

In this Issue: Yawo Doc, Burketown, Rangers, Floods, CDEP Calendar, Ghost nets, Tasmania, Slosh, and much more...



I got a flip, I need a flop,
and then another flip flop,
but I'm so small
I can stand with all fours on the one I've got.
Can I come to school anyway? Can I, can I?

Umagico Dance Party



Underage dance competition (12-years to under 18) held in Umagico attracted many, with busses bringing in more from other communities. The event was organized by Events Department, NPARC. Several AFL Cape York representatives also attended the function. Rain held off on the night with volunteers busy on the BBQ, buttering the numerous bread-rolls (see page 16) and sizzling what seemed to be miles of sausages. More images in next edition.

Bamaga gets generator	... page 2
In the Navy, 17 new recruits	... page 2
Rangers pluck Police from roof	... page 3
Rangers NOT happy	... page 3
What's for breakfast	... page 8
Health, dates, programs	... page 9
Jobs and opportunities	... page 10
Australia Day, Cape York style	... page 18

Yawo Doc



...see page 4

"All care is taken to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication however NPARC, its officers, employees agents and consultants make no warranties or representations about the quality, accuracy, completeness, merchantability or fitness for purpose of any material in this publication. Subject to any law to the contrary which cannot be excluded, any liability howsoever arising (including in tort or for any incidental, special or consequential damages) is hereby excluded. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the NPARC and the inclusion of material in this publication does not represent an endorsement of that material by NPARC."

New Librarian at Injinoo

At the back of the Youths Centre, Injinoo, the library is now operating, which is also known as the Injinoo Knowledge Centre. Mrs Sandra Sebasio is the new librarian. Opening hours are 9am to 5pm, Monday to Thursdays, and 9am to 3pm on a Friday. If you have old family photographs, or old images from the area please see Mrs Sebasio, for including those as library content. She will take a copy and return the originals, and she is also interested in stories. Mrs Sebasio can be reached on: 4069 3761.



Bamaga Radio Station gets generator

Bamaga radio station has now received the generator, reported in issue 21, to enable the station to function in case of a power loss.

The 500 watts transmitter will be the only form of communication between the communities in case of an emergency. Bamaga radio station can be tuned in on FM 91.9. Seaswift kindly donated free shipping of the generator and its concrete pad.



At Seaswift's depot, Mr Colin Sagigi carefully loads the UK built generator for its final journey to Bamaga FM 91.9.



FM 91.9



Word from Ms Ami McKeown, broadcaster at FM91.9: "The fish are biting."



Wet-hair day.

In the Navy

From a total of 17 new sailors to the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), eleven came from Torres Island communities and the NPA. The recruits had earlier weathered a six month pilot course (covered in previous issues), known as the Defence Indigenous Development Program (DIDP-N), and taken the next step in a career in the Navy. An 11 week Naval Induction Training Course on the HMAS Cerberus (in Victoria) is next.

A press release from Mr Warren Snowdon, MP, and Senator Mark Arbib (17th Jan 2011) states:

"The DIDP-N is a practical approach to sustainable economic development for Indigenous Australians and is a whole-of-government initiative, funded federally through the Indigenous Employment Program (IEP), Workplace English Language and Literacy program and the Defence White Paper."



Image courtesy of Defence Department, DIDP N.

Getting to know a world far beyond home.

Senator Arbib said the IEP was part of the Australian Government's commitment to close the gap on Indigenous employment. The Gillard Government has a target of creating more than 100,000 jobs for Indigenous Australians by 2018.

Search and Rescue of flood victims at Burketown

CLCAC Rangers funded through Wild Rivers and Working on Country were called upon to assist in a search and rescue of a community member whom had sent a text message to Murrumbidgee Yanner at approximately 7:55pm Saturday night 1 January 2011 to say that his vehicle had been swept off the Leichardt crossing. Approximately 2 minutes later another text message was received stating please hurry, kids in vehicle.

Murrumbidgee informed the rangers and the rangers in turn informed the SES. The SES requested that the rangers vessel (which was funded by WOC and the equipment in the boat including the safety gear was purchased through Wild Rivers funding) be used to assist in the search and rescue.

I informed the Police and Hospital and as well as those mentioned above, other locals, the Police and the Managers of Armrinald Station and Floraville Station made their way to the Leichardt River which is approximately 71 km from Burketown.

The Police on being the first on the scene quickly assessed that there were children and adults in the water clinging for the lives and screaming for help. The police proceeded onto the flooded causeway to try and assist. Unfortunately the police got caught in the current and were taken off the causeway and had to climb onto the roof rack of their vehicle.

From there the Police were able to relay to the bank where the rescue parties were, that there were 3 Adults, 5 children that needed rescuing and another Adult and child unaccounted for.

During the rescue attempt, the SES vessel with 4 volunteers on board got swept downstream and was lucky to wedge onto a rocky ledge that was metres from the waterfall and had to be rescued themselves.

All in all, the CLCAC vessel rescued the 3 adults and five children, 2 x police officers stranded on the roof of their vehicle and the SES vessel with 4 volunteer rescuers on board to safety.

The rangers said that the boat training that the rangers took part in that was funded and run by Wild Rivers was an important and instrumental skill in assisting our rangers during the rescue.

The unaccounted child was found a while later safe and in good health. Unfortunately the adult that saved the child's life had drowned and her body found the next morning at approximately 10:30am 2 kilometers downstream from where the incident took place.

Overall all those that took part in the efforts have to be congratulated. Our rangers are very lucky to have taken part in so much worthwhile training that has been funded by Wild Rivers and along with that training have also been funded resources and equipment to maintain those skills. (To put it into perspective the SES vessel had less outfitted equipment than that of the CLCAC boat). Those skills and equipment were instrumental in assisting to save lives, although tragically there was a death that occurred, it could have been much worse.

During the debriefing that was held on Wednesday morning with all parties involved, the police, Burke Shire Council and the SES were very vocal in their appreciation of the ranger's assistance and the use of their equipment.

Article courtesy Rachel Amini-Yanner
NT Services Manager/Deputy CEO.

Rangers NOT happy

Injinoo Ranger Base had 3 break-ins since it opened. The last one on 7th Jan, 2011.

The screen at the fly screen door was cut to open the inner lever. A piece of timber was used to smash the sliding glass door to gain entry. GPS systems, computers, mobile phones and a large number of keys were stolen and loaded into one of the ranger vehicles. The roller door to the boat and quad-bike shed was opened.

The vehicle was then used to drive through the locked fence.

A senior ranger heard some noises and informed ranger, Mr Warren Strevens, who contacted Police. On arriving at the Ranger Base the stolen ranger 4WD drove by. Police arrested the person. All stolen goods have been recovered. The glass door and gates are replaced (see also page 9).



Let's wait for a 'Flew'.

What's that?

Don't you know anything?

Yawo Dr Shahla (Good-bye Dr Shahla)

Bamaga Hospital put on a traditional farewell for Dr Shahla, with members of the communities and leaders of many groups and organisations attending the ceremony. Mr Steven Christian introduced the many speakers, each recollecting their moments with Dr Shahla.

Mrs Patty Nona (Yusia): "The thing is, this was a shock to us that Doctor Shahla..., we knew that sometime she'd be leaving. We didn't expect it to be so soon. It's not that she wants to leave, it's the situation, she has to leave, and I understand that, and I'm kind of sad emotionally. I sadly want our Dr Shahla (to) work. There is a new system put in place and Dr Shahla drives that system, teamwork for all of us. I miss 'em big time, myself, Steven and Sam."

Prayers, traditional song, presentation of gifts, cake, refreshments and island dancing were all part of the at times very emotional farewell.



For many the lump in the throat was just too big to swallow down, a tear-filled nod speaking volumes. In her final address to the large gathering Dr Shahla reinforced the point that each person has a Basic Human Right *) to the highest standards of health and education.

Christmas Eve was Dr Shahla's last day of active duty as Medical Superintendent at Bamaga Hospital. Dr Shahla has been in the NPA since January, 2009, working in all five NPA communities, as well as short stints on St Pauls, Kubin (Moa Is.), Mabuiag, Saibai, Yam and Warraber Islands.

***) United Nation adopts and proclaims the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (10th Dec, 1948), stating the following (quote):**

Article 25.	<p>* (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.</p> <p>* (2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.</p>
Article 26.	<p>* (1) Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. * (2) Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.</p> <p>* (3) Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children. (unquote)</p> <p>(Source: United Nations)</p>

The right to health does not guarantee that we are healthy. Perhaps we owe to ourselves and to the gift of life to do all we can to live a healthy life.



At NPA Airport, Mr Ransfield and children honoured Dr Shahla, performing part of their Kikiki Hakka, as a send-off, with powerful chants across the tarmac.

Many of the children are asking, 'Where is Dr Shahla,' sad faced when hearing the News. No doubt there would be numerous sentiments from residents, patients and colleagues she came in contact with. Here are just two:

Mrs Sandra Sebasio: "With Doctor Shahla leaving now it's always going to be..., like for local people here, waiting for a new doctor coming, we got used to this one, and when she's gone now there is a disappointed feeling that comes out. Yes, it's really hard, because we got to get to know the new doctor over and over again."

Mr John Tamwoy: "I just want to say we ought to get her back, back to the hospital again. She's quite a good doctor. It's not only me, it's the other people besides me, which I know some people talking about her coming back. It's hard to getting somebody back I suppose, we'll be really appreciative if she comes back, you know. Apart from that, I couldn't say less..., like they always let the good ones go. That's the problem, see. Yeah."

Dr Shahla's time will be remembered by many. She was seen as 'Indigenous' by most. More than once she'd arrive at the airport to race directly to hospital, returning at 2am, or later. Was she ever off duty? "You'll need to see me on Monday," she'd say to one whilst shopping, "Your results have come back," to another.

She seemed to carry the charts of her patients in her head, at instant recall. Dr Shahla is a highly educated professional, who would never settle for a superficial diagnosis, always doubting, questioning, checking, analysing and rechecking. Her commitment to her patients was always paramount.

She is also remembered for her zest for life, and her explosive and infectious laughter.

On behalf of many:
'Thank you, Dr Shahla.'



... when it's time to stand up

Mr Tommy Sebasio: "Through my formal education and family upbringing in a remote community I became acutely aware of the struggles of the Indigenous race in my country Australia. I recognised the parallels in other oppressed races with their own struggles. Some of them were worse off than I, so I didn't complain too much, I waited for change."

"Things did change for me. I started working in the electrical industry and joined the ETU (Electrical Trades Union) as soon as I could, because I heard and believed that my rights in the workplace would be looked after by this mob. The ETU felt like family. My workplace evolved with the union representing my rights. It became safer and I felt secure. Bargaining agreements were negotiated and I had to say through my vote as the member of the union. I liked this, it felt good, I felt equal. When tested the ETU stood up for me. They represented me and by that representing all the members and their families. I felt that this was bigger than just about me. To me the union is family. I am proud to belong to this mob."

(Reprinted with permission, first published in 'The Electrical Worker,' Summer 2010, Volume No: 65. The official organ of the Communications, Electrical, Electronic, Information, Energy, Postal, Plumbing and Allied Services Union of Australia (Electrical Division) ETU, Qld and N.T.)



employee made commitments to each other. Dispute procedures were followed, including the involvement of Fair Work Australia, but did not resolve the issues. Late 2009 Mr Sebasio was terminated from his employment. The ETU set out to help to get his job back. The ETU filed an unfair dismissal application with Fair Work Australia, following Ergon's refusal to have Mr Sebasio reinstated. ETU industrial officer, Pat Rogers, who became involved as soon as Mr Stuart Traill became aware of the issues, explains: "The unfair dismissal process in Fair Work Australia is lengthy, but here is a summary of what happened. Firstly, we had a conference before a conciliator – the ETU said it believed Tommy should be reinstated to his job. Once again Ergon refused. We then had a conference before a Commissioner. Again the ETU said it believed Tommy should be reinstated to his job. Once again Ergon refused. We then had a four-day hearing in Cairns in July this year (2010). Witnesses were called and submissions were made. Finally, on 10 November, we got the decision we had been waiting for. The Commissioner, who heard the case, agreed with the ETU. Tommy had been unfairly dismissed and Ergon should reinstate him. I have worked in unions for a long time – we work in unions because we believe we can make people's lives a little bit better. This decision has shown that unions do make that happen."

*) Mr Sebasio's technical abilities were never under question, relates to his admin work.

Mr Tommy Sebasio has since been reinstated and is continuing to work with Ergon in the NPA. Ergon has acknowledged a number of required improvements in remote areas, working with the ETU to improve conditions for ETU members in remote locations.



Kids Living Safer Lives

The 'Kids Living Safer Lives' Program was in full swing at New Mapoon Community Hall (next to Council chambers), but also at the Hunter Gym, Bamaga. Mr Richard McLean (AFL Cape York) who coordinates the program explains, "We brought up three artists from A.C.P.A., which is 'Aboriginal Centre for Performing Arts,' based in Brisbane, and also 'Islander Performing Arts Centre' in Brisbane. They do a lot of mainstream, not like 'Bangara,' who are predominantly Indigenous. These guys practice in all forms of art, dance and music. They have the ability when they graduate to go into mainstream services, rather than having a niche market of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander."



Ms Elena Wangurra



Mr Marcus Corowa



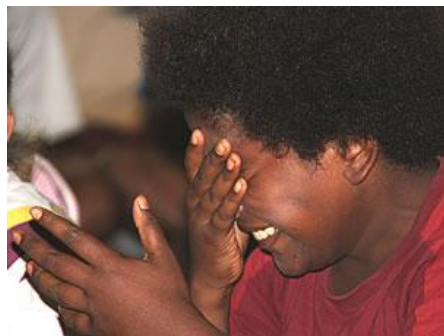
Ms Sharni McDermott

The artists are: Ms Sharni McDermott, Ms Elena Wangurra, and singer/ songwriter / musician, Mr Marcus Corowa. Ms Wangurra is currently completing her Diploma in Music at ACPA, while Ms McDermott will soon graduate with an Advanced Diploma in Performing Arts. Mr Corowa has plans to head into the studio for recording sessions early this year.

"The kids have been doing singing, dancing, and music for the week," says Mr McLean.



Should I, shouldn't I? C'mon in!



Above: Has just won a football.



Mr Richard McLean



How do we deal with it?

We create the world we live in. Sometimes we passively accept things as they are, or we believe there is nothing we can do to change them. More often we do something about it. The recent massive destruction in our country is proof that. No-one can live in mud soiled, stench filled houses. Each affected by this disaster does all they can to bring their living conditions back to an acceptable level. A call for help will never fall on deaf ears in Australia. We support the ones who at no fault of their own find themselves in desperate situations. We support the underdog, the downtrodden, the ones who need a 'fair go'. This is entrenched in the Australian psyche. Those who have lost everything will find in the weeks ahead that they have something to enable them to rebuild their lives.

Disasters of this magnitude do not happen every day. In 'normal' times we deal with smaller disasters, which nevertheless can be just as devastating to the individual or family. Health for instance, most of the health issues we're facing are caused by ourselves. Some are unique to the tropics, the environment, the conditions, most by the lifestyle choices we have adopted. No health organization on earth is going to get on top of it if we continually put our own lives at risk by feeding acquired addictions. Perhaps we have a 'Right' to indulge in our 'cravings', have the 'freedom' not to wear shoes, to the degree that it jeopardizes our health. Are we not confusing the younger generation by preaching one thing and doing another, by not being a good example? Health organizations predominantly deal with the sick, they also offer preventative education. There are numerous organizations that are specialized in particular areas affecting health. There are help organizations across the board, on any subject. It is up to us to seek out the kind of help we need, but also for the organizations to seek the needy in need of help.

Whether the recent floods were caused by 'natural' events is a matter for the scientists to ponder. Across the globe we see massive environmental changes. As each Flood Relief donation however small will do something useful, so too will anything we do have an impact on creating a better or worse world. We have a choice and we will reap the consequence, either way.

There are countless issues facing every society every day. Pollution, vandalism, crime, nepotism, corruption, abuse of power, stand-over tactics, violence, torture, bullying, and many more. We can accept them all and try best we can to live in such a world. We can also pause for a moment, take stock, evaluate: What sort of world do we want? Do we want to create a better world for all? A better world for some (with vested interests) can turn out to be a worse world for others.

It was 63 years ago when the United Nations adopted resolution 217 A, 'The Declaration of Human Rights.' (Australia is signatory to a number of international treaties and declarations, including 217 A) The Australian Human Rights Commission states: (quote) *"Every person has inherent dignity and value. Human rights help us to recognize and respect that fundamental worth in ourselves and in each other."* (unquote)

Despite this, no place on earth is without its problems. Heavenly bliss is for the heavens. Each has their issues, and many have their own way of facing up to them. Example: Warraber Island has a 'once a month clean-up day' to keep their island healthy and safe (NPA News, Issue 21). In the NPA, two words sum up local efforts: Respect NPA! Such endeavours can in time become part of a community spirit, especially if it enjoys broader community spirit and participation.

Identifying an issue is usually the first step. Finding a solution and addressing it follows. NPA News is not a book and cannot deal with all issues at once, but we can look at one, which in itself could justify volumes: Bullying, it is an issue many are dealing with in our country and in others. Its consequences can be long term for the individual, but also for society.

"Bullying is an act of repeated aggressive behavior in order to intentionally hurt another person, physically or mentally. Bullying is characterized by an individual behaving in a certain way to gain power over another person." (Besag, V. E. (1989) *Bullies and Victims in Schools*. Milton Keynes, England: Open University Press).

How can we deal with this subject? Many work places, shopping centres, and others have policies in place dealing with harassment and bullying. There are laws in place. Where do you draw the line? The Australian Government has a website on that.

Mr Ken MacLean, College Principal:

Bullying is an escalating problem in most areas of our society in Australia. Bullying covers a range of behaviours including verbal abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, property damage, persistent teasing, theft of personal belongings as well as cyber bullying (e.g. posting of embarrassing photos on the internet). In most instances, the bully has power over the victim because of a higher job status, larger physical stature, older, in a gang etc and accordingly, the victim often feels powerless to respond. The statistics suggest that many bullies have themselves been victims of bullying.

Bullying occurs in all age groups and is quite common amongst young people. Accordingly, all Education Queensland schools have processes to deal with bullying when it occurs. The Northern Peninsula Area State College has a *Positive School-wide Behaviour Plan* with three main school rules

1. I am a learner
2. I am respectful
3. I am safe

These rules underpin the education of all of our students and provide the framework for the way that bullying is dealt with at each campus.

If your child is bullied at school, it is important that you contact your Head of Campus and report the matter. School staff will then follow up on your concerns and attempt to solve the issues that have resulted in the bullying incident. In situations where there are repeat offences either for the bully or the victim, detailed support plans involving all stakeholders (including parents, teachers, guidance officer etc) are often implemented to ensure the safety and personal growth of the child.

There is a lot of information available about bullying with many on-line resources in particular. Should you wish to obtain more information, I would urge you to contact your Head of Campus or the College Guidance Officer.

Bamaga Junior Campus: Ph: 4090 4444
Mr Rob Templeton (Head of Campus)

Injinoo Campus: Ph: 4069 3131
Mrs Patricia Blackman (Head of School)

Bamaga Senior Campus: Ph: 4090 4444
Ms Lynelle Canavan (Head of School)

Parents and Citizens Association: Mr Ben Gebadi

College Guidance Officer: Ph: 4090 4320
Mr Ms Mel Spencer (at Bamaga Senior Campus)

Main Office (Bamaga Sen. Campus): Ph: 4090 4333

...continued on page 12.

"Holy s___, I'll be damned!"

...says Mr Rocky Tamwoy from Bamaga Hospital, upon hearing the News. He had a lot more to say, which is best not mentioned here.

Wednesday morning (19th Jan 2011): Staff arriving at Bamaga Council Depot didn't need keys.



They find the gates wide open. One of the gates blown off its hinges, joined to the other via the closed padlock, lies as mangled mess in the entrance. Broken glass litters the bitumen.

Arriving workers are trying to piece together what might have happened here during the night. One Hi-Ace utility features a broken small window. A door to an office in the tire bay has been forcibly opened (looking for keys?). At Mr Tamwoy's workplace his car is missing. Nearby are a small crowbar and a small piece of plastic. The missing car is Mr Tamwoy's Hi-Ace twin cab ute, which was parked there because of Mr Tamwoy's hospitalisation (which is unrelated to the break-in). Mr Tamwoy's car is the only modified car of the entire council fleet that can be operated by hand (a hand lever operates the gas and breaks). It is also the only automatic car and his only means of transport. This incident follows a similar break-in (break-out) at Injinoo's Ranger Base 12 days earlier (see: Rangers NOT happy, page 5).



Small window smashed.



Crowbar marks, timber missing, latch was found on floor.



Missing Hi-Ace was parked here.



Missing Hi-Ace may have something missing too.



The missing ute looks similar to the one shown here (left), but it has registration number: 405-LLG. It has the usual NPARC logo on the door, and also features the number 6056 near the side mirror. This is a cost code number used internally by council.

Image right: This is the Ranger vehicle which was taken from the Ranger Base, recovered on the same day, undergoing repairs at Bamaga Works Depot.



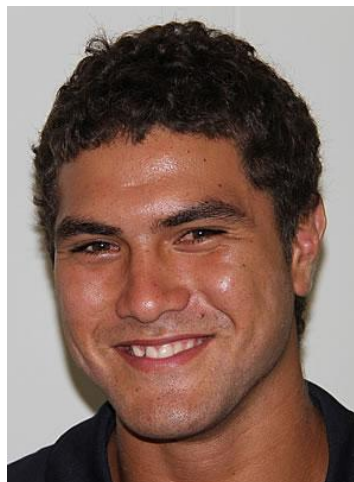
See page 16 for latest News.

What's for breakfast?

Mr Thomas Holland is 18 years old. His roots are in Thursday Island. Since 2008 he lives in Melbourne, attending the prestigious Scotch College, with a scholarship from AFL Cape York. What's it like, living so far from home?

"It was a bit hard. When they said Anzack is coming down, I started feeling comfortable (Mr Anzack Newman is a young man from Bamaga, also attending the college with a similar scholarship; he was born on Anzac Day). There is someone there to help me through my challenges, whatever stands in front of me. Yeah, we played footy together, everything together pretty much. We played Queensland, Gold Coast. It's been pretty hard the year straight after my mum passed away. It was hard for me to leave home (Mr Thomas was 14 at the time). My dad got me through, calls me up every now and then, saying that my mum wanted me to do it. So yeah, like OK, I stuck in there. Now it's really good, made heaps of friends. Melbourne is busy and fast, everybody is moving, whereas T.I. it's cruise, relax, lazy, yeah."

Mr Thomas is currently in a traineeship, taking a year off from the college. "Next year I hopefully go back to Melbourne, start playing footy again. I'm now working for the AFL Cape York, as a trainee."



fantastic job for 3 years, considering what happened."

Mr McLean: "Hawthorn, Collingwood, Demons, Bulldogs, Gold Coast (all teams in the AFL world) chasing him to join them, and also Anzack. I think they might be a pigeon pair where they fly everywhere together."

"I have four sisters," says Mr Holland. "It'll be good going home, lie in bed and ask them to make my breakfast." (grinning with a cosy feeling of home)

AFL Cape York sponsors a number of local people.

"Our program is to nurture the person themselves," says Mr Richard McLean, "assist them and their families, supporting them in whatever decisions they want to make, and through schooling also. It's about making sure he is OK, as a person. He has obviously gone through some hardship, and we want to support him, give him the opportunity to come on board as a trainee for the year, because he has had some bad news recently and he feels that he needs a break from what he has done. I think he has done a

National Immunisation Program Schedule for Queensland

If you have just given birth to a child, it is important to see a Health Professional at a Medical Health Centre or the Hospital.

Teke youpla
piknini to
health clinic
when:

At birth
2 months
4 months
6 months
12 months
18 months
24 months
4 years
Year 8
Year 10

Protect
umpla piknini
prom kese
sik.

Give your child the best chance in life by bringing it to a Health Centre or Hospital for immunisation when it is a certain age (see left column).

Immunisation is important for children.

Immunisation helps to protect the child from serious childhood diseases, but also others in the community by increasing the level of immunity and minimizing the spread of disease. Immunisation can protect against Diphtheria, Hepatitis A and B, Measles, Meningococcal C disease, Mumps, Whooping cough, Polio, Rubella, Tetanus, Chickenpox and many other diseases. Vaccines trigger the immune system to make antibodies to fight against certain diseases. They use the body's natural response to disease so if a vaccinated person comes in contact with the disease, their immune system will respond by stopping it to develop or greatly reducing its severity.

Immunize Australia Hotline: **1800 671 811**

Website: <http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/> Source: Queensland Health



Specialists coming to NPA, T.I. and outer Islands Feb/ Mar

Bamaga Hospital and Community PHCC

2 Feb	Chest, Dr Vincent, RN x 2, Saibai
3 Feb	Chest, Dr Vincent, RN x 2, T.I. H.
4 Feb	Chest, Dr Vincent, RN x 2, Boigu
8 Feb	Paeds & Gen Phys, Bamaga OPD
9 Feb	Paeds & Gen Phys, Bamaga OPD
10 Feb	Paeds & Gen Phys, T.I. H. OPD, all day
11 Feb	Paeds & Gen Phys, T.I. H. OPD, am
14 Feb	Pacemaker Clinic, T.I.
15 Feb	Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, T.I. H.
16 Feb	Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, T.I. H.
16 Feb	Chest, Saibai Nurses Clinic
17 Feb	Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, T.I. H.
18 Feb	Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, T.I. H.
21 Feb	Endocrine, T.I. Psychiatrist, T.I.
22 Feb	Endocrine, Bamaga Renal Clinic, Outer Islands
23 Feb	Renal Clinic, Outer Island
24 Feb	Renal, T.I. H.
25 Feb	Renal Clinic, Dr Tim Furlong, Bamaga Hospital
1 – 4 Mar	General Surgery, T.I. H.
9 Mar	Paeds & Gen Phys, Bamaga OPD
10 Mar	Paeds & Gen Phys, T.I. H. OPD, all day
11 Mar	Paeds & Gen Phys, T.I. H. OPD, am Colp / Womens Health Clinic, T.I. H., 11am

Dentist


8am – 5pm

Bamaga Hospital

Phone Numbers: Bamaga Hospital: **4090 4227**

Weekly planner for Diabetes Educator Clinics, 2011

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Admin and referrals	Admin and referrals	9am – noon Bamaga PHCC Clinic (with Doctor)	9am – noon New Mapoon Clinic (with Doctor)	9am – noon Seisia Clinic (with Doctor)
Lunch break 12pm – 1pm	Lunch break 12pm – 1pm	Lunch break 12pm – 1pm	Lunch break 1pm – 2pm	Lunch break 1pm – 2pm
Hospital Visit - Staff and Inpatients – Review and Education Admin and referrals	Hospital Visit - Staff and Inpatients – Review and Education		Hospital Visit - Staff and Inpatients – Review and Education	Hospital Visit - Staff and Inpatients Admin and referrals
	2.00 PM – 4.30 PM Injinoo Clinic	2.00 PM – 4.30 PM Umagico Clinic	2.00 PM – 5.00 PM Bamaga Hospital	

Alcohol, Tobacco & other Drugs Services Clinics

At your local Primary Healthcare Centre. Drop in, general discussion, detox & ATODS Clinic. A Queensland Health initiative.

Injinoo	New Mapoon	Umagico	Bamaga	Seisia
Tuesdays 1:30-4pm	Tuesdays 1:30-4pm	Wednesdays 1:30-4pm	Thursdays 1:30-4pm	Thursdays 1:30-4pm
8 Feb and 22 Feb 8 and 22 Mar 5 and 19 Apr 3, 17 and 31 May 14 and 28 Jun	1 and 15 Feb 1, 15 and 29 Mar 12 and 26 Apr 10 and 24 May 7 and 21 Jun	2 and 16 Feb 2, 16 and 30 Mar 13 and 27 Apr 11 and 25 May 8 and 22 Jun	3 and 17 Feb 3, 17 and 31 Mar 14 and 28 Apr 12 and 26 May 9 and 23 Jun	10 and 24 Feb 10 and 24 Mar 7 and 21 Apr 5 and 19 May 2, 16 and 30 Jun

oportunET... sometimes it knocks, and sometimes it just bangs on the door

Live offers many opportunities. Taking advantage of them can change one's life for the better.

Health, education and work are the key issues in our communities. They are the cause of distress, hardship, and a wide range of related problems. They also contain the solutions to many of these. This article looks at 'work.' As NPARC Mayor Mr Joseph Elu said so long ago, and on many occasions, "There is enough work in the NPA for everyone." One can take the path of CDEP, as a stepping stone to get the needed skills, or venture on a different path. We take a look at one of each:

Work in Construction:

There are many construction projects in the pipeline. Skilled people are needed. The funding is in place, the work is there, a chance for those who take it to become qualified and skilled in many areas. The CDEP Team is looking for more people to fill the numbers they can train up:

Cert II in Construction: This is a 14 week course: White card, brick and block laying, concreting, levelling, learn how to use carpentry tools and equipment, how to erect and dismantle forms and footings, handle construction materials, and learn about Occupational Health and Safety.

The Projects: Umagico Feasting Hut, Injinoo Sports Oval, New Mapoon Sports Oval, Seisia Wharf Shelter, Bamaga Public Facilities Beautification, all is local work.

How does it feel to look at a project, to say, "I did this, I took part in the construction. I can watch my kids play on the fields from the grandstand I helped to build." Only those who take part in it will ever know. Many others will sit in the shade, while waiting for the ferry, the shade you helped to build.

Sign up NOW! Course starts 2 February, Contact Mr Peter Lui, CDEP Training Manager, or any CDEP Mentor, NPARC Seisia, Ph: **4069 3133**. (see also article: CDEP calendar)

Into Business Workshops

Organised by IBA (Indigenous Business Australia, Australian Government), three 1-day self-paced workshops, paced weeks apart, are available in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay.

A: Your business idea, goals and expectations.

B: Marketing and managing your business.

C: Financial planning and management.

Contact: Julie Jar, ph 4048 8484 or call: 1800 107 107, or email: Julie.jar@iba.gov.au

Start your own business:

Perhaps you're at a point in life where you consider branching out on your own, running your own business. What is involved? What do I need to do? How do I know it's going to work?

A **free 2 hour seminar** covers 7 key issues: Your suitability, your idea, the market, your competition, the environment, your finances, and your start-up. You will get an overview of the important factors to consider. If you feel positive after that take the next step.

How would you attract new customers? There is a workshop for that. How would you retain your profitable customers? There is another workshop for that. Will it be a successful business? Maybe not, but on the other hand, why not? Getting an idea about what lies ahead can prepare you and help in your decision. The seeds are in your hands.

DEEDI (Department of Employment, Economic Development & Innovation), in association with NPARC CDEP are conducting Business Development Workshops to assist New Businesses and Existing Businesses.

Workshops: 'Attracting New Customers' and 'Retaining Your Profitable Customers' are suitable for new and existing business operators. 'Planning Your Successful Business' workshop is for existing business operators. Below are the workshop dates and times:

7 Feb	2pm	Considering a business	2hrs	free
8 Feb	9am	Considering a business	2hrs	free
8 Feb	2pm	Attracting new customers	3hrs	\$44
9 Feb	9am	Retaining your profitable customers	3hrs	\$44
9 Feb	2pm	Planning your successful business	3hrs	\$44
10 Feb		One on one mentoring.		

All held at New Mapoon Conference Room, Council Building, New Mapoon. Contact: CDEP Team at NPARC Seisia: 4069 3133, or email:

Joyce.Soki@nparc.qld.gov.au or Elaine.Wade@nparc.qld.gov.au

See local notice boards for more info or contact the team, ph: **4069 3133**.

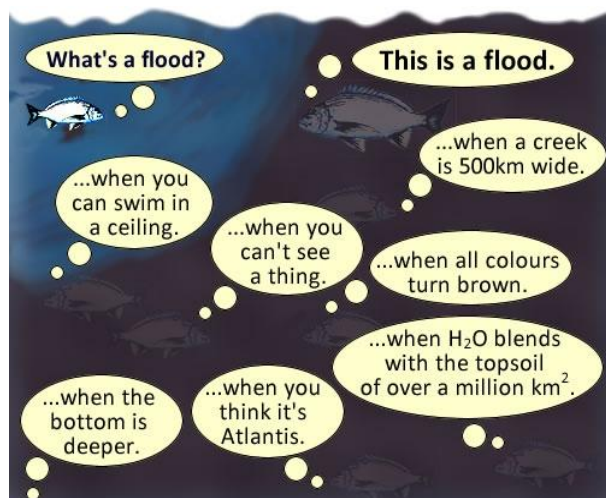
ITEC Employment Community visits (ITEC, ph: 4090 4950)

Injinoo	New Mapoon	Bamaga	Seisia
Fridays 9am to 2pm	Mon/Tuesdays 9am to 2pm	Wednesdays 9am to 2pm	Thursdays 9am to 2pm
4 and 25 Feb	21 Feb	2 and 23 Feb	17 Feb
18 Mar	7 and 28 Mar	16 Mar	10 Mar and 31 Mar
8 and 29 Apr	11 Apr	6 and 27 Apr	21 Apr
20 May	3 and 23 May	18 May	12 May
10 Jun	14 Jun	8 and 29 June	2 and 23 Jun
1 and 22 Jul	4 and 25 Jul	20 Jul	14 Jul
12 Aug	15 Aug	10 and 31 Aug	4 and 25 Aug
2 and 23 Sep	5 and 26 Sep	21 Sept	15 Sept
14 Oct	17 Oct	12 Oct	6 and 27 Oct
4 and 25 Nov	7 and 28 Nov	2 Nov	17 Nov
16 Dec	12 Dec	23 Nov	8 Dec
		14 Dec	



Cathedral collapses. How did termites get it so wrong?

The Floods ... with a grain of salt



There were many reports about the recent floods, but no real in-depth story from 'inside,' within the floods. We asked Burra Mundie (above, with camera) from the Calcarifer Clan (Lates' Tribe), to go down into the waters and bring back some pictures. Here is what he found:



Burra Mundie's neighbourhood



The big yellow house, upstairs



Same house, downstairs



Crayfish, sharks, a snake & piano



Group picture: Burra's friends



Mouth of creek, a bridge, and a submerged sofa

"But Burra, did you use the flash?"
"I did."
"But there is nothing on them, they're all brown."
"All perfect exposure, that's what it's like. Look at the next one..."



"What does it mean?"

"Help."

"How?"

"Read on." (see below)

Premier rising above the peaks

From Queensland to NSW, the Northern Territory to South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania, all affected in one way or another by the 'natural' catastrophe in January, 2011.

'Thank you' to the hundreds, thousands, perhaps millions of un-named heroes, who helped with heart, with hand, and their generous contributions, to ease the pain of many of the January disasters. Our condolences go to the ones who lost loved ones in this terrible tragedy.

'Thank you' to The Hon Ms Anna Bligh MP, Premier of Queensland, for your outstanding leadership in these very trying times, as you stood head and shoulders above the highest peaks the recent floods could dish out.

Donations to **Premier's Flood Relief Appeal** can be made at:

<http://www.qld.gov.au/floods/donate.html>

Donate by phone: 1800 219 028

Donate by mail: Make cheques payable to: The Premier's Disaster Relief Appeal (ABN: 69 689 161 916) and post to:

Premier's Disaster Relief Appeal, C/O Department of the Premier and Cabinet, PO Box 15185, City East, QLD, 4002, Australia, ABN: 69 689 161 916

Donate by Internet banking:

Account Name: **Premier's Disaster Relief Appeal**, BSB: **064 013**, Account No.: **1000 6800**

SWIFT Code for international donations: **CTBAU2S**

Donate in person: CommBank, NAB, Westpac, ANZ, BOQ, Suncorp, St George Bank, Bank SA, Austr Central Credit Union, Savings and Loans Credit Union, Bank West, Coles Supermarkets.

NPA residents can donate at any NPARC office and local businesses. One can also donate to the Red Cross and a wide range of other organisations.

Missing ring found



Mrs Ransfield wanted to give a big **ESSO** to everyone for their support.

This story goes back to November, 2010, when Mrs Cindy Ransfield one late afternoon realised her wedding ring was missing from her finger. How did she feel? "Distraught, and lost, it was my wedding ring!" Flyers went up around the Bamaga community, including the hospital, showing an image of the ring, with all relevant information and contact details.

"From the very day I lost it I searched for it everywhere, always looking as I walked to work and back again, in the hope of finding it." But as three weeks passed, the hope of finding her ring began to fade. Then came a lucky break.

"When I first saw it, I wanted to break out in tears, overwhelmed and happy that it had been found. I've got it back." Mrs Ransfield had offered a sizable reward for the ring's return, money which was equally shared between the people who were instrumental for its return. One knew but didn't tell, one told, but didn't know, which together helped in returning the ring to its rightful owner.

"The size of the reward is nothing compared to the meaning, the symbolism of the ring, and my marriage and commitment to my husband," says Mrs Ransfield (who is married to Mr Jo Ransfield, both work at Bamaga Hospital).



CDEP Calendar

At CDEP HQ in Seisia, the white board fills to capacity, with dot point projects of 'to-dos' for 2011.

Bamaga Farm fencing, Relocation of Bamaga and New Mapoon nursery to Bamaga Farm. Plumbing, electrical and paint work for Public Toilet Facilities, Seisia Shade Gazebo, the construction of a sheltered area for ferry or boat passengers, Injinoo Sports Field Grandstand earmarked for February.

At Umagico, a Feasting Hut is about to be constructed, to cater for traditional festivities, but also repair to the Toilet Block and some upgrade work. As part of the sports grounds update, the grandstands will undergo repairs, as do the Commentary Box / Kiosk areas. Throughout the NPA, brick BBQs, some new, some tagged for repair. And then there is the long awaited All Abilities Park in the heart of New Mapoon.

Also Injinoo Central Park repair work and planting, and landscaping work at the cemetery entrance.

Across the NPA upgrades to existing Gazebos are planned.

Associated with these projects are relevant Training Courses, giving local people an opportunity to gain 'on-the-job' skills and gaining qualifications, valuable assets for the future (see also page 10).

Some are CAP and LIPA projects, Community Development Projects; others are Cert II in Light Construction, Cert II and III in Plant Operations, or Cert II in Horticulture.

Ghost-nets kill two

Apudthama / NPARC Land and Sea Rangers uncovered another three turtles entangled in a small ghost-net, south of Jardine River (mid Jan.) The mangled mess contained the carcasses of two Hawksbill turtles.

Another Hawksbill, trapped in the same nets suffered severely from sun exposure, nearing death. Senior Ranger, Mr Meun Lifu, cut it free, provided shade and cooled it with water. It did recover and headed for the ocean.

Back at the Ranger Base, Mr Jimmy Panuel places the shell (carapace) in a tree, where green ants clean it up.



Below: Green ants nest.



The World Conservation Union put the Hawksbill Sea Turtle on the critically endangered list. In Australia the major nesting sites are at Milman Island in the Great Barrier Reef.

**How do we deal with it? (continued)**

Queensland Government (Department of Education and Training) say this on their website:

(quote) "Education Queensland does not tolerate bullying in any form. Bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence are abuses of power that jeopardise the rights and wellbeing of others."

"These behaviours are seen at school, in the workplace, in the community, at home and in the media. They can affect anyone - students, staff and parents or carers. Everyone must help to make a positive difference."

"Education Queensland's school communities are working to make school environments safer, more supportive and respectful for all young people and adults - places where everyone is free from bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence." (unquote)

More on: <http://education.qld.gov.au/student-services/protection/community/bullying.html>

More info:

'Bullying. No Way' is a website developed by Australia's educational communities, including State, Territory and Commonwealth Government's education departments, and a wide range of organisations, groups, and individuals related to the field of education:

<http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au>

Learn how to develop and maintain respectful relationships (Australian Government):

<http://theline.gov.au/>

Students can call outside of school hours to someone who is not linked to the school, such as:

Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800

Lifeline: 13 11 14



Think pink



Who is that? What is he doing? Where is he going? Why?
Find out in next issue.

NPARC Chief Executive Officer
Mr Stuart Duncan



It survived, but for how long?



Another statistic. Are there any? Yes:

Estimated road kill per year: 293,000

Brushtailed possum: 108,543

Pademelon: 28,854

Wallaby: 15,829

Tasmanian devil: 3,392

32 animals killed every hour

(an average for the year)

50% of road kill happens where vehicles travel over 80 km/hr.

(source: roadkilltas.com)



The distance from NPA to Tasmania is over 3500km. Temperatures are at least 10deg C less than in the NPA, with slow sunsets and shorter nights. The first impression of Tasmania is the massive number of dead wildlife one finds at the side of the roads. It's easy to see how it can happen. Most creatures become active at night where they are easily run over. Wallabies seem to be able to jump out of the way faster than the rest, but possums, large to very large wombats are left for dead, with the Tasmanian devils coming out to clean up the road. In turn they become the next victims. Even crows litter the roads. A speed in excess of 40km is enough to leave a trail of destruction, especially on the twisting mountain roads at night. Numerous carcasses across short distances are not unusual.



The scenery is a feast for the eyes, ears, and tastebuds everywhere. Many European tree species are found in the highlands.



In Hobart, the Gateway to Antarctica, it's the close of the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race, with the last vessels entering Constitution Dock, New Year's Eve, 2010, the city is getting into party mode.



All hotels are booked out on the day. Car parks shut early and won't reopen till 8:30am on New Year's Day. Others have a 'Full' sign up early afternoon.





Above: Near St Helens, Northern East Coast. The town was also affected by the January flash floods.



Above: Cuvier and Hugel River meet.



Left: There is always somewhere to go, like Nowhere Else, near Devonport.

Left: Tarraleah (meaning 'Forester Kangaroo') at Tarraleah (a village built in the 30s to house hydro workers, today it attracts visitors with spectacular flora, fauna and sights and sounds to fill the senses). It is also known as the Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Tasmania's largest marsupial, it can weigh over 60kg and reach a height of 2m. Tarraleah is also the name of a nearby Hydro Power Station built in the 30s (next page).





St Clair is known as Australia's deepest freshwater lake (167m deep, some suggest 190m), located at the southern end of Cradle Mountain. It is part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, and headwaters of the Derwent River. The traditional people called it Leewuleena (Sleeping Water). The Larmairremener lived in these regions and were part of the Midland Group.

Image right shows Lake St Clair from Cynthia Bay. It curves approx 14km to the north / north-east. Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National Park is flanked by Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park, a State Forest, and The Walls of Jerusalem National Park. The entire area is invigorating and rich with diverse vegetation and animal life.

The Midland Group, located at the central part of the island, were known as the Big River Tribe. The Larmairremener are a band of this tribe. A number of walks are mapped out, some take less than an hour, while others take 8 hours one way.

'Larmairremener Tabetli Leawuleena Aboriginal Cultural Walk' explains some of the history of this region. Muriel Maynard, Lola Greeno and Vicki West, all Aboriginal artists, created a tribute to the 9 tribes of Tasmania.

Good information along the way tell the story of the land, plants, wildlife, and some of its people: Nibberluna was the area now known as Hobart. Ten years after the arrival of the British in that area, Calerwarrmer (Black Beetle) was born. There was relative peace during his childhood, but when he reached manhood Hobart Town was developed. Violence escalated. As a result Calerwarrmer and his family were pushed off their lands. He retreated and rejoined kin of the Big River Tribe people (at his tribe's summer territories) in a last-ditch campaign against the British invaders. In 1832 he was captured. He died at Oyster Cove, following 28 years of imprisonment.

Other tablets inform of traditional practices of fire management and the effect it had on the landscape and plant/animal life. One of the tablets states (image right): "When they walked peaceably into Hobart Town in January 1832, all that was left of the Big River Nation, which had once numbered 400 to 500 people, were 16 men, 9 women, and one child." This tablet also tells a bit of Druemerterpunner, who was born in 1812 and ended up on Flinders Island.

Bottom right: Tarraleah Hydro Power Station is operated by Hydro Tasmania. Six penstocks supply the station from water which is diverted from River Derwent. The water drops 300m feeding pelton wheels, which drive the generators. Tasmania sells electricity to mainland Australia through Basslink, via an underwater cable linking into the national electricity grid. A series of other hydro stations extract more energy further downstream.



Platypus Bay, Leewuleena (St Clair). With a bit of luck, and absolute silence, one may be lucky enough to spot a platypus (*Ornithorhynchus paradoxicus*) here.



Above: On the Larmairremener Tabetli Leawuleena Aboriginal Cultural Walk.

Late News:

Mr Rocky Tamwoy's Hi-Ace was found 3km out of Bamaga on the road towards Cape York. The NPARC Depot has new gates fitted.



Under Age Dance Party

Umagico will stage an under 18s dance party, at the Community Hall, with enough bread-rolls to keep the energy levels up.



...more in the next issue.

Mud Rally

Coming up on Australia Day, a Mud Rally, held near Bamaga Oval, behind the horse track. Image right shows the sharp 180 loop at one end of the circuit (a week before the event). Mr Johnny Bond and Dwayne Nona tested the waters. Perhaps Mr Bond knows the track better than most. After all, he knows what's under the surface of the water. He and his excavator slightly remodelled the contours of the mud bed, which will be appreciated by many, especially the onlookers. A hint to the other racers, follow Mr Bond for at least a few laps.



At Bamaga, Mr Alfred Nona is putting the finishing touches on his racer, suspension checks, adding a set of shiny springs.



They are red now, but come Australia Day, the whole car will be red, mud red.



Mr Johnny Bond and Mr Dwayne Nona, a week before the event.

Also on Australia Day:
Pig Hunting Competition.
Full story: Pages 18 - 20



...no bread-rolls for me, thanks, Bee-cause.

Police appeal for community assistance

Since the beginning of December 2010 there have been more than 100 crimes reported in the five communities of the Northern Peninsula Area (NPA). While Bamaga Police are working hard to solve crimes, there are still many that are the subject of ongoing investigations.

Police are asking the community for help in solving these crimes, by coming forward with information that could be of assistance.

Police noticed an increase in some crimes, such as theft of motor vehicles, break and enter, theft, and damage to property.

Bamaga Dreamtime was hit hard (Dec / Jan), with a large amount of valuable stock stolen and damaged, as well as many other break and enters with stolen items including laptops, cheque books, cameras, vehicles, liquor and bikes. Seaswift Depot was also targeted on numerous occasions with a large amount of valuable stock stolen.

During 2010 the slogan 'Respect NPA' began to be promoted throughout the communities by Police, as well as the Council and the Cape Police Citizens Youth Club. The slogan highlights the importance of members of the NPA community respecting each other, which encompasses respecting the culture and property of all community members.

Senior Constable Don Roseby from Bamaga Police Station said most of the offences that occurred during December and January were committed by young people, and police were appealing for help and assistance from members of the community in identifying offenders.

"These crimes have been committed against people, businesses and organizations that serve and assist in the wellbeing of the NPA community. It is disappointing that some people show disrespect towards other people's property, the law, and members of the community who have worked hard for their possessions," Senior Constable Roseby said.

"We are working hard at promoting the 'Respect NPA' slogan within our community, and we urge everyone to embrace the notion of treating each other and other's property with respect.

"Members of the community must know who is responsible for some crimes within our community. Not providing this information to the police only protects criminals, which means they continue breaking the law. People need to be prepared to say who these offenders are because you never know - the people protecting these offenders may be their next victims," Senior Constable Roseby said.

Anyone who has information that can assist police in locating and prosecuting people responsible for any crime in the NPA are encouraged to contact Bamaga Police on 4069 3156 or Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**. Calls to Crime Stoppers can be anonymous.

Respect NPA: Respect yourself, Respect your community, Respect your culture.

Anyone with information which could assist police with their investigations should contact Crime Stoppers anonymously via 1800 333 000 or crimestoppers.com.au, 24hrs a day.

Crime Stoppers is a charitable community volunteer organisation working in partnership with the Queensland Police Service.

Issued by Police Media and Public Affairs Branch (21st Jan, 2011).

Phone: 07 3015 2444

www.police.qld.gov.au



www.crimestoppers.com.au

Soggy seats

This is the fourth vehicle in a month with smashed side windows (occurred on 19 Jan).



Location is Umagico NPARC parking area. The vehicle is part of Family Resources fleet. There are means to wind a window down, but the seat will get a bit soggy, especially now, in the Wet season. Shoes are highly recommended to prevent cuts from the broken pieces. Police are asking for community assistance, also regarding the Hi-Ace twin cab from Bamaga Works Depot. Perhaps they want to explain where to find the lever to wind the windows down.

It is worth noting that 99.9996% of people in the NPA did not smash any car windows.

The crimes of few are paid by many...

...be that in increased insurance premiums, the installation of fences, locks and security screens, sensors, cameras and guards, as cost passed on to the customers or property owners. There was a time when Queenslanders did not need to lock their doors.



Australia Day, 2011 Cape York Style



It was planned as a **Mud Rally and Pig Hunting competition**, but with a little help from above it became a **Slosh Rally**.



A good soaking before the event ensured the track was sufficiently 'moist'. The sky cleared for a perfect blue-sky day on 26th January in Bamaga.



In the pre-heats Mr Dwayne Nona set the time to beat: 1 minute and 6 seconds. Mr Sam Ober smashed that to 1 minute in the finals.

Skytrans donated two return tickets to Cairns, valued at \$1150 (first prize), plus 2 nights' accommodation. Bamaga Enterprises put up a substantial contribution. Cape York Ice & Tackle and CRM Gun Sports (in Cairns) each added a \$100 gift voucher, with 'winner takes all' for the registration fees. NPA Menshed donated the cup for the overall winner. NPA Rural Fire Brigade held a fund raiser on the day, via sausage sizzle and refreshments stall, Mr Pete Kelly delighted that all sausages sold. The proceeds will go towards equipment for the fire services.

Special thanks to the many volunteers. Mr Marsat Newman (jnr) on the towrope, who lost count of how many cars he helped to pull out, Mr Floyd Phineasa (starter), Mr Emerson Mairu (towrope), Mr Scott Bagiri (driver), Mr Nick Curnow (loader driver), Mr Marsat Newman (time keeper and organizer), Mr Russell Symons (jumping castle), the fire fighting team (sausage sizzle), Ms Estelle Gebadi (organizing), and so many more. Thanks to Mr Nathan Campbell (announcer, disk jockey), for keeping track of all that was happening, and keeping everyone informed. The event was organized by NPARC Events.



Thanks to the many organizations, businesses and individuals, who consistently step forward, donating their time, money, or goods and services, for community events such as this, and many others.

The winner in the Pig Hunting competition would have been the 80kg pig Mr Warren Strevens brought back, but it could not be brought in on time. The pig was donated to a funeral held at Injinoo. 61kg was the winning pig, caught by Mr Tolowa Nona.



Thanks to the Police, Ambulance and Fire Brigade, who were on stand-by throughout the event.



Each driver was breath-tested before each heat.



Several cars had timber assisted wipers.



Mr Alfred Nona adjusting the view.



...but who needs wipers anyway?



...when It's just a bit of brown 'dew'.



The team, Mr Phineasa, Mr Newman, Mr Mairu, and Bagiri ensured there were no hold ups in the proceedings.



For a moment it looked as if the Ambulance was going to have a go too, but no, it didn't happen.



Quad bike rider, Mr England (on a Suzuki), provided some much appreciated entertainment, but also showed what these machines can do. It handled the track without any worries. Perhaps the seat got a bit too slippery in the long straight. A blow-up jumping castle was also operational, a place for the very young to bounce about.



Mr Charles Poi Poi, with Mr Tolowa Nona's 61kg pig up front and 60kg on the back tray. This image courtesy Mr Roger Bartlett.

Feral pigs are not native to Australia. They are causing untold damage and devastation to wildlife and habitat, partly covered in the recent turtle articles (NPA News, issues 18 & 19). A 2010 article by Brian Williams published in Courier Mail states: (quote)

TWENTY-thousand feral pigs have been killed on Cape York Peninsula in the past year in a bid to save nesting sea turtles.

The program of aerial shooting, trapping and baiting continues in one of the remotest regions of Australia – an area believed to hold two to three million feral pigs and thousands of brumbies. (unquote).



Last moments with a clean shirt. Ah what the...



...keeps the mossies off.



Ensuring everyone had a fair share of mud, or another way to get the bike clean ☺.



Mr Newman with stopwatch in hand.



This shows the start of the track, a week before the event. On the day it was sosh all the way.



Between the heats time for some minor adjustments.



Loader to the rescue (below), pulling many from the liquid track.



Why don't cars have wipers on the side windows?



The outside just needs a shower, maybe the insides too, and a little dusting. It'll be as good as new.



Opportunity for wiper manufacturers to have a re-think, as most wipers struggled to give a clear view of the track.



It looks like fun, and it was.