

**In this Issue:** National Award, NEW child restraint laws, Our Journey, Sweet Poison, Tip sign 3, Dream come true, and more

## Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO visits NPA



From left: Mr Robson Salee, Mr Richard Tamwoy, Her Excellency, Mr Jeffrey Aniba (Councillor for Seisia), and Elder Mr Meun Lifu, at Resort Bamaga (18 July 2010).

... full story pages 4 to 6

The Governor of Queensland Ms Penelope Wensley visits NPA for the first time, accompanied by husband, Mr Stuart McCosker, and Acting Inspector Samantha Purcell, Aide-de-Camp to the Governor.

Her Excellency was sworn in on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2008 for a five year term. The Governor of Queensland is the representative of Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia, for the state of Queensland. Her Excellency is the 25<sup>th</sup> Governor of Queensland.

Her Excellency Quentin Bryce AC was 24<sup>th</sup> Governor of Queensland. Since 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2008 she is the Governor-General of Australia.

## Tourism...

... it's chockers



"We're having a great time ...good time, yeah."

... see page 11

## PM sees G-G:

Election called for 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010.

## Holiday fun



Cooling off at Bamaga Pool.

... more on page 8

## NPA Regional Council wins National Award for Local Government



"This is a fantastic outcome for Council," says NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan at a special meeting of Council at the end of June. "There are 560 Local Government Councils in Australia. This was not competing on an Indigenous level, but on an open level."

... more on page 3

## TAFE in the NPA

Cr Michael Bond, "A lot of people are still thinking that... they are coming up to me and asking, because they know that I finished, they think that TAFE is closing. I said to them, 'No, it's not closing. The school might be taking over. It will still be open.'"

... more on page 23

## Education in the NPA

Mr Ken MacLean, NPA College Principal, "The Trade Training Centre is due to be constructed on the Senior Campus by the end of this year. The College already has a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with TAFE to deliver Construction, Automotive and Engineering training from this facility."

... more on page 26

## Historical Film Footage shown

"The films were made by a fellow named Arthur T. Sullivan, from T.I.," explains Mr Neuenfeldt. "They were a pearling family. His daughter is still alive. The films were done between 1927 and 1933 and were taken to Brisbane after the war (WWII). The daughter had lent them to somebody in Wynnum to view them, they happened to have an old 16mm projector."

... more on pages 13 and 14

## Guess who is 1 today?



## AFL home in NPA

Mr Rick Hanlon, "We want to use this as the base, where the kids come to. We do work at Injinoo school, we work at Bamaga school, we visit all the islands of the Torres Strait, so we've got a constant presence up here, but we actually haven't got an AFL Ground, and this is what this will provide for us."

... more on page 9

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## NPA Show Day

The NPA Show starts Thursday evening 5<sup>th</sup> August and finishes Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August, at Bamaga Oval.

## NPA Turtle and Dugong Management Plan

Apudthama Land Trust is in the process of developing a NPA Turtle and Dugong Management Plan. It requires the assistance from people with local and traditional knowledge to make the plan sustainable for future generations. Hunters are requested to answer a questionnaire to help all concerned in understanding current practices. Following this a meeting is planned to agree on rules to ensure everyone benefits from turtle and dugongs resources, but also ensures sustainability for the future generations. Helping with the meeting and survey will be Ms

Lavenie Tawake (community resource management scientist), and Mr Chris Roberts (marine biologist), as well as Mr Bernard Charlie (Chair of Apudthama Land Trust) and the Apudthama / NPARC Rangers.



Non-indigenous visitors to the NPA are advised that it is illegal to hunt turtles or dugongs.



'I'm looking for a Take-Away.'

**Corrections:** The emailed version and some of the printed copies of NPARC Newsletter, Issue 15, contained the following errors: Page 1, correct is: The new member directors are (left to right): Mr Tolowa Nona, Ms Enid Namok, Mrs Beatrice Nona, Mr Thomas Serubi and Mr Robert Bagie (The two outer names were mixed up). Page 1: Mayor Pedro Stephen (not Stephens), Mayor Desmond Tayley. Page 6: Mr George Williams, known as 'Rusty'. Page 2: Road conditions... text refers to the images below. Apologies for any inconvenience this has caused.

## NPA Stars



Dinto, 3yrs



Aeisha, 2yrs



Frank, 4 or 5yrs



Steven, 2mths



Aliti, 1 yr



Laquisha, 3yrs



Jonah

NPARC Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stuart Duncan



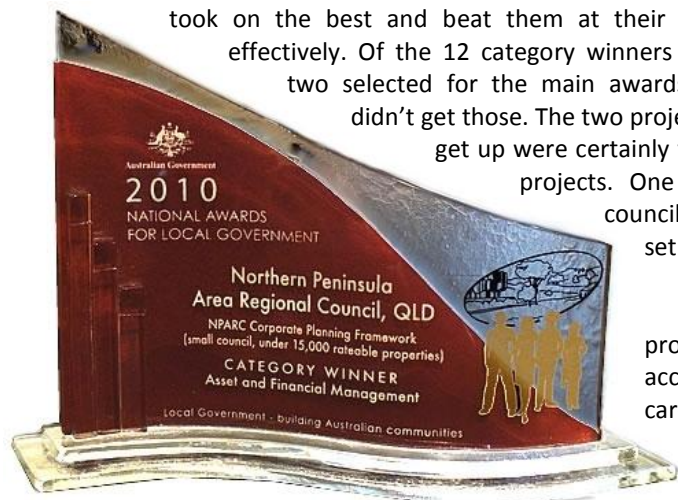
## NPA Regional Council wins National Award for Local Government



From left, rear: NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan, Cr Michael Bond, Cr Jeffrey Aniba, Cr Peter Lui, front: Cr Gina Nona, NPARC Mayor, Joseph Elu, Deputy Mayor, Cr Reg Williams.

NPA Regional Council has been awarded the 2010 National Award for Local Government, which recognizes, rewards, and promotes innovative work of local government across Australia.

"This is a fantastic outcome for Council," says NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan, at a special meeting of Council at the end of June. "There are 560 Local Government Councils in Australia. This was not competing on an Indigenous level, but on an open level. Of the 560 councils, 216 made applications to the National Awards. Of the 216, twelve were selected as category winners, which is what we have won; the NPARC won the Category (small Councils under 15,000 rate payers) for excellence in Asset and Finance management. My view is that winning Assets and Financial Management is exceptionally good outcome for a remote Indigenous Council. Generally they go for other categories. We took on the best and beat them at their own game, effectively. Of the 12 category winners there were two selected for the main awards, sadly we didn't get those. The two projects that did get up were certainly very worthy projects. One was for a council that had set up a community dental program to access dental care, and the other one was a major rehabilitation of "flood plain sewage treatment ponds, using natural flora and fauna to treat its effluent."



rehabilitation of "flood plain sewage treatment ponds, using natural flora and fauna to treat its effluent."

"The Mayor (Mr Elu) and I did attend the Award's Dinner on a Thursday night. We got access to a lot of ministers, so we were able to raise many issues, in particular with Jim Turnour, our Federal Member. The key issue we raised was the large re-structure cost associated with the Local Government amalgamation. Still, a fantastic outcome."

More info on: [http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/local/awards/2010\\_National\\_Awards\\_Category\\_Winners.aspx](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/local/awards/2010_National_Awards_Category_Winners.aspx)



...in high demand



'Back to our Giz,' (in plain English), celebrating cultural identity and heritage.

Performing at Loyalty Beach, Seisia Fishing Club, return invite to Loyalty, then Resort Bamaga, the Injinoo Dance Group is in high demand, entertaining locals and visitors to Cape York.

The group is due in Cairns, 18-25<sup>th</sup> August, performing at UMI and Art Queensland Festival, September, 14-17th at 'Winds of Zenadth Cultural Festival' on Thursday Island. The Festival theme is: Lak Kuniya Kuykupa (in Kala Lagaw Ya), or Nabakomerte Merbi Gizem (in Meriam Mir), or



## Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO visits NPA

*Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO, 25<sup>th</sup> Governor of Queensland, visits NPA, accompanied by husband Mr Stuart McCosker and Acting Inspector Samantha Purcell, Aide-de-Camp to the Governor. The official delegation touched down at NPA Airport Saturday afternoon (17<sup>th</sup> July), just after 6pm. Official functions commenced on Sunday at Resort Bamaga where NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan, Councillors, Community Representatives and Traditional Owners were invited to share breakfast with the guests.*

NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan: "On behalf of Joseph Elu and his Councillors, I also like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners on the land on which we meet today, and the Elders both past and present. As part of the formal introductions of course this morning, I'd like to welcome, to give the formal and traditional 'Welcome to country' by Mr Richard Tamwoy, who is the spokesperson for the Apudthama Land Trust.



(Image left) Her Excellency with Mr Richard Tamwoy.

Mr Richard Tamwoy: "Good morning everyone. It's been a great pleasure to be invited to this occasion, and to welcome our distinguished guests to our country, our areas, and to share a bit of our wisdom in order to know one another. As is our custom, and as a public officer with the Apudthama Land Trust, it gives me great pleasure to honour this day this morning, especially this day is a historic moment, to be here, and to welcome distinguished guests to our

area. For us, as the landowner, we saw a lot of changes in the past. Even Captain Cook came through here. He came to Thunadha\* and named it 'Possession Island,' and today it's been an honour to have a representative, a distinguished guest come here and to share this moment with us. And just to add a little bit of a lighter laugh to the welcome speech, I bought this shirt two years ago. I opened my drawer and I see all these shirts, and I said, 'Which one am I gonna wear today?' I go through the lot, 'No, doesn't fit,' and then I saw this one, still wrapped up. I bought it two years ago, take it out, put it on, missus said, 'That's the one. It was made for today.' It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to country. Thank you very much."

(Image right) Her Excellency greeting Elder, Mr Meun Lifu, Traditional Landowner and Chief of the Gudang and Eracan peoples.

Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley, AO, "Thank you very much for the welcome on this day and thank you very much, Richard, for the warm welcome this morning. And a special 'thank you' to all of you, who have given up your Sunday morning, to come to spent some time with us. I realize that it is weekend, it's a very special time with family, don't get much time off, and Sundays are also extra special, whether they meant to be a day of rest, or again, it's just time with family. I greatly appreciate that you have joint us for this intimate breakfast this morning."

"This is my first visit since I became Governor almost two years ago, two years on the 29<sup>th</sup> July. I'm coming up to my second anniversary in a five year term, and I have long wanted to come to this part of Queensland. When I was sworn in and I took my oath of office, I said in my acceptance speech, that I felt was very important that I be the Governor for all of Queensland, that I represented all of Queensland, and that I needed to travel out and get away from that south-east corner. We may have 60 or 65% of Queensland's population there, but it's very important, I believe, that the Governor comes to the Cape, comes to the Gulf, gets out into western and central Queensland, gets up into north Queensland. I actually travelled quite regularly to Cairns and Townsville."



Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> Jul: Arrival at NPA Airport.



From left: NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan, Mr Stuart McCosker, Queensland Governor Ms Penelope Wensley.



With Cr J. Aniba at Resort Bamaga.



Mr Robson Salee (Angkamuthi), Cape York Land Council.



Mr Daniel Sebasio, NPARC Deputy CEO with Mr Stuart McCosker.

\*(Thunadha' is most likely the Angkamuthi name. To the Kaurareg people the island is known as 'Bedanug' or 'Bedhan Lag')





"I think I'm almost a commuter there, lost track, I think about 15 times I've been up. But to get to these areas, a little bit more challenging, it takes a long time to travel, and I need to plan very carefully and so... there is also a budget, and the budget only allows me to make two regional visits. My first year we decided to go to Torres Strait, first major regional visit, and then the second major regional visit was to the Gulf. So we went to Normanton, Burketown, Karumba, Doomadgee, Mornington Island."

"This is the visit I have been very keen to make, because one of the most important aspects of my job as Governor is to be able to tell other people about Queensland, to have an understanding and knowledge about all the issues that are important for our economy, for our community, for our social fabric. And the Cape frankly, I have to be very honest, is quite complicated, many communities, many cultures. We were talking a little while ago about that. Two Island cultures, three Aboriginal cultures just here, and I don't begin to really know enough about this region. I know that amalgamation has been quite difficult, quite challenging, and I wanted to understand more about how that process is going. When I come on a regional visit like this, it is immensely important to me that I have to opportunity to meet the Elders, I have the opportunity to meet the councilors, the people who are dealing with the challenges of employment, of housing, of managing the finances, of developing job opportunities for the young people, of dealing with the health and education challenges. You were worried about when we're going to sit down. It's more important to be talking, and for me having the opportunity to get to know people, to listen, 'cause even if my voice is not in such good shape, my hearing is excellent, my eyes are good, and I can soak up information, that you can share with me, I can hear about the issues and the concerns."

"As Governor I'm above politics. The Governor's role is the head of the State, is to stay above politics. I am the person that listens, and has an overview of the whole of the state, and so when I talk to the Premier, when I talk to leader of the opposition, when I talk to the Commissioner of Police, the Minister for Arts, and I meet people coming through Government House, and we have thousands of official visitors, delegations from other countries, Ambassadors from other countries, I can share with them issues, concerns, knowledge that I absorb from these travels, which is why I want to make these visits, which is why I'm so appreciative that you have taken time to organize a program for me, on a weekend. The reason I have to work on a weekend... well I work every weekend, I don't have weekends, I work 12, 14 hours a day, seven days a week, I lose track of days, of week."

"Because as Governor, I'm patron of community organizations, the Royal Flying Doctors Service, the Cancer Council, the RSL, Dance North, 175 organisations I'm patron of. So I work pretty hard, because most of them are volunteer organizations, and they have many, many meetings on weekends. That's when the RSPCA or whoever has their activities. In that role I feel that I have an ability to get a perspective of the whole of Queensland. And so I thank you very much for welcoming me. I thank you for sharing your concerns, your knowledge and information with me, and I hope that as we eat together, have breakfast, I'll be able to learn more from all of you. You asked where I come from? I come from Toowoomba, my husband from Nambour on the Sunshine Coast. Sam (the accompanying Acting Inspector Samantha Purcell, Aide-de-Camp to the Governor), she was born in NSW I think, but we're all here as a delegation to this very special part of Queensland. I'm looking forward to the next few days here, and in Weipa and Aurukun, so I go back to Brisbane with a better understanding and have a better knowledge, and I hope a sense of affection for all of you and what you're doing. So thank you again."

NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan, "Thank you, your Excellency. In response and on behalf of all the guests here, of Council and the Traditional Owners, a very warm welcome to you, Mr Stuart McCosker, and Acting Inspector Samantha Purcell. Welcome to the NPA."



Ms Esme Newman (left) with Acting Inspector Samantha Purcell at the Resort.

Following breakfast the delegation headed north to the Tip, stopping at the Croc Tent, Jardine's Pillow, and Pajinka.



Sign at the Croc Tent warns of 164 million corrugations ahead. They were not wrong.







Mr Duncan hands out NPARC hats at Pajinka.



Mr Peter Anderson remembers the Tip trip too, stepping a bit too close to a green ants' nest.



Cape York at low tide.



The tour through the communities started at Injinoo, along its beaches to Umagico, Seisia, New Mapoon and Bamaga.

Her Excellency reflecting on her impressions of her first visit to the NPA, "My impressions of the visit, I mostly had contact with the Council (NPARC), and the Councillors. I was very impressed by the way in which the NPA is working, and the Councillors working together. Different Regions, different cultural groups, but a group of enthusiastic, motivated people, who,

it seems to me, are working together very well in the interests of the community."

"In terms of the Newsletter, yes I read a number of the Newsletters before I came, and I'm very impressed. Also by the newsletter, I particularly liked all the photographs. We all read a lot of documents, but there is nothing better than seeing illustrations and lots of lively pictures that show a community that is active and at work, and people like seeing their own pictures. They like seeing visitors. I congratulate the newsletter on its impending 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary, and I'm happy to have contributed in a small way with my visit as Governor. I am very pleased to have had the opportunity to be here. I feel that I have learned a great deal, which is my purpose in coming to talk to people about their communities, so that I can understand and appreciate what the issues are that worry them, that concern them. The things that need attention and care, and it just enables me as Governor of Queensland to represent truly all of the people of Queensland, and to meet my own responsibilities as head of the State."



From left: Cr Jeffrey Aniba, Her Excellency, Elder Mr Meun Lifu, and NPARC CEO, Mr Stuart Duncan. Forty years coming, the first picture of Mr Aniba at the Tip.



Left image from left: Mr McCosker, Her Excellency, and Mr Stuart Duncan at Bamaga Farm.

NPARC Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stuart Duncan



The new donated Tip sign went up on May 1<sup>st</sup>, covered in Issue 13, NPA News, page 1, replacing the longstanding original Tip sign (green lettering), which had been stolen earlier. A week out in the weather that sign looked like this when Minister Desley Boyle viewed the sign on May 11<sup>th</sup> during her Roundtable 8 visit (covered in Issue 15). A group of Sydney friends did not know about the erection of sign 2 when they arrived at the Tip on 29<sup>th</sup> May. Here is their story, words and images courtesy of Mr Andre Panich:



### Tip retipped: Tip sign No 3



"We are a group of friends from a suburb in Sydney's west- Kenthurst, who decided to travel to Cape York on a 4 week trip from 15<sup>th</sup> May to 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2010. During our planning stage for the trip (approximately 18 months) my brother (Ivan) and I had read in *4WD Action magazine* that the 'tip sign' had been stolen sometime in October 2009. We were disgusted that this had happened and had seen what was in place- a cardboard sign. Since we were heading up to Cape York, my brother and I decided that we should endeavour to erect a new sign during our travels. Both of us work in engineering and at the time, I worked for a steel fabrication company and was therefore able to organise the manufacture of the new sign."

"Prior to the trip I designed some basic artwork for the lettering/Australia map on the computer based programme, AutoCAD. This allowed us to give the AutoCAD file to a local laser cutter, *Laser Wizard*, who manufactured two 4mm 316 Grade Stainless Steel plates – one with lettering cut-out and one without. Once I had received this, a friend, Tony Adorini, welded these stainless plates and a 50mm post with base plate together. I gathered 4x M12 stainless steel tru-bolts together and packed the sign and bolts into my ute to travel the 4000km trip north. Amongst all the other gear, we packed a battery hammer drill, generator, drill bits, a bucket to mix concrete, and we were on our way."

"After completing the CREB track from Daintree to Helensvale, we were on our way north to start the OTL and head to the Tip. During our travels, we pulled into Archer River Roadhouse. We had bumped into the 4WD Action team and John Rooth- 'Roothy' who had given us the motivation initially from the October 2009 magazine story... After a few beers, we showed Roothy and told him about our plan. 4WD Action completed a story on our idea. What a coincidence! After completing the trip north via Weipa (to get rapid set concrete), we soon arrived at Loyalty Beach, of which we stayed at for 4 nights. We travelled to the 'Tip' from Seisia on Saturday the 29-5-2010, however saw that a new sign had been already erected. We had carted all the gear from Sydney and along the track to the Tip, only to find that it had been replaced already!"

"We packed up all the tools (as we didn't want to erect another sign) after enjoying the Tip, however decided not to give up. We visited the Bamaga Council on Monday, chatted to Alex (Barker) who put us onto Nick (Curnow). Nick was a top bloke who was more than happy for us to head back north, erect our sign and remove their new sign. However, we needed a power hammer drill (which we used with our generator), because the beach rock is extremely hard. We borrowed this from Nick along with some shims, 2 extra bags of rapid set concrete, an angle grinder and cutting disks. Nick was more than happy to help. Once we were packed up for 'Take 2', we go to the tip and carried along the track: A bucket, generator, lead, 5" angle grinder with disks, power drill and 12mm bits, water for the concrete, Tru-bolts, the sign, a few beers, shims, and a spirit level."

"The sign cost us \$400, however we all chipped in for it. We cut the old one down in no time and erected our new one. Hopefully it stands for many years to come."



Thanks to Ms Sarah Kowald, Ms Natalie Humphries, Mr Andre Panich, Mr Ivan Panich, Mr Ben Steed, Mr Matt Smith, Mr Daniel Underwood, Mr Elliot Frost, Mr Paul Harries, and Mr Wade Harris.





Left to right: Mr Ben Steed, Mr Andre Panich, and Mr Ivan Panich.



The above sign (sign 3) was hard to read on normal snapshots, as its surface and the lettering were highly reflective. By July it was modified once more, with the lettering filled in with dark epoxy paint. Centre image shows the before and after.

"These guys blew me away," says Mr Nick Curnow, Works Overseer at NPARC, Department of Engineering. "To think that they shipped all their gear from Sydney, then hauled it all the way to the Tip. You don't get that these days anymore."

"Hopefully it stands for many years to come," writes Mr Panich.

On seeing the Tip sign in place, Mr Nick Curnow, "I nearly had a heart attack when I saw the sign for the first time, seeing were they put it. There was a tourist hanging on it at high tide. If he slips he could end up in China, with the currents we have up here."

By June the sign was relocated a little more to the south. Image right with flag and donated thong hanging off the post. Is it the flip or flop kind?



Sign 3, position 1, the tip of the Tip. High tide will cover the rocks.



Sign 3, position 2, a touch more southerly.

Visitors to the Tip should be aware that the tidal currents can be very fast and powerful. Any coastal waters in North Queensland can have dolphins, turtles, but also crocs, sharks, stingers, box jelly fish, sea snakes and a range of other critters. Good footwear and drinking water are advisable when trying to reach the Tip. Any rocks covered in growth or moisture can be slippery. Keep safe and please use common sense and enjoy your holiday.



Bamaga Pool images courtesy Mrs Alison Petelski.



## Andrew Archie Ground to become home of AFL in NPA



The Andrew Archie Memorial Football & Sports Ground, New Mapoon, is set to become the new home of AFL in the NPA.

Mr Rick Hanlon explains, "We've been working in the Kick-Start Program now for 13 years, coming up to our 13<sup>th</sup> year. We're constantly looking how we can progress the program in the top end of

Australia. We've got an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Tagai College, and we offered a similar MoU to NPA College, in terms of what we can do and so on, and in return we would want. Also having a facility in the top end, where we can hold carnivals, camps, for boys and girls, run our Oz-Kick program, school footy, all that sort of stuff is

really important for the development and growth of the game, also for the opportunity for the young people of the region. We're here today looking at some infrastructure, points of view, in terms of change rooms, extension of the ground, fencing, grand-stand facilities, those sorts of things. This will just take us to another level what we can offer, the people of the Torres Strait and the NPA, but also it's a really great way that we can engage the New Mapoon community. They've been fantastic in saying, 'You want to run programs, we'll offer the facility, need some upgrade,

we'll work with the ICC and the local council on that.' We want to use this as the base, where the kids come to. We do work at Injinoo school, we work at Bamaga school, we visit all the islands of the Torres Strait, so we've got a constant presence up here, but we actually haven't got an AFL Ground, and this is what this will provide for us. We've got AFL grounds in Wujal Wujal, Cooktown, Aurukun, Weipa, Badu has got their own little field at the back of school. Now we're developing one here."



"It's in a really good central location. It's got the area in terms of we can take the ground longer. It's close to Seisia where the boat comes in for the Torres Strait kids, and I guess the fact that Uncle Michael Bond has been really proactive in supporting what we're trying to do. We want to share it, we want Rugby League to be able to continue to train here and do the things that they do. The only thing is that we'll have an AFL field that we can utilize as well."

Mr Rick Hanlon, "Anzack Newman (with ball) got involved in our program as a 12-year-old, 5 or 6 years ago. He's just an outstanding young person. He was going to college, he'd been involved in our teams, the Crusader teams that go away to titles, country championships etc, and because of the quality of kid, we offered him a scholarship to go to Melbourne, Scotch College, which is a huge college, an amazing place."



"Anyway, he's been there now for 2½ years and he's doing extremely well in his education and his football. He's playing terrific footy for his college, he's doing very well in his art, English and so on, and just developing into a terrific young person. We want to be able to offer more of these opportunities to other kids in the NPA." (Mr Anzack Newman was born on Anzac Day)

"We work with any kid, from 5 to 18 that is going to school, boys and girls. We'll have a carnival here, October 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a girl's under 16 championship and boys under 15 championship. There will be either a game here, or on Thursday Island, or the Crusader Cup Regional Titles up here, which Bamaga has a team in it, as well as Tagai, Badu, and Horn Island."

*The late Mr Andrew Archie (born 1920), in whose name the sports ground is honoured, was the first elected Chairman (1962) of what is now New Mapoon, following resettlement from Mapoon Mission in 1958. He was an Elder of the Tjonkandji Clan, and respected for his tireless contribution and commitment in the initial development of the site, today known as New Mapoon. He died in 1998.*



Image from left: Dale Treanor (AFL Cape York), Mr Russell Symons (NPARC), Mr Tony Martens (ICC Cairns), Ms Michelle Torrens (ICC Cairns), Mr Alex Barker (NPARC), Mr Rick Hanlon, and Mr John Hollander (both AFL Cape York).

Mr Rick Hanlon is winner of the Leitch Medal, and is about to be inducted in the AFL Hall of Fame, Tasmania (interviewed 25 June). "Yeah, yeah, I'll go home next Thursday to be inducted in the Hall of Fame in Tassie. Yeah, pretty privileged and honoured that people respecting your involvement, and what you've achieved, and what you've put into the game. Yeah, I'm quite humbled about it," says Mr Rick Hanlon.

Image bottom left courtesy of Ms Esme Newman.

## Sports Day at Bamaga College



The NPA College Athletics Carnival 2010, held over two days in June, was well supported by parents, members of the community and the NPA College staff. Students gave their all. Baidam house crystallised as the house winner.

NPARC Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stuart Duncan



## PNG Treaty Communities Embrace Sea Turtle and Dugong Conservation

Communities in Western Province, Papua New Guinea have welcomed a new program to raise awareness of the issue of over-hunting of sea turtles and dugongs. The Program recently commenced with a workshop in Daru, PNG, where Treaty community representatives voiced their concern over falling sea turtle and dugong numbers and strongly supported an Awareness Program that will educate community members to reduce impacts.



Treaty Village Chairman, Mr Sisa Kimia and Mr Sam More of Pamara Island discuss the Awareness Program. Photo by David Roe.

The Program will be delivered by Sea Turtle Foundation with the support of the PNG Dept of Environment and Conservation. It will educate children about sea turtle and dugong life-cycles and make adults aware of sustainable hunting practices.

"Treaty community representatives are deeply concerned over this issue," said David Roe of Sea Turtle Foundation. "At the workshop they told us they want to ensure sea turtle and dugong populations are safe and will always be found in Torres Strait waters."

"We will now develop activities and resources and take that message into Treaty villages and schools," continued Mr Roe. "By raising awareness of the issues and showing ways to reduce impacts we are turning a corner in sea turtle and dugong conservation in the region. The aim is to bring these animals back to safe numbers."

Sea turtles and dugongs are listed as threatened species due to a wide range of human impacts. They are caught in fishing gear, they are hit by boats, they swallow marine debris and they lose their habitats to coastal developments. "The people are seeing fewer sea turtles and dugongs every year," said Sisa Kimia, Treaty Village Chairman. "All the Treaty communities have agreed to work together to reduce take from hunting. This is important for us, our children and our culture." Western Province Treaty people can hunt in Australia's Torres Strait waters under the Torres Strait Treaty Act 1984 in recognition of this being their traditional hunting and fishing sea country. Sea turtle and dugong conservation work is well advanced in the Australian side of the Torres Strait.

"In the Torres Strait there is a Ranger Program and management plans to care for these animals," continued Mr Roe. "But sea turtles and dugongs are migratory so for this work to be effective similar work must also take place in PNG. We are very pleased to now be starting that work with the full support of all 13 PNG Treaty communities."

The Program has core funding from the Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTSRF) – a component of the Dept of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts - and has the support of the Dept of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Sea Turtle Foundation is a non-profit, non-government organisation based in Townsville, Qld.

Businesses interested in supporting the Program should contact David Roe 07 4721 2699, [david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org](mailto:david.roe@seaturtlefoundation.org). To learn more about Sea Turtle Foundation's program of research, education and action go to [www.seaturtlefoundation.org](http://www.seaturtlefoundation.org)

Article by Mr David Roe, Sea Turtle Foundation



Want to walk hand in hand?  
Don't be silly. How?



Let's just rub our heads together!

## New Mapoon Arts Centre

... well worth a visit

Located midway between Bamaga and Seisia, next to NPARC Council building at New Mapoon, is the New Mapoon Arts Centre (Tel. 4083 0271), in its first year of operation. It's a place to mingle with local artists, have a yarn, and admire the works their gifts allow. In the display room are original works from various Cape York artists. Next door, and around the back, busy hands work on the next projects.



Original works of art on display and for sale



...more on page 22



## It's the best ...numbers definitely up ...full ...chockers ...never seen Jardine full like that in my life



### ... having a great time

...and so it shows. Mr and Mrs Duff and their two daughters come from Melbourne, Victoria. "We're having a great time ...good time, yeah," says Mr Duff (image left) at Seisia, and they're not the only ones.



Mr Henry Earl, of BP, Seisia, "To the best of my knowledge, and I've been here 14 and a bit years, and I've never seen it this crowded up here. I think the feedback from everyone is pretty much the same, it's fairly hectic. Demand on everything, the supermarkets, the servo."

Ms Rosalie Dunn, BP, Seisia, "This is the best year we've had, and I've been here for about 5 years. It's the best. Once they get here, they don't want to go home."



Tourist numbers up, with hardly any room to swing the bait, at Seisia Jetty (above). Unfortunately, BP Seisia (left) had 4 of its 6 pumps out of order. Three were working on 5<sup>th</sup> July.



Mr Kori Mason, NPA Airport Manager, "What's happening on the airport, with the demise of Regional (Pacific), Skytrans is trying to get as many planes on as they can. What planes they have got are very full, and as of today (5<sup>th</sup> July) they have gone to 7 day operations, Sunday afternoon flights, as of today. The numbers (of passengers) through the airport are definitely up. I have the figures at home that show a definite rise over last year. This time last year we weren't as busy. Certainly at the airport or by just driving around, you can see how many more people there are on the streets, so, yeah."

Note: Article written early July, so the camp grounds may not be as full when you read it.



Tourists arrive by boats, plane, 4x4s, as groups of trail bike riders, on quad bikes, trucks and vehicles of all descriptions. Image left is at Seisia Service Station. The Sunset Markets are packed as well, early July, with Fishing Club very busy too.



"Numbers are up in a big way," says Mr Arthur Wong. "Same in Loyalty Beach, I just went past, full. Punsand Bay is full. I went to the Jardine, I never seen Jardine full like that in my life. They were camping at Jardine Ferry, because Eliot Falls is full too. Archer River is packed as well."

Mr Nick Curnow, "Someset, it's chockers (meaning: full)."

Whilst Seisia is bursting at the seams, Umagico's beachside Camp Ground is bursting with empty lots (image below), the best kept secret in the NPA. Only three sites had cars, the rest sheer silent bliss. "Don't tell anyone," says one couple enjoying the ocean breeze. "We heard about this place from a guy in Coen, who heard it from a bloke from Tasmania." Word of mouth does get around.

In a joint initiative NPA and TSI Regional Councils attended caravan show in Sydney earlier in the year, promoting Cape York, NPA and the Torres Strait with a 4 page brochure: 'Come and visit one of Australia's Final Frontiers.'



Camp sites spring up at both sides of Tumema Street, Seisia, as Seisia Holiday Resort and its new extension across the road are full.

### Rangers not happy ☹

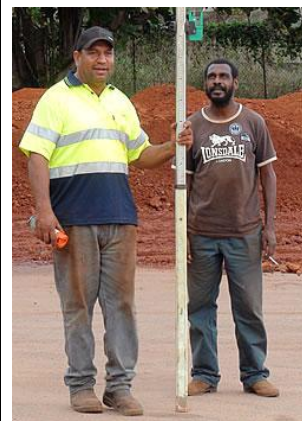
Rangers are not happy with the donuts 4WDs leave at Pajinka Beach, likewise at Captain Billy, where Quad bikes tear away the road surface. **Respect the NPA!**

### High tides force landfill



Work is currently underway

to raise the surface of the parking area near Seisia Boat ramp. Recent high tides had the bitumen area near SeaSwift depot covered with ocean water, which then became trapped.



Mr John Usia (left, Grader driver), and Mr Conway, spreading the fill so that it has runoff towards the ocean. The work is carried

out by NPA Regional Council's Roads and Maintenance department.



## Sewage Pipeline between New Mapoon / Bamaga



Pipeline work at 'Termite Cathedral Avenue', between New Mapoon and Bamaga ...



... and the light at the end of the tunnel, laser aligned.

## Police advises on new laws relating to child restraints

0 – 6 months (less than 8kg), rearward facing baby capsule or infant restraint.  
 6 months – 1 year (8 - 12kg), rearward or forward facing infant restraint.  
 6 months – 4 yrs (8 – 18kg), forward facing child restraint with built-in harness.  
 4 – 7 years (14-26 kg), Booster seat with H-harness, or Booster seat with a secured adult seatbelt. The penalty for incorrectly securing a child: \$300 and 3 demerit points.  
 Dep of Transport & Main Roads, RACQ (1800 816 523) & Kidsafe, Qld, offer info & advice.

[www.transport.qld.gov.au/childrestraints](http://www.transport.qld.gov.au/childrestraints), or call 132 380 for more info. Use only restraints that have been approved by Australian Safety Standards. Dreamtime Bamaga sells baby seats.

## Is there a sign fetishist on the loose?



The image shows one of 15 new prohibitory road signs, a week after its installation.

Even though the sign is missing, the fine one can expect by not obeying its message is \$186 and 3 demerit points. Stealing the sign is a property offence and one is likely to meet the judge (see also page 19). The signs were placed at Bamaga Service Station, Muttee Heads, Jardine Road, Jardine Ferry, Somerset, the Tip, the Croc Tent and at junction of Jardine and Somerset. "We put them up last week," says Mr Nick Curnow, "The one at Muttee Heads is already missing. Allan just came back from Somerset and that one's gone too, (expletive expletive)," and these are not the only missing ones.

Whoever took the signs please order new ones from: 'worksense' in Cairns, tel: 4031 1317, Part Number: TC1317A, Description: 'Riding in back of Utilities prohibited', 450 x 450 Metal CL1REFL, Unit Cost \$90. If the brackets are lost, you'll need to order 2 per sign, Part No: TDI, cost \$2.80 each. Use the same spanner to refit them, and don't forget to order your own sign, perhaps a lot cheaper than the upcoming conviction. You may need a post to fit your sign at your place. The description is: Pipe & Cap 50mm x 3.25mm, Unit Cost \$56.31, and allow for GST and delivery costs on all items.

It all started with the missing Tip sign, which was a once off Original. Now the trend is road signs, mass produced, each the same. Perhaps Souvenir hunters could indicate their interests, so that local traders can prepare and start stocking traffic signs.



All children up to 7 years of age need to be correctly restrained according to their size and age. The following is a guide to child restraints (age/weight):



... and be aware of wildlife.

In the NPA many kids play on the roads as well. The speed limit in all NPA

built-up areas is 40km/h max, unless signed differently. This may be too fast in some cases. Live and let live.

**The Vet will be in the NPA** 19<sup>th</sup> July, for pet checks. If you would like heartworm needles, vaccinations, surgery or any other procedures, please call Pam Barnes, on 044 769 8154, or Jen Gaunt, on 0417 963 267.

**Restricted vehicle registrations** can only be used down to Archer River. Driving further south requires a permit, available at Bamaga Police Station. ...more on page 18.

**The Indigenous Licensing Unit will be in the NPA**, on 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September, available for license tests, renewals, replacements, 18+ ID cards, learner license testing and related services. ...more on page 18



## Historical Film footage shows Mapoon (Marpuna), 1927 to 1933



New Mapoon residents get to see historical film footage of (old) Mapoon, filmed between 1927 and 1933. The B/W silent film brought back many memories. As it

"The films were made by a fellow named Arthur T. Sullivan, from T.I.," explains Mr Neuenfeldt.

"They were a pearling family. His daughter is still alive. The films were done



ran, projected on the wall, residents spoke of their recollections:

"We were moved at gunpoint."

"There were no blankets for the children on the ships. It was cold."

"Some had nothing, just the clothes on their back, when they arrived at New Mapoon."

"We knew where to get food in Mapoon, what things we could eat, where to find it. We didn't know any of that here, when we came to New Mapoon."

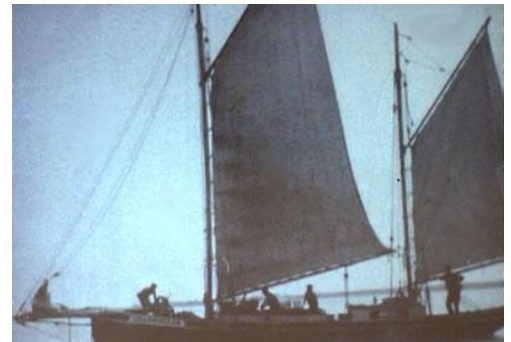
"We had to start from scratch."

Their memories in turn were recorded by Mr Karl Neuenfeldt (sound) and Mr Brett Charles (video).

*The people from Mapoon were forcibly relocated to many places in Queensland (early 60s), including New Mapoon, which is traditional Gudang country.*

and 1933 and were taken to Brisbane after the war (WWII). The daughter had lent them to somebody in Wynnum to view them, they happened to have an old 16mm projector."

"Unfortunately, that person died. By the time the daughter found out that the man had died, all things had gone, the house had been cleared out. Luckily someone had taken the films down to the Queensland Museum, who then purchased the films, in 1982 approximately. So they sat for almost 20 years in an esky. I happened to be doing some work with National Film and Sound Archive, and a friend of mine said, 'Oh, we've got an esky full of old films. Some of them marked T.I., some marked Mapoon, Cape York, etc.' The long and the short of it, we got them digitized."



"This is the first time what we thought might be Mapoon (Marpuna), the people of this community (New Mapoon), and they have positively identified it as Mapoon, from somewhere between 1927 and 33. They've been given their recollections, some of the elderly people who were raised there, others who remember having to leave Mapoon, who were relocated. It is rewarding for us to have people to connect this footage back with the community, because it may be the only moving footage of those communities. It triggers a lot of memories, happy and sad. The recording here is done in connection with State Library of Queensland for the Culture Love Program in New Mapoon and other communities. We now know what this footage is about."



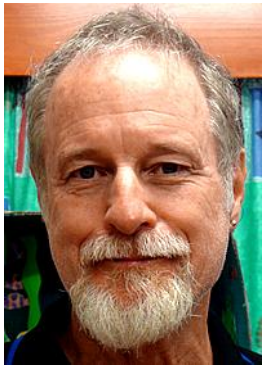
Mr Brett Charles, after seeing the elders' reaction to the Mapoon

footage, "I thought that people could be removed at gunpoint, their houses burned, as recently as 1963 is just horrendous. It makes me feel ashamed, you know, the European side of the equation. It just should not have ever happened."

Mr Karl Neuenfeldt, "My personal reaction to the peoples' reaction to seeing that footage was one of at times discomfort, because as an immigrant to Australia I wasn't here when a lot of those things happened, but I found some of the policies to be pretty understandable, and I could feel the people's pain and their anger, and as a non-indigenous person you have to reflect on things that your culture was involved in also. But the positive side is that that footage exists, and it is a link to the past that people otherwise wouldn't have. It's always a happy and a sad thing at the same time, and as an anthropologist and researcher you have to say, 'well, it's going to have positives and negatives'. On a personal level, because I used to teach Indigenous studies at universities, and this kind of reaction came up quite often, because people who had been taken away for example didn't know their history, and when they started finding out their history, they at times be angry at the lecturer who might know more of the book knowledge, but had not have that personal experience. But that's just part of doing research. It's the human side of research. It's peoples' lives; it's not a footnote in a book. It's somebody's lives, somebody's family, somebody's happy and sad memories."



## Seisia elders view 1936 B/W film



Mr Karl Neuenfeldt introducing the showing to the Seisia elders, "The original film was made in about 1936 by the Queensland Government. It is basically a propaganda film. It was made after the luggers strike up in Torres Strait, in 35 I think that was (see Note on the right). The

government wanted to say that they were looking after Indigenous people in Queensland, so they made this propaganda film. It's a silent film. It starts out in Mornington and goes all the way up to the Cape, up to Torres Strait, and back down the east coast to Lockhart and Cherbourg. There is a lot of footage of the Torres Strait as they went to a lot of islands in the Torres Strait. There is some really lovely old footage of dance and community things. Most people don't know that this exists. Part of it is in connection with those of you who came over from Saibai in 47, and ended up here on the Cape. So it's part of the migration story. Because it's 1935/36 approximately, many of the people in there would have passed away, pictures of the children for example... we showed this to a woman from Cherbourg and her mother was in the school, keep the kids in order with a big stick or something. She was absolutely amazed to see her mother in the film."



"I am involved in the Culture Love Program we are running, " says Mrs Pauline Lifu, under whose guidance Mr Karl Neuenfeldt and Mr Brett

Charles record the reactions of local elders to the shown historical black and white footage. "We did New Mapoon yesterday, now we're doing Seisia, showing old footage and trying to get them to remember if they know anything of the past and how they moved over from Saibai to Seisia." As to the viewing of the New Mapoon footage, "I felt good, but in another way it hurts. They were forced to move from their home to live at a strange place that they didn't know. We are going to give the material we collect to each individual that is going to be recorded, and give it back to the community."

Mrs Ethel Reid works together with Mrs Lifu on the project.



Mr Neuenfeldt repeatedly stopped the DVD to give elders a chance to recognize faces. After all, these children could be the grandparents of many who are alive today.



During the Seisia showing people asked repeatedly, 'stop,' trying to rewind memory, to recognize faces.

*Note: Australian Government Culture Portal reports a strike in 1936 for Islander control of the boats. The Australian Public Intellectual Network, (from Noel Loos: Edwad Koiki Mabo: The Journey to Native Title) reports (quote):*

"In 1936, the islanders on company boats stunned their white overlords by going on strike simultaneously throughout the strait. The Queensland administration had created a unity of purpose among people who had previously been concerned with their own island interests. They had also been drawn together into world-wide capitalism through the fisheries, introduced to a world-wide religion and its Torres Strait wide organisation through the missionaries, and become enmeshed in a western colonialist administration. The 1936 maritime strike was consequently successful because of the wider Torres Strait Islander identity produced by colonialist expansion, as well as being caused by the domination resulting from it."

(unquote) ... and also (quote): "The strike lasted for four months in the western islands, while in the east the Murray Islanders boycotted the government-controlled fisheries until after world war II. Their gardens and the sea could sustain them. Indeed, Murray islanders are believed to have instigated the strike. They had always been noted for their self-assertive independence and had been dubbed 'the Irish of the Torres Strait'. Strong leaders emerged to lead their fractious people until another strong leader challenged the old order. On Mer, 'everyone mamoose', the Meriam said of themselves, everyone is a chief. Throughout much of the colonial history, strong Meriam leaders had emerged to limit as much as possible the intrusion of Queensland's colonialist controls into Meriam life. On more than one occasion they had defied Queensland authority, the 1936 maritime strike being but the best-known example before the Meriam demanded of the Queensland government, in the high court of Australia, the return of the native title to their land. Koiki Mabo was born in the year of the maritime strike and died in the year the Meriam won their ten-year high court challenge that destroyed the concept of *terra nullius* on which Australia was founded." (unquote)





## The pain of 'Our Journey'

Filming of 'Our journey' took place in Seisia and continued in New Mapoon, late June. People gathered for a recording session with Mrs Pauline Lifo, recalling the move from Mapoon (Marpuna) to what is now New Mapoon, and the early days of living here. Sound is recorded by Mr Karl Neuenfeldt, video by Mr Brett Charles.

Recollections from years ago:

'When they were fishing in the water, no shark or croc would ever take them.'

'They moved the cattle from Old Mapoon to here, and shot them and sold them.'

'Mapoon was directly on the water, here we had to walk 5km to get to the ocean, and back again.'

'There was overcrowding in the houses. I was 7 years old.'

Mrs Clara Day, "My father was the Chair person when he first moved here to look at what area would be suitable for Old Mapoon people to move to New Mapoon. When he came up he had his Councillors with him. They moved here to talk to the Cowal Creek elders there to find a place here for the 'Old' Mapoon people."



Images above, from left: Mrs Joyce Lifu, Ms Margaret Mark, Mrs Clara Day, Mr Jimmy Bond, and Cr Michael Bond.

Left image, from left: Mr Charles (Video), Ms Margaret Mark, Mrs Joyce Lifu, Mrs Pauline Lifo (back), Cr Michael Bond, Mr Jimmy Bond, Mrs Clara Day, and Mr Neuenfeldt (Sound).



so they resisted that movement. So what the government did, they forced the people, moved them out of their houses and burnt the houses down. Until this day we still feel that hurt. It was really hurtful, really degrading, the movement made at that time. It wasn't a very happy time for us, as you can see from the painting at the back here. They depict what actually happened. The police actually came in, they carried guns, and they pulled the people out. All the houses, as far as I know, were burnt down.'



The project is supported by Indigenous Knowledge Centres and NPA Regional Council, with financial assistance coming from Queensland Government through Arts Queensland Backing Indigenous Arts program and Culture Love, delivered by the State Library Queensland.

## Holiday activities: To learn about the past



Ms Sharon Phineasa (left), based in Cairns, is from State Library of Queensland (recorded 29 June), "We are part of the children's holiday activities that we call 'the Culture Love Program'. It's about teaching the children to have new ways of doing art activities, also about helping community members to have workshop experiences, and we bring in artists from Cairns, or the local area, to help the children learn skills that will help them to become better productive people. So they share that knowledge. Also to appreciate the story, the community they belong. You know with every community there is a history." continued next page







how the migration happened, all those years ago from Saibai Island to Bamaga, and how they established here. It was beautiful to hear, they made longstanding friendships with the people who already lived here, the local Indigenous people, and how they welcomed them here, and everyone worked together to establish and settle this place."

"The elder is here (Mrs Ellen Daniel) to share the story about Marpuna. We've also been visiting Seisia and getting stories about



Seeing the faces, this comes to mind:

in silence, stunned,  
words weigh me down

why?  
explain  
why?

...she didn't know

where do I belong,  
where's home?

and there we sat  
and listened



important today for the elders to be here to share the stories that would further help them."

"Yesterday we took the kids out to Loyalty Beach, to collect shells and all sorts of beads that they found on the beach," says Ms Phineasa. "We brought them back here, drilled holes, and they all made their beautiful necklaces, and we did some artwork based on the stories, how people came to be here at New Mapoon, and so in Seisia. It was good visualizing through art the story, how this place came to be. It was



### Holiday activities: To learn about arts and craft

Mr Joel Sam, visual artist from Cairns. "I was born on Thursday Island and raised here, in Bamaga. I'm local, but I moved a couple of years ago to Cairns, to study my visual arts. I'm doing mixed media. I'm doing paintings, carvings, linos, etchings, batiks."

Mr Sam is at New Mapoon with the Culture Love Program to teach the kids his art, and jewellery making, carving coconut shells, and making pendants out of dugong bones. "Around here there are heaps of dugong bones. I'm just showing them you can make something out of them, instead of just throwing the bones away. Also using the coconut shell as well. They are using that for cooking, but also we can make jewellery." From one activity to another, kids march across to the Council building, to learn about their past from Elder, Mrs Daniel, and refuel for lunch. Four days of activities, Culture Love at New Mapoon, producing CDs, digital stories & DVDs, music, church songs, filming, dancing and meeting artists, presented by State Library of Qld.



Mr Sam shaping a dugong bone to become a pendant.





Listen up, me Hearties! The *Peninsula Pirates* arrr getting restless and need some excitement on the high seas.  
So we be puttin' togetherrr a raft race.

- **When:** 18<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Starting Time: 3:00pm SHARP
- **Where:** From Umagico Campgrounds to Seisia Fishing Club (2.2nm)
- **Who:** Any team of two or more plus a support boat
- **What:** 2 Classes – Jury Rig Dinghy or Hand-made Sailing Craft (raft)

Nominations directed to Kym – Dale Kocsis:  
Mble: 0427 0537 19 Hm: 4069 3606

Courtesy of Ms Kym Kocsis

The number of Life Community Carers in training is now 13. Some of the invited guests could not attend. Ms Marilyn Anderson (trainer with Life Workshops), before the meeting was about to open, "There is something that just happened. The reason that the Police representatives are late is that they have just done a suicide intervention, a very short time ago." Seven of the other Life community carers could not attend due to prior commitments.

"We've done 6 workshops in the NPA communities," says Ms Dulcie Bird (executive officer), "and in doing those workshops, we've identified people who wanted to be come Life Community Carers. These community carers will now have pretty intensive training every month we come up." Life Program has been asked to conduct more workshops, for Menshed, for 122 footballers, for the school, grades 11 and 12, and also all of the staff, 150 from Education Queensland.

"While we'll be doing those specific workshops, we will be training every month our Life Community Carers. We've spoken to Joslin, who is a mental health nurse, and she likes the idea that the community carers might become also mentors for some people in the community. We're going to talk further about working in with Joslin with that, at Queensland Health. We never forget that Mental Health, Queensland Health is really the place to go when a person is at high risk."

"We've got a NPA flowchart (printed in Issue 13, page 16) with all the key phone numbers that people can ring. In a case of a high-risk person, that is the Police, the Ambulance, and Mental Health, Qld Health."

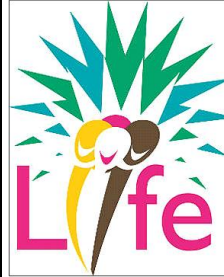
The flowchart was developed by the Queensland Suicide Prevention Taskforce 14 years ago as a Cairns community flowchart. "We came up with the idea that everybody should have their own flowchart," says Ms Bird. "Over the last 2 years we've been busy putting that flowchart into every community. We have done Lockhart River, Coen, Weipa and Napranum, New Mapoon, old Mapoon, Kowanyama, Hope Vale, Wujal Wujal, Cooktown, so lots of Indigenous communities have their flowchart, and the NPA has one as well." It is anticipated that all 'Life Community Carers' will be trained by August 2010.

Ms Dulcie Bird can be reached on 0409 765 305, Ms Marilyn Anderson on 40 310 145. Workshop and Counselling are free. The project is funded by the Australian Government, Department of Health and Aging.

### Community Consultation (Seisia / Bamaga DOGITS)

Officers of the Department of Environment and Resource Management working on the review of the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991* and *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* met with Seisia community members at Injinoo Youth Centre (15<sup>th</sup> July), to discuss changes proposed to these Acts. This follows a meeting in Nov 09, to provide further information on proposed amendments to these Acts.

### The Something Better Project



Life Program launches the emergence of the Life Community Carers Team at Resort Bamaga (24 June). As reported (Issue 13, page 16, NPA News), *The Dr Edward Koch Foundation in partnership with CAPE PCYC (NPA) is conducting Life Suicide Awareness & Prevention Skills Workshops in the NPA over the next two years. Their aim is to train locals in recognising the early signs of suicidal thoughts. A team of 10 volunteers (Life Community Carers) was their target. A Life Workshop was held at Umagico (23 June), with the aim of providing people with a basic set of skills to assist in recognising when someone might be at risk of suicide, and equip people to respond to that person's need.*



From left, rear: Ms Annie Bowie, Ms Dulcie Bird, Mrs Michelle Tamwoy, Mrs Sandra Sebasio, Mr Heinz Ross, Ms Marilyn Anderson, front, from left, Ms Seleah Tatapata, and Mrs Vicky Namok.

The change will provide options for the recognition of Aboriginal persons' traditional ownership and the community connection Torres Strait Islander persons have with this land. The change will recognise that the Seisia and Bamaga DOGITS are located on the traditional lands of Aboriginal persons and will provide for the grant of this land to now occur under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*, rather than under the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991*, as is the case now.

(DOGIT = Deed of Grant in Trust)

NPARC Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stuart Duncan





It took 2 years of discussions, public meetings and community consultations to get to this, the registration of the Injinoo Apudthama Indigenous Corporation. "The first thoughts of enterprise have been around about 6 years ago," says Mr Serubi.

The papers went in on time, the deadline being the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Mrs Rose Too has been tireless in helping to make this possible, flying to the NPA repeatedly from Cairns. 29<sup>th</sup> June is also a day to say 'thanks' to Mrs Toos, for all she's put into it. In a small gathering at Injinoo, Mrs Too received handwoven matts to take home.

"We'll call you back," says Ms Enid Namok. Each around the table expressed their appreciation. "A personal thanks for all your assistance, and the paperwork. It's been good," says Mr Tolowa Nona.



Mr Thomas Serubi, "Thank you, Rose. Now that the seeds have been planted, I believe, it will bear fruit for the children. It is something that the people of Injinoo have been wanting to have. It's been very hard. But I hope the seeds that are dormant, and when the time comes, with a little bit of water and they're sprouting away. As I said, I hope it will bear fruits that the children use. Thank you so much."



Mrs Sandra Sebasio (left) expressed her thanks.

Mrs Rose Too: "I'd like to say thank you for having me here. You didn't know what you were going to get. It was very special, and I wish the new

directors all the best. I think you're going to have to be absolutely fearless and have so much courage for what you have to do. I think at the end of the day the thing is, is it in the best interest of the community, and that will be your guide. And I hope I put the fear of God into the directors to do the right thing. It's such a, such a special time up here, so thanks for having me. I wish you well with the little baby, the little Corporation. Thank you."



## Thank you, Mrs Rose Too



Mrs Rose Too at Injinoo.

... is it in the best interest of the community?  
That will be your guiding Light.

Mrs Rose Too is a volunteer with the Indigenous Communities Volunteers (ICV). "I was invited to provide the Injinoo Apudthama Indigenous Corporation with training and skills development in corporate governance, targeting priority areas of corporate governance as identified and agreed to by the Corporation's Board members. The first phase of the project, which commenced in April 2010, was focussed on governance training and helping the members set up their corporation. The second part of the project, which runs until 30 June 2011, involves providing Board members with ongoing corporate governance advice, support and review via telephone and email and where required on-site in Injinoo." ...more on page 24

## Registrations , Licences,

... continued from page 9

Many people living in the NPA have their vehicle registered with a restricted area concession on them. This involves registering your vehicle at a discounted concession, which then only allows the vehicle to be used in a restricted area. The restricted area for the NPA finishes at Archer River, so anyone travelling south of Archer River (e.g. driving to Cairns) is required to get a letter of permission from the Bamaga Police Station (Weipa is still considered to be in the restricted area). If a vehicle with a restricted area concession is driven south of Archer River, and the owner does not have a letter of permission, they are then running the risk of being fined for driving an unregistered vehicle and will not have compulsory third party insurance.

There are fees involved if the vehicle is to be out of the restricted area for more than 7 days (under 7 days is free, however you are still required to have a letter of permission), which are pro-rata based on how many days the vehicle is out of the area. To find out the cost you can contact Queensland Transport on 132 380.

The Indigenous Driver Licensing Unit can assist with: Written Tests for Learners Licences, Licence Renewals, Licence Replacements,

Practical Driving Tests to get a car, bus or truck licence, and 18+ ID Cards.

Queensland Transport registration and licensing day is on Mondays only, at the Bamaga Police Station between 9.30am – 2.30pm.

If anyone has any queries or would like further explanation, contact Bamaga Police on 4069 3156 or Queensland Transport on 132 380. Vehicle registration renewals can also be paid at any Australia Post outlet.

The Queensland Transport website allows you to pay vehicle registration renewals, change your address and renew your Driver License if it is still current: [www.transport.qld.gov.au](http://www.transport.qld.gov.au)

This information courtesy of Bamaga Police.



## I'm just a proud mum



Proud mum, Mrs Sonya Panuel wishes to congratulate her niece, Renee Phineasa (12yrs), and daughter, Louisa Panuel (Grade 6, 10yrs) for passing their assessment into boot camp.

"They are into Technology and stuff. My daughter put more or less 110% into her work, and she had to do three criteria, and they had to be 350 words each. Basically like, 'What do you enjoy about Technology?' to get into the boot camp. So out of the whole school, Grade 5 to Grade 10, there is only one from each, Primary and High School, and my Niece got accepted, and my daughter as well. So I went down with them to the boot camp."

"They really enjoyed it, like putting a lot of effort into it, yeah. Out of the whole class, no one actually put something through, which she was really happy to be one of the selected ones to go down."

"So they went down for a week and really enjoyed it, yeah. That boot camp was all about

Technology. It's good to see young ones putting a little effort into it. She prepared it a month before. A year before Esme's daughter, she got selected, that's when she said, 'Oh mum, next year I'll make sure no one comes at it.' I just wanted to put it in there (NPA News), because I know she put a big effort into it. I'm just a proud mum." At the recent NPA College Athletics Carnival in Bamaga Louisa (left) was also picked for age champion. "I came first in 200m, the first in 400, and first for long jump," says Louisa. Mum questions, "You came first in 100m too?" Louisa replies, "No, I came second." Congratulations to all, Renee, Louisa and Mrs Panuel. Images Louisa left, in yellow, Renee right, in pink top.



## Rangers happy 😊

During the past months, Rangers have been busy clearing the West Coast of ghost nets. They also attended meetings at Karumba. At Mc Donnell River they were searching out weeds via chopper and eradicating them. They went to Hell Gate to learn about fire management. Photos (right) courtesy Mr Meun Lifu. NPARC advertised to fill Ranger position.



## Rangers not happy 😞

Rangers are not happy with some truck and utility drivers that lose part of their load when driving to the dump. They suggest that loads on the back, or on trailers should be covered with a net to stop it from flying out.



Shirley Daniel wins Safety Award for lining up safely and respectfully after break. Congratulations, Shirley.

## Dogs on trailers, signs and rego

Driving a vehicle with a dog or any other animal in the tray which is unrestrained (tied up), brings a \$233 fine for the driver.

Stealing any road or any other signs, which are NPARC property or property belonging to anyone else, will result in the person facing charges of stealing which is a criminal offence. That will result in the person having to appear at the Bamaga Magistrates Court. Maximum penalty for stealing is 5 years imprisonment.

Another reminder to residents of the NPA is the issue in relation to the registration of trailers. All trailers (box, boat, horse etc) that are driven on a road or road related area must be registered.

The fines are as follows: Use or permit the use of an unregistered trailer with an ATM not over 1.02 tonnes has a fine of \$160. Use or permit the use of an unregistered trailer with an ATM over 1.02 tonnes, but under 4.5 tonnes, has a fine of \$240.

This information courtesy of Bamaga Police.





'Sweet Poison, why sugar makes us fat' is a book Mr David Gillespie wrote two years ago.

Hearing Mr Gillespie on ABC in 'Conversation with Richard Fidler', broadcast 29<sup>th</sup> June, NPA News made contact with him (30<sup>th</sup> June):

"David Gillespie is a recovering corporate lawyer, co-founder of a successful software company and consultant to the IT industry. He is also the father of six young children (including one set of twins). With such a lot of extra time on his hands, and 40 extra kilos on his waistline, he set out to investigate why he, like so many in his generation, was fat. He deciphered the latest medical findings on diet and weight gain and what he found was chilling. Being fat was the least of his problems. He needed to stop poisoning himself."

The introductory words are taken from website 'sweetpoison.com' with the permission of the author.



Mr Gillespie before (left) and after losing 40kg (right). He has held his current weight for the last 5 years.

"Sugar is one half fructose, the other half

glucose, so it's two molecules that are joined together, and that's what we call sugar," says Mr Gillespie. "The fructose half of it is actually very, very dangerous, that is the key finding. First of all, it makes you fat. It is metabolised directly by our liver and turned immediately into fat, as soon as we ingest it. Before you finish a glass of soft drink, or a glass of apple juice, the first mouthful of it is already circulating in your arteries as fat, because of the fructose. It is never used for energy; it's always turned into fat. That's bad enough, in that it makes you fat. But it has a lot of other affects as well. One of the really important things that it does is all that circulating fat makes you insulin resistant. So you become resistant to the effects of insulin, which means that your body has to create more and more and more, then over time you become a Type II Diabetic. That type of sugar (fructose) is found in anything that contains sugar. So any product that has sugar on the label is half fructose, for example, a can of 'named soft drink' is about 400 ml of soft drink, and in that 400ml is about 40g of sugar, which translates to 20g of fructose, because it's half of the sugar. It's in soft drinks, it's in breakfast cereal, it's in condiments like BBQ sauce, tomato sauce and things like that. It is in everything we buy, it's even in bread, if you look at the big food categories, juices, soft drinks, and breakfast cereals, besides the obvious things like confectionary and so on."

"The body creates the sugar it needs. Glucose is the body's fuel, and every carbohydrate we eat is converted to glucose, except fructose. It's either glucose already, in the case of sugar there is half of it which is glucose, and that's fine, but the other half, fructose, is never used for energy, never converted to glucose, and can never be used for energy, it's just turned immediately into fat."

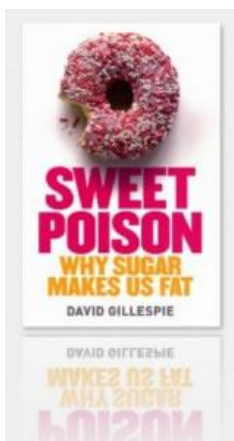
"When we look historically, prior to about 1830, when we first learned to create sugar in industrial quantities, the average Australian consumed about 1kg of fructose a year, and they got that from ripe fruit, when it was in season, and from honey, and that were the only two places where they got any fructose, so that's 1 kg per year. Now, the average Australian is consuming more than 1kg of sugar, or ½ kg of fructose, every week. That is a massive increase in that thing in our diet, because if you got to sell food to people, you'll sell more of it if you include an addictive substance, which makes people want to eat the food. And that is exactly what fructose does."

"The first book was just called 'Sweet poison', and that came out a couple of years ago, and that really was just about informing people about what the science was saying about how damaging this particular thing is, and how much of it is in our diet now. And the second book, because a lot of people said, 'That's really interesting that you now scared us half to death with this, but what are we supposed to do about it?' So the second book is sort of a follow up that goes through a plan of how to get yourself unaddicted from sugar, because it is an addictive substance. It is no less addictive than nicotine. And just like with nicotine, you can't just decide to stop eating it, unless you happen to be particularly talented, getting yourself unaddicted. In order to unaddict from an addictive substance, you need to have a plan, and a methodology for doing it, and that's what this book sets out."

"There are withdrawal symptoms. It has the normal opiate withdrawal symptoms, so the same withdrawal symptoms you would have from nicotine. After a day or two you probably experience headaches, probably mood swings, cravings, and even in some cases mild depression."

Mr Gillespie does not claim to be a scientist, or trained in the field of medicine or nutrition. His message challenges existing health recommendations.

Mr Gillespie operates several websites, including a subscription website. As any author, most likely Mr Gillespie wishes to sell his books and is currently promoting his latest work, 'The Sweet Poison Quit Plan', getting extensive press coverage across the country. Food for thought.





"Once your appetite control is working normally, and that's an important thing about fructose, is one of the other things it does it breaks your appetite control system. As long as you have fructose in your diet your body will never tell you, 'you had enough to eat.' Because you become insulin and lactose resistant, and those two hormones are the hormones that tell us when to stop eating. In other words, they are the hormones that suppress our appetite. Fructose is a disruptor of those hormones. We are never ever told by our bodies to stop eating, in other words, fructose gives us permission to eat more of everything, all the time. Once it's removed from your diet however, your appetite control system starts to work normally, and the result of that is, because leptin is released by the fat in your body, if you have plenty of fat, leptin will be released fairly continuously, and you won't actually feel hungry most of the time. You'll only really feel hungry when your body is desperately short of energy."

"When you talk to doctors individually about it, they are generally very supportive of it, they say, 'yes, yes, yes, we know that,' to which I'm a little bit amazed, because my response is, 'then why don't you tell people that?' but in general their response is, 'yeah, we're well aware of that.' Some doctors, some specialties, doctors that specialise in endocrine systems, like Type II Diabetics and so on, say 'yes, we definitely know that. I'm well aware of all of that,' and doctors that specialise in cancers say, 'yes, that's why we tell people not to eat sugar when they got cancer.' But it would be a good idea to tell them before they get the cancer that they shouldn't be eating sugar, I would have thought."

*Comparing an image taken in a European city with an image taken in an Australian city, the apparent number of overweight people in the Australian image is striking.*

Mr Gillespie, "There are some significant differences between a European diet and... I lived in Germany for a while, I know what the diet there is, and I've been to France a fair bit. The European diet tends to have a breakfast which is focused on breads rather than cereals. So you tend to have breads, hams, cheeses, that kind of things for breakfast, you know, the classic content of breakfast. But you won't have breakfast cereals, far less usage of breakfast cereals there. Where here in Australia, breakfast cereals are a major component of the diet, in fact most people think breakfast cereal is just about the only healthy meal they have in the day. But if you think about it, most of the so called 'healthy breakfast cereals' are about 1/3 sugar. So you have a breakfast cereal that's supposedly healthy, that's full of sugar, and a glass of orange juice for breakfast, and by the end of the week you will be up at around 440grams of sugar just from that, just from the breakfast cereal, just from the juice. So that's a major difference between our diet and the European diet. Another significant difference between the European diet is that they have had, up until very recently, more of a culture of making food, rather than buying it pre-made. When you are making the food yourself, you know what's in it. You know whether you're adding sugar or not. But when you're depending on someone else to make your meal for you, you have to take whatever they give you. And if the sugar's already in there, the sugar's already in there. Now that's changing in Europe, and particularly in southern Europe, and we're starting to see the obesity statistics to catch up there, in particular in Spain and in southern France. The childhood obesity statistics are starting to get very, very bad indeed, and that's because of a shift in those cultures, more towards the processed food culture we have, rather than the 'make it yourself' sort of culture they would have traditionally have."

"There is nothing wrong with lactose, which is the sugar you find in milk. So if you were to look at a carton of milk, you'll see that it has about 5% sugar, and that sugar is lactose. Lactose is a combination of galactose and glucose, both of which ultimately end up as glucose in the bloodstream. There is nothing wrong with that. There is nothing wrong with glucose in general. It's just that very little of our food supply is sweetened with glucose."

With reference to fructose, which is found in fruits, Mr Gillespie explains, "If you eat the whole fruit it is fine. The whole fruit contains fibre, which mitigates any harm that would be done by the fructose, and you actually can't consume that much of it. It takes six large apples to create the juice in a medium size glass of apple juice. If you eat six large apples, you wouldn't be eating anything else. You drink a glass of apple juice, and you can happily have a meal as well. If you eat the whole fruit, there is nothing wrong with that. It's only when you juice it, and when you juice it what you're doing is you're keeping the sugar and throwing away all the good stuff, when it should be the opposite. If you want to juice it, throw away the juice, and eat the rest."

"Doctors, as a general rule, are fairly supportive or noncommittal in a sense the noncommittal ones are..., they say, 'yes, that sounds about right from what I remember, but I have to go and check the research.' Nutritionists are a different kettle of fish altogether. Nutritionist are not doctors, they are just people who can advise on human nutrition, they generally are not supportive. They generally will say, 'no, no, no, no, no.' The official line is that fat makes you fat, and exercise makes you thin, despite all evidence to the contrary, they've been telling us this for the last 50 years, we've progressively gotten fatter in the meantime. They still stick to that line, and they say, 'no, there is nothing wrong with sugar. You shouldn't be worrying about it.' Mind you, very few of them seem to have any real knowledge of biochemistry that I'm talking about."

"In Indigenous people in Australia the soft drink consumption is about twice the average Australians. So that alone should make a huge difference to the population, and it does. So you see incidence of overweight and obesity, and Type II Diabetes in particular, impacting the Indigenous population far more heavily than it does the rest of the Australian population, in fact they suffer 6 times the rate of Type II Diabetes as a result. It is interesting, people living in a hot climate, where the primary source of liquid refreshment is full of sugar, it's not surprising that you start to get very high incidences of diseases associated with sugar. Plus the fact it's highly addictive. Once you're on that bandwagon there is very little you can do to stop."

Images courtesy Mr David Gillespie. Links of interest: 'Conversation with Richard Fidler' (ABC broadcast 29<sup>th</sup> June): [www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/06/29/2939956.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/06/29/2939956.htm)  
sweetpoison.com.au



## New Mapoon Arts Centre

...some of what's on display



But it's also a lot more than an Arts Centre. It's a place of learning, of trying to understand the past, of hearing stories that in years to come will be retold, as the childhood memories of many.

...continued from page 10



Hibiscus flower on coconut shell.



## A tree.... or E.T.?



### Specialists coming to NPA:

**July / Aug / Sep**

**Bamaga Hospital and Community PHCC and some Islands**

5-9 July	EYES, Dr Gary Brian, T.I. H OPD & OT 5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>
15-16 July	Renal Clinic, Dr Tim Furlong, Bamaga Hosp 16 <sup>th</sup>
5-9 July	EYES, Dr Gary Brian, Thursday Island Hospital & OT
15-16 July	Renal Clinic, Dr Jim Furlong, Bamaga Hospital 16 <sup>th</sup>
4 Aug	General Physician/ Paediatric /OT, Dr Heazlewood, Dr Marshall & Team, Bamaga Hospital OPD
4 Aug	Chest Clinic, Thoracic Team, Boigu PHC
5 Aug	Chest Clinic, Thoracic Team, T.I Hosp. OPD
5 - 6 Aug	General Physician/ Paediatric, Dr Heazlewood, Dr Marshall & Team, OPD, T.I. Hospital
6 Aug	Chest Clinic, Thoracic Team, Saibai H. OPD
9 Aug	Endocrine Clinic, Dr Ashim Sinha, Horn PHC
10 Aug	Endocrine Clinic, Dr Ashim Sinha, Bamaga Hosp
10 Aug	Dietician, Bamaga PHCC (3 days)
11–12 Aug	Scopes, Dr John Ombiga & Team, T.I.H OPD & OT
13 Aug	Liver, Dr John Ombiga & Team, T.I.Hosp. OPD
23-27 Aug	EYES, Dr Gary Brian, T.I. H OPD & OT
31- 3 Aug	General Surgeon, tba, T.I. H OPD 31 <sup>st</sup> , Theatre 1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug
1 Sep	General Physician / Paediatric / OT, Dr Heazlewood, Dr Marshall & Team, BamHosp OPD
2-3 Sep	Dr Heazlewood, Dr Marshall & Team, T.I. Hosp
6 – 8 Sep	Orthopaedic, Surgeon tba, T.I. Hosp 6 <sup>th</sup> , & OT 7 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>
7 Sep	Endocrine Clinic, Dr Ashim Sinha, T.I. Hosp
9 Sep	Dermatology Clinic, Dr Rob Miller, T.I. Hosp
10 Sep	Dermatology Clinic, Dr Rob Miller, Murray PHC
28-29 Sep	Renal Clinic, Dr Tim Fulong, Outer Islands
30 Sep	Renal Clinic, Dr Tim Fulong, T.I. Hosp OPD
1 Oct	Renal Clinic, Dr Tim Fulong, Bamaga Hosp

OT = Operating Theatre

PHC = Primary Health Centre

OPD = OutPatients Department

Other publications in the region are invited to pick up this column.

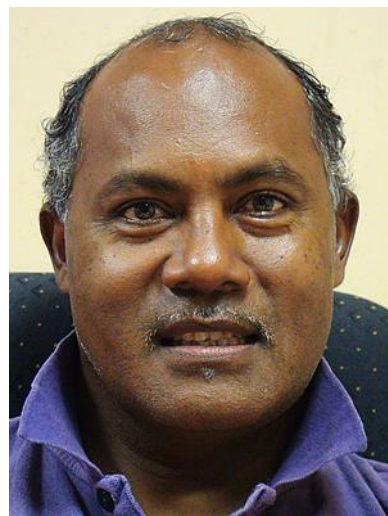


# TAFE

*There have been feelings of uncertainty in the community regarding the future of TAFE in the NPA (mid July). Two key staff at Bamaga TAFE took 'voluntary' redundancy. They were given the choice of job transfer / redeployment, or voluntary redundancy. Failure to take either choice would result in them being retrenched eventually. NPA News spoke to Cr Michael Bond, who is one of the affected staff, to Mr Ken MacLean, NPA College Principal, and Ms Joann Pyne, Institute Director, TAFE, Cairns.*

New Mapoon Counsellor, Mr Michael Bond, "I think there is some uncertainty within the department. They're not really sure what to do with the TAFE campus here. Unfortunately on the 4<sup>th</sup> June, I received a phone call, which I expected was a call for me to do my reports. Every Friday fortnight I give a verbal report, via teleconference. I report to Cairns (TAFE) what is happening up here, to my head of faculty."

"Our biggest client group in the NPA is the Council (NPARC) of course, the CDEP training for the workers. They have to go through their job plans through ITeC and Jobfind. When I received that call, and I had myself prepared everything (to report back), and they hit me with that. They didn't give me time to report. The director came on and said, 'Look, we're having difficulties with funds, and keeping the TAFE Campus in operation. Would you consider being transferred to Cairns?' It came as a bit of a shock to me. I didn't know what to say, so I was stunned. I said, 'Look, I'm going to have to think about this, but it's highly likely that I'm not, I don't want to be transferred to Cairns,' because my ultimate goal was... When I left school here from Bamaga I went away to do my studies. I spent 6<sup>1/2</sup> years in Adelaide doing my studies, working down there so that I get enough experience to bring back into the community. After completing the 6<sup>1/2</sup> years down there I came back to Cairns. I applied for a job with TAFE... that was back in 1983. A couple of years after that I went to Brisbane, transferred to Brisbane to do my teacher training. After that I applied for transfer back to Cairns TAFE. I did some teaching in Brisbane when I was down there, during my teacher training. I taught in Cairns until 1992, that's when Val Schier, who is now the Mayor of Cairns Regional Council, she was the Manager for Thursday Island TAFE at that time. She encouraged me to set up a campus here in Bamaga. Where the college is now is where I started off. I got transferred from Cairns to Bamaga and started off the campus in 1992. Eighteen years all up. For the total length of time I've been in TAFE is from 83 'til this year, which is like 27 years, yeah... until today. When I started off the TAFE here in Bamaga, that same building there used to be the recreational building for the Boarding College. Students came from Lockhart, Weipa and the Torres Straits."



"My role here was manager, teacher, I was the only fulltime teacher based up here. They put me in a role that covers the manager and teacher role at the same time. It's a LVT, a leading vocational teacher. I got to LVT 3, which is one of the highest levels of being a teacher. My responsibility was to manage the campus, manage and mentor other teachers that came here from outside, to ensure that everything was compliant, to audits and stuff like that. My job also included going out to the communities, promoting TAFE, encouraging people to complete studies. I also had been doing some teaching with the school for the last 3 years, with the grade 10, 11 and 12. I run certificate courses, Cert I for the grade 10s, and Certificate II Horticulture for grade 11 and 12. Also I've been doing Certificate II in Horticulture for the CDEP workers. Some have graduated from Cert II and enrolled in Cert III in Horticulture. We had a lot of people go through the courses. I finished up on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July, and since I left TAFE, I left something like 16 high school students, another teacher probably will have to take over, and about 18 CDEP workers."

"Our administration officer has been offered a redundancy as well. She took it. We more or less were not given much option. I was asked to transfer to Cairns, which I refused. The administration officer was told if she doesn't take her redundancy she would be deployed, or be retrenched later on. That is the option I was given as well. Because I refused to take that transfer, they said, 'We will offer you a voluntary redundancy.' I said, 'What happens if I don't take that?' They said, 'You will be deployed and eventually be retrenched.' Deployed means they would have to find another position for me, a TAFE one, but not in the current role that I'm in now. It may not necessarily be at the same standard, or level. I said, 'I'll take the voluntary redundancy,' seeing that I've been with TAFE for 27 years. I had plans for the future, with my experience and my knowledge of the communities, coming from this area, knowing the people here, am a local myself, I got a lot more to offer, and a lot more to offer in the future. I feel that I could have been able to provide a lot more service, or continued service to the community. I know it's upsetting."

"If I was given a bit of choice, a choice to stay on, then I would have. I would have stayed on until I retire, especially because of the commitment I made, to provide my service to this area. The thing is that I couldn't understand there hasn't been any transition put in place. There was nothing put in place where someone could come along and work along with me, until they get used to the role of TAFE. It was just cut off. There was no negotiation at that stage. I don't know how the school feels about it. I won't be able to go back and work for a State Government department, for about 12 months. That's the condition (of taking redundancy). Even though I left, they should have kept the administration officer on. She knows the roles and responsibilities of TAFE, and how the system works. She's been with TAFE for about 9 years, on and off. She took maternity leave and then she came back. I think the TAFE should stay here. There should still be a service provided, whether that is TAFE or some other organization. I think it was just cost cutting. They needed the funds to remain competitive with other RTOs (Registered Training Organizations). But I really think there should be a training... for secondary or adult education facility here all the time, because our population is expanding."

"A lot of people are still thinking that... they are coming up to me and asking, because they know that I finished, they think that TAFE is closing. I said to them, 'No, it's not closing. The school might be taking over. It will still be open.'"

...continued next page.



Mr Michael Bond continues...

"They're just concerned who they are going to go to now. The main objective of having a facility in the community is to provide a service to the people, when you consider Indigenous people, Indigenous Australians have low socio economic background. There is a higher unemployment rate in the communities."

"The service should be there. I think people need to voice their opinion. They need to say what needs to happen here in these communities, whether it be TAFE or the Council consider taking over and running a community college here. That might be something that we can keep it owned and be run by the community. I have to get used to the routine of not being in front of a class anymore, teaching students. It's going to be hard. The feeling of training will still be in me for a long time."

"There will be other opportunities. I'm optimistic. I'm not going to sit back and wait for things to come to me. I go out there. I'm going to move on. I still got a lot more to do."

Ms Joann Pyne, Institute Director at Tropical North Queensland TAFE, Cairns, "We really hope that if by working together with the school (NPAC) and the Council (NPARC) we can get big enough classes to be able to justify using more teachers, so that we can run some... more delivery in the NPA. I don't want to talk about Michael Bond's circumstance publicly, but I can say a number of staff across the institute were working in areas where we didn't have enough demand to provide enough work for them. So we talked to staff about other jobs that they might want to do. They had a choice then whether they want to train to do new work, or whether they would rather take a voluntary redundancy."

"Over the last six or seven years, we've never really had enough students to be able to say we need a full time teacher."

There are currently discussions between TAFE Cairns and the school regarding administration of TAFE via NPAC. As to why Ms Pyne explained, "Mainly because there is just not enough work there for us to have a full time staff member there. All of the enrollments for the last few years have been done in Cairns. We really just don't have enough work for somebody there ... for the programs that we have been running."

Asked if there had been any community consultations, Ms Pyne replied, "I met with the Council and talked to them of what we were planning to do, why we were doing it. I guess it's important to say: The main reason we're doing this is we want to be able to have more money to spend on training. We want to be able to have more teachers come so that more people can access delivery."

"We want TAFE to stay open and to grow in the NPA, it's a really important community. The council has been really active in promoting economic development, so we need to be able to have as many of our resources that we can, to provide training for the community."

Mr Ken MacLean, NPA College Principal: "TAFE has not been closed. There are still going to be TAFE Programs that will be operating for the rest of this year. All the existing programs will continue, school based and community based programs:

- Paul Buckley is up, doing the CDEP construction training.
- The College will continue to offer Construction and Horticulture training for the rest of the year."

"With the input of Jo Pyne, the Director of Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE, we're currently planning programs and courses for next year. I anticipate that there will be an expansion in the breadth of what will be offered."

"The actual administration of the TAFE campus is still being determined. There is an increasing trend occurring across the FNQ Region (Far North Qld) where TAFE campuses are being attached to Education Queensland colleges. It has happened on Thursday Island where Tagai TAFE is managed as part of their college. It has happened at Innisfail, with the Innisfail State High School now combined with a TAFE campus. My understanding is that it's currently happening at Tully, the Tully High School and TAFE campus at Tully being amalgamated, and a similar thing is happening on the Tablelands too."

"If the NPA TAFE campus were to be combined with the NPA State College, it would entail the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Education and TAFE which are the two sections of DET (Department of Education and Training)."

*The Acronym TAFE stands for Technical and Further Education.*

## It's official: ICN 7407

July 5<sup>th</sup>: Word received from Mrs Too: The delegate of the Registrar (Ms Lorraine Rogge) has approved the application for registration of Injinoo Apudthama Indigenous Corporation under the CATSI Act. The electronic copy of the Certificate of Registration was received, including approval of the Rule Book and other documents.

Injinoo Apudthama Indigenous Corporation has received the Indigenous Corporation (ICN) number 7407. The first general meeting must be held before October 2010, and first AGM (annual general meeting) by November 2010. Mrs Rose Too is assisting with this.

**The Kulup or gorr** is a dancing instrument used for traditional Torres Strait Island dancing, made from twine, and the seeds of matchbox bean pods.



Made by Mrs Cheryl Sailor

## Tired hitchhikers



**"Where is our car?"**

Four tires trying to hitch a ride with a 'tireless' car, near NPA dump.



## 5-day course in chain-sawing

Mr Peter Kelly (image far right, in green top) is the Fire Captain for Bamaga, "There is a



new community incentive that the Queensland Government has put together where they want a number of people qualified to operate a chainsaw in each community throughout the NPA. Because we got 5 communities they want 20 people, so they have chosen the Rangers and the Fire Brigade, the Fire Brigade being made up of volunteers like the Ambos and private Enterprise, and also the Council workers. So we are here doing a 5 day course in advanced chain-sawing. It's in relation to Lockhart River that had cyclonic type of weather going through it, they had to wait a week for forestry to come in to clear the all the roads. Council now has the facility to send the Fire Brigade or the Rangers out to clear the roads. It is part of our business of doing road clearing, fallen trees, or trees on fire that might have to come down. The Queensland Government is funding this project. We've got 10 guys training these 5 days and then we have 10 Rangers in training next week."

Traditional landowner, Mr Meun Lifu donated some land for the purpose of giving the team proper experience in felling trees. "We'll use mostly trees that have disease in them, or are going to fall down anyway. The idea with the timber is, we're going to harvest the timber, so that



we can build a men's shed out of it. We'll utilize the timber for that, so this guy is teaching us how to do sawmilling as well, with the portable sawmill we have here. The off-cuts will be taken around to the elders so they can have their fires."

Northern Skills Alliance, Mr Craig Reedmin instructed the group in the safe operation of the equipment. Ms Kristin Mangelsdorf (Volunteer Fire Fighter, as well as a nurse in Hospital) in the second cut from below (left image), moments before the tree snapped in half.



The Torres Strait Islander Cultural Group 'Ariu Panipan' (Rain Lightning) will travel to China (early August) to perform at the World Arts Expo. The 10 people group will stay one week in China, at the Australian Pavilion. 35,000 visitors per day are expected.

"We received an invitation through Foreign Affairs," says Cr for Seisia, Mr Jeffrey Aniba. "We've been to American Samoa in 2008. In 2009 we went to Hawaii, and performed at Cairns Arts Festival. I think we need a break after China."



**Fencing work around Umagico Sports Ground** is currently being carried out by CDEP workers. The water supply to the underground irrigation system was recently connected. Umagico cemetery is next to be fenced.

## Nuts, ... or no nuts, ... or caught nuts?

In Issue 15, page 14, Seisia resident Mrs Marie Gibadi felt sad seeing the coconut trees at Seisia Holiday Park stripped of their fruits.

Mrs Eugenie Ball, Manager of the park explained that trees needed the fruits removed as a safety precaution.

Thinking outside the square, Injinoo Artist, Mr Richard McLean, suggests a cradle, secured to the stem of the tree, under the nuts, to prevent them from falling down (a bit like an upside-down umbrella). Mr McLean was in New Mapoon early July explaining 'Indigenous Art as Healing,' which was sponsored by Men's Shed.



What happened to you?

I had a splitting headache.

Me too, what then?

I lost my head.

Me too, and then?

It got all hot and I burned.

That happened to me too. And then?

Then I felt like a dualism taking hold of me, a twin personality. I started hearing things. I was beside myself. Who am I talking to? Are you making fun of me?

Not at all.

I think we better split.

I think we already are.

## New Phone / Fax Numbers:

Ranger Base: ph: 4069 3875

Injinoo P-7 Campus: ph: 4090 4888

Injinoo P-7 Campus: fax: 4069 3131



## Education in the NPA

Mr Ken MacLean, NPA College Principal, speaks on a number of subjects relating to education in the NPA:

**Trade Training Centre:** "The Trade Training Centre is due to be constructed on the Senior Campus by the end of this year. The College already has an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with TAFE to deliver Construction, Automotive and Engineering training from this facility. When this is completed the new and existing TAFE buildings will become a TAFE precinct which will allow VET training for community adults as well as College students."

"I think there needs to be another building as well to deliver hospitality and tourism training. While the College has completed the initial drawings for this facility, we have not been able to secure funding to build it as yet. The building would have a training restaurant and commercial kitchen."

**Housing:** "We have just taken possession of two new three bedroom houses at the back of the College and we have 4 single bedroom units that are being built as we speak. There has also been a significant amount of money spent on the existing Education Queensland accommodation to ensure that the housing is a good standard."

**Learning outcomes:** "The standard of student learning outcomes is increasing at the College all the time. This is occurring due to the leadership team's continued focus on improving the teaching and learning program."

Mum, what can I be when I grow up? Anything you want to be, dear.

I want to be unique, special. I want to be the first Zebra in the NPA.

Yes dear. You are unique and you are special. Better have your breakfast while it's still green.



I'm bored, Mum. Let's go to the beach. Is there such a thing as a horse of the sea?  
I've never seen one, dear.  
I want to be the first. I want to be a Seahorse!  
Yes, dear, now eat your breakfast.

"I want the student's levels particularly in English and Maths to be equivalent to those that are achieved at the best schools in Queensland. We are not there yet, but are improving all the time. Our next big push will be to really focus on teaching some of the English and Maths basics to students who have missed a lot of school to help them catch up on what they have missed."

**Injinoo Junior Campus:** "Injinoo had very poor facilities there (before the recent expansion). To get twice the facility resource just gives us the scope to be able to a better job. Also the enrolments are increasing in Injinoo. I think there are about 170 students there now. Every year we tend to pick up about 20 to 25 students in each of the campuses. If we didn't have the building expansion, we would be really overcrowded. It is also a real benefit to get the new library there. This will allow students to engage in different learning experiences than they were able to before."

*Injinoo school extension was covered in NPA News, Issue 9, page 10, and Issue 11, pages 4 and 5.*

**Bamaga Junior Campus:** "The Junior Campus has had some major improvements as well. We've had an enormous amount of building refurbishment there with every classroom being upgraded. There is a new library and administration block to be built by the end of this year. This campus is also getting bigger. It's up to 270 (students) now."

**Injinoo P-7 Campus** has new phone and fax numbers: Phone: 4090 4888, Fax: 4069 3131.

### New Director for NPARC

Mr Andy Smith is the new Director of Financial Services for NPARC. Mr Smith will work from Cairns and Bamaga Offices.



What are they doing, Mum?



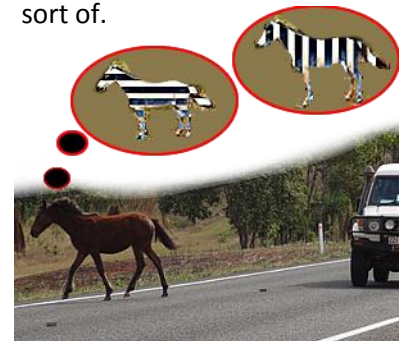
They're painting a Zebra Crossing



What's a Zebra, Mum?



Like a horse with stripes, well... sort of.



I've never seen one in the NPA.



Me neither. Just don't cross the road there, it's for the Zebras when they get here. Let's go to the other side, the grass's a bit greener.



## Dream come true



Mr Gibbs recovering in Bamaga Hospital (16.7.10).

Mr Gary Reginald Gibbs (90) had never heard of Horn Island, "Never in my life. No one knows about it." The names of Bamaga, Injinoo, New Mapoon, Seisia and Umagico, all new. Mr Gibbs is from Kiama, a NSW south coast holiday town, perhaps 4000km away, Mr Gibbs reckons.

"1945 was when I first came to Australia. I was in Abadan bringing fuel down to Australia, Brisbane, Darwin, back to Abadan, load up, and back to the UK." (Abadan, located in southwestern Iran, near Persian Gulf had one of the largest refineries on earth)

"At that time it was the largest oil exporter in the world. That would be 1943. I was struck by Australia then. The Australian Customs man, he advised us to skip ship, you know, plenty of work for us in Australia at that time. I was a Marine Engineer. Later I became a Nuclear Technician. I was in control of the first nuclear powered generator in the UK. A totally new world. I turned 90 in April this year"

Mr Gibbs flew out to Horn Island and took a tour of the local sights. "I was enjoying myself, had a good feed. I have an idea on a meal I had at Horn Island, because I had a meal that night." Arriving via Peddell's Ferry in the NPA, Mr Gibbs joined one of the adventure tours, planning to head to the Tip, then south to Cairns. He ended up in Bamaga Hospital instead, on 24 hour observation. "Since then I started to recover."

"The tour is all gone. There were 12 of us. I just wanted to be at the Tip of Australia. It looks as if I just missed it. A couple of years ago I booked a cruise from Cairns to Torres Strait and down. I got on the ship, and we got as far as Cooktown. The captain had instructions to cancel the rest of the trip because of a Typhoon in the Torres Straits. We went around back to Cairns."

"This part of the country I hadn't seen. A week ago if you'd ask me where Horn Island was, I would have said, 'No,' yet it's the dead centre of the Torres Strait. It's fantastic. There was a girl, what was her name...? She had this Toyota Wagon full of people, and she went for a tour around all the tracks, from 1941-3. Fantastic. She was driving this thing around and giving us a running comment on all the... American and Zeros. They had far more attacks than Darwin. That was worth seeing. It would have been right at the front line, at that time. She took us to a plane. An American Air-force captain was trying to take off, and he was trying to show off, and boom, thunderbolt, right into the track. The wreck is still there. She showed us."

"I'm very disappointed in the UK. Two magnificent ships, the Queen Elisabeth II and the Victoria II, built by the French. I was at the time in the shipyard where they build the aircraft carrier. You go to the UK and every second car on the road would be a French one. I was torpedoed down the American Coast (during WWII). That was the Kamikaze at the time, every day. We were rescued the next day by the United States Coast Guard, and we were put ashore in Virginia."

"Technology leaped up. I don't know where it's going to end up. I can visualize nanotechnology, creating something instead of that. I'd be frightened to wake up in 50 years. Even now I am. I can't use a computer. I'd love to. I tried, and tried, and tried, I haven't got the technique. Like Google, it's fantastic, ain't it? There is no excuse for ignorance these days. I would say to parents of all kind, you got to acknowledge other people are other people. You're on your own, they're on their own. You got to make allowances for that. You don't have to get a license, like say robbing, things like that. For parents, allow them to go their own way, as long as it doesn't interfere with anyone else's way of life."

"I'm glad I've done it, and it has been worth it." Mr Gibbs has still a lot of living to do, "I want to go from Darwin down the Coast to Broome. I tell you what I'd like to do ... a trip up the Danube, in one of those long boats. I had it all laid out, a few months ago. Had to back out. I didn't have enough money." Thanks to skytrans for helping out.



Next day Mr Gibbs reached the Tip, although at incoming tide.



"Bless you my son," says Mr Gibbs to the rock as he places it as a sign, been there, done that.



And there it rests beneath the palms.

NPARC Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stuart Duncan





## NPA News is 1 year old

A very special thank you to NPARC, all members of the communities, all readers, contributors, and organizations near and far, who in one way or another helped this publication.

Congratulations to you and your team on your first birthday from all of us at IBIS, both the content and the quality continue to develop and we look forward to helping you grow in the future,

Kind Regards

Ian Copeland  
Chief Executive Officer  
Islanders Board Of  
Industry & Service

I would like to congratulate the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday of the newsletter. I have found it a helpful way to get myself familiar with what is happening in that part of Australia and it has been quite interesting. I wish you all the best.  
Cheers, Kathy

### Government Champions say 'well done!'

On this first anniversary of the NPARC Newsletter we offer our congratulations to the NPA community for the insight you have shown in producing this very informative publication. This Newsletter truly expresses the regional unity of spirit that we see growing through the small and big achievements every time that we visit the NPA to work with the community.

Our very best wishes go to the Newsletter producers and the many splendid people who contribute to its content.

Alan Tesch and Barry Leahy, Government Champions for the NPA

I congratulate the Newsletter on its impending 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary, and I'm happy to have contributed in a small way with my visit as Governor.

Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO

They're great.

Shari Stamford

Congratulation to our 1<sup>st</sup> birthday of the Newsletter, which is long time coming to the NPA area, and to share our dreams and aspirations to the people of NPA areas.

Senior Elder (Ramow (Gecko)) Richard Tamwoy of Angkamuthi Tribe.

I just want to say I am continually amazed at the quality and value of the newsletter. It is a great read and provides information and education. Keep up the good work. We continue to promote it as a best practice community engagement activity.

Nat

The newsletters ...they continue to present a very positive approach to life in the NPA.

Regards

Jan Goldsworthy

AusAID ICV Volunteer, NPA project, AusAID Canberra

Excellent newsletters. I really enjoy reading them.

Yours sincerely

Candice Siedler, Manager, QRAM

A small project, but has a big impact on informing the community of what is happening in the whole NPA. It's an Absolute.

Thomas Reuben

Arts Qld just loves the mag.

Cheers

Raelene Baker

Principal Indigenous Advisor

Arts Development | Arts Queensland

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Being part of the NPA community, Sea Swift very much appreciates the NPARC monthly newsletter. It is a great medium for communication, cultural education and inspiration. Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday from everyone at Sea Swift.

Michael Parry | Sales Manager  
Sea Swift Pty Ltd

Congratulations to the NPARC newsletter for reaching its 1 year anniversary. **Jason O'Brien MP, Member for Cook**