



COBRA TILING
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President's Welcome

A full week of rugby this weekend after most sides had byes last week. It's also our last home game for the year. In A and B Grade we play Dragons, our traditional rivals from the nineties and early naughties. The winner of the game will consolidate their spot in the top four with the loser dropping out - as such both teams have a lot to play for. The A Grade game should be a close affair but I am confident we will finish on the right side of the ledger. B Grade also looks good for a win after some great form last week against Litchfield. Under 18's have Casuarina and again our boys are on the improve and I would not be surprised to see them add a Casuarina scalp to their win list.

Monday morning was one of those great days when you are proud to be involved in a rugby club. For those that have not heard, an ex-Palmerston Junior, **Tawera 'Nerada' Kerr-Barlow was named in the 35-man All Black squad for the June Tests**. Getting a phone call from his mum Gail, herself a former Wallaroo, was just fantastic. Nerada is a great bloke who still calls Darwin home and to see him get closer to his goal of one day being an All Black is tremendous news. The whole club was obviously excited as emails and texts were coming thick and fast on Monday. Well done Nerada and we wish you all the best on the next steps to selection.

See you on Saturday at the home game – remember the early starts.

Ben Blyton

*Nerada may almost be an All Black,
but he still calls Palmerston home.
Here he is with brother Jake (current A Grade
referee) enjoying a pie at the clubhouse.*



What's on this weekend...

FRIDAY	Juniors at Rugby Park
SATURDAY	Home Games at Moulden Oval 1:00pm - Under 18's 2:30pm - B Grade 4:00pm - A Grade



Noticeboard

SENIOR TRAINING TONIGHT

Andrew Crozier, CEO of the NTRU and Jake Barlow, A Grade Referee, will be attending training tonight to discuss the current Law/Management issues with players.

NTRU LADDERS

A Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	6	6	0	0	30
Souths	6	3	0	3	15
University	6	2	0	4	10
Dragons	5	2	0	3	10
Palmerston	5	1	0	4	6

B Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	6	5	0	1	24
Souths	6	4	0	2	20
University	6	4	0	2	19
Palmerston	6	3	0	3	16
Swampdogs	6	3	0	3	14
Dragons	6	1	1	4	6
Jabiru	6	0	1	5	2

Under 18's

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Swampdogs	5	4	0	1	20
Casuarina	5	4	0	1	20
University	5	3	0	2	15
Palmerston	5	1	0	4	7
Dragons	4	0	0	4	0

Around The Grounds



THE SENIORS

B Grade - Palmerston d Swampdogs, 33-nil

Update from acting coach Craig Leach

B Grade took on Swampdogs at Moulden Park on Saturday. A Grade had the bye, but we were also boosted with a few players back from work commitments. Early field position and good ball allowed us to score a snappy first try through fullback **Anthony Smith** out wide.

A few adjustments at half time saw the Killer B's unleash its potential with four more unanswered tries. **Lachy Wade** played a great loose forwards game and **Michael Nicholas** at inside centre ran some excellent lines. Palmy has a big strike player in **Scott Rasmussen**, who was impossible to stop at number 8. For all those older readers, Scott shows a very similar style to the famous **Alan Woodcock** from the 90's era, so come down and compare! The coach is really happy with the work all over the paddock. **Final score: 33-nil to the Crocs.**

Tries - Anthony Smith 3, Kevin Jones 1, Scott Rasmussen 1;

Conversions - Robbie Taylor 4



Big Will in the line out



Robbie feeling the scrum



In the line outs we jump higher...

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Under 18's – Swampdogs d Palmerston, 18-14

Update from coach Shane Cotton

The u/18 team went into the game with renewed confidence following their win in the NT Championships last week. It was obvious that this encounter against the Swampies was going to be a much closer fight than last round where our boys copped a flogging due to lack of numbers. Both teams had fairly equal possession but our boys determined defence kept the opposition in their own half for 90% of the time. Our sustained pressure paid off with a try to Peni Tomato crossing after taking the ball from the back of the scrum. The Swampies only answer was a penalty goal late in the first half. Half time score 7-3 to the Crocs.

The second half saw the sides still evenly matched but a few concentration lapses and giving away too many penalties saw the opposition cross for three tries. The Crocs never gave up and fought their way back into the match with a quick thinking try to Cody McFarlane that was converted by Dylan (Nugget) Holms. The score now 18-14 to Swampies. The boys continued to put up a good fight but some poor decision making saw us blow opportunities and we ran out of time. With a little more training as a team I'm confident we will be able to turn the tables next time around.



THE JUNIORS

Last Friday was a quiet one for us, with only the U6s and 8s playing.

Under 6's - Update from coach Ricky Hoe

This week in Under 6 great fun was had by all - even for Tynan who had a great kick after head knock! Isaac chased his kick down and scored a try! Go Crocs! Great listening and defensive this week led by Gareth. Great chasing led by Ollie who did a mountain of try saving work. In the second game Elias and Rodney showed that listening at training pays off on game day. Well done! Oh yeah Bradley scored possibly 3 tries maybe 4 as well!

Under 8's - Update from Ben Blyton

Cody in his first year of coaching is doing a great job with this age group, making it fun for the kids and that helps them to stay focussed. In fact I know of at least one U8s that has a bit of hero worship for his coach. Unfortunately I do not have the scorers but the Under 8's lost to Litchfield in a very entertaining game by one try. All played very well.

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*Saturday's game photos
supplied by Fiona Austine*



Notice board

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!

WORKING BEE AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Sunday 27th May at 10.00am. Need bodies and trailers to take down three dead trees in the clubhouse grounds. There will be a BBQ and drinks when job completed. Any queries see **Dennis Grant**.



MONSTER RAFFLE

See **Dennis Grant** for tickets in the Monster Raffle.



THE PALMY PLAYERS PAST THEIR PRIME

Old Salties - Palmerston v Swampdogs, nil-nil

Update from Squirter

Led by a fleet-footed Dallas Graetz, the "old Salties" had a bit of fun in the 'main game' under lights on Saturday evening. This was mainly to prevent arterial failure during the heat of the day!

The crowd spotted some fine collectors' items – shoe-laced boots that have been out of production for many a season, mouldy gum-shields and some fine sets of dentures sitting in the ice-bucket for safe-keeping. Old strapping tape held the rickety knees together as Ref Brock Evans blew the pea out of the whistle.

Vince "Reckless" Kelly did some damaging runs from 5/8, feeding out of breath chargers, as we managed to destroy any hint of attacking play. Ex-rep players, Brendan Sly and Jamie Fleming defended well with Jamie checking out the waiting room at RDH with a dislocated finger!

Big Chris got involved, Burly Ben Blyton made impact and the scrums had steam coming off them like a test match at Munster! Dale Reid, Dan McIntyre and Dennis Bree (backing up after B Grade) sorted out any nonsense, and Fergal O'Gara was custodian. A split eyebrow to the skipper gained him legend points, and Tawny Port was the winner on the day.

We will be having a few more Old Salties games, so stay tuned for the call up. Thanks to all who made it.



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Each week Croc Tales is running a “PALMY TRIVIA” competition.

Weekly winners will receive \$10 off their 35th Anniversary Dinner Tickets. You may enter more than once, so keep those entries coming!!

Remember, email your answers by 6pm Wednesday each week to: ben.blyton@bigpond.com or wleach@bigpond.com



This week's winner is Fiona Austine, a dedicated club volunteer.



Previous trivia winners are:

- # 1 - Steven Roberts
- # 2 – Garry Crone
- # 3 – Jaz Deo
- # 4 – Jeremy Bright
- # 5 – Garry Russell
- # 6 – Colin Snowden
- # 7 – Dave Ley
- # 8 – Rob Sloan
- # 9 – Craig Leach
- # 10 – Robbie Taylor
- # 11 – Michael Killiner
- # 11 – Sachin Deo (Junior)
- # 12 – J, A & C Blyton (Juniors)
- # 13 – Fiona Austine

Palmy Trivia # 14

WHO AM I?

This week's quiz is another “who am I”...

- I am in Palmerston
- I have a drive through bottle shop
- I have a bistro
- I am open seven days a week
- I have four pool tables
- I have full bar service
- I am a valued sponsor of Palmerston Rugby Union
- I am...?



THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME

We had a number of entries in last week's quiz, all from ex-players and other club members – there were none from current players, are they in denial? The answer to the question “what's due now” was of course ‘subs’!

An honourable mention must go to Michael Killiner, who suggested that as well as subs being due, and A Grade Premiership was also due!

Other things..

NTRU ON FACEBOOK



The NTRU have advised that “more and more information will go out from the NTRU on facebook”. They can be found at: <http://www.facebook.com/ntrugbyunion>
The site also includes a lot of old photos – worth a look!



35TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER**CONFIRMED**

Fiona Austine
 Alan Babbs
 Jeff Hellfire Bennett
 Jason & Bryony Blake
 Ben & Selina Blyton
 Cecily & Rod Boulton
 Bernie & Sonya Bree
 Dan & Evey Bree
 Dennis & Cec Bree
 Tony & Vicky Burns
 Matt Cabot
 Greg Cottrell
 Jaz & Robyn Deo
 Graham Doyle
 Ben Emmett
 Brock Evans
 Dallas Graetz
 Dennis Grant
 Todd & Nichole Harrison
 Greg & Roma Hill
 Greg Jarvis
 Sam Jeffries
 Vince & Andrea Kelly
 Glen & Jo Kennedy (from NZ!)
 Michael Killiner
 Sean Killiner
 Craig & Mel Leach
 Wendy & Mal Leach
 Chris Marlow
 Percy & Joanne Peel
 Stephen Roberts
 Garry & Marcia Russell
 Rob & Ann Sloan
 Kerry & Sue Smith
 Mick Smith
 Colin & Alison Snowden
 Rod Williams & Julie White
 Mike & Coral Wilson
 Alan & Michelle Woodcock

MAYBES

Paddy Bree
 Jeremy Bright
 Gary Harper
 Sean Kearns
 Bill Murphy
 Anthony Ryan
 Nick 'Squirrel' Woodroffe

THINKING OF COMING?

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

Other things (continued)...**COACHING WORKSHOP**

Murray Archibald, the Rugby Union Head Coach at the NTIS, has offered to run a coaching workshop for all current Palmerston coaches, from Under 6's through to A Grade. The invitation is also extended to anyone who may be considering coaching in the 2013 season. With the possibility of fielding two teams in some of our Junior grades next year, it would be great to see some new faces come along.

The workshop will be held at the NTIS on a Monday evening (date to be confirmed). There will be a hand out and DVD for those who attend. Please confirm your interest / availability with Ben Blyton.

INTERESTED IN REFEREEING? THE NTRU NEEDS YOU!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REFEREE
 RUGBY UNION
 IN THE DARWIN COMPETITION
 PLEASE CONTACT
 NTRU REFEREE COORDINATOR:
DENYS STEDMAN 0412 191 505

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.



**Refer to the next page for an important
35th Anniversary announcement.**



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Palmerston Rugby Union Club

HALL OF FAME

Commencing at our 35th Anniversary Dinner, Palmerston Rugby Union Club will induct former players from all eras of the club into the Palmerston Rugby Union Club Hall of Fame.

In the first year the club will induct up to 10 members and then each year up to two more will be added.

Inductees are drawn from all teams starting with the first side in 1976.

Criteria

While consideration is given to a players' on-field career, induction is not based on statistical achievement alone. To be eligible for inclusion in the Palmerston Rugby Union Hall of Fame, a player must have:

1976-1979

- Played at least one representative level game
- Played over 20 A Grade games for Palmerston

1980
onwards

- Played at least one representative level game
- Played over 50 A Grade games for Palmerston
- Been retired from Palmerston Rugby for at least two years

All eras

- Made a major contribution to the game of rugby in the Territory
- Demonstrated outstanding ability, sportsmanship, commitment, character and personal contribution to their team and the game of rugby in their era.

Nominations

*Who would you like to see inducted into the Hall of Fame?
Email your nominations through to Wendy Leach.*

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(CROC) TALES FROM HISTORY

Many thanks to Dallas Graetz and Gary Harper for sending in their stories for this week's Croc Tales.

Keep those stories coming!

We're also after some more 'Where are we now' articles. If you're a past player or club member - senior or junior – we would love to hear from you!

Editor's note: Graetz has some photos of the Palmy / Suntory day at the Beer Can Regatta. When he finds them we'll be sure to include them in Croc Tales.

35th Anniversary

PALMERSTON B GRADE, 1978 - by Dallas Graetz



Here's a photo of Palmy B Grade. I think it was taken in January 1978. I think the photo was taken at the Ludmilla Primary School oval. In those days, A grade played at the Richardson Park Rugby League ground and B grade played next door at the primary school.

- Back row – Dave Cooper, Chris Marlow, Bernie Bree, Peter McLennahan, Mike Barnard, Dallas Graetz
- Front row – Unknown (Bernie will know his name), Chris Hansen, Rua Baker, Greg King.

I think it was this year that Palmerston B Grade got into the finals. It was a 9 a side comp in those days. Federal MLA Warren Snowden was our coach. We ran out onto the field to warm up for our semi-final game and Warren had us doing wind sprints along the dead ball line. It was a stinking hot day and by the time the game started we were all knackered and got flogged.

There is another great story from the old days when the Japanese Whiskey and Beer company, Suntory, sponsored Palmy for the Beer Can Regatta. They air freighted about 3000 cans of Suntory beer to us from Japan. It took us months to drink the stuff while we were building the boat at Mike Barnard's place in Tiwi. Suntory were supposed to send over a film crew for the Regatta but in the end sent one photographer. The night before the regatta we all camped on the beach and drank what was left of the Suntory. Our poor Japanese cameraman got absolutely hammered and I don't think he took one photo of the Suntory boat in action the next day.

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35th Anniversary

A RUGBY CONFESSION – by Gary Harper

When Wendy Leach asked me if I had a tale or two to tell about my time with Palmy I couldn't help but grin to myself. I have heaps to tell about her hubby (he threw back 5 of my Barra at 2 Mile hole) and her 2 boys but in the name of diplomacy will stick to those about myself.

Gary, A Grade, approx. 1984



I first joined the club in 1980 and played until 1994 which included 4 seasons in A grade (one as captain) and the rest in B and then C as my abilities and interest started to wane. I was a versatile player as I spent my entire career from the under 12's, at school in Sydney, through uni' and then at Palmy playing loosehead prop and as I weakened, 2nd row. I considered myself a utility forward. I spent most of my years with Palmy holding honourable positions on the committee and 2 stints as President but unfortunately, I can confess now that the statute of limitations has long since passed, that some of my exploits could have, if known, tarnished my reputation as a clean and honest man.

One incident I regret to recall is that one Saturday the C grade referee didn't turn up so I was asked to ref' the second half after playing the first. This I reluctantly accepted but I knew rugby involves making personal sacrifices for the good of the game and team so I took the whistle and called 'time on'. The winner of this game went on to play in the finals so things were drastic with Palmy up by 2 points with about a minute to go. The opposition who, were pressing our line, tossed the ball out wide to a back line that was all over ours and a try looked inevitable. Without even knowing it, I swear it wasn't a conscious decision, I blew the whistle and called "forward pass!!"

The opposition team was stunned. "That's no ^%#\$% forward pass ya \$%^\$##" was the outraged responses from various players. I blew fulltime and bolted to the sanctity of the Palmy supporters and players. "Was that a forward pass mate?" I was asked by the odd Palmy player. "Of course it was, they are just p---ed off because they lost", was my guilt ridden response.

But, there is a sequel to this story...

The following year we were playing the same team again and while a line out was being set I heard from up the back, "That's him, that's the %\$#@ cheat who cost us the final last year". Every ruck and maul after that I coped either a punch in the head or a stomping on accompanied with an assortment of derogatory comments about my character.

I kept that story to myself for over 17 years but now I feel so much better for having come clean and admitted to the one and only transgression in my rugby life.

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