuesday 14 July 2009

OUR SPECIAL
NAIDOC WEEK
2009 EDITION

HONOURING our Elders



NURTURING our Youth





Left: PCYC Manager Sgt Bernie Meade with Premier Anna Bligh @ the PCYC. Right: Caterers Charmaine & Jackson Koroi. Below: the NAIDOC Ball (see pp 6-7)



Above left: Main St parade. Above Right: Wheelbarrow Races. Above: dancing in the mall and Left, in the park. Below: 'Adults' revenge' - banana throwing in the park. Bottom: the Friday night concert



The 'happy NAIDOC week' that went off with a bang!

From floating candles at the NAIDOC Ball to fireworks on the jetty for the Friday night concert, Palm Island's NAIDOC week was as diverse as it was entertaining under its twin themes of 'Honouring our Elders, Nurturing our Youth'.

The whole week was something Mayor Alf Lacey said had made him enormously proud of his community and the work they'd put into it, whether as one of the many volunteers who helped to make it happen or as an active or otherwise observer.

"I think once again Palm Island has put on a good show, the week has gone very well, and I want to congratulate everyone involved," he said.

"This was about how we celebrate ourselves, it's a special time of the year when we really come together to celebrate our culture and especially to get our kids really involved.

"We should all be proud of the week we put together and I'm especially proud to have contributed to that."

Mr Lacey said he particularly wanted to thank Council staff for the huge amount of effort they had put in to the week with the help of all the Councillors.

One of the main venues for the week was the

PCYC where Manager QPS Sgt Bernie Meade (*pictured top of page 2*) said he thought it had been a "hugely" successful week.

"We're involved in catering and organising the NAIDOC dance ball, the touch competition, netball semi-finals, fun run, boxing competition on Saturday night, and the caterers here," he said..

"I think it's been a hugely successful week and I would like to thank my workers very much, I'm very proud of them, they've done a fantastic job."

Local MP Mandy Johnstone came to officially open the week.

"Palm Island is a very special part of my electorate and I am very proud to represent Palm in Parliament," she said.

"Palm Island people should be very proud of the Island as I have seen a lot of changes even in just the past three months, the Island is really looking spectacular.

"I think the future is looking very bright."



L-R: Key Councillors and staff members getting involved - above left is Mayor Alf Lacey dancing on Friday afternoon, in the middle is Cr Zina Prior, one of the key organisers, with Deputy CEO Deniece Geia at the NAIDOC Ball on Thursday night, and right is Cr Mick Thaiday singing up a storm at the Concert on Friday night. Crs Prior and Thaiday share joint responsibility for the Council's NAIDOC portfolio.



RODEO: 15-16 AUGUST 2009

Saturday Night: Open

OPEN BULL RIDE \$1000. Nomination \$114 plus \$40 Add Back. First 20.
NOVICE BULL RIDE \$600. Nomination \$84 plus \$30 Add Back. First 20.
JUVENILE BULL RIDE \$300. Nomination \$60 plus \$20 Add Back. First 15.
PODDY RIDE \$100. 12 years & under. FREE. First 15 Riders only.

Sunday Night: Indigenous only

OPEN BULL RIDE \$1000. Nomination \$114 plus \$40 Add Back. First 20.
NOVICE BULL RIDE \$600. Nomination \$84 plus \$30 Add Back. First 20.
JUVENILE BULL RIDE \$300. Nomination \$60 plus \$20 Add Back. First 15.
PODDY RIDE \$100. 12 years and under. FREE. First 15 Riders.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 5PM

Friday 7 August 2009

Central Entries (Open Ride Nominations) to 4627 4197 on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday nights until 9pm.
Poddy Calf Nominations to Pauline Shortjoe as below.

Inquiries to:

**Pauline Shortjoe on
0439 813 613 or email
rodeo@piac.com.au,
or Buck O Billy Rodeo
Promotions on 4728 6100**

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**PALM ISLAND RODEO
is proudly supported by the
Palm Island Voice**



Last Wednesday Queensland Senator Jan McLucas opened the new Centrelink offices here on Palm.

Palm Island holds the distinction of being one of the first customer service centres to be opened in an Aboriginal community in Australia.

Senator McLucas has had a long association with Palm Island since her first visit in 1978.

She said she particularly wanted to congratulate Centrelink for working with the Palm Island Community to ensure all staff were local.

"And I congratulate the staff for their commitment to the community," she said.

Mayor Alf Lacey, who was also the first Centrelink manager from the Island, said "all credit" should go to them.

"We don't want the half a loaf of bread, particularly when we are talking about giving services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders," he said.

"We want the full loaf of bread so we have the same services that you have when you walk into a mainstream office in Townsville. All credit needs to go to Centrelink who are leading the way in terms of providing those services, not only here but on Thursday Island and in Bamaga as well. I am not just saying that because I used to work at Centrelink, the reality is that I am happy we can access this office for your pensions, disability support payments and unemployment benefits all here on Palm, you don't have to go to Townsville or a visiting officer does not have to come here. That's good for us here on Palm and shows we can do it."



Top: Senator McLucas dances up in the top field.

Above: Alan Palm Island, Tanya Maloney, Senator McLucas, Mayor Alf Lacey, Daphne Lawrence & Deputy Mayor Raymond Sibley (pic courtesy Sen. McLucas)



New building names honour workers and people



Some of George Reid's descendants travelled especially from Charters Towers to share their NAIDOC with the community as their father's memory was honoured with the naming of one of the two new buildings opened last week on NAIDOC Friday.

While they were here on Friday, Queensland Premier Anna Bligh officially opened both the George Reid Building and Bwgcolman House. Ms Bligh said it was always a pleasure to come to Palm Island, particularly as it was her first visit as Premier.

"I think it's a great place to be to be celebrating NAIDOC Day 2009," she said.

"So much achievement in such a short period of time, I really wanted today to acknowledge all of the hard work that this community has done together with the leadership of the local Council, with your Elders and with the community.

"Walking through these buildings is an absolute pleasure and most importantly, they are a showcase for the great artistic talents of the people of Palm Island.

"This is an investment in your community, I know there's a lot more to be done.

"There is a real opportunity here in the future for jobs and that's what this Council is on about." Mayor Alf Lacey and Councillors had the

opportunity to meet with Ms Bligh to present the long-term business and social plans they have developed for the Island with the help of professional consultants.

Ms Bligh said Palm was hard to beat as a potential tourist destination.

"What I've seen today I've never seen on any other Indigenous community, and that is a comprehensive plan that's been tested by architects and business consultants about putting on this island some accommodation so that they could hope to bring tourists to what is a very beautiful place along with a very commercial hub right in the middle of town," she said.

"That won't solve all the unemployment problems but it's a real commercial venture that's been tested with ridgey didge Business consultants and the next step is to start putting in place the financing around it.

"I've never had any indigenous community sit me down and say, 'Here is our business plan for a commercial hub that will bring visitors, tourism and jobs'.

"There are lots of indigenous communities in beautiful places but Palm's hard to beat as a potential tourism destination.

"This community has got the seeds of something magic starting to happen and they've got my full support to keep it happening."

They had a (NAIDOC) ball!!!

Cathy Freeman dined with her Mum and said "I will always come back here"; Ray Martin joined Angry Anderson as a special guest and said "I applaud this community"; and Female Elder of the Year Kathy Gibson jumped up on stage to sing her own songs from the heart, written from her experiences over a lifetime.

This is just some of the magic that was the Palm Island NAIDOC Ball, held in the PCYC last Thursday night.

Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey told more than 200 guests he had mused on this year's theme – Honouring our Elders, Nurturing our Youth – with his Deputy, Raymond Sibley, earlier in the evening.

"As we all know as Palm Islanders and Bwngcolman people, life in the early days wasn't easy, it was a very hard life and a lot of those elders paved the way to put Palm where it is," he said.

"I was just saying to my deputy Mayor Ray Sibley, in the old days when times were so hard, a lot of our people found joy in dancing and singing, and it wasn't only cultural dancing and singing, it was also the barn dance and the waltzing and all that went with it, that kept our peoples' spirits together.

"When you look across Australia, you've got a lot of Aboriginal communities where that sticks out a mile.

"I think that's important and I just want to say thank you to the Elders we've got here tonight – Auntie Mavis is here, Bella Walsh, Auntie Cassie and Uncle Ralph, and quite a few others who have been around and stuck through those really tough times.

"And it's up to us as younger leaders to also do the same thing in terms of putting Palm on the map in a positive way.

"For our young people, Palm is in our hands, and we have to decide where we take Palm Island, it is up to us and the generation coming behind us on where we lead Palm.

"There's still things we can do, we can provide a very good future for our children and our grandchildren.

"Where do we take that second step and how do we go forward? That's something I'd like to leave with you tonight."



*Above: Elder of the Year Kathy Gibson dons a guitar.
Below: Some of our NAIDOC Award winners with guests Phil Peachey, Angry Anderson and Ray Martin alongside PIAC Mayor Alf Lacey*



Palm Island NAIDOC Award Winners:
Female Elder of the Year – Kathy Gibson
Male Elder of the Year – Jacob Baira
Young Person of the Year – Yolanda Kerr
Community Person of the Year – Stephanie Boyd
Community Volunteer of the Year – Aaron Richardson
Sportsperson of the Year – Joey Geia



PICTURED: all L-R: 1. Colin Gibson Snr, Andrew Willis, Clarissa & Norman Johnson, Moira Clarke & Donna Willis.
2. Patricia Dallachy (nee Reid), Maureen Reid, Loretta Prior, Katherine Seaton & Bella Walsh.
3. Standing: Ashley Sailor, Kimberley Kerr, Lance Castors, Archie Fraser & Seated: Nadia Logan, Faye Kerr & Priscilla Sibley



4. Standing: Charmaine Korai, Charlene Rodgers, Gertie Richardson & Seated: Daphne Lawrence, Danielle Rodgers & Vicki Rodgers.
5. Standing: Luella Bligh, Felicitas Ernest, Lyn Beames & Seated: Iris White & Bethel Smallwood.
6. Standing: Wayne Prior, Jase, Jeremy Hughes & Seated: Andrea Castors, Jennifer Healy & Fiona Hughes.
Above: PICC presented distinguished guests, contributors and board members with their own Palm Island memento.

“Music saves your soul. Music is our soul.”

Angry Anderson, on stage at the Palm Island NAIDOC Concert, Friday 10 July 2009



Left: Performers William Barton, Beccy Cole, guitarist Michelle Cunningham, Cr Mick Thaiday, Angry Anderson & Adam James. Above: Mr Lacey & Ray Martin
Below: Fireworks off the jetty at 9pm



Pictured above are Karaoke Winners were Bill Lotawa (Men) and Rose Adami (Women). Runner Up was Uncle Ruggy (Stewart Rosser). Also pictured below are finalists Gertie Richardson & Selena Shepherd





Left: These girls - Lottie, Kaya, Amy (from the Australian Theatre for Young People), Alice, Ivy & Natalie - did their own dance on the night



Right: Local band Anything Goes. Below Right: More local talent with Angry Anderson, members of Dream Keepers and Hydrometal. Left: Angry & Stephanie. Below Left: William Barton



“It’s one people, it’s one mob and we’re all here to celebrate the culture and the life they have on the island.”

Performer Adam James (from Minjerribah, in the south east of Queensland)

Thru the Lens

An exhibition of photographs by young people from Palm Island will be on display at the Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane until Sunday 9 August.

'Thru the Lens' was launched during NAIDOC week as part of the Queensland Art Gallery's Q150 celebrations.

Q150 is a year-long, state wide celebration to mark the anniversary of the birth of Queensland as a state in its own right. Queensland Art Gallery Director Tony Ellwood said 'Thru The Lens' presented the work of young, local photographers from Palm Island ranging in age from six to 16 years.

'The 18 photographs were created during a youth workshop facilitated in 2007 by Bwgcolman Future Inc, an organisation working in many areas of community development.

"The perspective of the children highlights beautiful forests and blue coastlines, and finds the people at work and play as they fish, dance, laugh and socialise," Mr Ellwood said.

"The exhibition will give audiences an intimate insight into the daily life of the Palm Island community through the eyes of those who call it home."



(L-R) Peta O'Neil, Svea Pittman, Auntie Joan Collins, Cathy Freeman and Rob Blackley with some of the Palm Island youth whose photos appear in 'Thru the Lens'.

He said the work by the aspiring photographers featured in the exhibition reflected a strong pride in Palm Island culture.

"In addition to the photographs which reveal everyday activities from a Palm Islander perspective, there is an 18 minute video documentary that captures the 35 aspiring young artists at the workshop learning aspects of photography," he said.

The project was supported by the Catherine Freeman Foundation, Bwgcolman Future Inc and the Queensland Department of Communities.

For more information visit www.qag.qld.gov.au

Pics on this page are by Natasha Harth.

This year's NAIDOC was brought to you by...

One of the major sponsors of last week's NAIDOC on Palm was the Palm Island Community Company.

PICC General Manager Rachel Atkinson (*pictured right with a Wallabies jersey to be raffled in the near future*) said their primary contribution to the week was organising the concert on Friday night.

"We funded Stars Making a Difference to work with us and we arranged sponsorships, such as with Qantas and Bluewater," she said. "And we catered for the guests for the couple of days they were here through the Great Big Event Company. Many of the guests and companies we were working with were doing it on a voluntary basis, as were the locals we had on board. We had a great partnership with PIAC and staff as well, and it all ensured this fantastic event happened."

Co-founder & National Program Coordinator of Stars Making a Difference, Wendy Watego-Ittensohn, (*pictured right between colleagues Vicki Scott &*



Lyn Beames) said what was done wouldn't have been possible without the support of PIAC. Ms Watego-Ittensohn said they had been working with the Mayor and a number of women on the Island over the past year or so. "We've been coming back once a month" she said. "Our contribution to this week has been the concert on the Friday evening and bringing together the performers. And it was also helping create the

vision for the concert, working very closely with PIAC, the NAIDOC committee and PICC to hold the vision, and to bring together the people that were going to make it happen."

Ms Atkinson said they wanted to thank their guests – Ray Martin, Angry Anderson, Beccy Cole, William Barton and Adam James – for coming along.

"We were just so pleased it turned it out to be a fantastic and professionally done concert, and the entertainers were just A-1 – locals and guests," she said. "We hope the community enjoyed it as much as we did."



Foundation calls for community ideas

The Catherine Freeman Foundation will hold a community meeting next Tuesday, to hear feedback and ideas about what they are doing, and might do, into the future.

Ms Freeman, who has been on the Island for NAIDOC Week activities and will be back for the meeting, said the Foundation was her passion. "Next Tuesday we're having a community consultancy committee meeting and we'd like to invite everybody along because obviously the more the community input the better it is, so we know we're doing the right thing by you," she said.

"The Catherine Freeman Foundation, we've been working on the Island for a couple of

years now and we're really keen to get some feedback from people about the programs that we've been doing and also some new ideas for programs in the future.

"Basically the Catherine Freeman Foundation is focusing on four programs and we just want to work closely with you guys.

"You need to tell us what you would like for yourselves.

"Whatever you think is important, we'll try and make it happen."

Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices

COOLGAREE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION FOR CDEP POSITIONS VACANT

The Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation for CDEP is a major, well-established Commonwealth Employment Development Project (CDEP) with currently 260 participants, operating several Community and Enterprise projects on Palm Island.

Due to recent Government policy in relation to CDEP, and resulting changes in the programs requirements in moving towards Work Preparation activities and outcomes, the corporation is seeking applications for the following positions:

- 1. Work Readiness Programs**
 - Manager - Horticulture
 - Manager - Home Services
 - Manager - Mechanical Workshop (Qualified Motor Mechanic)
- 2. Community Development Program**
 - Manager - Community Development



Applicants for each of the positions will be required to demonstrate appropriate qualification and substantial experience in the relevant field, and will be required to respond to selection criteria for each of the positions. There is no accommodation on the Island for these positions, other than short-term accommodation units for some of the traveling staff. Palm Island applicants, or applicants who are able to secure own accommodation on the Island are preferred.

Selection Criteria may be obtained by phoning Roy Prior on 47 701 233, or collect from CDEP Office.

Written applications should respond to a selection criteria include names and contact details of three (3) referees and be addressed to:

**Roy Prior, Chief Executive Officer
Coolgaree Aboriginal Corporation for CDEP
C/O Post Office, Palm Island QLD 4717**

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 details)**

For more information or bookings contact

Tim at the Council on 4770 1177 or

email editor@piac.com.au

or the Editor, Christine Howes at

chowes@westnet.com.au

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



FOR TENDER:

- 1. Holden Jackaroo**
- 2. Safe**



Council is pleased to announce that the Red Holden Jackaroo is up for tender to the local community. All tenders must be in writing to the CEO, Barry Moyle by close of business Friday 31 July 2009.

Council is pleased to announce that the Safe held on the veranda in front of JobFind is up for tender to the local community. All tenders must be in writing to the CEO, Barry Moyle by the close of business Friday 31 July 2009.

For more information contact the Council on 4770 1177



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NAIDOC PICS

NAIDOC pics taken by Christine Howes & Tim Millier should be available from Tim at the Council offices by NEXT MONDAY 20 July for the small fee of \$5 per hard copy or \$20 for a digital collection, including those published in this issue.



The Catherine Freeman Foundation

COMMUNITY MEETING

The Catherine Freeman Foundation would like to invite interested community members to attend a meeting at:

PCYC, (next) Tuesday 21st of July, 12 noon

- To discuss programs that the CFF can run on Palm Island
 - To get feedback on the current work we have been doing such as the bike project with the schools
 - To establish a Consultation Group on Palm Island for the CFF
- Please come along to meet with Catherine and some of other Board members over a light lunch.

See you there!

Happy Birthday

Dad Solo 6th of July

From All your Children
Grandchildren & Great
Grandchildren & Many
More 2 come. We Love you
& Thinking of you on your
special Day

Happy Birthday

Vivien Marks 11th of July

from your brothers & sisters,
niece & nephew and all your
children - we love you
always and hope
for many more to come

Happy 20th Birthday Keenan Moonlight!!

Palm Island Voice

SUBSCRIPTIONS for non-Palm Island residents have been set for the 2009-2010 financial year. Please do help us out if you can. Rates have been set to:

PDF file format (up to 5mb) - \$26 per year (2009-10), or part thereof - posted by the Thursday after publication.

Hard copy format (postage included) - \$52 per year, or part thereof - posted by the Thursday after publication.

Please make your cheques/postal orders payable to:

Palm Island Aboriginal Council
c/ Palm Island Post Office
Palm Island Q 4816

OR via direct deposit to PIAC:
BSB 064817 A/C No. 00092534
Ref PIV0910 (important!)

Cheap, eh? We are doing our best to support you, please do the same for us if you can. Palm Island residents and community organisations, contributors, paid advertisers and some media outlets are free in PDF format. To be included on the email list for PDF copy please write and/or send proof of payment to:

The Editor, Christine Howes, at: chowes@westnet.com.au

DAY&DAY SHIPPING

Palm Island Service Schedule "MV OLYMPIC"

Monday

Depart Lucinda: 7.30 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10.15 am
Depart Palm Is: 11.30 am
Arrive Lucinda: 2.00 pm

Tuesday

Depart Lucinda: 9.00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 11.45 am
Depart Palm Is: 2.00 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 4.30 pm

Wednesday

Depart Lucinda: 8.00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10.45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.30 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 3.00 pm

Thursday*

Depart Lucinda: 8.00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10.45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.30 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 3.00 pm
Thursday departure from Palm Island is subject to change. Please call on the day to confirm time.

Friday

Depart Lucinda: 8.00 am
Arrive Palm Is: 10.45 am
Depart Palm Is: 12.00 pm
Arrive Lucinda: 2.30 pm

Please note that loading of the barge commences 60 mins prior to departure time. Scheduled departure and arrival times should be checked at time of booking.

**For all bookings please contact our office on
(07) 4776 5055**

DAY&DAY SHIPPING





Palm Island Boxing Tournament Results

Joe Geia (Palm Island) def Brendan Dempsey (Mt Isa)
 Nathan James (Palm Island) def Lincoln Martin (Rockhampton)
 Albert Gorringer (Palm Island) def Elijah Lawrence (Mt Isa)
 Daniel Mathieson (Hawkes) def John Fourmile (Palm Island)
 Lar Bartley (Rockhampton) def Shakira Walsh (Palm Island)
 Neerim Peters (Rockhampton) def Mislam Haines (palm island)
 Craig Destage (Palm Island) def Kuang Kutah (Rockhampton)



Patrick Clarke (Palm Island) def Kiefer Walsh (Palm Island)
 Brendan Dempsey (Mt Isa) def Steen Walsh (Palm Island)
 Elijah Lawrence (Mt Isa) def Ethan Morgan (Palm Island)
 Neerim Peters (Rockhampton) def Cameron Mayall (Hawkes)
 Lar Bartley (Rockhampton) def Noby Clay (Palm Island)
 Michael Boydon (Gold City) def Assan Sam (Palm Island)
 Reggie Palm Island (Palm Island) def Harley Broome (Rocky)
 Lachlan Hinchcliffe (Rocky) def Delwyn Seaton (Palm Island)





COOLGAREE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION FOR CDEP 2009 NAIDOC FISHING COMPETITION

PRIZES

MENS DIVISION - 17 & OVER

1ST PRIZE: TV, BARGE CAR VOUCHER 1-WAY \$245. FOOTBALL MASSAGER, KEY RING, CAN COOLER, GIFT BEAR **WINNER CLINT BARRY 20 KG TREVALLY**

2ND PRIZE: FISHING GTO 220 JARVIS WALKER REEL, CAN COOLER, FOOTBALL MASSAGER, GIFT BEAR **WINNER CHRIS GUNDY 3 KG CORAL TROUT**

3RD PRIZE: MONOPOLY GAME BOARD, FOOTBALL MASSAGER, GIFT BEAR, 60-LITRE ESKY. **WINNER NEVILLE HAINES 3 KG CORAL TROUT**

JUNIOR BOYS - 17 & UNDER

1ST PRIZE: \$50. FUEL VOUCHER CDEP KIOSK, TRAIL CAST LINE & TACKLE WALLET, FOOTBALL MASSAGER, BASKETBALL

WINNER HAROLD CEDRIC 6.5 KG QUEEN-FISH

2ND PRIZE: FISHING DVD, PENCIL CASE, POPPER 105, FOOTBALL MASSAGER FISHING ROD 350

WINNER AMMIEL HARRIS 5.2 KG QUEEN-FISH

3RD PRIZE: FOOTBALL MASSAGER, BASKETBALL, GIFT BEAR, MONOPOLY GAME BOARD, FISHING ROD 700, POPPER 135

WINNER GENAMI GEIA 3.2 KG BARRACUDA

4TH PRIZE: FISHING DVD, CAN COOLER, FOOTBALL MASSAGER, PLASTIC BAIT, SQUID JIGS, DIVING GEAR

WINNER DENNIS HAINES 3.2 KG CORAL TROUT

**PLEASE NOTE: NO SENIOR LADIES OR JUNIOR GIRLS CAME TO
WEIGH-IN ANY FISH**

The Fishing Comp was proudly sponsored by:
Coolgaree Kiosk, BCF, Day & Day Shipping & the Palm Island Barge Company.



Top Picture: Noel Cannon & Jason Thimble with two Spanish Mackerels. Above: Harold Cedric & Ammiel Harris with two Queen Fish.



PUBLICATION DETAILS FOR THE

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Repeat advertising rates available upon request.