



COBRA TILING
0450 949 957



President's Welcome

Last week saw the last of our four home games for the season. Although the on field results were not as good as we would have liked, I would still call the home games a success. During our home games we had our season launch, we held our first Past Players Day which was well received by those who attended, we also saw the Old Salties come out and play against the Old Dogs in a very entertaining game.

As usual, the main reason that our home games run well is due to the work of the many volunteers who make it happen. So to all those who have helped out, a big THANK YOU - your club appreciates it.

Our next big social event is the 35th Anniversary Dinner which is now only just over a month away. If you are coming please let us know and better still pay for your tickets. It should be a great event with people coming from as far away as New Zealand, Queensland, NSW and WA attending.

A highlight on the night will be the inducting of our first Hall of Fame recipients. The club is calling for nominations for this and I urge you all to have your say. Nominations will close for the Hall of Fame on the 31 May. A four person committee has been established to elect the inductees and the committee will be announced in next week's Croc Tales.

And lastly, my tipping might not be the greatest (only getting one of three right last week) but it was great to see the Under 18's defeat the top of the table Casuarina last week. The boys are improving each week and a few of them must be pressing for A Grade selection soon – well done guys and keep up the good work.

Ben Blyton

What's on this weekend...

FRIDAY	All Junior grades at Rugby Park
SATURDAY	Senior grades at Rugby Park: 3:30pm - B Grade 5:00pm - A Grade Under 18's have a bye



Noticeboard

NTRU LADDERS

A Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	6	6	0	0	30
Souths	7	4	0	3	20
Dragons	6	3	0	3	15
University	7	2	0	5	11
Palmerston	6	1	0	5	6

B Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	7	5	0	2	25
University	7	5	0	2	24
Souths	7	4	0	3	20
Swampdogs	7	4	0	3	19
Palmerston	7	3	0	4	18
Dragons	7	2	1	4	11
Jabiru	6	0	1	5	2

Under 18's

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Swampdogs	6	5	0	1	25
Casuarina	6	4	0	2	21
University	6	3	0	3	15
Palmerston	6	2	0	4	12
Dragons	4	0	0	4	0

SOME PHOTOS FROM EARLIER GAMES...



A Grade

(Photos supplied by F Austine)

Around The Grounds



THE SENIORS

A Grade – Dragons 36 Palmerston 18

Tries - Scott Rasmussen 1, Ian Verrall 1; **Conversions** - Ian Verrall 1;
Penalties - Ian Verrall 2

B Grade – Dragons 34 Palmerston 28

Update from coach Craig Leach

B grade played Dragons at Moulden Oval on Saturday. Palmy is still short in the backs, so we had a few players out of position in a game that saw the lead change eight times.

The crowd heckled as an elderly **Craig Leach** scored the first two tries, one of them out on the wing. Dragons fought back, and it was try for try for the rest of the game. **James Ballantyne** had a great game scoring a well-structured try next to the sticks. **Robbie Taylor** converted well to keep us in touch. **Greg Jarvis** led well at number 8, and **Jai Wyles-Kelly** had an excellent game in an unorthodox role as inside centre and line-out jumper!

Thanks to the fellas who played out of position, and to **John Herbert** coming out of retirement in the 2nd row. We need to be hungry to finish these competitive games off and get the win. B grade lost in a close one - the score was **34 - 28**.

Tries - Craig Leach 2, James Ballantyne 1, Robbie Taylor 1;
Conversions - Robbie Taylor 4

Under 18's – Palmerston 24 Casuarina 17

Update from coach Shane Cotton

Last Saturday saw the u/18's play Casuarina at home. The team is now going out with a new confidence and belief that they can take on any foe. The boys opened the scoring with a torrid forward battle down in the Cas 22, with our boys giving no quarter. About 10 phases into our possession and with the backs screaming for the ball, the forwards did the job with Taurian Ambrum crashing over then converting his own try.

Under 18's continued

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B Grade



Under 18's



Under 16's



Under 14's



Under 12's



Under 10's

Cas were not about to give up though and scored soon after the restart after a lack of concentration saw us let them in twice before half time. The score at the break 10-7 to Cas.

Early into the second half deep into our own territory saw Garry Keppel seize on a handling error and race away for an 80m, try only just making the line. We converted again and the boys were up 14-10. With an improved determination at the breakdown and the team now keeping control of their own ball and making the opposition work hard to retain theirs, the opportunities came. A penalty for a lack of discipline from the opposition due to our sustained pressure saw Cody McFarlane scamper over for a quick thinking try. The score now 19-10.

The team were confident they could win and that is just what they did. Another try to Taurian after quality forward work saw us out to 24-10. A late consolation try to the opposition that was converted saw the final result 24-17 to the Palmy boys. The team has certainly turned the corner and continue to improve with each game. Our next game will be against Uni and if confident, we will be able to come out with a win there also.

Tries - T Ambrum 2, C McFarlane 1, G Keppel 1; **Conversions** - T Ambrum 2



THE JUNIORS

Under 6's - Update from coach Ricky Hoe

With more Croclings than you can poke a stick at, this week we formed two teams (along with a couple of Rabbitohs) and had a Croc vs. Croc match! There were tries a plenty - Lily Bree bolted down the wing to score her first ever! - Bradley pierced a gap down the middle, Oliver stepped his way to the chalk, Tynan darted over and Olivia scored on the sideline! Great defence again by Isaac and Kai...oh yeah and Bodie won the mud crab race!

Under 8's

Another big game by the Under 8's. The final score was a win to Palmerston over Souths; importantly the kids had a huge amount of fun regardless of the result.

Under 10 - Dragons 19 Palmerston 12

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Noticeboard

SENIOR SUBS

Senior subs are now due. **\$190** includes playing kit and insurance. 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**.

CRACKER NIGHT AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Sunday 1st July from 6.00pm.
Club will be open for drinks, sausage and steak sandwiches.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Sunday 8th July. Roster is on the notice board at the clubhouse. 4 x 2 hour shifts. Great fund raiser for the club.

DARWIN SHOW CLEAN UP

From **Thursday 26th July to Sunday morning 29th July.** Roster will be on the notice board next week. Arrange your work crews now. Free entry for those who take part.



MONSTER RAFFLE

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

Tries - R Reid 1, E Muller 1; **Conversion** - R Reid

Under 12 - Souths 70 Palmerston 7

Tries - C Croker 1; **Conversion** - W Bilston

Under 14 - Palmerston 47 Dragons 5

Tries - I Teuati 2, L Bilston 2, L Higgins 1, M Norris 1, M Cubillo 1, S McFarlane 1, E Simpson 1; **Conversion** - I Teuati

Under 16 - Palmerston 32 Dragons 7

Tries - T Keppel 2, X McKenzie 1, J Harris 1, W Bohning 1, B Kaart 1; **Conversion** - G Svanfelds

Other things

ADVANCED COACHING WORKSHOP

Murray Archibald, Head Coach Rugby Union at the NTIS, will be holding an Advanced Coaching Workshop on **Monday 4th June** from **5.30-6.30pm** at the NTIS. The topic will be *Attack*.



Murray will be holding an ACW held each month, with a new focus at each session, for example *Defence, Kickoffs, Lineout, Tackle Contest*.

Coaches of all grades are encouraged to attend.

INTERESTED IN REFEREEING?



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

Where are they now?



It was fantastic to receive an email this week from Rodger Villis, loose forward 1978. Rodger now lives in Auckland, New Zealand, and sent this through in response to Graetzy's story last week about Palmerston B Grade 1978...

My name is Rodger Villis, I was a member of Palmerston from 1976 to 1978 I am the unknown player in the photo page 8 of the latest Croc Tales , the photo is of the 1978 Palmerston B grade.

I still have the beard although the hair and beard have now turned white.

I still have two trophy's in my cabinet presented to my wife [Annette] and myself in 1978 at the annual prize giving held in Bernie and Sonya's home, one trophy was for the club person of the year and the second was for the club family of the year.

We have very fond memories of Darwin, and are still in contact with many of the 1976 /78 era. My wife is trying to persuade me to attend the 35th Anniversary.

I will try and find some old photos to send to you.

Regards

*Rodger Villis
Loose forward 1978*



Back row: Dave Cooper, Chris Marlow, Bernie Bree, Peter McLennahan, Mike Barnard, Dallas Graetz
Front row: **Rodger Villis**, Chris Hansen, Rua Baker, Greg King.

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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 Tom Hurse, A Grade stalwart.



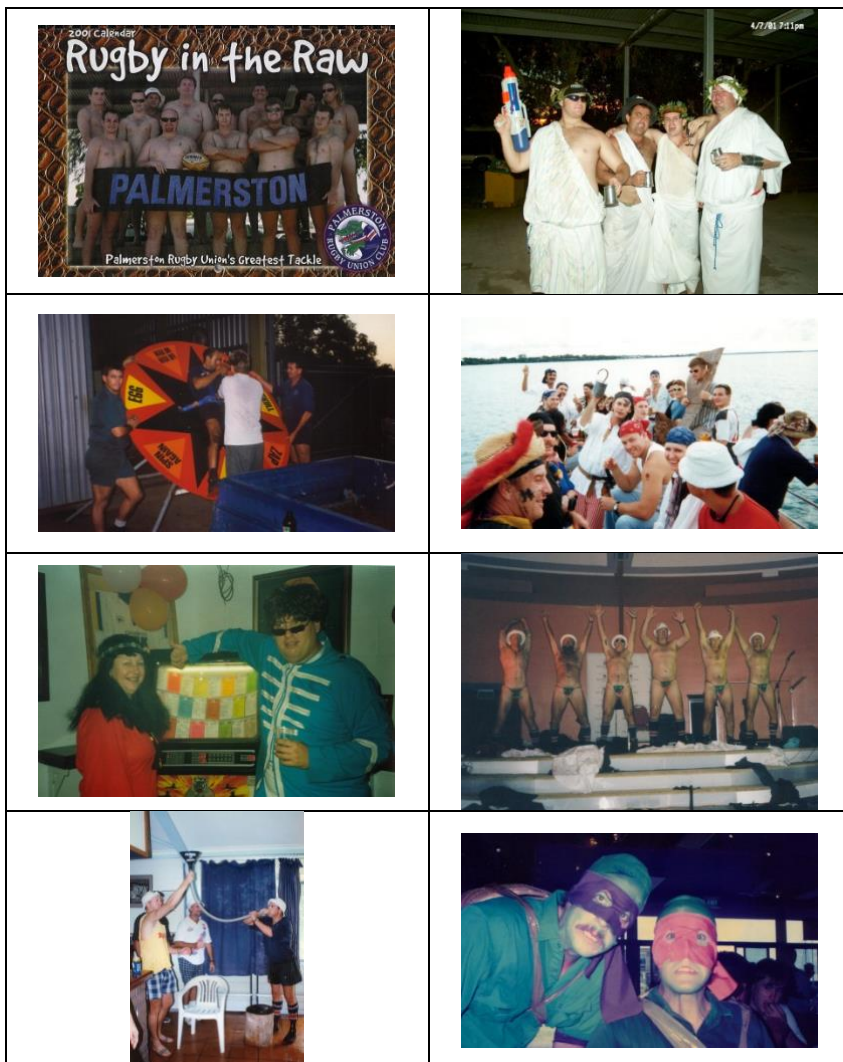
Previous trivia winners are:

- # 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
- # 14 - Tom Hurse

Palmy Trivia # 15

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

Can you name what's happening in each of these photos?



WHO AM I?

The answer to last week's quiz –

I'm in Palmerston, I have a drive through bottle shop, a bistro, I'm open seven days a week, I have four pool tables and full bar service, I am a valued sponsor of Palmerston Rugby Union, I am....?
– was of course our major sponsor, Cazalys

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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
 Ben Johnson
 Vince & Andrea Kelly
 Glen & Jo Kennedy (from NZ!)
 Michael Killiner
 Sean Killiner
 Craig & Mel Leach
 Wendy & Mal Leach
 Dave & Sharmay Ley
 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
 Nick 'Squirrel' Woodroffe

MAYBES

Paddy Bree
 Jeremy Bright
 Merv Daniels
 Gary Harper
 Sean Kearns
 Martin & Lavinia Mills
 Bill Murphy
 Anthony Ryan

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.*

THINKING OF ATTENDING?

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



In his email, Rodger suggests "it would be interesting if anyone could produce a photo of any older awards". Now that's a challenge – can anyone beat a 1977 PRUC award?

HALL OF FAME

Don't forget to send your nominations through to Wendy Leach. Nominations close 31 May.

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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

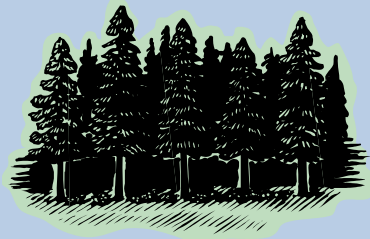
*Who would you like to see inducted into the Hall of Fame?
Email your nominations through to Wendy Leach.*

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(CROC) TALES FROM HISTORY

Editor's note: A word of warning - Gary's email came with the disclaimer "I applied a little journalistic licence..."



Have an interesting tale to tell?

Send it through!

35th Anniversary

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FOREST? – by Gary Harper

After my confession in a recent Croc's Tale it was suggested I write something that presents me in a more positive light. Most of supporters and players, while taking refuge under the Palmy Stand at Rugby Park, are probably unaware of that big fig tree that grows behind the stand giving shade from the afternoon sun let alone stop to think how it got there.

I can say that the tree and stand itself are a proud legacy of my term as president. I won't say anything about the stand because that turned into a major drama which is not worth reflecting upon but the tree is a different story.

That tree represents all my on field achievements since the games moved to Rugby Park up until my retirement.

Some of the older retired players are probably well aware that I spent most of my game time making other players look good. This was because I was your mercurial team man who would do the hard yards, make the big plays, set my team mates up to touch down and receive the accolades.

For example, thanks to me Tony Burns used to always get the A grade Best and Fairest award because I used to bust a gut in the tight and feed him the ball so he could do the big showy runs and score.

So after a few years I decided enough is enough, I'm going to play like a back and be selfish, not pass the ball and score all the tries myself. In the very first game I took this action I ran half a metre and scored a magnificent 5 (was it 4 back then??) pointer only 25 metres from the sticks

To celebrate this significant milestone in my rugby life I decided to plant that fig tree to be a constant reminder not just for me, but for all Palmy people of my achievement. In the process of doing so I was asked by a group of supporters and players what I was doing and why.

Having given it more thought I responded coyly, "Folks, I have decided that for every try I now score I will plant a tree."

"Wow" somebody exclaimed in awe, it could have been Dallas Graetz, "In a couple of years there will be a bloody forest here!!"

And that, ladies and gentleman, explains how that tree got there. I can only assume the rest died from the lack of water perhapstermites maybe???? I'm sure I planted more!!!!

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