

PORMPURAAW



ABORIGINAL
SHIRE COUNCIL

PASC News

July 2026

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



**NAIDOC
WEEK**
**50 YEARS
DEADLY**
5-12 JULY 2026



*This year's "50 Years
Deadly" NAIDOC
theme recognises five
decades of celebrating
Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander voices,
and in Pormpuraaw
this month it was all
hands on deck to get
behind our events.
MORE PICS on
pages 4-5!*

Congrats Crocs!!!

This month the Pormpuraaw Crocs, proudly sponsored by Council, played in Coen and Wujal Wujal – and they've made the semi-finals in Cooktown early in August! Congratulations Crocs, you've made our little town proud!



Star Employee of the Month

Michele Dunk – Human Resources Support Officer – a team player who helps with whatever is needed to reach the end goal.

Star Team of the Month

Workshop Crew – for fueling up the generators and fixing the fuel system

A word from
CEO
Janelle
Menzies



Can you believe the new financial year is already here, CEO Janelle Menzies writes ... Just like that, July flew by in a blink! It has been an incredibly busy month filled with great community milestones, planning for our future and some wonderful local updates.

Special Council Meeting Highlights

On 2 July 2026, Council held a Special Meeting to finalise our plans for the next year ahead. Key outcomes included:

- Budget & Strategy Adoption: Council officially adopted the 2026-27 Operational Plan, alongside the annual budget, fees, charges and all associated policies.
- Powering Our Subdivisions: Approval was granted for Ergon Energy power connection across both the southern and northern subdivisions, paving the way for local housing and development.
- Financial Accountability: Council formally adopted the May 2026 Financial Statement to close out the previous period's financial reporting.

We had a special Council meeting on 2 July 2026 to adopt our 2026/27 Budget.

Ordinary Council Meeting (29 July 2026)

- Airstrip & Infrastructure: Council approved a retrospective development application for our airstrip upgrade, ensuring this vital transport link stays in top shape. Council also approved an extended purchase order for Robinson Civil Group amounting to \$355,630.00.
- Good Governance & Policies: Council adopted the new Code of Conduct for Queensland Councils, alongside updated model meeting procedures, standing orders, a Governance policy and a Right to Information policy.
- Keeping Track of Progress: Council wrapped up the previous financial year by adopting the June quarterly update for the 2025-26 Operational Plan, receiving the June 2026 monthly financial statement and adopting the newly proposed Corporate Structure.
- Valuing Our Assets: Council received and noted a comprehensive asset valuation report for our land, buildings, water and sewer infrastructure up to 30 June 2026.
- Future Planning: Council has officially approved the Public Holidays for 2027.



Local Treats & Reopening

We started July on a delicious note with the official reopening of our local bakery.

It is fantastic to see their doors open again and the community is already enjoying freshly baked bread, pies and sweets daily.

A Beautiful Welcome to Town

Of course, you have spotted our gorgeous new town entry signs – they look absolutely fantastic and truly show off the spirit of our community as you drive into town.

A massive thank you goes out to talented local artist Paul Jakubski for his incredible artwork. What a wonderful job!

Regional Advocacy & Looking Ahead

Early in the month, the Mayor and I attended the Torres and Cape Indigenous Council Alliance (TCICA) meeting.

Local State Member David Kempton MP joined us to discuss issues affecting our region, especially the ongoing progress and safety of the Peninsula Development Road (PDR).

The alliance also looked ahead to the future of regional growth with two key presentations:

- **Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ):** Shared insights into their Destination Management Plan 2045, highlighting pathways for regional tourism collaboration.
- **Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS):** Outlined how Council can make sure our community is accurately counted and logistics for the upcoming Census in August.

Rodeo!

Are you excited for the rodeo coming up in September? We'll be looking for workers and volunteers – if you're keen, contact Shelina and we'll find something for you!

Janelle





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This year's "50 Years Deadly" NAIDOC theme recognises five decades of celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices.

Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Councillor Keith Barney said they were also there to pay tribute to the Elders, leaders, organisers, artists, families and communities who have kept culture strong.

"And made sure our voices, stories and achievements continue to be celebrated," he said.

The community came together at the Boomerang on Friday 10 July for a great celebration, which included a traditional Kup-Murri bringing the whole community together.

"A Kup-murri is a special way to bring people together," Cr Barney said.

"It reminds us of the importance of sharing, looking after one another, respecting our old people and passing knowledge on to the next generation.

"It is not just about the food—it is about the time we spend together and the connections we strengthen."

Organisers Shelina Bartlett and Josie Szilagyi said the day was a powerful reminder that culture led and community always came first.

They said its success was thanks to the dedication and hard work of local Rangers, the Aged Care staff and the Justice Centre team.

The excitement continued into the evening at the hall, where Harbrow Mentoring delivered games of Edor alongside some action-packed basketball sessions that kept spirits high.

The pics captured a memorable day of culture, connection and community pride.





This month Federal MP Matt Smith brings us a word on...

Cost-of-living support and a new community calendar for Leichhardt

We know many households are keeping a close eye on their spending, so this month we're focusing on practical measures designed to help stretch budgets further and support remote communities, Federal MP Matt Smith writes...

With overseas conflict and supply pressures continuing to affect prices at home, new cost-of-living initiatives are being rolled out to help keep essential goods more affordable and strengthen local supply chains.

Two key initiatives will make a real difference for First Nations communities across the region.

The \$37.2 million Resilience and Efficiency Package

will support an additional 75 remote stores, helping them better manage supply disruptions, natural disasters and other challenges.

The \$27.4 million Low-Cost Essentials Subsidy Scheme will also reduce the price of 30 staple grocery items by 30 to 50 per cent in remote First Nations communities, with support delivered through 225 local stores across the Cape.

To further strengthen supply security, the new Maritime Strategic Fleet has begun with the ANL Kokoda, a 175-metre cargo ship that can be deployed during emergencies, natural disasters or supply chain disruptions.

This will be especially important for remote communities when extreme weather cuts off normal transport routes, helping ensure food, supplies and equipment can still reach the people who need them.

Closer to home, the new Leichhardt Community Calendar is now available.

After months of entries, the judging panel selected 13 beautiful local photos showcasing scenes and wildlife from across the electorate, from the Cairns Esplanade and northern beaches to the Torres Strait, Kuranda and beyond.

The calendar is free and can be collected from your local council office while stocks last.

A big thank you to everyone who submitted artwork.

The quality of entries made the final selection difficult, and if your photo was not chosen this time, there is always next year.





Your Queensland Airline, Proudly Uniting Our Region

A NEW ERA FOR CAPE YORK TRAVEL



Hinterland Aviation is pleased to announce the introduction of our new Cessna C408 SkyCourier service.



The new schedule is expected to commence in **early 2027**, with the final commencement date to be confirmed closer to launch. The new service will operate Monday to Friday from the Cairns Domestic Terminal, connecting Cairns with Kowanyama, Pormpuraaw, Aurukun and Lockhart River.

Aurukun will be added as a new destination, further strengthening regional air connectivity across Cape York.

****Departing from the Cairns Domestic Terminal****

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

ORIGIN	DEST.	DEP.	ARR.	FLT#	ORIGIN	DEST.	DEP.	ARR.	FLT#
Cairns	Kowanyama	07:00	08:30	OI161	Cairns	Aurukun	07:30	09:20	OI181
Kowanyama	Pormpuraaw	09:00	09:20	OI162	Aurukun	Lockhart River	09:55	10:30	OI182
Pormpuraaw	Cairns	09:50	11:25	OI163	Lockhart River	Cairns	11:00	12:45	OI183
Cairns	Pormpuraaw	13:35	15:10	OI164	Cairns	Lockhart River	12:15	14:05	OI185
Pormpuraaw	Kowanyama	15:40	16:00	OI165	Lockhart River	Aurukun	14:35	15:15	OI186
Kowanyama	Cairns	16:35	18:00	OI166	Aurukun	Cairns	15:45	17:30	OI187

Please Note: The schedule displayed here is intended as a general guide to our flight timings. However, due to occasional changes in operational requirements, public holidays, or local events, there may be slight variations in the schedule on certain days. For the most up-to-date and accurate flight information, we recommend reviewing our online booking system, which reflects real-time schedule updates. We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

 hinterlandaviation.com.au

COMMUNITY NOTICE BEACH CLOSURE (SORRY BUSINESS)

Please be advised that
Chapman River to Mungkan River
and all Beach areas in between
are closed
due to Sorry Business.

We kindly ask all community members and
visitors to **respect this closure** and
avoid the area until further notice.

This excludes current paid campers.

Thank you for your understanding and respect.



*Above: Bakery Assistant
Jayden Wason, Baker
Roman Kucharski and
Culture & Land Worker
Anthony Shortjoe.
Right: Ranger Admin
Assistant Sherelle Ballie
and Road Crew Vincent
Williams*



Council is looking for passionate, dedicated individuals to fill a variety of rewarding positions.

Whether you love interacting with the public, working outdoors or making a meaningful difference in the lives of others, we have an opportunity for you.

- **Bakery Assistant:** Help prepare delicious baked goods and assist the baker in the kitchen.
- **Bakery Retail Assistant:** Serve customers, manage displays and provide friendly service.
- **Aged Care Support Worker:** Provide vital daily care and companionship to our community elders.
- **Animal Control or Environmental Health Worker:** monitor local environments and manage pest control or animal control.
- **Council Facilities Cleaner:** Maintain hygiene standards across our public buildings and offices.
- **Culture & Land Worker:** Protect, preserve and care for our local natural landscapes.
- **Outdoor Cleaner:** Keep our public spaces and outdoor spaces clean and welcoming.
- **Post Office Customer Service & Cashier Officer:** Handle mail services and retail financial transactions.

How to Apply:

If any of these roles sound like the perfect fit for you, please reach out today. Pick up an application form from the Council Office or email your resume directly to the team at hr@pormpuraaw.qld.gov.au. You can also apply through RISE.



PORMPURAAW ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

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Council Hours:

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

Cashier Window (Located in the Post Office)

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

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