

# Edition 33 16 August 2012

81 Bonson Terrace, Moulden, Palmerston, NT, 0830 <u>palmerstonrugby@octa4.net.au</u> http://palmerston.rugbynet.com.au



# **President's Welcome**

Sudden death has started for B grade this week – a win against Uni and we're in the finals, a loss with a bonus point may be enough for us to qualify, but a bonus point win to Uni and we are out. The other great talking point is our Under 12's – after a very challenging season, they are now sitting in fourth. A win and they're in the finals, a loss and they need Casuarina to beat Uni to stay fourth. No pressure kids but we want you in the finals - so do your best!

Read all about the Under 12s in our first 'Season Review', a new segment for Croc Tales as the season wraps up. Did you know that we're the only club in the NTRU competition to field a team in all grades? Over the coming weeks we'll include season reviews of all our teams, from Under 6's through to A Grade.

Remember, we have some important dates coming up:

**Junior Presentation Day** at the Palmerston Water Slide on Sunday 9 September. A free event for all club members so come and show your support to the stars of tomorrow. (There's a rumour going around - Jas Deo has challenged everyone to a race down the water slide. He is claiming to be the unbeaten Palmerston Champion.)

**Senior Presentation Night** at the club house on Saturday 15 September. To conclude our 35<sup>th</sup> reunion year we're having a 70's themed night. Full details from next week when tickets go on sale. (Another rumour - bar prices will set at 1977 prices (get up of the floor Granty))

**NTRU / Eric Johnston Presentation Night** on Saturday 25 August. The entertainment is meant to pretty good along and the guest speaker is former Wallaby Steven Larkham. Tickets cut-off Monday.

# **Ben Blyton**

What's on this weekend					
FRIDAY	Under 6's, 8's, 12's, 14's and 16's at Rugby Park U10's have a bye.				
SATURDAY	Under 18's v 4pm, Swampdogs at Rugby Park B Grade v 5:30, University at Rugby Park A Grade v 7pm, University at Rugby Park				



#### **NTRU SENIOR LADDERS**

A Grade					
Team	Ρ	¥	D	L	Points
Casuarina	15	15	0	0	69
Souths	16	11	0	5	57
Dragons	15	6	0	9	28
University	15	4	0	11	22
Palmerston	15	2	0	13	10

B Grade					
Team	Р	w	D	L	Points
Souths	19	16	0	3	71
Casuarina	19	14	0	5	69
Swampdogs	19	8	0	11	41
Palmerston	19	6	0	13	38
University	19	8	0	11	35
Dragons	19	7	1	11	31

Under 18's						
Team	Ρ	w	D	L	Points	
Swampdogs	16	14	1	1	69	
Casuarina	16	8	1	7	47	
Palmerston	16	5	1	10	31	
University	16	5	1	10	27	

#### **B GRADE**



Photos supplied by Fiona Austine

# **Around The Grounds**



#### A Grade – Casuarina 76 Palmerston 3

How can a country as flat as Tuvalu produce a Mountain Man like Isaaco? His attitude and commitment to Palmerston on Saturday was peerless and he was one of the outstanding players in both grades. For those that failed to show for the As on Saturday, it was devastating at half time of the Bs when it was looking like a forfeit due to lack of players. However, when I discovered that the Bs would lose their points if the As forfeited, then there was no option – we were playing.

Heartfelt thanks to the guys that backed up. They had already played a hard and close fought game, there was illness and injury as well as some inexperience, but they put their hands up and really had a fair dinkum go! Although we were soundly beaten by a far more polished and experienced Casuarina, I can honestly say that our players' sheer guts, effort and indomitable will was outstanding. By the end of the game I was extremely proud and full of admiration for each and every player out there. A special mention to Brendan Cathcart who played the house down – there's a man that's never beaten.

#### Penalty - Brad Hogan; Players' Player - Craig Leach

#### B Grade – Casuarina 20 Palmerston 17

Palmy B grade took on Casuarina on Saturday with us sitting in 3<sup>rd</sup> position and looking to come in to the finals with a win. We started well with a good preparation pre-match and our structure produced many good passages of play. Nick Skinnon at inside centre ran the ball strongly and was rewarded with a great try. Flankers Matt Solis and Josh Parker defended well, and fullback Paul Devir attacked brilliantly, also getting a great individual try. Half time score was 12-10 to Casuarina. Many potential, scoring raids were stifled due to penalties against the attackers and proved frustrating. Trailing by 3 late in the game, we had a very kickable penalty, but we pushed for the outright win in the true spirit of rugby, but didn't quite get rewarded, losing 20 – 17.

Tries - Nicholas Skinnon 2, Paul Devir 1; **Conversions** - Ben Onions 1; **Players' Player** - Craig (Squirter) Leach.

**Under 18s** – won on forfeit



### AN INVITATION TO ALL PALMY SUPPORTERS

Next Friday night (24<sup>th</sup> August) is the first week of the Junior finals (Under 12's and above).

With a little luck, all grades will be playing, which means this is the perfect opportunity to get down and support the future of the club.

The more support the Juniors get, the better the results will be, and the longer we will be in the final series.

## COME DOWN AND GET BEHIND THE KIDS!







Photos supplied by Fiona Austine



## Update from Junior Coordinator Robbie Taylor

Last Friday night saw a couple of upset results, maybe even a couple of results that we needed just to keep the Juniors on their toes. Still, it was a great night of rugby for the club.

## Under 6's - Update from Under 6 coach Ricky Hoe

It was Croclings verses Croclings with a few Cougars and Rabbits thrown in this week. Indeed the field was a bit like a NT river system; crocs everywhere trying to get a piece of action! The best news of all this week is that Tynan listened to the coach (me) all game! Well done Tynan! I told you I'd put you in Croc Tales if you did! Unfortunately Hamish got his head in the wrong place once too many times early on... to distract his discomfort I told him his head was like a magnet... he then laughed off the pain, and took it literally; stirring up players with his noggin! Kai had a great game, Olivia scored off the U6 instinctive Hurdy Gurdy move (if you know this move you don't know under 6 rugby!), Levi (aka Speedy) scored and also communicated with his team mates to 'fill the gaps' all game long! Ollie also scored, and set up Isaac via a criss cross. Other try scores included Elias, Gareth and Bradley... phew what a game!

# **Under 8's** – Update from Under 8 coach Cody McFarlane

The game on the 3/8/2012 (we missed their write-up last week) was played against Swampdogs and the score was Palmerston 55 -Swampdogs 45, with tries going to Alexandra Blyton 4, Daniel Akers 2, Tristan Humphrys 2, Madi McVee 1, Reilly Wells 1 and Pagen Bowers 1. Special mentions go to Briony Whitehouse for a fantastic effort in her first game, Reilly Wells for a skilful performance as always, and Alexandra Blyton for her stellar performance and being such a try scoring machine.

On the 10/8/2012 we played against Souths. Unfortunately, we didn't get the try scorers names as I couldn't remember. We went down 35 - 30. Special mentions go to Shane Bracken for a hard effort in defence and the best game I have seen him play, Iziah Waters with some skilful stepping and a great all-around performance, and Reilly Wells with his awesome diving touches to stop the opposition from scoring. Well done to all the kids.



#### **UNDER 8**



**UNDER 14** 





**UNDER 16** 





Photos supplied by Fiona Austine

#### Under 10's – Palmerston 64 University 7

The boys, as predicted, bounced back in style against University with a 64 - 7 win over the Pirates. In a game where we had to lend a few players to the opposition, we got back to playing the basics, making sure we used our catch and pass, and tackled low all game. It was great to see all the kids putting in 100% and having fun doing so. Well done kids!

**Tries** - Jacob Blyton 3, Jayden Humphreys 2, Leigh Chui-Clark 1, Brad Svanfelds 1, Riley Reid 1, Kenny O'Connor 1, Sachin Deo 1, Ethan Muller 1; **Conversions** - Riley Reid 7; **Special Mentions** Aiden Whitehouse, Zeb Hantleman, Riley Reid

#### Under 12's – Palmerston 34 University 5

You wouldn't believe it, the Under 12's are in the top four for the first time this year, with a brilliant 34 - 5 win over University. This was by far the best performance the kids have put in all year. Coaches Ryan Cotton and Paul Theyers asked them to play a basic game, keeping the ball tight and only passing wide when there was space to run. And the plan worked. It was a pretty special moment to see the smiles on the team's faces after the game. Keep up the great work and who knows.

**Tries** - Thomas Chmielewski 1, Jasper Lewis 1, Mitchell Theyers 1, Jack Deane 1, Cameron Croker 1, Wayne Bilston 1; **Conversions** -Wayne Bilston 1, Mitchell Theyers 1; **Special Mentions** Daniel Wilson, Jack Deane, Cale Anderson

#### Under 14's – Palmerston 48 University 15

This was definitely a wake up call that the boys answered. University jumped away to a 10 point lead after the first 10 minutes. But as the character of this team has shown, we managed to re-evaluate what was going wrong on the run and fix it. Our second half performance was solid and we did the little things right to eventually come away with a 48 - 15 win. Hope to see the boys pick up their work rate at training and try to avoid getting ourselves into that situation early on again. Still, plenty of positives from the game and we'll make sure we focus on them for this week's game.

**Tries** - Keegan Quakawoot 2, Michael Norris 2, Kosta Kachionis 1, Thomas Brown 1, Dylan Marsh 1, Jonathon Briskin 1; **Conversions** -Kosta Kachionis 1, Keegan Quakawoot 1, Elijah Simpson 1, Thomas Brown 1; **Special Mentions** Brodie McMahon, Liam Bilston, Jonathon Briskin





#### JUNIOR SUBS

A reminder that any player who has not paid up their **full subs** by next Thursday night (23/8/2012) will not be eligible to play in the finals series.

#### **GAME TIMES**

**Game times** for this Friday night are as follows (note: the NTRU website has not been updated, any questions contact Robbie).

Under 6's @ 6:00pm – Field 1 Under 8's vs. Swampdogs Red @ 6:00pm – Field 1 Under 10's HAVE A BYE Under 12's vs. Swampdogs @ 6:50pm – Field 2 Under 14's vs. Swampdogs @ 7:50pm – Field 2 Under 16's vs. Swampdogs @ 9:00pm – Field 2

#### JUNIOR SURVEY

Please ensure you fill out and return a **Junior Survey**. This is YOUR chance to have a say on the direction of the club. Please see Robbie Taylor, or email Wendy Leach, if you haven't received a survey yet.

#### **EPSOM COLLEGE**



(reference: http://www.epsomcollege.org/rugby-tourblog, accessed 15/8/12)

#### Under 16's – University 31 Palmerston 0

Well this was a rude shock for all who watched on as our boys went down 0 - 31. I think this was certainly a game we needed to have, just to make sure that we keep our feet on the ground and our minds on the job ahead of us in the next couple of weeks. There was some good efforts from some of the boys, but I think we just didn't gel as a team like we usually do, and we were certainly flat for the most part of the game. Never mind though boys, we know what we need to work on, and no doubt we will fix it and make a real run for the premiership for this season.

Special Mentions - Ben Kaart, Nathaniel Bilston, Greg Svanfelds

# **Other Junior news...**

#### AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Well done to **Jimi Harris**, **William Bohning** and **Trent Keppel** for their selection in the NT Indigenous Under 16's squad to travel to the Gold Coast for the **Australian Indigenous Championships**. Sadly, Trent broke his collarbone a week out from departing last Friday night and had to miss the trip. Still, a great effort from all the boys to make the squad and represent the NT as well as the Palmerston Crocs. The NT side finished with a narrow loss to NSW, another competitive loss to Queensland and a great win over the Australian Combined States. Both Jimi and William were recognised as up and coming talent and selectors are now keen to see how they go at the Australian Under 16's Championships in Sydney at the start of October.

#### EPSOM COLLEGE (FROM THE U.K.) vs NT UNDER 16s & UNDER 18s

**Epsom College** (pictured left) are playing a game against the **NT Under 16's** and the **NT Under 18's** on Tuesday (21/8). Players that were selected to tour for the Under 18's earlier in June and players that were selected in the Under 16's training squad are to attend to play. Everyone else is still more then welcome to come and



support our Palmerston Crocs who are playing. Be sure to let your coaches know if you are going in. The Under 16's game kicks off at 6:00pm with the Under 18's game kicking off at 7:30pm at Rugby Park, Marrara. For those that are interested, Epsom College have a tour blog: <u>http://www.epsomcollege.org/rugby-tour-blog</u>



CROC TALES EDITION 33

#### **OUR UNDER 12'S**

Aidan Du Toit Alex Gibson

Anthony Foscaro

Brayden Anderson

Cale Anderson Cameron Croker

Corey Watson

Cory McVee

Daniel Wilson

Darcy O'Dea

David Bell

Jack Deane

Jack Skehan

Jacob Blyton

Jasper Lewis

Jeffrey Gilder

Macy Winston Mitchell Theyers

Sachin Deo

Thomas Chmielewski

Thomas Howe

Todd McManus

Wayne Bilston

## STATISTICS FOR THE SEASON SO FAR

3 wins 9 losses 145 points scored 25 tries 10 conversions 15 players polled 3,2,1's

Photos sunnlied hy Fiona Austine

# **Season Review**

### **OUR DETERMINED UNDER 12'S**

By Junior Coordinator Robbie Taylor



Season 2012 has been a long one for our Under 12's, with Corey Heywood as coach and Josh Parker as the manager. We struggled to get enough numbers to field a full team in the early stages of the season, but thanks to a lot of leg work from Paul Theyers, the numbers started to improve. In Round 4 we fielded a full team for the first time and came away with a win over Casuarina. The following week, we managed to beat University, again running on with a full side. After this, the struggle for numbers again crept in and then during the school break, Corey stepped aside for personal reasons.

Ryan Cotton and Paul Theyers stepped up to coach the team after Corey's departure. Since the break the Under 12's have come away with a very close but nonetheless exciting loss to Casuarina, followed by an awesome effort last Friday to beat University. We are now in the top four with a week to go before the finals.

Despite a rocky year, we have a lot of positives to focus on: we have managed to field a full team in both games since the school holidays and we have showed lots of signs of being very competitive. Also, player Wayne Bilston has been recognised by the Mozzies Youth Program, the only Under 12 in the NTRU competition to be recognised. A big thank you must go to Josh Parker, Ryan Cotton and Paul Theyers. All three of these guys have been a massive help to getting the Under 12's to the end of the season, and hopefully into the first week of the finals. And we hope that Josh, Ryan and Paul will help the Palmerston Crocs





**SENIOR SUBS** 

Senior subs \$190 required NOW!

#### **NTRU DATES FOR THE DIARY**

22 - 23 September NT Country Rugby Union Carnival

#### Saturday 25 August



#### **CAMPER TRAILER RAFFLE**



Win a camper trailer for a week! Tickets are \$2 each, available at the bar. Prize kindly donated by club sponsor *Outback& Beyond Camper Trailer Hire.* 



See **Dennis Grant** for tickets.



Juniors go from strength to strength in the future.



# Other news...

#### **OUR NEXT SAUSAGE SIZZLE – FATHERS DAY!**

Our next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle will be held on **Sunday 2nd September**. This is also Fathers Day, so we're expecting a busy day! Volunteers are required for the following shifts:



4 x 7.30 to
10.00am
4 x 10.00am to
Midday
4 x Midday to
2.00pm
4 x 2.00pm to
4.00pm



The roster will be on the notice board at the clubhouse. Alternatively, let Dennis know on 0437 912 140 or email <u>dennis.grant2@defence.gov.au</u>

#### TAWERA 'NERADA' KERR – BARLOW

An extract from a *Rugby Heaven* article published on 14<sup>th</sup> August

Sonny Bill Williams wasn't the only new face at All Blacks training yesterday - Chiefs halfback Tawera Kerr-Barlow and lock Craig Clarke also joined the action in Auckland along with Hurricanes five-eighth Beauden Barrett...

Kerr-Barlow, Clarke and Barrett won't be in the mix for that match, but (assistant coach) Foster said the All Blacks felt it was important



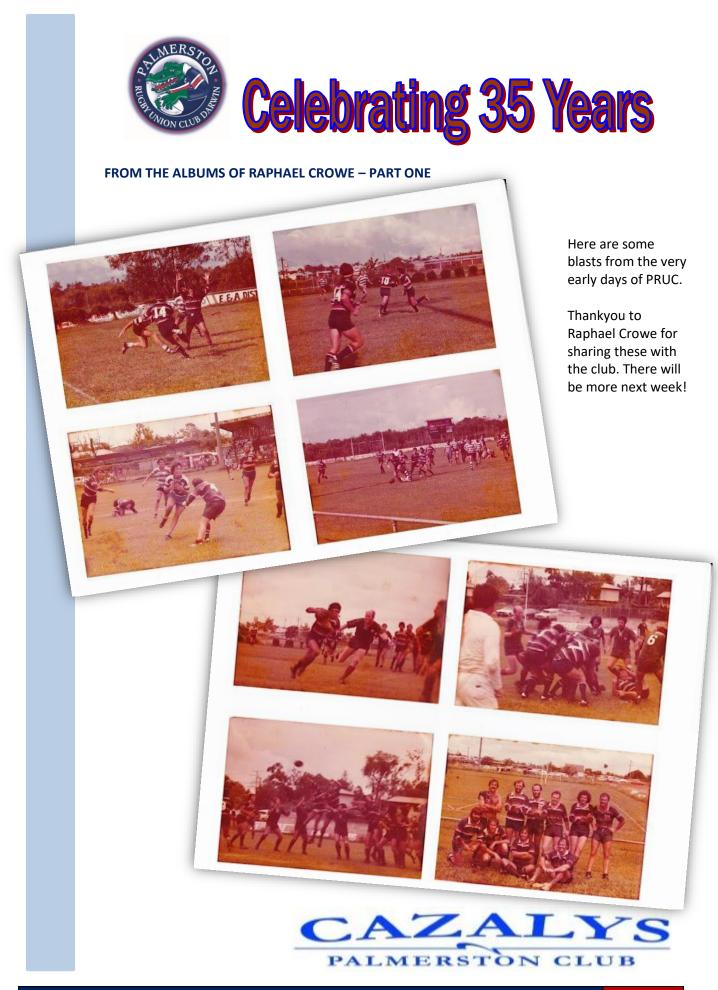
to get them involved ahead of this second stage of the season - that is the Rugby Championship, which now incorporates Argentina in a four-team competition...

Their presence will help make up numbers for opposed training, as well as give them a taste of the All Blacks' methods. Foster left little doubt that Kerr-Barlow was seen as the next halfback in the pecking order...

Foster knows Kerr-Barlow from his time with the Chiefs and is happy with his progress in their title-winning team this year. He might only be an injury away from being required...

Reference: <u>http://www.smh.com.au/rugby-union/union-news/two-weeks-for-sbw-to-make-all-blacks-impact-</u> 20120813-244wm.html (accessed 15/8/12)





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