



COBRA TILING
0450 949 957



President's Welcome

It was a quiet week of rugby with A Grade, Under 10's, 12's, 14's, 16's and Under 18's all having a bye, so I thought I would let you know of some of the things that the committee has been working on this season and some of our successes. In no particular order:

- Fielding teams in every grade of rugby (Under 6's to A Grade)
- Major sponsor secured – Cazaly's
- Sponsorship in general increased by 20% over 2011 levels
- Palmerston Rugby Union Club has nominated as a Good Sports Club, a nationally recognised program .
- Volunteer bar staff have completed Responsible Alcohol Serving training
- Cash for Containers funding has received by the club
- First home game done
- Volunteer Recognition Night organised and held
- Coaches and managers appointed
- 3 away trips (Jabiru twice and Katherine once) organised
- Meetings with NT Government and the Palmerston City Council about our future direction
- 35th Anniversary currently dinner being organised
- Juniors Handbook produced and distributed
- Working bee at the club house
- Bumper editions of Croc Tales recognising our 35th year
- Bunning's Sausage Sizzle held with another this weekend
- Juniors Come-and-Try Day held

As you can see the committee have been very busy, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank: Rob Sloan, Percy Peel, Dennis Grant, Charlie Chambers, Robbie Taylor, Rebecca Gardiner, Cecily Boulton, Brock Evans and Wendy and Mal Leach for their efforts this year. A lot done but a lot more to achieve.

Ben Blyton

What's on this weekend...

EASTER WEEKEND – no Junior or Senior games this weekend
SATURDAY – Bunnings Sausage Sizzle @ Palmerston Bunnings



Notice board

Position Vacant

B GRADE COACH

Contact Ben Blyton
on 0417 082 531 for details.

Please forward all
applications to:

ben.blyton@bigpond.com
by **Saturday 7 April**.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

We're running the Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Palmerston this **Saturday 7th April**. If you're passing by, drop by and buy a sausage.

SENIOR SUBS

Senior subs are now due. **\$190** includes playing kit and insurance. Balance paid in full by end of first round. Payment required so that your insurance is paid!



MONSTER RAFFLE

The Club is running a **Monster Raffle**. The raffle will run throughout the year and prizes drawn at Presentation Night. See **Dennis Grant** for tickets.

**TERRITORY
CASH FOR
CONTAINERS**



Around The Grounds



THE SENIORS

A Grade and Under 18's had a bye this week.

B grade travelled to Jabiru where they had a good win over the Bushrats. I think though, they have taken the code of 'what goes on tour stays on tour' too seriously as any details are hard to come by.

Past Players Day



Palmerston Rugby Union Club would like to invite all

Past Players

To our Home Game on Saturday 21 April 2012

Come and socialize with previous past players

while our current players take on Casuarina at Moulden Oval

Games start at 3:30 with A Grade kick off at 6pm

Special Past Players Deal:

\$20.00 will get you 4 beers, a steak sandwich and transport home.

RSVP: Please RSVP by Friday 20 April

to Ben Blyton (ph. 0417 082 531) or Craig Leach (ph. 0412 377 578)

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More Junior News...

Congratulations to all of the boys who took part in the NTIS 16 - 18 years Training Program:

- Ryan Cotton
- Garry Keppel
- Diego Smith
- Kendall Quakawoot
- Scott McDinny
- Cody McFarlane
- Brad Hogan

In taking part in the camp, they will be considered for future NTIS Scholarships. Once again well done boys.



Under 6's



Under 8's



Under 10's



THE JUNIORS - Update by Robbie Taylor

The last two weekends have seen the junior season kick off with a blast. Before we talk about the results, we just want to thank all the new and past junior players who are taking part in the 2012 Season. We would also like to thank all of the parents, coaches and managers for all the help they will be for this season. Now onto the results...

Under 6's

Coach - Ricky Hoe, Manager – Julie Franz

What a great turn out we had over the last two weeks. Numbers are fantastic with over 15 players. We may have to look at entering 2 teams. There is never really a result in the Under 6's, but there is always plenty of winners. The kids look like they have a ball and the parents seem happy. Keep up the good work!

Under 8's

Coach - Cody McFarlane, Managers - Alison and Bruce McFarlane

Two games in and the Under 8's have got them off to a brilliant start to the season. Although their games certainly did not revolve around defence as the scorelines will show, they know how to cross the line. Coach Cody was very happy with the way the kids listened to him, and their ball skills were great.

Scoreline – Week 1: Palmerston Crocs 75 beat Swampdogs 50, Week 2: Palmerston Crocs 25 drew with South's 25

****** Under 10's to Under 16's had byes in the second week. Here are their results for Round 1:

Under 10's

Coach - Wayne Smith, Managers - Kylie Grainger and Robyn Deo

The Under 10's also look like they will have a good season. In what was an entertaining game of rugby where defence played a huge part our boys gave it their all. Coach Wayne was impressed with the start to the season saying that he was proud of the effort that every player put in for the team.

Special mentions go to Jermaine Kidney, Jacob Blyton and Jayden Humphreys.

*Scoreline - Palmerston Crocs 7 lost Swampdogs 12
Try Scorers - Riley Reid 1 Conversion - Seb Torrens 1*

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Under 12's



Under 12's



Under 14's



Under 14's



Under 16's

These Junior photos supplied
by Fiona Austine

Under 12's

Coach - Corey Heywood, Manager - Josh Parker

Unfortunately the under 12's are a bit light on for numbers so far this season. But the players who turned up showed a lot of heart and never give in. Corey and Josh are doing some great work with the team, and this will show as the season goes on. It is also worth mentioning that this is the kids first year at playing on the full field. If anyone knows someone who wants to play rugby in this age group please let us know. For the team, stay patient and keep training hard, the results will come if you just keep giving it your best efforts. Special mentions go to Wayne Bilston, Thomas Chmielewski and Cameron Croker.

Scoreline - Palmerston Crocs 0 lost Swampdogs 37

Under 14's

Coach - Anthony Smith

The Under 14's played a great brand of rugby to run riot last Friday. it was particular impressive to see the amount of ball movement in the game as they ran the ball from everywhere. Coach Smithy said he was wrapped to get the first game out of the way. One thing that is needed for the 2012 season, is a manager for the team. If anyone is interested, please let us know. Special mentions go to Isaako Teuati, Liam Bilston and Zane Smith.

Scoreline - Palmerston Crocs 36 beat Swampdogs 0

Try Scorers - Isaako Teuati 2, Kael Croker 1, Connor Owen 1, Keegan Quakawoot 1, Mark Cubillo 1

Conversions - McKenzie Lawrence 2, Connor Owen 1

Under 16's

Coach - Justin McKenzie, Manager - Tanya McKenzie

The Under 16's have started the season in great style. They showed off some brilliant rugby to get the early wood over their opposition. Coach Justin was happy with the result, saying that their attack was good and that the support play was a highlight but we just need to work on staying focus for a full game. Special mentions go to Xavier McKenzie, Jordan Boyd and Greg Svanfelds.

Scoreline - Palmerston Crocs 38 beat Swampdogs 5

Try Scorers - Greg Svanfelds 3, Jimi Harris 1, Xavier McKenzie 1, Trent Keppel 1

Conversion - Greg Svanfelds 4

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Al doing the can-can



Two past Presidents, Al Watson and Garry Russell

Where are they now?

Name: Al Watson
Age: 44, born south of the border!
Family: Married to Jules and we have 2 girls, Mackenzie 13 and Ellie 9; now living in Bris Vegas

When did you play for Palmy? Early 90's – 2001

What you done since leaving Palmerston? Left Darwin in 2001 and moved to Gladstone, spent a year there and moved Townsville. Whilst in Townsville I managed to get involved with the Grammar Old Boys rugby club helping out Mick Smith with coaching and through unforeseen circumstances playing again. From there we moved to Brisbane where every year I look forward to the rugby season so I can watch the Reds and Wallabies play but mainly for the Palmy reunions and the opportunity to wear the frock of shame.

First rugby memories? Watching the 5 Nations on the ABC in the late 70's and early 80's this fuelled my interest in rugby.

Favourite Palmerston memories? I looked forward to going to training and playing rugby and partying afterwards with my mates, it was like one big family where everyone looked out for each other. Becoming President of the club after I had retired and the club winning the premiership in A grade & B grade and also grand finalist in C grade along with a number of the junior teams winning or playing in grand finals.

Other Clubs? Where do I start?? Some say I played at more clubs than Slim Dusty but I have my doubts!!!! South Darwin twice, dare I say it Casuarina, Maroochydore, Gold Coast Eagles, University of Qld. Managed to travel overseas and played in USA, Wales and England.

How did you become involved with Palmerston? I shared a room with Snogga and Doggie on a NT trip to Adelaide and they made it quite clear in those few days that I should play with Palmy or suffer the consequences. Seriously it was that trip where I managed to make some very good lifelong friends and it so happens that most of them were the Palmy players so when the next season started I was in the Palmy jersey.

What do you miss about Palmerston? Certainly not playing rugby in the Darwin heat but just the friends and Palmy family which had become a big part of my life. My time at Palmy was what a rugby club should be like and a lot of clubs could have learnt from it.

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In the spotlight...

In the spotlight this week is an article that appeared in the Daily Telegraph recently...

Wallabies coach Robbie Deans tried to get Chiefs halfback Tawera Kerr-Barlow to change allegiance

- By Jamie Pandaram, *The Daily Telegraph*, March 29, 2012 7:37AM

The Wallabies chased him, Western Force wanted him, but Super Rugby's hottest halfback Tawera Kerr-Barlow has had only one dream since the age of three - an All Blacks jersey.

Even his mother Gail Barlow, who represented the Australian women's rugby team in the mid-90s, could not sway him to represent the country of his birth. "Robbie Deans came to speak at a function in Darwin, where they presented me with my Wallaroos cap retrospectively," Gail said.

"He spoke to me and certainly was very interested in what Tawera was planning for his future. I explained to him, 'Good luck with that'.

"Tawera declared from the age of three he wanted to play for the All Blacks, despite his mother playing for Australia."

He re-signed with the Chiefs and looms as a candidate for New Zealand.

As any proud parent would, Gail is backing her son to achieve his dream, to the point where she was helping him train over the Christmas holidays when he returned to Darwin.

"She was up at 6am with the stop-watch. There was no lazing around in the holidays," Kerr-Barlow said.

Gail said: "That time of year is the hottest and most humid in Darwin. You get close to 100 per cent humidity.

"He really felt the heat. He was doing shuttles, sprints and a long run each week.

"To the horror of everyone else, we went out on Christmas day and trained. He didn't take one day off."

It is this dedication to fitness that has helped Kerr-Barlow develop into the form No.9 of the competition.

"I trained really hard in the pre-season, because it was important for me to be able to play the style of game I play for 80 minutes," Kerr-Barlow said. "I would do it for 40 or 50 minutes, but I couldn't sustain it for 80.

"Now I can play that physical, high-pace game for the full 80. I did a lot of roadwork during the holidays."

Kerr-Barlow was born in Melbourne but at six months moved to Darwin, where he lived until age 13. It is a city he still considers home and **at the end of the interview he requested a "shout out" to his friends and family in the Territory.**

At 13, Kerr-Barlow declared his desire to play rugby in New Zealand and started at his father Rei's old school, Hamilton Boys High, and graduated to the Waikato squad.

When John Mitchell was in charge of the Force, he tried to lure Kerr-Barlow to Perth.

And Wallabies high-performance manager David Nucifora also contacted Tawera and Gail to have him change allegiance. But the 21-year-old stuck solid.

"It is my ultimate goal and dream, but I don't go out each week thinking I will make the All Blacks with a good performance. If it happens sooner than later it would be good," Kerr-Barlow said.

This week he confronts an unchanged New South Wales Waratahs side in Hamilton, with Brendan McKibbin holding his place as NSW's halfback.



Source: AAP

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Each week Croc Tales are running a **"PALMY TRIVIA"** competition, with the winner receiving \$10 off their 35th Anniversary Dinner Tickets.

To enter the competition, just email your answers by 6pm Wednesday each week to ben.blyton@bigpond.com or wleach@bigpond.com

All correct (or mostly correct!) answers will be placed in a draw and one weekly winner will be picked. The winner and the correct answers will be published in Croc Tales the following week. The prize is not transferable.



This week's winner is Dave Ley. Former player, Club President, A Grade Coach and long term sponsor. Legend.



Previous winners are:

1 - Steven Roberts

2 – Garry Crone

3 – Jaz Deo

4 – Jeremy Bright

5 – Garry Russell

6 – Colin Snowden

7 – Dave Ley

Palmy Trivia # 8

MONOPOLY – PRUC LIMITED EDITION

New marketing opportunity for the Croc's. Our own Monopoly game. Here is our first street.

Our trivia question for this week is – is Bree Street going to replace Mayfair or is it more like Whitechapel Road?



Remember, email your answers to: ben.blyton@bigpond.com or wleach@bigpond.com

JUNIORS MAKE THEIR MARK



Here's Dave's answer to last week's trivia **Juniors make their mark:**

"I wasn't aware Matt Burke coached Michael Killiner but great photo. The score for Palmy - NZ was 84 to 3 and the real Bledisloe was 16 to 14 and I was there in ARU box".

Micheal Killiner (pictured centre), in his entry, added "Note the bare feet. Junior rugby in the good old days".





(CROC) TALES FROM HISTORY



35th Anniversary

THE CLUB HOUSE

Article by Dennis Bree

When reflecting on the building of the Clubhouse I am reminded that many things came together to build our great facility without the usual associated debt that burdens many organisations.

Firstly it was a dream of many early committees to build a clubhouse and they frugally managed to put away a little each year so that by the mid 80s we had about \$20 000 in the bank – a tidy sum in those days but still not enough for much more than a simple change from which would have been stage 1 of many stages. To this day I am not sure who to give credit for this financial discipline to, as it never appeared elsewhere in any of our lives that was obvious to me.

Secondly, by moving to Palmerston and being one of the first sporting clubs to do so, we had (after much lobbying) been able to negotiate a block of land on the condition that we build the clubhouse.

Thirdly we had a bit of luck when, as Chief Engineer for Public Works at the time, I noticed that Moulden Primary had been funded to put a toilet block beside the oval - from memory about \$80 000. I immediately advised Barry Coulter (our local member and Minister) that it would be embarrassing for all concerned if two toilet blocks were built beside each other. He agreed and after some discussion it was negotiated that the money should come to us and we would build a clubhouse and allow access to the change rooms by Moulden Primary – and everyone was happy. Barry remained Patron of the club for many years and turned the first sod in 1991 (see photo).

The building process was actually a pretty happy one with the builder doing a fine job and agreeing to no contract variations (as we had no more money anyway).

In my view the clubhouse has been a great asset and become a second home to many of us – especially since the clock stopped and we have (not so good) excuse for being home late. Anyway it still works for me!!

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35TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The following people have confirmed their attendance at the reunion dinner:

Definates

Fiona Austine
 Alan Babbs
 Jeff Hellfire Bennett
 Ben & Selina Blyton
 Bernie & Sonya Bree
 Dennis & Cec Bree
 Tony & Vicky Burns
 Graham Doyle
 Ben Emmett
 Brock Evans
 Dennis Grant
 Greg Jarvis
 Sean Killiner
 Craig & Mel Leach
 Wendy & Mal Leach
 Chris Marlow
 Stephen Roberts
 Garry & Marcia Russell
 Kerry & Sue Smith
 Mick Smith
 Mike & Coral Wilson

Maybes

Jeremy Bright
 Sean Kearns
 Anthony Ryan
 Nick Woodroffe

Thinking of coming?

Email Wendy Leach and we'll add you to the list.

Contact Treasurer Percy Peel (percypeel@hotmail.com) for payment details.

35th Anniversary Dinner

When: 30th June 2012 @ 7pm

Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Darwin

Tickets: \$150.00 per person*



*To purchase tickets, please contact Treasurer Percy Peel at percypeel@hotmail.com for payment details.

Other news... Sean and Maeve's Wedding

Sean Kearns is a former Palmerston A Grade captain and then coach. He also played for the NT Mosquitoes. Apparently Maeve's Irish family were very intrigued with the Palmy boys' nicknames!



Congratulations Maeve and Sean. 31st March 2012



(from left to right) Rhys Nicholls, Brock Evans, Sean Kearns, Todd Harrison, Craig Leach, Greg Jarvis, Tommy Hurse, Alex Davidson



(from 3rd from left) Craig Leach, Rhys Nicholls, Sean Kearns, Francis Hayes, Adrian Graham, Brock Evans, Tommy Hurse, Todd Har, rison, Ben Emmet, Greg Jarvis

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