

In this Issue: Power, Env. Health, RHD/ARF, Horse handling, Mini Rodeo, RDTU, Ropeyarn Cup and more...



Dan Ropeyarn Cup 2011

Waur United wins grand finale against **Alau Eagles** at Yusia Ginau Memorial Field, Bamaga (19th Nov, 2011).



... one day



Another successful Dan Ropeyarn Cup, now in its 11th year, brought many families together. It was hot in the shade for spectators, no doubt much hotter on the field where 10 teams fought for the highly polished golden cup (and the prize money that came with it). Moa's Waur United earned the glory following three days of tournament. Congratulations.

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Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council

ABN: 27 853 926 592

Entity Type: Local Government Entity



Offices:	Website: nparc.qld.gov.au	Phone	Fax	Location	NPARC CEO & Councillors	Phone
	NPARC Cairns	4050 1800	4050 1899	Bamaga	Stuart Duncan	4090 4106
	NPARC Bamaga	4090 4100	4069 3264	Bamaga	Daniel Sebasio, Dep CEO	4090 4104
	NPARC Seisia	4048 6700	4069 3180	Bamaga	Mayor Joseph Elu	4090 4107
	NPARC New Mapoon	4048 6600	4069 3107	Bamaga	Cr Reg Williams, Dep Mayor	4090 4110
	NPARC Umagico	4048 6900	4069 3115	Seisia	Cr Jeffrey Aniba, 0407 753 528	
	NPARC Injinoo	4048 6800	4069 3253	New Mapoon	Cr Michael Bond	4048 6606
	Opening hours: Mon – Thu, 9am to 5pm, Fridays to 3pm.			Umagico	Cr Peter Lui	40486700
	NPARC Newsletter (NPA News)	4048 6802		Injinoo	Cr Gina Nona	4048 6804
Workshops:	NPARC Workshop, Bamaga	4069 3962		NPARC Housing:	Same as respective council offices.	
	NPARC Engineering, Umagico	4069 3419	or 4069 3012	Various:	Police, Bamaga	4069 3156
	NPARC Workshop, Injinoo	4069 3903			Post Office, RTC, Bamaga	4069 3126
	Carpenters' Shed, Injinoo	4069 3367			NPA Airport	4069 3383
	Carpenters' Shed, Seisia	4069 3254			Ranger Base, Injinoo	4069 3875
	NPARC Store, Bamaga	4069 3746			Swimming Pool, Bamaga	4069 3659
FM Radio	Radio Station FM91.9	4096 3356			Jardine River Ferry (8 to 5pm)	4069 1369
Gov Dep	AQIS 40693142, ATO 132550, Dep Prim Ind	4069 1185		NPA Refuse Tip (Mon-Fri, 8am to 4pm)	4069 3252, a/h	4069 3593



Libraries: Injinoo Library 4069 3761
 RTC, Umagico 4083 0333

Family Services:

NPA Family Resource Centre Bamaga 4069 3555 Lot 10, Adidi St, Bamaga
 NPA Women's Shelter 4069 3020 Lui St, Bamaga
 Safe House 4069 3223 Bamaga
 Bamagau Kazil 4069 3475 Bamaga
 New Mapoon Childcare 4069 3074 New Mapoon
 Umagico Childcare Centre 4083 0111 Pascoe St, Umagico
 Umagico Outside School Hours Care 4083 0440 8 Young St, Umagico
 NPA Healing Centre – Injinoo 4069 3811 54 Peter St, Injinoo
 Injinoo Childcare Centre 4069 3510 Mc Donnell St, Injinoo
 Injinoo Outside School Hours Care 4069 3109 Mc Donnell St, Injinoo

Hospitals / Health

Bamaga Hospital 4069 3166 Sagaukaz St, Bamaga
 Dentist, at Bamaga Hosp. 4069 3166 Sagaukaz St, Bamaga
 T.I. Hospital 4069 0200 163 Douglas St, T.I.
Health Centres: Mon – Fri 8am to 5pm
 Bamaga Health Centre 4069 3200 Adidi St, Bamaga
 New Map. Health Centre 4069 3454
 Umagico Health Centre 4069 3306
 Injinoo Health Centre 4069 3465
 Seisia Health Centre 4069 3271
 Bamaga HACC 4069 3305
 Dep. of Child Safety (T.I.) 4090 3665 Thursday Island
 T.I. Pharmacy 4069 1548 Thursday Island

Schools / Campuses / TAFE

Bamaga, P 6-12 4090 4333 Bamaga 4069 3275
 Bamaga, P 1-5 4090 4444 Injinoo 4083 0011
 Injinoo Primary 4090 4888 Seisia 4069 3897
 TAFE, Bamaga 4069 3214 RACQ, Bamaga 4069 3803

Service Stations:**Supermarkets / Stores**

Bamaga, IBIS Supermarket 4069 3186
 Seisia Supermarket 4069 3218
 Alau Supermarket 4069 3273
 New Mapoon, General Store 4069 3013

Seisia	Umagico	New Mapoon	Injinoo
Seisia Enterprises 4069 3243	WP H & Safety 4069 3991	CY Ice & Tackle 4069 3695	Youth Centre 4069 3961
Wharf 4069 3158	Alau Lodge/Camp 0428779100	Loyalty Beach 4069 3372	Centrelink 4083 0158
Meat Works 4083 0201	RTC 4083 0333	Nai Beguta 4069 3408	Readymix 4069 3258
Top End Motors 4069 3182		Arts Centre 4083 0271	Injinoo /ITEC 4090 4950
Seisia/RTC 4069 3884	Seisia Hire Cars 4069 3368	Torres News 1300 867 737	Inj. Justices Grp 4083 0360
NPA/Electrics 4045 5518	Carpentaria Seafaris 4069 3254	Nat. Ind. Times 1 300 786 611	Ranger Base 4069 3875
Cape York Adventure 4069 3302	Cust Sport Fishing 4069 3301	Koori Mail 02 66 222 666	
Seisia Camp Ground 4069 3243	Seisia Styles (Hair) 0428660694	Many Cape York website links on: CapeYorkinfo.org	

Bamaga	Menshed	Accommodation	Air / Sea / Road
Garage / RACQ 4069 3803	Punsand Bay 4069 1722	Resort Bamaga 4096 3050	SeaSwift 4069 3933
Sports & Recreation 4069 3675	Cape York Traders 4083 0446	Seisia Camp Grnd 4069 3243	Skytrans 4040 6700
Bamaga Enterprises 4069 3533	CY Car Detailing 4069 3558	Alau Lodge/Camp 0428779100	Skytrans 1300 759 872
Bamaga Tavern 4069 3260	Cape York Spares 4069 3803	Bully's Fishing Camp 4069 3695	WestWing Avn 4069 1380
Bamaga Bakehaus 4069 3106	Dreamtime 4069 3222	Loyalty Beach 4069 3372	Peddells Ferry 4069 1551
Centrelink, Bamaga 4069 3628	CAPE PCYC, NPA 4069 3388	Punsand Bay 4069 1722	Aust Helicopter 4069 1256
NPA Electrics 4069 3011	Resources Centre 4069 3555	Carpentaria Seafaris 4091 3254	CY Helicopters 4069 2233
B&B Electrical 4069 3435	Activity Centre 4069 3980		Taxi, Bamaga 4069 3333
Bam Health & Beauty 4083 0224			
Tour Operators	Custom Sports Fishing 4069 3301	Jardine Adventures 4069 3460	Bus to/from Cairns 4069 3368
Cape York Adventures 4069 3302	Carpentaria Seafaris 4091 3254	Peddells 4069 1551	
CY Peninsula Fishing 4069 3919	Tropical Boat Advent. 4069 1395	CY Helicopters 4069 2233	Croc Tent 4069 3210

All Emergencies, Ambulance, Fire Brigade: 000**Hospital, Bamaga 4069 3166** (Emergencies)**SES 132 500**

Ambulance 000

AQIS, Bamaga 4069 3142

Mobile phones 112 with no coverage

International add: +61 7, Interstate add: 07

Policelink 131 444 Ergon 4069 3164
 Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 Ergon Cust Serv 13 10 46
 Ergon 24hrs Faults & Emergency 13 22 96 SunWater 4069 3409
 Environmental Health 4069 3992 8-5, Fri 8-3
 Australian Customs Services 1800 061 800
 Coastguard 4069 3030 Airport 4069 3383
 Volunteer Marine Rescue 0428 692 004 in Emergency: 000 or 4069 1520

NPARC Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stuart Duncan

**'When I first started out ...
I only had a handsaw, drills, square, nails, a bag and a hammer.'**

The NPA has high unemployment. There is CDEP, and there are many training courses to gain required skills. There is also a lot of work. Mayor Joseph Elu expressed long ago, 'There is enough work for everyone.' There are many opportunities for local residents to start their own ventures and many have already done so. Mr Tony Mara runs his own business, Mara Carpentry Services, and is just one example of how one can stand on their own feet.



"When I started out my business, I started working with my brother-in-law first, when I was in Grade 11, when I was about 16 years old. I started doing a bit of work with him and he was showing me a bit of stuff that he was doing as a builder."

"Sometimes you lose track of what you've built, you build so many things, just the reward of building something. I think the last job I did with my brother-in-law, we did 4 houses on Coconut Island, and after that I've been on my own. I sort of started buying my own tools. When I first started out I only had a handsaw, drills, square, nails, a bag and a hammer. That's all I started off with and did little jobs. All the money that I made out of it, I put all of that back into my business, buying more and more tools. I had a deal with Mitre10 at the time. I used to deal with them down in Cairns. What I did was I put a large sum of tools aside and I sent money every time I got my pay. I wrote down a big list of tools that I needed and slowly paid it off. They did a good thing by me and actually sent it up a bit earlier. I ended up paying it off anyway and I started my account with them. Ever since then I have always been with Mitre10. The reward to that I actually started talking to Mitre 10, brought them up here. We got them started to bring their business up here as well."

Q: Can anyone do that, start on their own? A: "Very easy, it's just a matter of getting up and getting out there, doing it. Don't be scared. There is a lot of help. I told my other nephews and that, they want to get out there and do it, I'm willing to help them get up to speed where I am now. I don't know everything, but I always ask and query about things, tap into people, ring other mates to find out things. My brother in-law was pretty smart. He taught me a lot. He is not like a bloke that builds and expects you to do the work. He actually shows you, teaches you, shows you how to do things. That's the good thing about him. I'm doing the same thing today, brushing off what I know to others. I'm not scared to lose that skill to other people, so they get some skills and get some money for their families."

Mr Mara is now 33 years old. "I have been building for 17 years now, 15 to 17 years." Q: What about the other skills needed in business, the books, accounting etc: "You do a lot of modules through your times. A module only teaches you the theoretical side of things. The practical you got to learn on site. I did all my hands-on work before I done my books. By the time I got to my books I just answered the questions just like that, because I knew what I was doing. It made it heaps easier. The other thing you got to ask yourself is if you love the job. You don't do it just because of the money. You got to have to love it. If you don't love it, don't do it. You'll be wasting your time, because your jobs won't come out like you want them to."

"I'm hoping to eventually in the next 2 or 3 years to be building my own house. I'm trying to get my modules for my next licence level and hopefully get my collateral up a bit, I'm thinking on taking on a house for myself. I got some good workers that have been working with me, that are keen to work with me. Yeah, I got a lot of boys that offered to work with me. They say, 'If you ever start to build a house, we want to be in your crew.' So, I got a lot of hands out there, I narrowed them all down to their work ethics, how much work they can put in a day. That's all I've done. As I work with them I take note of how they work and what they do. I don't have apprentices, I got workers. Whoever works with me, whatever I'm doing, I teach them. I don't leave them in the dark. Before we even start any job, we all stand together. I'll explain what I want done and how we're going to do it. If they have a different way and the result is the same, then I'm happy. I'd like to keep them up to speed, not stand there not knowing what to do. I believe that is the best and most effective way to do a job, everybody knowing what they are doing, not standing around."

"I sort of got attached to it and thought, 'Oh, here is what I wanted to do.' I wanted to be a mechanic previously and I was going in that direction. When I did carpentry I fell in love with carpentry, I started heading in that direction. I started at 16, do a bit of work every time I go on holidays, go with my brother-in-law. When I got out of school, I think I went with Sports and Recreation, and then I think I went to Ready Mix. A couple of months I worked with that and then went straight into carpentry. I've been working contract I think most of my life with my brother-in-law, a bit of work with council, but mostly contracting since I was 16. I've been doing it for a long time. Yeah, just the benefit of seeing what you've built with your hands, and you know it will always be there for several years."



Mr Tony Mara's rig of truck with trailer is seen all over the NPA, one day building the boxing for a retaining wall at the Ranger Base, another working on Injinoo's toilet block near the look-out and so many other places.



His love for the job is always reflected in the work, the chamfered ends of the support beams at Umagico's water tank support near the Feasting Shed, are just one example. The top of the posts are painted to stop moisture getting in.



Mr Mara expressed that for some it is a good idea to leave the NPA, to go and get the knowledge and skills, 'get something up and running' and then bring it back to the NPA. The opportunities are there, one just has to look at the many traineeships / apprenticeships currently offered by Q-Build to start in Feb 2012, the mining operations at Weipa and so many others.

(...see also: 'Foot in the door', page 4.)

Mandingnou Apudthama Apang

(Continued from previous issue NPA News)
Image right, from left: Mr Reys, Mr Lifu and Mr Bond.

Work started within minutes of Mr Meun Lifu turning the first sod of soil (19th Oct) at New Mapoon. The site will become the much anticipated All Abilities Playground.



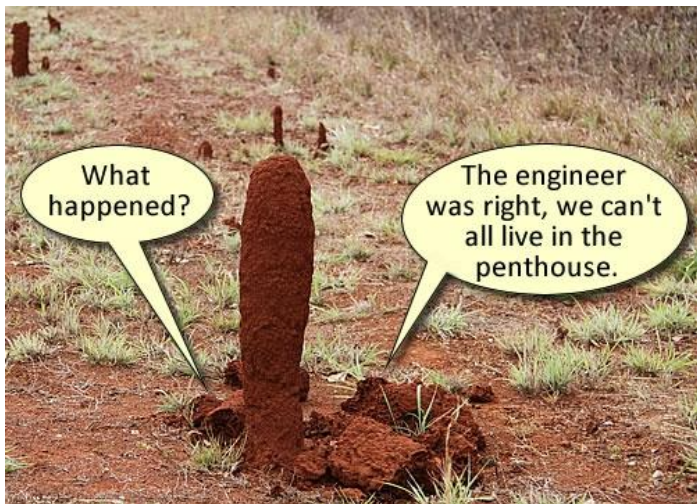
The pegs are in, the lines are drawn.



The space net and spider net were proudly funded by Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit (\$27,078 + GST).

There were delays in getting the playground equipment and the grant for them was extended 3 times.

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Foot in the door

Applications open for QBuild apprenticeships and traineeships for 2012. "These positions will provide a foot in the door to a specialised trade career for 100 applicants across Queensland, said Minister Simon Finn (Building Industry Minister)." "QBuild has specifically allocated 18 of next year's positions to Indigenous applicants," said Mr O'Brien, MP for Cook in a Media Release (31st Oct).

Ten of these new positions would be filled in the Cape York region, including one for a construction worker trainee position in Bamaga.

"QBuild has specifically allocated 18 of next year's positions to Indigenous applicants," Mr O'Brien said, "and that's the absolute minimum that QBuild will take on."

Last year QBuild had 15 positions on offer solely for Indigenous apprentices, but they took on 27 new Indigenous apprentices or trainees." Mr O'Brien urged women to apply as 11 were included in last year's recruitment drive.

QBuild web site:
www.qbuild.qld.gov.au

Mandingnou Apudthama Apang

...continued

Two weeks later and much has been done. The playground equipment is in place and part of the footpaths completed.



Left: Mr Tony Mara adding the final touch.



Take a picture of us. We are the 'Alau Space Girls' having fun on a disused fuel tank in Umagico, reaching for the sky.

ABC Far North in New Mapoon

ABC Far North had a chance to tour Cape York for a week, in the process visiting the NPA conducting live interviews from New Mapoon store and from many other places. Presenter, Mr Richard Dinnen, Mr Phil Staley (producer) and Mr Bob Apolloni (technical wizard) started off from Laura, then Coen, Lockhart River, Bramwell Station and NPA, all the way up to Pajinka (the Tip at Cape York). It was a test run to see what the ABC Far North can do from remote locations, to meet the many people along the way and also prove the equipment gets the signal out. More info:

www.abc.net.au/farnorth



'Hello' from Bamaga



Seisia croc snaps a snack ...



...and gulps a gull. Some suggest 'What's wrong in the land of plenty when a poor salty is reduced to make do with feathered seagull appetisers?'

This image courtesy Ms Veronica (via Mr Meun Lifu).

A pearl for Her Majesty



Mr and Mrs Tully from Turtle Head Island, Cape York.



The gem quality pearl from Escape / Middle River, Cape York presented to Her Majesty The Queen on behalf of the people of Queensland.

Images courtesy Mr & Mrs Tully.

NPA News, issue 29 had a 3 page spread on Turtle Head Island, Cape York, the biggest pearl farm in Queensland, written before its first harvest in August 2011. Mr and Mrs Tully are more than pleased, not just with the quality of their harvest.

Mrs Bronwyn Tully explains, "We were contacted by Anna Bligh's office a couple of weeks ago about being on their list to supply gifts for dignitaries, and then they phoned back and asked if they could buy a pearl to present to the Queen on behalf of the people of Queensland on her visit to Brisbane. Of course we said 'yes!' It is so exciting knowing that one of our pearls has gone to Buckingham Palace. Maybe she'll use it in the Crown Jewels!"

"Rusty (Tully) chose a beautiful gem grade, silver cream, drop pearl, 10.8mm by 11.07mm from the harvest in August and packaged it off in one of our lovely wooden jewellery boxes. It was presented to the Queen last Monday (24th Oct, 2011) while she was in Brisbane. We weren't allowed to tell anyone about it until after it was presented, but I'm sure Rusty told half of Bamaga when we went in to post it! There was an article in the Courier Mail on page 4 on 25/10/11."

(Her Majesty The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Australia 19th Oct to 29th Oct, 2011)

What of the first harvest in August?

"Our harvest was indeed a success," says Mr Rusty Tully. "When we seeded in 2009 we used virgin shell. When we graded the harvest we were surprised to find our largest A-grade round pearl was 14.2mm. This is very good."

"Of all the pearls harvested and graded into shapes, 40% were round. A very high percentage. Of the test plots we placed around the farm, one section yielded 45% pink hue. An outstanding result."

"It is a great experience actually harvesting your pearls and going through the process of cleaning and grading."

"As pearl farmers this was our first harvest and we thoroughly enjoyed the experience. It totally justifies all the hard work and patience required."

We are now contemplating extending our production time to three years as opposed to two."

There was enough in the proceeds to acquire a ride-on mower at the recent Bamaga auction, much easier than to whipper-snip the island's airstrip.

Power generation in the NPA

Ergon Energy is the local provider for electricity in the NPA. From the Bamaga depot two services work together to bring the power to our homes. One is generating the power (Generation) whilst the other is distributing electricity from the power station to the houses (Poles and Wires).

Mr Tommy Sebasio, a technical service person, Grade 4, working at Bamaga power station explains.



The Bamaga station has 4 generator sets, 3 of which are rated at 1.5 giga Watts, or 1500kW (kilo Watts) and we have a smaller one rated at 850kW. During the day at peak periods we run two big sets. Early in the day and after 11pm at night we might be running one big set and one smaller set. Very early in the morning, let's say 2 to 3am we may have one set running."

"Our demand can be 2.1meg and our capacity is 3 times 1500 plus the 850 (5350kW). Early in the morning (like 3am) we have the lowest load, midday on a day like this, between 11am and 1pm it will peak and then it will peak again when everybody goes home and starts cooking."



Question: 'Has there been any reduction since the powersavvy campaign started?' "Powersavvy has contributed to some, I wouldn't say it was significant..., there have been some changes in fuel usage, I think people have become smarter in the usage of power, that way we save in the fuel."

Cost of power in remote communities is higher due to freight costs and installation and maintenance costs of equipment.

"We are getting subsidised, you pay the same price as you would in Brisbane. I think we are paying now for domestic 22.75 cents per unit of electricity. It costs us a lot more than that to generate it. It's certainly cheaper to generate it down south. If we were paying the real costs, it would be more than 22 cents."

Minister Stephen Robertson explained in Issue 21, NPA News, page 9, "Queensland Government pays Ergon what is called a Community Services Obligation, \$400 million, so no matter where you are in Queensland as a domestic consumer, your household, you pay the same electricity price as we do in Brisbane. That has been a long-term commitment by the Queensland Government."

"We have over 400000 litres storage (on site in Bamaga). SeaSwift brings it in once, sometimes twice a week. We average about 11000 litres of fuel a day. In winter it goes down a little bit. In summer with water usage and heat, it climbs up a little bit."

"We are obligated to have at least 70 days supply of fuel. That is not necessarily stored here in Bamaga. If we need to we can bring it either by truck, it's been known for helicopter to fly in the fuel, in some of the remote communities (when roads cut access)."



A SeaSwift tanker stocking up the fuel tanks at Bamaga power station.



Above: One of 4 generators.

Left: The cream coloured box (right side) is the day fuel tank supplying diesel to the V12 engine. The generator (as above) is fitted to the engine, located in the left image towards the rear (left side).



Each of the 4 generator-sets has its own enclosure with large fans in the canopy pushing air through the generator-bay.

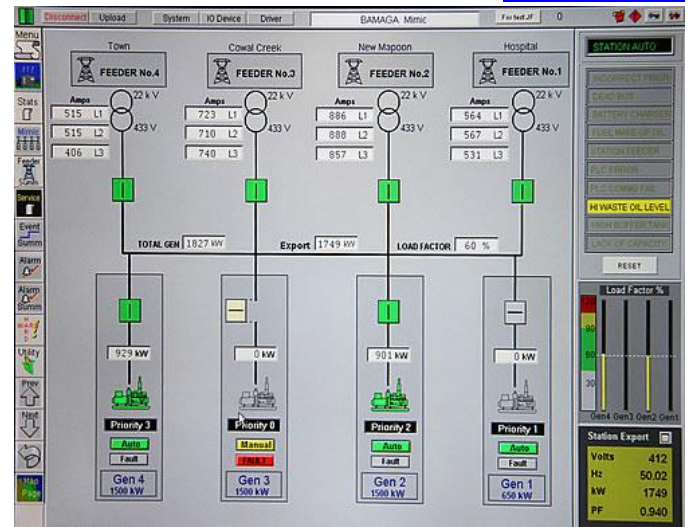
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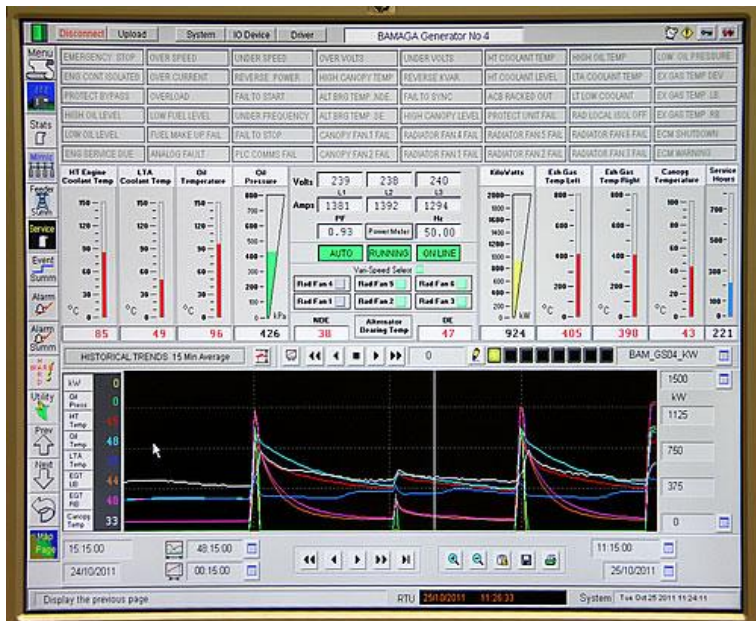
The control room. The cabinets on the left house the analogue displays of each of the generator sets.

The engines have safety systems to protect them, such as low on oil, deviation in temperatures between the left and right banks on each side of the V16 engine, higher or lower voltage than normal and many others. Each generator-bay has a small fuel day tank which is refilled as needed with diesel, likewise with oil.

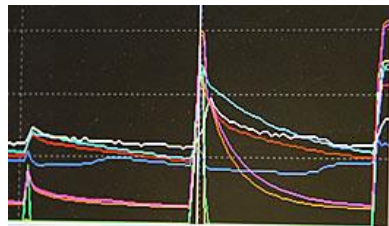


Gen 4 Gen 3 Gen 2 Gen 1

In the above image the generators are in the 4 lower boxes. The two shown in green are currently running. The second from the left is tagged out (off-line) whilst repair work is carried out. The beige box shows it as 'racked out'. The generator on the right is switched off. The horizontal line (middle) represents the bus which carries all the generated power to four vertical lines. The four green boxes along the top represent the circuit breakers in each line; power is going through to the feeders and to the power lines.



Generator-set 4 showing the cooling temperature, coolant, oil, oil pressure, loading now is 1500 (yellow), Service hours (blue on right). "When it gets to 350 hours they'll do a service on it." The graph is history over the last few hours. "The spikes, you know what happens



the night before. The smaller spike is lunch time. The yellow line is the kW, the green is the oil pressure, so when your load goes up your oil pressure goes up as well."

The generated power is output through four 'feeders' to the communities. The first is the 'Hospital feeder' which will always have priority over all others. The second feeder is 'New Mapoon'. The 3rd is 'Cowal Creek' and the last is the 'Bamaga town feeder.' If we have to load-shed, a fault in the middle of the night, the computer will make the decision which feeder will be switched off."

"We can isolate this transformer and still feed Cowal Creek through the hospital feeder."

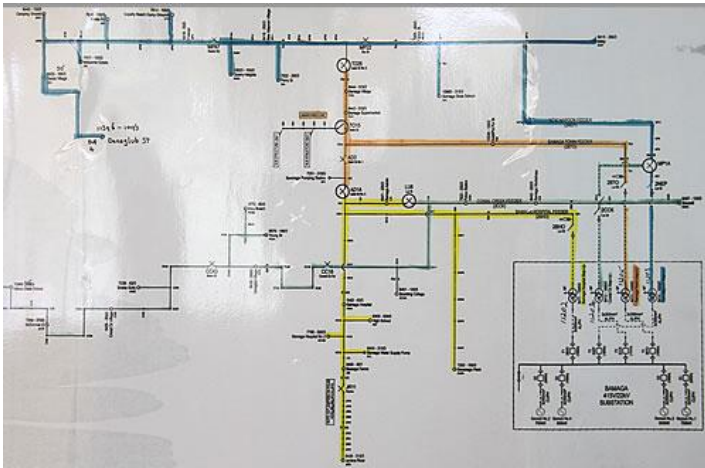
The four feeders supply the 4 different power lines that leave the station, the ones carrying 3 cables. These are all 22000 volts which is more efficient. Transformers at various places bring the voltage down to 415V or 240V. At the side of the station are the hospital feeder lines, while across the road the Cowal Creek, New Mapoon and Bamaga town feeder lines carry power where needed. The hospital feeder also supplies power to the Jardine water pumps. "It is the priority one, supplying the hospital and Jardine, and I live on it too, so it must be important," says Mr Sebasio with a grin.



Left: These are the analogue read-outs from one generator set.



Access to the power station is restricted. One has to do a safety induction and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment. Fire extinguishers are located at every access point and prominent safety messages are throughout the plant.



This image represents the powerlines coming off the feeders. The hospital line is shown in yellow (it also feeds the Jardine pumps).

Personnel are available 24hours a day in case there are any emergencies. There are three people employed at the power station, one for Power Generation, two for Poles and Wires. "But we work together. Both Craig and I are electrical mechanics," says Mr Sebasio.

Ergon Energy is a Queensland Government Owned Corporation. In remote and isolated locations it owns and operates 33 remote power stations throughout Queensland, more than half are located in the Torres Strait (16) and NPA (1).

Customer Service: 13 10 46
24 hour faults and emergencies: 13 22 96
Website: www.ergon.com.au

Funding for local disaster management

NPARC has been granted \$55,000 under the Natural Disaster Resilience Programme to update the Local Disaster Management Plan.



Transformers reduce the 22,000 Volt current.



Mr Craig Ger, workgroup leader.



Mr Kris Motlop, power worker.

Bamaga Auction 2011

119 items went under the hammer at Bamaga auction, 2011.



Prior inspection.



Auctioneer, Mr Peter Thomas, keeping track of the numbers.

The auction netted a total of \$184,276.

Environmental Health Services

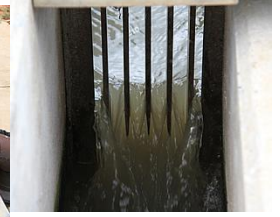


One of the most important services in the NPA is provided by the staff of Environmental Health as it relates to the health of every resident.

Mr George Mara and his team are looking after waste management (garbage collection), sewerage and water, animal management and food control, all under the umbrella of Environmental Health Services.

"Each community has a pump station. From the pump station it pumps to the lagoons, the sewerage ponds." Injinoo and Umagico share the same sewerage ponds. New Mapoon has its own, while Seisia is now connected to the Bamaga sewerage line. Once the effluent reaches the first pond it settles and is broken down with the help of bacteria. "There is a drainage system that drains into other ponds and so on," says Mr Mara. At the Bamaga facility

the water from the last (the cleanest) pond is dispersed with sprinklers. At Bamaga larger items are held back by these bars (right image). "Every morning and afternoon the boys go and rake all the racks up. If a pump should fail everything comes into the manholes and fills them up."



Seisia and Bamaga sewerage is treated at the Bamaga facility (yellow circle).



Injinoo and Umagico share the same facility (above), New Mapoon (left).

The sewerage and water services employ three people.



Bamaga sewerage facility, shown here are the first 2 ponds. There are more ponds to the rear/left of the image at a lower elevation.



One of the lower ponds at Bamaga.



All sewerage facilities have large numbers of wildlife, ducks and a range of birds.



The ponds between Injinoo and Umagico (above) and near New Mapoon (below).

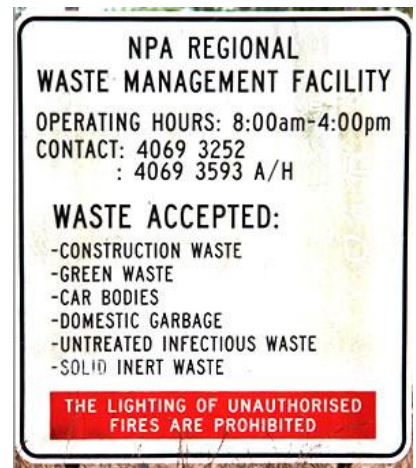


In regards to animals Mr Mara said, "If you own an aggressive dog, put it in a pen and try to prevent it from getting out."

Waste collection:

"The garbage bins are emptied twice a week," explains Mr Mara. "The truck brings the rubbish to the garbage dump and tips it out. Mondays and Thursdays are the rostered days for Seisia, New Mapoon and Injinoo. Tuesdays and Fridays are the rostered days for Bamaga and Umagico. At the refuse tip are three areas, there is green waste, building rubble and general rubbish and also an area for car bodies and animal carcasses. At the end of the week the boys jump on the excavator and flatten it, compact it, and put 50mm or 100mm of dirt down, to hold the rubbish down. With the strong winds paper and plastic bags keep flying around."

"If people wanted to defrost their fridge, don't throw raw stuff into the bins. One time one of the boys complained that they couldn't lift the bin. When they opened the lid there was turtle and you know ... too heavy." There are four people employed in the garbage waste management.



The Waste Management Facility is located between Umagico and Injinoo, open between 8am to 4pm.



There is an area for cardboard boxes (above), green waste (below), building rubble and car bodies.



Another car body arrives on a tip truck.



Regional Waste Management Strategy

A two day seminar was held at Thursday Island discussing Regional Waste Management Strategies.

Mr Jim Foody, Director of NPARC's Engineering Services, "There is a feasibility study been done by AURECON (an engineering company). I was at the inception meeting. We brought our case on what we felt was the only way forward for us over here (NPA), and our solutions are radically different than those that they have to propose to Torres Shire Council and Torres Island Shire Councils."

"They have to have quite elaborate solutions, they can't have landfills. We have the room and area for landfill."

"It was decided yesterday (26th Oct, 2011) that they would recommend that we go on the landfill, we build the landfill idea, but they are suggesting that the integration with the region is such that we may accept recycled goods from the outer island councils, and we may also accept their ash from the incinerators."

Regional Waste Management Strategy

...continued

"In such case it would be a business proposition for us with the landfill. We would actually take their burned waste, their ash. The ash would have to go in our landfill, but our landfill would become an economical proposition, we would actually be paid to take their waste."

"This is the strategy we are examining at the moment. It's a very good result for us because it will allow us a pathway to MIP funding, to development funding, it will actually be run through the MIP programme."

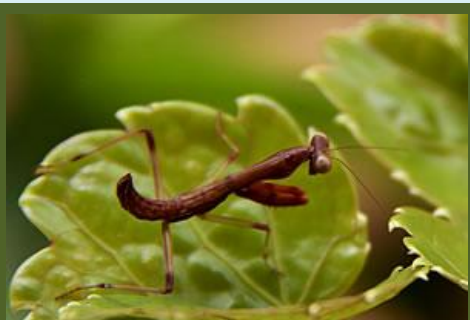
"We have kicked a goal, because AURECON's recommendation will trigger MIP funding and the start on the works with the landfill. That was a bit of a goal we managed to get across the line yesterday."

"Our worry was always that they think up some airy fairy scheme that is more applicable to the outer islands that was going to be very difficult and costly for us to carry on."

HACC projects

Home and Community Care projects in the Torres Strait and NPA are to get \$18,282 to enable the delivery of more services to help older people with disabilities live independently. The total boost of \$576k will go to 21 local community organisations (state-wide), Mr Jason O'Brien, MP for Cook announced on 31st Oct, 2011 in a Media Release. Minister Pitt (Disability Services), "The extra funding for Cook is part of a \$16.7 million boost to the joint State – Commonwealth Home and Community Care (HACC) programme." In 2011-12 the state-wide programme is worth \$523 million to Queensland.

"Investing in home and community care services not only gives people a better quality of life, it also helps to reduce pressure on residential care and nursing homes," said Mr Pitt.



Road works

Mr Jim Foody, Director of NPARC's Engineering Services, "The lack of water has always been an issue in the dry season for road building in the NPA. Just recently we embarked on a programme on building quite a number of dams adjacent to roads we want to do in the future. Punsand Bay is a good example. We got money there to do the road. We are unable to do anything, because there is just no water up there or anywhere up that way. About a month ago we build a number of dams up there, which will fill up over the wet season, and that will allow us to fully upgrade that road to Punsand Bay next year. Without the water and hauling water great distances we just can't fit within a budget anywhere, but by having the dams there to travel 5 or 6km to haul water it allows us to economically build a road and maintain a road a lot better."



"Interestingly, the main road along the Peninsula Development road, from Weipa all the way to Lakeland, every 10 km there is a dam. These dams had never ever been built before in the NPA and will allow us much more efficiently to maintain our road network up here."



There are hardly any corrugations when driving in rainforest areas towards the Tip, as the sections of road covered by trees retains sufficient moisture content throughout the year. It's a very different story when roads are exposed to the sun and dry out. The particles no longer bind together and the road surface virtually falls apart, each car that follows is making it progressively worse. Water from tankers is needed during road works to help bind the particles together again.



At the Loyalty Beach turn-off.



Umagico Feasting Shed

At the Umagico feasting shed the benches are in place and electrical work is carried out by NPA Electrical, fitting switchboard, power points and lights.



The beds are prepared to grow herbs and spices.



...or we could invest in sunflowers. Each seed becomes another one and each of them will multiply. It's an astronomical return on our investment. You think it's going to work? It sure would make the Galahs happy.

What's wrong with the TV? Have the kids played with it? It looks like they activated the parental lock again.



**Specialists coming to NPA, T.I. and outer Islands
Nov/Dec**
Bamaga Hospital and Community PHCC

28 – 30 Nov	Eyes, Dr Gary Brian & Eyedentity, T.I. H., OPD & OT
1 – 2 Dec	Eyes, Dr Gary Brian & Eyedentity, T.I. H., OPD & OT
1 – 2 Dec	Dermatology Clinic, Dr Rob Miller, T.I. H. 1 Dec, Yorke PHC 2 Dec
5 Dec	Orthopaedic, Dr William Bryceson, T.I. H. OPD 5-9 th , OT 6-8 th
7-8 Dec	Chest Clinic, Thoracic Team, CBH, Saibai PHC 7 th & Boigu PHC 8 th
21 Dec	Chest Clinic, Nurses Clinic, Saibai PHC 21 st
No dates yet available for year 2012.	

Weekly planner for Diabetes Educator Clinics, 2011

Need Dietitian, Diabetic Specialist, Eyedentity? Call Mrs Shirley Hill, Ph 4069 3200.

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2pm–5pm Injinoo Clinic	9am –noon Bamaga Clinic	10am – noon New Mapoon Clinic 2pm –5pm Umagico Clinic	9am – noon Seisia Clinic

Services provided: Diabetes prevention / management, Diabetes check up, Medication information, Insulin management, Foot Care / checks, Diabetes in Pregnancy, Diabetes Specialist Appointments, and Eye appointments. Make appointments with Health Centre Staff, or just pop in.

Alcohol, Tobacco & other Drugs Services Clinic

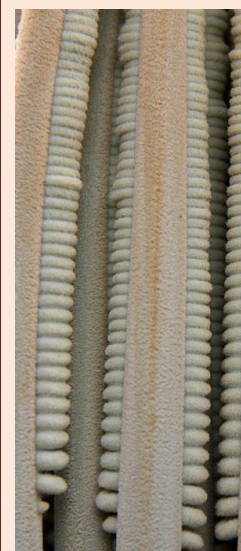
(1:30 to 4 pm)

At our local Primary Healthcare Centres. Drop in, general discussion, withdrawal care & ATODS Clinic. A Queensland Health initiative.
Yarn blo umi stay where umi (confidential) ATODS Office: **4090 4270** Mental Health: **4069 3166** Bamaga Hospital: **4069 3166**

Injinoo	New Mapoon	Umagico	Bamaga	Seisia
1, 15 and 29 Nov 13 Dec	8 and 22 Nov 6 Dec	9 and 23 Nov 7 Dec	10 and 24 Nov 8 Dec	3 and 17 Nov 1 and 15 Dec



Time for the rain season



RHD / ARF

This article is a follow up from several previous issues NPA News relating to RHD / ARF, but in particular issue 31.

RHD = Rheumatic Heart Disease.

ARF = Acute Rheumatic Fever.



Above: Griffith University, Gold Coast Campus.

Professor Michael Good and Dr Michael Batzloff are both research leaders in the process of developing a vaccine against the Group A Streptococcus (GAS) bacteria, the cause of ARF which can lead to RHD. As previously reported they researched at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) and both are now continuing at Griffith University, Gold Coast. Over 11 years of research has gone into the project. There are still some hurdles to overcome but there is also a sense of excitement as the first human trials with the vaccine are likely to begin early 2012.



Nov, 2011, at the Institute for Glycomics at Griffith University, Gold Coast (image above).

Professor Michael Good: "A vaccine has been produced for human tests. It's undergoing its final, what is called a 'toxicology safety profiling test', which is done in animals occurring in America and Australia (Brisbane). When it passes those tests it will then be ready for a 'first in humans', or a 'Phase 1' test, which we plan to do in Brisbane, hopefully sometime early 2012. That will also be a test of safety and also to see whether the vaccine induces antibodies which can recognise the Strep* germ and kill it. If it passes those tests in terms of safety we would then look to do a subsequent trial with an 'at risk' population, likely to get Rheumatic Fever or Rheumatic Heart Disease, such as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander population."

*) Strep = Group A Streptococcus (GAS) bacteria.



From left: Dr Michael Batzloff and Professor Michael Good.

Professor Good explained that discussions were held with RHD Australia

communities and he had several visits to Yarrabah.

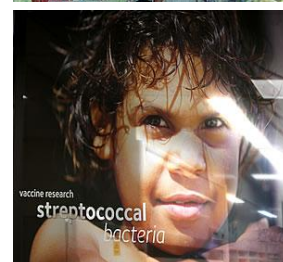
Q: Is the vaccine intended for people who have already contracted RHD or ARF or intended for people who might be at risk of contracting ARF?

A: "You could do both. We start off with people at risk, who haven't contracted it but are likely to get it. What we would look at, ideally it is given to children, they are the ones at risk. So you give it to children and you look for whether they develop skin infections or throat infections or less of them after getting the vaccine. That's how we would measure its effects. If it prevents skin or throat infections we would say it's effective, because you can only get Rheumatic Heart Disease after you had a skin infection or a throat infection. It is all pretty exciting but it's just a painfully long process, in terms of going through all the regulatory hoops, but we're gradually getting there, I hope."



process of ethics application, toxicology and safety assessment. Any little observation that is made in the toxicology report you have to investigate in detail. So we want to move forward with a safe vaccine. We got to make sure it is totally safe before we move forward. We have finished the toxicology. We have the report from that. We are just about to send that out for an independent assessment. Obviously we can't comment on things like this (meaning the content of the report). We also have to audit places that we are involved in the manufacture of our vaccine."

"We have another independent person who is independent of us and is not involved in the development of the project having to go and audit companies and organisations that were involved in the vaccine. We want to make sure they did everything they said they did, and they did it correctly. I am confident all the companies we engaged did it correctly; it's just as part of the checks and balances in the process of making the vaccine, you have to be sure of that. It is quite amazing the numbers of companies you use, so we have to buy components from different parts of the world, and then they are made in one particular processing facility, and it's moved from another facility where they do formulation."



Dr Michael Batzloff, "There are a lot of processes in place you have to go through to move a vaccine from the bench-side and into the clinic. We got our vaccine, we are ready to go there and we're in the

Institute for Glycomics

Level 3

Bacterial Pathogenesis Labs 1 & 2 (G26)
Biochemistry Labs 1 & 2 (G25)
Glycobiological Facility (G25)
Flow Cytometry Facility (G25)
Protein Production Facility (G25)
Radioisotope Lab (G25)

"It really comes back to when do we get the independent assessments... we can go to clinic," says Dr Batzloff. "We submitted our 'ethics' for one of our first stage ethic's application and we'll see how that goes with the next ethic's meeting and I'm sure they'll have numerous comments which we will address. We'll then move forward conducting the clinical trial. It's a very exciting time."

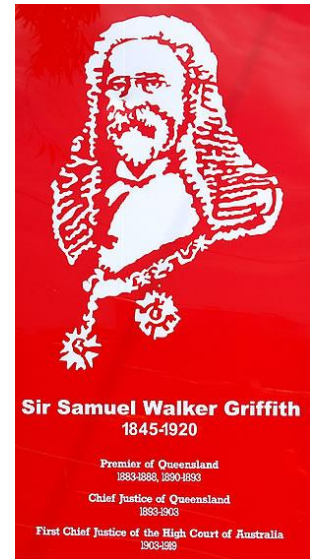
RHD / ARF

...continued.

Dr Batzloff, "It's quite amazing if you look in general terms for drugs and vaccines. Sometimes it can take from 10 to 20 years to get a drug or a vaccine onto the market. There are just general terms, there are obviously examples that have been produced onto the market quicker or ones that took longer. It is not a quick process. For every drug or vaccines that make it to market

there are thousands that don't. They come along the process that may not get to market, because it may not work or it may not be economical viable to produce, or it could have a toxic side effect. In general terms there are thousands of candidates that don't ever make it to market."

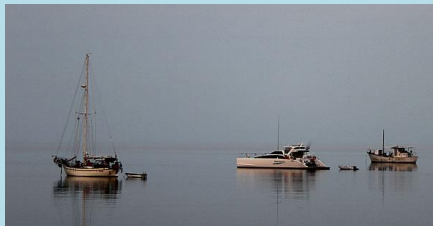
"Strep is a big problem generally in the school-age years, from 5 to 15 year olds that we'd be looking at giving to children. They develop an immune response and that immune response attacks and kills the bacteria when they are exposed to it and they are protected from it, very much like the other vaccines currently out there. Vaccines are one of the most cost-effective medical interventions. We've been lucky with Strep, generally speaking. It's still susceptible to Penicillin and other antibiotics."



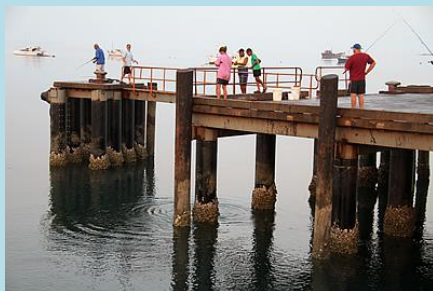
'Know more. Do more,' is the motto of Griffith University which has 5 campuses at Brisbane, Logan City and Gold Coast. It was named after Sir Samuel Walker Griffith who was twice Premier of Queensland (1883-88 and 1890-1893), Chief Justice of Queensland (1893-1903) and the first Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia (1903-1919).

Seisia

... in the morning ...



... with heaps of bait ...



... time for lunch ...



... time to yarn, spot a bargain



Why aren't we twice as fast with eight wings? Because you're not pushing.



Horse handling

If you want to ride a horse, you first have to catch it. You could chase them all over the paddock, do the '10000 steps' exercise bit at the same time and, with a bit of luck, find the horse.

Wrong!

Mr Phil Beyers just calls their names and they come to him. Wherever he goes they follow as close as a dog on a leash.



Marble and Pascoe.

Mr Beyers teaches the Year 8 to Year 12 students.

Mr Beyers lives at Atambaya and brings his horses to Bamaga, to teach students at Bamaga Senior Campus how to handle a horse. The horses are 'students' too and during the term all will progress to get a better understanding of the other. In early October spring feels like summer in the NPA and the horses appreciate a cool shower, here carried out by Irie.



Above: Rowena.

Each of the Year 12 students has a turn in brushing the horse, hands-on opportunity for first contact. Marble, the 4-year old horse, has never been ridden, has never had a mouthpiece or worn a saddle.



Part of the exercise is to lead the horse around the enclosure. The horse responds to signals for start and stop. On 'stop' it should come in close, and it does, expecting a little affection, and if it doesn't get it will give it instead.



Above: Tori is having a ball.



From left: Yosha, Litiana, Stephina and Rene.



Bonding session with Marble.





Lino and Screen Printmaking



With the support of Injinoo Healing Centre and NPA Mensheds Ms Liz Hunter and Ms Hanna Parker conducted a 5-day workshop into lino-cutting and screen printing (at NPA Art Centre, New Mapoon), with a number of students getting involved.



The 'mono-pods' (in Cairns).



NPA Mini Rodeo

**Saturday,
22nd October, 2011
12 noon to 6pm**



Local Saddle Bronc \$50 per entrant
Poddy Rides \$15 per entrant
at
Yusia Ginau Memorial Field, Bamaga

NPA Mini Rodeo took place near Yusia Ginau Memorial Field, Bamaga, with local saddle broncs and poddy rides providing the action and Mr Nathan Campbell providing the music.



Thanks to the many that supported this event and the CDEP team for erecting and dismantling the enclosure.



I was too scared to fall off

Mr Jeffrey Hodgetts: "I grew up in the bush, on a cattle property. I'm one of six kids. By the time I came around things had changed, parents' values to children had changed. As last in the line I always got second-hand hand-me-downs. I never had anything given to me until my first rodeo. I was eight years old and I rode the poddy calves... and I won. I came first and it was the first time in my life that I felt that I accomplished something. So I rode rodeos all my life. The last time I rode was in 1987 and I won the bull ride at Mareeba Rodeo. I won a saddle (valued at \$3000), a buckle, and a photograph of myself and all the gear. It gave me in all of those years the strength to tell myself that I am capable of anything. If I can be at one with a beast and learn what he is trying to do and counteract that,... to learn a skill, and a skill that would scare the living daylights out of most people, and turn that around and put it into your life,... here I am today, proud to be the paramedic covering the rodeo, to care for the injured and relive part of my youth. So a tribute, personally, I attribute a lot of my success in my life to the determination that I had to put in to bull riding and riding saddle broncs to my own life now. I apply that every day and I succeed, and if you apply that you will succeed."



Copyright by 'Highlights Photography'

"I think that the kids up here (in the NPA) doing the rodeo should take it onboard that they are incredibly brave young men and go with that. It's about the kids taking something away with them, other than bruises and sore muscles. It's great they are doing something together and learning at the same time."

When asked 'what is it like when you're 8 years old:' "I was scared to death, absolutely scared to death. I was too scared to fall off, I think that's why I've won, too scared to fall off. Over the years that fear turns into skill. You know what he's going to do. You can counter-act, counter-balance, keeps you fit and keeps you strong. You can't drink alcohol, you can't take drugs, because you do either of those and he'll get the better of you, every time. You got to be clear-headed, straight and narrow with exactly what you're going to do, how you're going to do it, and do it, and you will succeed, especially on a bull."

Blow until I say: 'Stop'

28th Oct, 2011, Location: Bamaga where many drivers were stopped by Cairns Traffic branch and officers from the Random Drug Detection Unit.

Sergeant David Dasey is from Brisbane working for the Roadside Drug testing Unit. "We're up in the Cape in conjunction with the members from the Far Northern Region Drug Squad in conjunction with the National Weed-it-out Programme. It is basically a capacity building strategy with the communities to control and work out the effects of cannabis in the communities and help try to rid the communities of cannabis."



"Not only are we looking at the health side of things, we're here to support them as far as drivers driving with cannabis in their system."



Detective Senior Constable Nick O'Brien is speaking from Bamaga Police station, "I'm with the Cairns Police and currently in Bamaga at the moment with the Weed-it-out project. With the project we travel throughout Cape York and also up through Torres Strait. We're trying to sell the message in relation to the supply and reduction of cannabis getting into Cape York and Torres Strait communities. We are all about, obviously being police officers, but the project itself kicked off in 2007 and we are funded by the Department of Ageing and Nursing in Canberra and we work in partnership with James Cook University."

"We're all about trying to look at different approaches in trying to assist Cape York and Torres Strait communities in trying to stop cannabis coming into the communities. Obviously the first thing it's illegal, everyone knows that cannabis is illegal, but through the project we're trying to show things like the health effects and the flow-on how it affects the community and the family. Through the project we identified teenage suicides have really gone up (meaning not Cape York specific, but overall). We identified that the health issues psychosis, mental illness, depression... we've identified that depression has really been affected by abuse of cannabis. We do communities like Wujal, Hopevale, Aurukun, Kowanyama, the NPA, and the majority of the islands in the Torres Strait, up to Saibai, just south of PNG. Every community is different, we are aware of that."

"If people get caught with cannabis, obviously illegal, they will be charged with possession of a dangerous drug and will be required to go to court. Through this project we are not trying to come in and knock on everyone's door and say 'hand over your drugs,' We try to work with the community to say, 'look, it's wrong, it's illegal.' We got to work together to try to stop it coming in. So the project is all about to stop the bigger dealers, bringing the cannabis into the community or growing it, because when the dealers come in they are selling all their cannabis, they are driving out with the communities' money. That money is only limited in the community, it is not going through the shop, it's not going through the schools, it's not being passed on. It's going to some fat-cat's pocket down in Cairns. They drive out all the money. The after-effects are left in the community. That's what we're trying to identify, so it's all about the supply reduction to stop cannabis coming into the communities."

"We are aware that a lot of people in the community don't feel strong and confident to speak to the police, to pass on the information as to who is bringing it in and who the troublemakers are. What we're trying to say is, 'if you find whether it's an elder in the community or one of the justice workers or one of the health workers where you feel you can talk to them, they might be able to pass on the information to police.' The biggest thing is they can make a call to **crimestoppers** (tel: 1800 333 000), it's a free phone call. If they wish to not pass on their name that information will not be passed on to police. If we identify that a certain person is coming into the NPA then we can come up here and try to target them."

"With roadside drug testing it's very similar with breath testing. We pick it up at the side of the road. If it's positive we do a second test. If the second test is positive again for the drug it is then sent off to the government laboratory in Brisbane to analyse it. We then get a result back what the drug is in the system and then we commence action with a court appearance from there."



The car is marked: RDTU (Roadside Drug Testing Unit).

The group works together with justice groups, men's' and women's' groups, "We work closely with the health groups and the hospital in the NPA and ATODS (Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs). As I said: every community is different, so we're trying to identify different approaches in the different communities."

"Our biggest concern is obviously the health issues. NPA is a good example of this. We have alcohol restrictions in the NPA. Some of the other communities like Aurukun, Kowanyama, are completely dry. We've identified that there has been a move from alcohol to now cannabis abuse, which makes it extremely difficult."

"A lot of communities that people are on work programme, so they are not working fulltime and be on limited funds. Obviously if you have a cannabis addiction a lot of your money is going to be subsidised to using cannabis. Very quickly if mum and dad have a cannabis addiction more than half the money is going to cannabis. The kids are not being fed, they are not being looked after as well as they should be, and also they are not going to school. The whole family, the whole community is breaking down. We're all about not coming and saying 'we're the police, you're doing the wrong thing,' we are trying to identify people within the community that want to be able to help their communities work with us and try to make a few changes."

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NPARC Chief Executive Officer
Mr Stuart Duncan

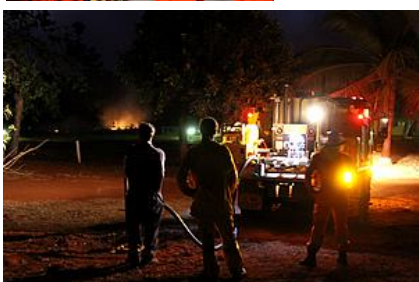
Blow until I say: 'Stop' ...continued

Cairns Traffic branch and officers from the Random Drug Detection Unit explain: "Blowing into a bag is testing for alcohol in the body. Drug testing is done with a small plastic item with two little brushes on it. It is rubbed along the tongue (a swab) and within 5 minutes can identify if person has used cannabis or other drugs. If the second roadside drug test is also positive it will be sent to Brisbane for further analysis. If it proves that user has drugs in the system the person is then charged."

"One of the biggest problems we have people buying gunja, cannabis in Cape York communities, NPA and also through the Torres Straits is that in Cairns people pay \$20 for a sachet, or 1 gram of cannabis, unfortunately through NPA, Cape York and the Torres Strait, people are paying up to \$75. We know people have identified the NPA, Cape York, Torres Strait and islands as an easier option to push themselves, drugs onto people and making lots of money. Unfortunately, as I said before, all that money is coming out of the community and it's all going to the drug dealers. As I said, here they are paying a phenomenal amount of money for it, much higher than you'd pay down south."

Bamaga fire

The Rural Fire Brigade prevented a fire from getting too close to Bamaga Hospital.

**What's your bid?**

In its heyday it looked similar to the one above, but as Lot 44 in the recent Bamaga auction it looked as image below.



It had gas and brake modifications so that it could be operated by hand only and as such was the only car in NPARC's fleet able to be driven by one of NPARC's employees who had such a need. It was stolen 18th Jan or early 19th January, 2011 and found shortly later, just 3km out of Bamaga in this condition (below, Jan 2011, reported in NPA News, issue 22).



It never drove again and it was never replaced. At the Bamaga October auction it fetched \$50. Whoever wrecked it was never caught.

HACC bus gone

On 8th Nov, 2011, HACC employees find their only bus with wheelchair access had disappeared. Ms Moira Aniba is very disappointed that anyone could do that to their own grandparents. Grandparents Day in the NPA is on 8th Nov and sadly people could not be transported to the planned events.

"This sort of thing we never expected," says Ms Aniba. "It was very disappointing for someone to do this kind of stupid thing especially since HACC provides a service to their grandparents. You know how long we have this service and building going, none of this ever happened." The staff at HACC also saddened by such mindless action.

The bus was found on the same day with damage to the side door and above the window. The ignition key was missing and the sliding door's window is smashed.

Images below courtesy of HACC. Red outline shows damaged areas.

**To make a difference**

Most days of the year are dedicated to a special cause. There is Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day and so many others. There is Thanksgiving Day and many around the world celebrate the time of harvest. But there is not really a day in Australia, the NPA, or anywhere else where we say 'thanks' to those that helped to make something possible, to help improve the lives of its people, or to have things work the way they should.

All too often we take for granted that the toilet works, in one flush it's all gone. It only works because there is water to flush with; there is power to drive the pumps. On the other end someone ensures the grid is kept clean, the pipes don't leak, the ponds are doing their job. The rubbish is collected, the bulk items are properly disposed of, the grass is cut and thousands of items of debris are manually collected and bagged.

There are organisations, groups and individuals dedicated to help others, be that with one's addiction (smoke, drink, drugs), overcoming or coping with serious illness, chronic disease, loss in the family, assisting the elderly or protecting and guiding the young. There is help and counselling for victims of violence and abuse and programmes and organisations that can help offenders.

There are training courses, opportunities to gain new skills and knowledge to be able to fill the need in the communities, as well as to advance one's own prospects. There is support and facilities for artists to exchange ideas, further one's skills and invitations to exhibit their works to a wider audience. There are many who train and rehearse in their own time so that their performance as musicians, dancers or performers can be enjoyed by many others. Behind them are many more sewing the costumes, repairing the head-dress, cleaning the clothing, organising the tickets, the accommodation, the medication, the passports, the entry visas and whatever else.

...continued next page.

NPA Art Centre



Wing of a butterfly.



Flash Women

The 'largest ever contemporary Torres Strait Islander Art show' in Brisbane has come to a close (1st July to 23rd Oct), while 'Flash Women' is about to open at the State Library of Queensland.

"Flash Women features the eclectic, vibrant and stylish collection of favourite fashions worn by Indigenous women over the past 80 years," says Minister Rachel Nolan (Finance, Natural Resources and The Arts).

"The exhibition profiles a range of women, from respected community elders such as author, activist and educator Aunty Ruth Hegarty, to talented young Torres Strait Islander fashion designer Grace Lee and founder of the ...



Some of the many mosaics at NPA Art Centre, New Mapoon.



Mrs Agnes Mark: "That (the image shown left) represents the burning of Mapoon (Marpuna) with the teardrop in the middle. I still got a bit more work to do with that one. I put little pictures in the teardrop."

little Black Dress Empire, entrepreneur Juliette Knox."

"Flash Women includes examples of favourite fashion and jewellery pieces, along with photographs and moving stories told by inspiring women, many of whom have risen above hardships and exude confidence."

"These women are positive role models, not only for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, but women everywhere."

Flash Women is open daily at the kuril dhagun Indigenous Knowledge Centre, with free entry, from 1st Nov to 24th February, 2012.

For more information, visit State Library website /whats-on. Based on Media Release by Mr Jason O'Brien, MP for Cook.

Boatsafe Course

TAFE is conducting a Boatsafe Course (21 and 22 Nov), the outcome of which is a Recreational Marine Drivers Licence (RMDL), sometimes referred to as Recreational Ship Masters Licence. A course of Jet Ski Licence is included in this.

Late News: Course was cancelled.



Images relate to the recently conducted Boatsafe (2) and the elements of Shipboard Safety (2) Courses, courtesy Mr M. Bond.



An expert is not necessarily an ex 'pert'.

The best lemon is ...



... a lemon.

To make a difference ...continued

There are volunteers who consistently fill roles that need filling and there are many living in faraway places whose work has an impact here, even though some may have no idea where the NPA is. Some know the legislations, the procedures, the processes to follow, which boxes to tick, the when, where and how to apply, to get things moving.

There is tremendous business support for community events, but also assistance for individuals in need. There is support from the services, police, ambulance, fire fighters and health workers being actively involved in each of the communities. There are very dedicated teachers in NPA schools; there are parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents who ensure their children attend school each day.

We rely on others and others rely on us. A chain is as strong as its weakest link. There are those that go beyond their normal work to ensure the weakest links doesn't break the chain, that the work of those that don't show up for work is still done, despite. There are those that show up for work on time consistently and many find their work rewarding. Some go out of their way to ensure another is not left wanting and many make a tremendous contribution at their own sacrifice; put their own wants on hold for the needs of the other.

There are the hunters that feed the people in their communities when money is tight; there are the many hands that come from nowhere when the need arises. There are those that can inspire others, can stop the drinker from having another one and can calm flaring tempers, welcome back the ones who spent time at Mareeba.

Many share their gift of fortune, knowledge or skill, a fish, a carved pendant, a better suggestion or simply a 'Hello'.

Despite all that life it is never perfect, nor can it ever be, that's just the nature of life. There cannot be one without the other and therefore all the opposites are also true, but where would we be without all those that make or try to make a difference?

Esso!

Qld Local Gov Elections

The first term of NPA Regional Council comes to an end early next year. On 31st March, 2012, the Queensland Local Government will hold elections for Councillors for each of the 5 communities and for the position of NPARC Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

A meeting at New Mapoon (1-3pm on 28th Nov) will inform of what is involved in becoming a councillor.

The Queensland Government website: dlgp.qld.gov.au/council-elections provides more about the subject and is an excellent source of information. There are six easy to follow modules which give a broad understanding of what is involved.

To be eligible to stand for an election as councillor a candidate must be an Australian citizen, live in the local government's area and be eligible to vote.

In Queensland local government elections are held every four years and are conducted by the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ).

Thanks to SeaSwift

When a generator at NPA airport broke down, SeaSwift Depot Manager, Mr Graeme Boydell, did not hesitate a second and brought a SeaSwift generator to the airport to supply the airport manager's house and the terminal with electricity. SeaSwift loaned the generator for 10 days, enabling a hire generator to come up which was eventually replaced. 'Thank you' to Mr Boydell and SeaSwift.

Bamaga Subdivision

Images below all taken on 16th November.

They show the open space between Bamaga Pool, Primary Campus and Bamaga Farm on which the new subdivision will grow. Pegs are staked out marking the road outline and various Lots. There are some detours in place to get to the farm.



The ribbons on the pegs are red, blue, pink, yellow and various other colours.



This issue is printed in Cairns. As a service to the communities, Skytrans kindly offered to freight the newsletters to the NPA free of charge. For the quickest way to the NPA call 1300 759 872, or visit: www.skytrans.com.au



For the quickest way to the NPA

Dan Ropeyarn Cup Carnival 2011 Official Draw

Pool A (Thursday game)	Pool B (Thursday game)
Seisia Sharks VS Mt Bentley Barracudas	Northern GOODLINE Stallions VS Chiverii Warriors
Waur United VS Weipa Raiders	8HB Brothers VS JJ Crocs
Alau Eagles	Bamaga Roos
Alau Eagles VS Mt Bentley Barracudas	Bamaga Roos VS Chiverii Warriors
Pool A (Friday game)	Pool B (Friday game)
Seisia Sharks VS Waur United	Northern GOODLINE Stallions VS 8HB Brothers
Weipa Raiders	JJ Crocs
Mt Bentley Barracudas VS Weipa Raiders	Chiverii Warriors VS JJ Crocs
Seisia Sharks VS Alau Eagles	Bamaga Roos VS Northern GOODLINE Stallions
Waur United	8HB Brothers

TOP END UNITED VS DREAMTIME ROPEYARN RAZORS

Waur United VS Alau Eagles	8HB Brothers VS Bamaga Roos
Seisia Sharks VS Weipa Raiders	Northern GOODLINE Stallions VS JJ Crocs
Mt Bentley Barracudas	Chiverii Warriors
Pool A (Saturday game)	Pool B (Saturday game)
Waur United VS Mt Bentley Barracudas	8HB Brothers VS Chiverii Warriors
Alau Eagles VS Weipa Raiders	Bamaga Roos VS JJ Crocs
Seisia Sharks	Northern GOODLINE Stallions

DREAMTIME ROPEYARN RAZORS VS TOP END UNITED**SEMI FINALS**

Waur United VS Bamaga Roos	Northern GOODLINE Stallions VS Alau Eagles
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DREAMTIME ROPEYARN RAZORS VS TOP END UNITED (FINAL)**GRAND FINALE****Waur United VS Alau Eagles**

Proudly hosted & facilitated by NPARC

Dan Ropeyarn Cup Committee would like to take the opportunity to thank all our Sponsors & Volunteers. Without them these events would not have been possible!!!

(This info based on table provided by
Ms Estelle Gebadi, NPARC's Events Coordinator)

**Message from Police: 'No tolerance approach'**

... to drink driving, unlicensed driving and domestic violence.

"Over the Dan Ropeyarn Cup it was a pretty terrible effort on the part of the community," says Sergeant David Rutherford (Officer in Charge, Bamaga Police Station). Ten drink-drivers detected and every one of them was a local person."

"With the Christmas period coming up we want to encourage people they have a sober bob. They need a licence, a sober driver with them that gets them from party to party in the communities.

Bamaga Police will be taking a 'no tolerance' approach to drink driving and unlicensed driving." (No tolerance means: Everyone detected will get charged). Full story in next issue NA News.



To everyone

'A happy and safe Festive Season'