



Please be aware there are images of deceased people in this publication.



As nine Aboriginal Councils, including Pormpuraaw, celebrated their 40th birthdays on Sunday 30 March, the current Mayors and Councillors – including Pormpuraaw – were in Cairns this month to attend the Crisafulli government’s Community Cabinet meeting.

The Aboriginal Advisory Council in 1974 – 51 years ago – was a precursor to elected local council, many of those Chairmen went on to be the elected mayors of their communities.

On 30 March 1985, the Edward River community elected five councillors to constitute an autonomous Edward River Aboriginal Council established under the Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984.

On 23 July 1987, the Council area, previously an Aboriginal reserve held by the Queensland Government, was transferred to the trusteeship of the Council under a Deed of Grant in Trust.

Also in 1987, the community changed its name to



Pormpuraaw, taken from a local dreamtime story.

On 1 January 2005, under the Local Government (Community Government Areas) Act 2004, Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Council became the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council.

## This month the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council:

- approved one permission to reside in Pormpuraaw.
- approved amendments to the Plant & Equipment to use savings from other Vehicles and Equipment to purchase an additional vehicle.
- approved the purchase of a new Garbage Truck and to increase the budget allocation – the new truck should arrive by April/May.
- approved a change to the April 2025 Council Meeting as it clashed with other meetings.

**The next council meeting will be on Wednesday 16 April, 2025.**



Another month has passed, and the first quarter of the year has already gone, which means over the next few weeks we will be busy with our quarterly updates to funding bodies, CEO Janelle Menzies writes...



Earlier in the month we had five of our Cairns Office staff join us in Pormpuraaw for a “Getting to Know You and Wellbeing Forum”.

About 60 of our employees were split into seven teams – all with people we don’t usually work with – and engaged in various things aimed at finding out a bit more about each other.

For one of those tasks we were issued ‘Trademutt’ Shirts and after a BBQ lunch, we set off in our teams to participate in “Improving our Standards”.

This meant each team leader picked somewhere that needed to be tidied up and started the process with a WHS briefing for hazards etc as each person was given a task to complete.

We took before and after photos and made these our new standards.

We will continue these activities each time staff from the Cairns Office Visit.

Also this month Mayor Ralph Kendall was invited to a Community Cabinet meeting in Cairns with the Mayors from Indigenous Councils across the state.

It was an opportunity for him to meet with State Ministers and to promote the Torres and Cape Indigenous Council Alliance (TCICA) advocacy documents – which we are a member of – as well as advocate for our own community priorities.

We are about to submit funding applications for two resilience projects for Pormpuraaw.

They are flood cameras for the Lucin and Coleman Rivers on the Strathgordon Road which will enable the community to access footage of river heights

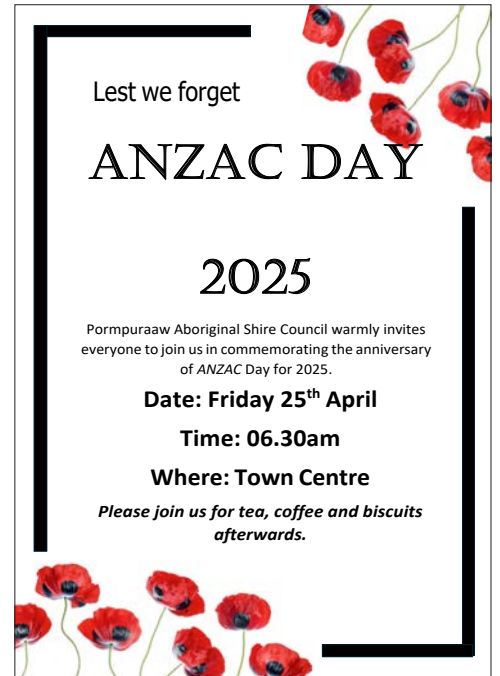




# Message to Service Providers

Have you met our new Chief Executive Officer Janelle Menzies?

If you are visiting Pormpuraaw and providing services to the community, please make an appointment by emailing her at [ceo@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au](mailto:ceo@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au) to have a chat about the services you are providing and how the Council can support you.



before travelling to Musgrave Station; and to fully enclose and air condition the community hall so we have a comfortable place of refuge as required, particularly in a disaster event.

Conversations with Queensland Housing regarding the construction of a new subdivision are ongoing.

Some of you may have seen signs at either end of Raaku and Manth Streets proposing the developments.

We are also talking with them about additional housing and possible granny flats.

Council and Management are working on the best way to deliver these projects.

As we are at the beginning of the budget preparation process for 2025/26 we are working on what we do to make Pormpuraaw a better place to live.

Community consultation for the design of a new Sports & Recreation precinct near the football oval will be underway soon.

We are looking forward to the fishing competition, Easter and the ANZAC public holidays coming up in April.

Take care until then ...

*Janelle*



*Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council's staff "Getting to Know You and Wellbeing Forum" which was launched with all of us wearing our 'Funky Friday' shirts. Page 2 pics: The teams' did some great work towards setting new standards in and around our workplaces.*





# YOUTH DISCO

(February)







*Pics by Christine Howes*

# Rangers meet in Cairns

Key achievements celebrated at the Western Cape Turtle Threat Abatement Alliance's (WCTTAA) annual post-nesting season meeting in Cairns last month included the monitoring of nearly 4000 turtle nests and the removal of more than 4500 feral pigs.



The meeting brought together 50 representatives from six ranger groups and state and federal government agencies; along

with other organisations, stakeholders and contractors committed to turtle conservation and feral pest management.



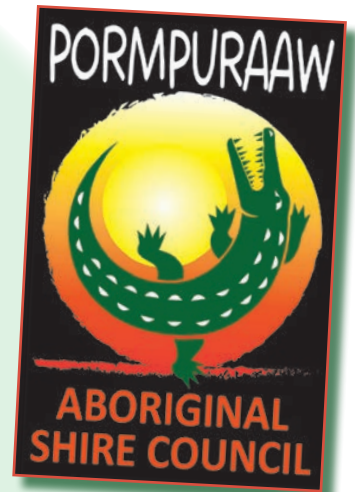
Porpuraaw Land & Sea Ranger Kiren Tarpencha said it was fantastic to hear feedback from each ranger group about the WCTTAA program.

“We’ve heard from other groups, how they’re doing and how their programs run differently or similar to ours,” he said.

“At the end of the day, we’re all doing the same job, but there’s a bit of difference between the groups.”



# Welcome to our new team members:



**Community Services Officer Centrelink Noel Tabuai**  
**Accommodation Team Leader Kristine Ryan**  
**Operations General Hand Raymond Shortjoe**  
**Operations General Labourer Tyron Conrad**  
**Aged Care Support Worker Davina Wilson**  
**Apprentice Carpenter Jeremy Coleman**



**Human Resources  
Advisor  
Jennifer Bartlett**

**(not pictured) WHS & Risk  
Manager Sharon Marshall**



**PORMPURA AW**

**106.1<sup>FM</sup>**

**BLACK STAR**

**RADIO NETWORK**



**LUCKY DOOR PRIZES!!**  
WEAR YOUR WRIST BAND TO BE IN THE DRAW

**Transport to the beach provided by WIP bus.**

Registrations Open **31.03.2025**  
Pop into the Post Office to complete an application form

# 2025 Pormpuraaw Fishing Competition

**Cast Your Line and Reel in the Win!**

**Lunch provided at the Chapman**

**Date: Friday, 11 April**  
**Time: 7am - 4pm**

**Prize giving at the hall**

**Doors open at 5.30pm**

**Dinner 6pm - 7pm**




# THANK YOU to all the Sponsors




## WE ARE HIRING

### Aged Care Kitchen Hand

**PART TIME**

Council is seeking an eager individual to join our team as an Aged Care Kitchen Hand.

In this position you will prepare delicious and healthy meals for our aged care clients as directed by the Aged Care Cook. You will maintain all aspects of food safety standards and ensure daily meal services are on time for clients. Full training will be provided to applicants that are committed to turning up to work each day and wanting to be a part of caring for our aged care clients in community.

**The successful applicant will have the following:**

- Clear National Criminal History Check - Mandatory
- Good time management skills
- Prior experience cooking
- Food Safety certificate (or willing to undertake)
- Be committed to coming to work every day

**This is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified role**

**APPLY TODAY**  
Applications can be submitted at RISE.  
Please see Todd Sandes - Remote Employment Services Manager.  
Alternatively you can contact Nem Yesberg on 0417 124 567 or via email [hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au](mailto:hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au)



## WE ARE HIRING

### Aged Care Support Worker

**PART TIME**

Council is seeking an enthusiastic individual to join our team as an Aged Care Support Worker.

In this position you will undertake as range of cleaning and social support activities that assist our age care clients. No prior experience is necessary, as all training will be provided for applicants that are committed to turning up to every shift.

**The successful applicant will have the following:**

- Clear National Criminal History Check - Mandatory
- C Class Driver's Licence - highly regarded
- Certificate III Individual Support Aged Care (or willing to undertake)

**This is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified role**

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## WE ARE HIRING

### Community Justice Group Mentor

**PART TIME**

Council is seeking an eager individual to join our team as an Community Justice Group Mentor.

In this position you will mentor community members to ensure an adequate understanding of obligations arising from court and support and encourage referrals to culturally appropriate support services. You will be passionate about working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and understand the importance of community connections to build rapport with local elders and community members.

**The successful applicant will have the following:**

- Clear National Criminal History Check
- C Class Driver's Licence
- Passion for working closely with community members
- Sound reading and writing skills
- Be committed to coming to work every day

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Alternatively you can contact Nem Yesberg on 0417 124 567 or via email [hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au](mailto:hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au)



## WE ARE HIRING

### Council Facilities Cleaner

**PART TIME**

Council is seeking an eager individual to join our team as a Council Facilities Cleaner.

In this position you will work with the Accommodation Supervisor and other team members to provide a high standard of cleanliness throughout all Council facilities. You will be detailed orientated, reliable and enjoy working in a fast paced environment. You will help to maintain guest rooms, contractors accommodation and other Council assets.

**The successful applicant will have the following:**

- Clear National Criminal History Check
- C Class Driver's Licence - highly regarded
- Be committed to coming to work every day

**APPLY TODAY**  
Applications can be submitted at RISE.  
Please see Todd Sandes - Remote Employment Services Manager.  
Alternatively, you can contact Jennifer Bartlett on 0417 124 567 or via email [hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au](mailto:hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au)



# Updated 2025 Public Holiday Calendar

Pormpuraaw Fishing Day	Friday 11 April 2025	Special	Pormpuraaw
Good Friday	Friday 18 April 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Easter Saturday (Holy Saturday)	Saturday 19 April 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Easter Sunday	Sunday 20 April 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Easter Monday	Monday 21 April 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Anzac Day	Friday 25 April 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Labour Day	Monday 5 May 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Mabo Day **	Tuesday 3 June 2025	Public	Pormpuraaw
Annual Show Day	Friday 18 July 2025	Show	Pormpuraaw + Cairns
King's Birthday	Monday 6 October 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Christmas Eve (Part Day 6pm to Midnight)	Wednesday 24 December 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Christmas Day	Thursday 25 December 2025	Public	Qld Wide
Boxing Day	Friday 26 December 2025	Public	Qld Wide

Mabo Day special public holiday will be on Tuesday 3 June 2025 rather than previously advised as Friday 2 May. Please note that the Rodeo Day special holiday previously advised for 26 September 2025 has been cancelled. (The Rodeo is still on but on the weekend of 27 & 28 September 2025).



## PORMPURA AW ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

☎ 07 4060 4600 or 07 4032 8221

📍 24 Thinraathin Street, Pormpuraaw QLD 4892

[www.pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au](http://www.pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au)

ABN: 34 103 787 081

### Council Hours:

Monday - Friday 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 4pm

*Cashier Window (Located in the Post Office)*

Monday - Friday 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 3pm

For more information about any of the articles in this newsletter, please contact Council on 07 4060 4600

To subscribe to the newsletter, please forward an email to [newsletter@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au](mailto:newsletter@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au)