



**COBRA TILING**  
0450 949 957



## President's Welcome

Final times are here and the club is well represented, with all grades playing from Under 6's through to B Grade. Even though A Grade are out we still have plenty to look forward to: B Grade play the Swampdogs this week in the knock out semi, the Under 18's are through to next week due the nature of their competition, the Under 16's and 14's are both in the double chance semi and are strong contenders for the premiership, the Under 12's have their work cut out for them but will put in a strong performance on Friday, and the Under 6's, 8's and 10's competition continues as normal. All up, pretty good!

In the next few Croc Tales I will provide a run down on how we went this year. Yes, A Grade was disappointing, but we still have a lot to be proud of. Here are some reasons for starters... We are the only side in the Darwin competition to field sides from Under 6's through to A Grade. We managed to put a side on the paddock in every grade every week – the only club not to forfeit any games all season. Our junior numbers were up compared with previous seasons. Senior numbers were down slightly and we will need to address this, but our revenue from the collection of subscriptions was up on previous years as was sponsorship.

And lastly and most importantly for this week... Our club is run 100% by volunteers and it lives and dies on its members. This year we have had over 100 people donate their time and energy to serve on committees, coach, manage, help with the rugby sides, help out with home games, help with functions or assist in fund raising events (and many have done several of the above mentioned items). These numbers are amazing and the whole club thanks these 100+ volunteers for their efforts. With this sort of commitment from its members, our club is in a very strong place!

Palmerston, Palmerston, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah

**Ben Blyton**

### What's on this weekend...

<b>FRIDAY</b>	Under 6's - 16's at Rugby Park (refer page 4 for game details)
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Under 18's Walkover B Grade vs. Swampdogs, 3:00pm at Rugby Park



### NTRU SENIOR LADDERS

#### A Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	16	16	0	0	74
Souths	16	11	0	5	57
Dragons	16	6	0	10	28
University	16	5	0	11	27
Palmerston	16	2	0	14	10

#### B Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Souths	20	17	0	3	76
Casuarina	20	15	0	5	74
Palmerston	20	7	0	13	43
Swampdogs	20	8	0	12	41
University	20	8	0	12	35
Dragons	20	7	1	12	31

#### Under 18's

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Swampdogs	17	15	1	1	74
Casuarina	17	9	1	7	52
Palmerston	17	5	1	11	32
University	17	5	1	11	27

#### A GRADE



Read all about  
**2012 A Grade Captain**  
**James Protherough**  
on page 6.

## Around The Grounds



### A Grade – University 44 Palmerston5

*Update from coach Greg Hill*

I have always believed that it's extremely easy to adapt to situations that are pleasant and much more difficult to adapt to the less pleasant. Once again I found myself proved wrong by the Palmy A grade. It was obvious that we would once again be short of numbers for the top grade on Saturday but unlike the week before there was no talk of forfeit. Fortunately we found more players from our redoubtable B's - just imagine how hard these blokes will be able to go in their final next week, in the certain knowledge that they only have to play for 50% of their usual time on the paddock.

This season has been a frustrating one for me as coach in many ways but I want to assure all the individuals who have been committed to the overall fortunes of the team, that they have made it a worthwhile experience for me. The almost universal efforts of the individual players during games have made me very proud to be a part of the club.

Thanks go to the army guys who create some in and out problems with their work commitments but who understand how to train when here and certainly know how to put everything on the line during games. Please start next year's recruiting now by telling everyone you know to get along and have some fun when we start up again.

**Try - Paul Williams 1**

### B Grade - Palmerston 30 University 17

*Update from coach Craig Leach*

Palmy took on University in the Killer B's on Saturday in a knockout for the last round of the season. Sitting in fourth spot, we needed a good win to push us into the finals.

Robbie Taylor kicked us into the lead early with a long range penalty. Uni replied with a try, which kick-started the Palmerston juggernaut into try mode. Winger Ben Liston once again scored a good backline try. Mercurial fullback, Paul Devir, threaded his way



## B GRADE



*Photos supplied by F Austine*

### AN INVITATION TO ALL PALMY SUPPORTERS

This Friday night (24<sup>th</sup> August) is the first week of the Junior finals.

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.

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU  
THERE!**



untouched to score a converted try. Then Errol 'the wrecking ball' Wilson took a quick tap 10 metres out and battered his way to the line, with the students' forward pack littered like tenpins in his wake. Kurt Collie scored a great individual try, and Paul Devir knocked over a couple of penalties to confirm third position and the finals berth.

Special mention to Number 8 and outback vet, Toby Wass, who drove 1300 kilometres from Brunette Downs to make training and play for the Crocs. He then backed up and played A grade before heading 500 kilometres back that night to Delamere Station for a daylight Sunday start. Got to love country rugby players!!

Well done, men... finals this week.

**Tries** – Paul Devir 2, Errol Wilson 1, Kurt Collie-Whakauae 1;  
**Conversions** - Robbie Taylor 1, Paul Devir 1; **Penalties** - Robbie Taylor 1, Paul Devir 1

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### Under 18s – Swampdogs 41 Palmerston 26

**Tries** - Gary Keppel 2, J Simshauser 1, C McFarlane 1; **Conversions** - G Svanfelds 2, D Holmes 1



### THE JUNIORS

#### *Update from Junior Coordinator Robbie Taylor*

Last Friday was a great night for the Palmerston Juniors. All goals were reached and there were a lot of smiles along the way. It was great to see a couple of senior faces down there to lend their support, but keep in mind, we need everyone to get down this week and lend us your voice as we push forward for 2012.

#### **Under 6's** - *Update from Under 6 acting coach Ben Blyton*

Super coach Ricky was away this week. We played Casuarina and I was again very impressed with the willingness of our kids to listen. The standout player of the night was Gareth, who was very focussed in both attack and defence for the whole game. Well done!

**Under 8's** – *stay tuned for Under 8 coach Cody McFarlane's report...*

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**FRIDAY NIGHT GAME TIMES****Under 6's** @ 6:00pm – Field 1**Under 8's** vs. Casuarina White  
@ 6:00pm – Field 1**Under 10's** vs. Dragons  
@ 6:00pm – Field 2Knockout Semi Final  
**Under 12's** vs. Casuarina  
@ 6:50pm – Field 2Qualifying Final  
**Under 14's** vs. Casuarina  
@ 7:50pm – Field 1Qualifying Final  
**Under 16's** vs. University  
@ 9:00pm – Field 1**JUNIOR SUBS**

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

**UNDER 10'S****Under 10's** – *had the bye***Under 12's** - Swampdogs 58 Palmerston 0

Firstly, well done to the Under 12's. They have made it through to next week's finals series where they will go up against Casuarina to see who carries on for another week. The game last Friday night was a little less joyous, but it might be what makes the kids stand up and have a good go at the finals. We went down to Swampdogs 0 - 58 in what was a bit of a backward step from where we were the week before. But we will role on with the positives and make sure we knuckle down and go hard against Casuarina.

**Special Mentions** - Corey McVee, Wayne Bilston , Jacob Blyton**Under 14's** - Palmerston 29 Swampdogs 0

In what was a really strong and stable performance, we defeated Swampdogs 29-0. It was basic rugby that made sure we overcame a very gutsy Swampdogs outfit who threw everything at us. Our ability to maintain and hold off pressure in defence and attack was awesome. With this sort of performance, we can now start to think about finals and what we need to do to get the job done. Well done boys, and good luck!

**Tries** - Keegan Quakawoot 3, Jonathon Briskin 1, Thomas O'Connor 1; **Conversions** - Isaako Teuati 2; **Special Mentions** - Isaako Teuati, Thomas O'Connor, Levi Higgins

**Under 16's** - Palmerston 41 Swampdogs 0

Welcome back boys!!! A great effort in the first half saw us come away with a 41-0 victory over the Swampdogs. We went out there with the right frame of mind and made sure we worked hard to get on top of our opposition. Every player put in an effort to be happy with, and our team work was pretty good, hence the scoreline. Now it's time for the boys to re-focus and go up against Uni and see if we can turn the result in our favour this time. Well done boys!

**Tries** - Ben Kaart 1, Jimi Harris 1, Greg Svanfelds 1, Felix Byrne 1, William Bohning 1, Bradley Vallely 1, Ayrton Deo 1; **Conversions** - Greg Svanfelds 3; **Special Mentions** - Ben Kaart, Doug Thompson, Ayrton Deo, Thomas Roe

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## OUR A GRADERS



*Photos supplied by Fiona Austine*

## Season Review

### A GRADE

*By A Grade Coach Greg Hill.*

The Palmerston A grade has had a disappointing year finishing 5<sup>th</sup>, with only 2 wins for the season. This can be directly attributed to a general lack of consistency at training throughout the season.

My first experience of this year's team was at the Souths 10's and I got an insight into some of the matters with which we would have to deal with over the season.

Our next outing was to Jabiru where we started the same way, but got ourselves into gear, developed and decided on a game plan and went on to defeat everyone except Casuarina in the final. Although I'm not saying we would have beaten them in that final, we should have led them at half time and two dubious refereeing decisions led to two length-of-the-field runaway tries and a defeat. Apart from losing a player to tardiness on the way home, it was an enjoyable and satisfying venture.

Our two wins during the season were against Souths (who finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place) and University (who finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place). These were both good wins and not only showed the great on-field character of our players, but just what we could do with only a couple of well-attended and structured training sessions.

Overall, I can only describe my season as frustrating, worrying, fun, and occasionally most enjoyable. It has been wonderful to meet new people of strong character and to re-acquaint myself with others who together make Palmerston in its entirety the strongest club in this Union.



A Grade on the 35<sup>th</sup> Reunion weekend.

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A Grade Captain

At the 35<sup>th</sup> Dinner - James on the right with Greg and Tommy

Worcester Sauce

## In the Spotlight...

### A GRADE CAPTAIN - JAMES PROTHEROUGH

*James was one of our success stories of the year. Earlier this year the NTRU onforwarded an email to all clubs from a player who was then interstate but who was looking to come to Darwin for the season. We responded quickly and after a couple of phone calls, Squirter had a job lined up for him at Craig Moore's croc farm. (Editor's note: the other club that responded to James' email was Casuarina – so James was our one win over Cas in first grade this year!) James is now returning home to the UK to continue his studies and we wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.*

**Name:** James Andrew Protherough  
**D.O.B:** 18/05/1987  
**Born:** Worcester, Sauce Country

"I first started playing rugby at the age of six for Worcester juniors, and stayed there through to Under 19. With a lack of pace, short ass and a large family that all played the same position, hooker was the only option. Having grown up around rugby, all I wanted was to be a professional. However, this did not work out as I got distracted by a new world of girls, drink, sculling, more drink and eventually no girls.

I now play for the side Evesham RFC based in Worcestershire, where just like at Palmy, it is not just a club but more of a family.

I started travelling last June with a stop in America before heading to the World Cup in NZ, after which I went to Sydney. I spent three months in Sydney before going pear picking in a place called Merrigum in Victoria. Here I truly felt like an immigrant or 'traveller', doing the work Australians won't do. After doing this for a few months, and not having played a game of rugby for nearly a year, I started getting itchy feet. This is when I emailed the NTRU which led to Squirter getting hold of me and offering me a job on a croc farm and playing for the mighty Palmerston Crocs... the dream began.

That is my story so far. My thanks go out to the team for accepting a whining pom, and although the results have not been there, every player has stepped up week in week out and put 100% out there. I would also like to give a special thanks to Greg and Liz Jarvis, Squirter, Ben Blyton, Megs, Greg Hill and of course Brock, for making it so easy for me and so enjoyable. Good Luck to B grade, great result at the weekend and no doubt we can win the playoffs".

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## Noticeboard

### JUNIOR & SENIOR SURVEYS

Please ensure you **fill out and return your survey by 31<sup>st</sup> August**. This is YOUR chance to have a say on the direction of the club. Please email Wendy Leach ([wleach@bigpond.com](mailto:wleach@bigpond.com)) if you haven't received a survey yet.

### SENIOR SUBS

Senior subs **\$190** required NOW!

### NTRU DATES FOR THE DIARY

**22 - 23 September**

NT Country Rugby Union Carnival

**Saturday 25 August**

Eric Johnston Presentation and Annual Junior Fundraising Dinner

### 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*.



### MONSTER RAFFLE

See **Dennis Grant** for tickets.



## 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 [dennis.grant2@defence.gov.au](mailto:dennis.grant2@defence.gov.au)

### FOR YOUR CALENDAR



#### Junior Presentation Day (Under 6's – Under 16's)

- **WHEN** Sunday 9 September
- **WHERE** Palmerston Water Park
- **TIME** 9.00am, with presentations starting at 10.00am
- **DETAILS** Participation awards for all financial players - be sure to be a part of the last Junior event for the season! A BBQ lunch will be provided.



#### Senior Presentation Night

- **WHEN** Saturday 15 September
- **WHERE** The Clubhouse
- **DETAILS** As a conclusion to our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, our Presentation Night will have a '70s theme, so start thinking about your 70s outfit!



#### Annual General Meeting

- **WHEN** Sunday 28 October
- **WHERE** The Clubhouse





# Celebrating 35 Years

FROM THE ALBUMS OF RAPHAEL CROWE – PART TWO

Some more blasts from the very early days of PRUC.

Thank again to Raphael Crowe for sharing these with the club!



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