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## President's Welcome

Well, it was not to be: both B Grade and Under 18's lost on Saturday. B Grade played Casuarina and lost by 13-11. It was close all day and the general feeling was that this was one we should have won, but on the day we just could not put it together. Under 18's also lost and were up against it from the start with only 14 men; however they hung in there and for a while I thought they were going to have a win against the odds, but a sin-binning left us with 13 and the rest as they say is history. Nonetheless, we're all proud of both sides for getting through to third place. You turned the club's fortunes around and made the seniors sides' results respectable!

Friday night will be a big night for the club with Under 6's, 8's, 10's, 14's and 16's all playing their last game for the season. The Under 14's and 16's are both favourites to win their competitions; it would be great if you could get down and support these sides and the rugby they play is well worth watching.

Continuing on with the success stories for the year... I am always amazed with the generosity of our past players and supporters network: the enthusiasm for our 35th reunion dinner, the articles and photos supplied for Croc Tales, the giving up of valuable time to support fundraising and other events, and a season highlight, the training session by ex-Palmerston junior, now Chiefs Super 15 player Nerada Kerr-Barlow, who gave up his afternoon to train with and talk to the entire junior club. Catching up with Nerada in the clubhouse afterwards, it was great to hear him talk about his fond memories of playing rugby for the Palmerston Crocs. Stories from the reunion weekend also demonstrated just how important the club has been in so many people's lives. The strong foundations of our club are a real asset and benefit all current members of Palmerston Crocs.

**Ben Blyton**

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

<b>FRIDAY</b>	Under 6's, 8's and 10's at 6pm Under 14's Grand Final vs. Casuarina, 8pm, Field 1 Under 16's Grand Final vs. University, 9:20pm, Field 1
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Junior Presentation Day, 10:00am at Palmerston Water Park



## PHOTOS FROM THE SEASON

## B GRADE



## UNDER 18s



*Photos supplied by Fiona Austine*

## Around The Grounds



## B Grade Semi Final – Casuarina 13 Palmerston 11

*Update from coach Craig Leach*

A great start saw underdogs Palmy put 3 points on Casuarina in the first two minutes of play, thanks to a Paul Devir penalty. Things went well until at the 10 minute mark, when hard running centre, Nick Skinnon, and second rower, Ashley Cunningham, were replaced due to injuries. Another Paul Devir penalty kept us ticking over, but Casuarina gained the momentum and scored a converted try, and two penalty goals to pull away 13-6 at oranges.

Excellent hard running from centre combinations, Keven Jones and Chris Hocking, saw the Crocs claw back into the game. Needing a converted try to get even, we steered the game towards a try-scoring opportunity, and 'Big Unit' Errol Wilson obliged, busting over from 10 metres out to draw us back to 11-13 with the kick to come, and eight minutes of play on the clock. It was not to be, as the conversion shaved the post and the rest was history.

Going down by 2 in a close encounter semi-final was disappointing, but the team put everything into the game and we had to settle for third position for the season.

Great games from Keven Jones, Chris Hocking, man of the match Chris Mead, and a highly commended Greg Jarvis and skipper Matt Solis.

Thanks for the effort, men of Palmy, and we will see you all for a debrief (pardon the pun) – 'No-Undy Sunday' starting at 9am at the clubhouse this weekend.

**Try** – Errol Wilson 1; **Penalties** – Paul Devir 2

## Under 18s – Casuarina 31 Palmerston 17

Read about the Under 18's in this week's season review on page 5.

**Tries** - P Tamoto 1, Scott McDinny 1, Garry Keppel 1; **Conversion** - T Ambrum 1





**Under 6's – Under  
16's**

# **Juniors Grand Final Night**

**Friday, 7th September**  
**Come along and support  
our Juniors on the last  
night of the season!**

## **UNDER 16s**



## **UNDER 14s**



*Photos supplied by F Austine*



## **THE JUNIORS**

**Under 6's & Under 8's** – no updates this week, stay tuned for a double-wrap next week!

**Under 10's** - Palmerston 40 Casuarina 33

Read about the Under 10's in this week's season review on page 6.

**Tries** - Kenny O'Connor 2, Austin Smart 1, Josh McVee 1, Jacob Blyton 1; **Penalties** - Riley Reid 5

**Under 14's & Under 16's** – no games on Friday, both teams made it straight through to the Grand Final.



## **JUNIOR Presentation Day Under 6's – Under 16's**

- **WHEN** Sunday 9 September 2012
- **WHERE** Palmerston Water Park
- **TIME** From 9.00am, with presentations starting at 10.00am
- **INCLUDED** BBQ lunch, basic drinks
- **BYO** Chairs, picnic rug, snacks and nibbles, drinks + swimming gear for afterwards!

**BE SURE TO BE A PART OF THE LAST JUNIOR EVENT FOR THE SEASON!**



# **CAZALYS**

**PALMERSTON CLUB**

Thanks to all who took the field for the mighty Palmerston Killer B's this year, and to the supporters on the hill.



Great commitment from elderly statesman, **Dennis Bree** (pictured here in a team photo and with grandson Hamish) - **the most capped B grader this season. LEGENDARY!**

*Photo with Hamish supplied by B Blake, others supplied by F Austine*

## Season Review

**B GRADE** - by B Grade Coach Craig Leach



Having to step into the role of player coach early in the season, due to the departure of the coach, made things a little tricky this year. We again had a year of low numbers at both training and game days during the season, but in true Palmy form the unselfish B graders ensured that the club did not forfeit a single game in any grade. With many players finishing a full game in the Killer B's, having a few gulps of grassy water, then pulling on a new jersey, only to head straight out to do battle in A grade, made me very proud to be part of this great group of Crocs. That task is hard enough to do when in your prime, and I know that many of those players would much prefer to inhale a cold can of beer instead, but there was never a problem getting these hard Crocs out on the paddock to fight for the club's honour. We made it difficult for ourselves at times by losing some close mid-season games, and it was always going to be a hard race for a finals berth. Finishing third was a very good effort by all.

I would like to thank the wives and girlfriends for letting us have your men during the best weekends of the Dry season, and I'm sure a lot of sacrifices were made by every player this year. We often chatted at the bar about the home front and having to go to the war room at home and try and winkle another game out of 'family time' during this season.

I would like to thank some players who travelled from Katherine, Jabiru and the Barkly Tableland to play for B grade this year and the commitment from these few was outstanding. Back-rower, Toby Wass, travelled nearly 1200klm by car over one weekend to play two back-to-back games for the Crocs and get himself back to work on a station by daylight the next morning. Unbelievable effort, mate. I only hope that some of these examples rub off on the rest of the club, and we build our presence next season to become the top of the ladder side that we used to be at Palmy.

Thanks to the players that trained every week, injured or not, and boosted the numbers for A grade training. Thanks also to Steve for stepping into the manager's job, and to Peta and Cecily for strapping us all back together for just one more game!

So pack up the old faithful boots, stick your mouthguard inside them so you will be able to find it in six months' time, stuff your unwashed socks in them so nothing falls out until we dust off the mould in February next year, and do it all again.

**CAZALYS**  
PALMERSTON CLUB



## PLAYERS WHO PLAYED FOR UNDER 18'S THIS SEASON

Ashley Brooking  
 Ashton Davey  
 Ayrton Deo  
 Bailey Hakes  
 Ben Kaart  
 Ben Onions  
 Brice Herbert  
 Cody McFarlane  
 Cody Parker  
 Damian Stedman  
 Darcy McBean  
 Doug Thompson  
 Dylan Holmes  
 Garry Keppel  
 Greg Svanfelds  
 Hayden Bert  
 Henry Degoumois  
 Jack Killian  
 Jack Moran  
 Jacob Howden  
 Jay Jack  
 Jimi Harris  
 Jordan Simshauser  
 Josh MacDonald  
 Keegan Durrant  
 Luke Schnieder  
 Maui Kimura-Mapiva  
 Peni Tamato  
 Richard Tamiano  
 Ryan Cotton  
 Scott McDinny  
 Simon Davis  
 Taurian Ambrum  
 Trent Keppel  
 Whalan Maru  
 William Bohning  
 Xavier McKenzie

## Season Review

### UNDER 18's

*By Under 18's coach Shane Cotton*



2012 was always going to be a difficult year, with the NTRU deciding to change a viable 5 team U17 competition played on Friday nights to a U18 competition played on Saturdays that shrunk to a 3 team competition.

The Palmerston team like the others struggled for numbers from the onset. With a dedicated core group of players we persevered and managed to put a team on the field every week, more often than not with the much appreciated assistance of a number of capable U16 players who stepped up to the mark. One individual who stepped up every week and held his own against his older foes was Ayrton Deo.

Early in the season we were more often than not short of players and suffered some high score losses, to the boys credit they persevered and their dedication eventually convincing some players to return and attract some new ones.

Over time we were able to peg back the formerly large deficits and become competitive with some very close results and a few narrow wins.

Many of the players had conflicting commitments that made putting together a consistent team difficult. As coach of the team I would like to thank all of the players who contributed to the team this year with special thanks to the U16 players who stepped up to make sure we were able to field a team every week.



**CAZALYS**  
PALMERSTON CLUB

## OUR MIGHTY UNDER 10'S

Aidan Smith  
 Austin Smart  
 Ayden Whitehouse  
 Brad Svenfelds  
 Ethan Muller  
 George Gilder  
 Hunter Burden  
 Jack Akers  
 Jacob Blyton  
 Jayden Humphries  
 Jermaine Kidney  
 Jesse Lowden  
 Josh McVee  
 Joshua Egan  
 Kenny O'Connor  
 Koby Cathcart  
 Lachlan Anderson  
 Leigh Chui Clark  
 Mathew Howe  
 Mitchell Brady  
 Oskar Bowers  
 Patrick Woodcock  
 Quinn DuToit  
 Riley Reid  
 Sachin Deo  
 Seb Torrens  
 Thomas Deane  
 Zeb Hantelmann



## Season Review

### UNDER 10's

*By Under 10's coach Wayne Smith*



The awesome MIGHTY under 10's had a very busy and productive season; unfortunately it has come to an end though at an exceptional high, so where do we begin?

Firstly, thanks to all the AWESOME under 10's: always keen, eager and coming to every training session. And thanks to their parents for always bringing them, regular as clockwork come rain or shine. Without the dedication of all the players, what would the Palmerston under 10's team be? Every time there was a weekend training camp the majority of the under 10's were there in force, all present and accounted for, which was absolutely brilliant and it equated to one proud coach.

Also, a very special thank you to our team managers Kylie and Robyn, for always being willing to do whatever is required. Without them there would be no clean rugby jumpers, fresh water, food and drinks for the sleepovers and the list just goes on and on and on. Thanks also to assistant coach Dale, who was always there being the good cop while the coach was being the bad cop, for his valuable input at training and for always helping with the difficult decision as to who was on the field.

Now that all the special thanks are out of the way, let's get down to the rugby side of things...

There is nothing better than seeing the boys at the beginning of each session. There were boys who were new to rugby, boys who carried over from my previous under 10's side, boys who couldn't run around the oval without having to stop, boys who could not do push-ups.

What I have been pushing the mighty under 10's to do was to see structured play: forwards being forwards and a solid back line. On so many occasions they brought a tear to my eyes, just seeing them take the ball from a scrum and move the ball out to the wing while moving forward. What utter bliss and one very happy coach, to see these brilliant minds start thinking about rugby, knowing what is required from them in their current position and being able to start anticipating the opposition's moves. The defense started off on rocky ground, but with a few sessions with the tackle bag and being able to tackle each other, it has just grown in leaps and bounds. →

**CAZALYS**  
PALMERSTON CLUB





*Photos supplied by Fiona Austine*

### UNDER 10's SEASON REVIEW (continued)

Team spirit has always been excellent both on and off the field and it makes me proud to say that not once did the players bad-mouth or verbally abuse any of our competitors or referees, no matter the situation. It's a great quality that each of my players possess.

We were fortunate to have two under 10's sleepovers this season and both were very successful. I am not sure who had the most fun – Dale and I or the boys. But as you know, what happens at sleepovers stays on sleepovers☺. However if all reports are true, there were lots of sleepy and grumpy boys the following Sunday. We also had a dinner and movie evening instead of a training session which was a blast. All the MIGHTY under 10's came dressed in their Palmerston Crocs uniform and did the club proud.

I am not sure how I am going to handle my Tuesdays and Thursdays and highly strung Friday evenings until the next season starts. But I am sure the image of all the smiling faces running back after the MIGHTY under 10's have scored a try should and will keep me going through the lean rugby free months ahead.

**BOYS - ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE IN CONTROL** no matter if it's on the field or at school or no matter what any of you attempt in life.

I look forward to seeing you all returning for the 2013 season at the greatest family orientated rugby club in the Northern Territory (let that be the coaches challenge to you).



**CAZALYS**  
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Tassie Rep players from Taroonia;  
Matt is standing on the right.



Tassie rep photo supplied by Matt Brocklehurst, images of penguins from Taroonia Rugby Club website (<http://tarooniarugby.rugbynet.com.au/>, accessed 4/9/12)

## Where are they now...

NAME: **Matt Brocklehurst**

Matthew wrote: "Awesome effort guys best of luck to the Baby Crocs for the GF. FYI the Taroonia Penguins will have Teams in the Tassie GF on the same day."

*President's note: former Palmerston Crocs A Grade and NT Mozzie player **Matt Brocklehurst** posted the above message on our PRUC facebook page in the lead up to the finals. It's always interesting to hear what our past players are up to, so after a quick message back, Matt sent through this great article about the mighty Taroonia Penguins. Thanks Matt!*

### TAROONIA RUGBY CLUB – THE TAROONIA PENGUINS

My club the Taroonia Rugby Club has made it to the Seniors Grand Final that will be played on 8 September. At this stage we don't know who we are playing as Devonport and Harlequins are playing the Preliminary Final this weekend, but we expect it will be the Devonport Bulls. We have had some great games against these guys and expect a very physical encounter from them, but we will certainly back our structured game plan to see us through. We have had a great year winning 16 of our 18 regular season games and the squad is made up of a great group of guys who are really working hard for each other.

One of the highlights this year was a visit by the Australian Services side in June which was the first time in seven years that Tassie has had a home game. While the result didn't go our way (we lost 58-8) it was great to be a part of the Tassie rep side and play against a couple of my mates from my previous life in the Army. The attached photo on the left shows the Taroonia guys who played for the Tassie Team.

Unfortunately we only have one established grade here in Tassie but hopefully our Reserve Grade side will get a game against University in a Reserve Grade Grand Final next week. We are also waiting to see if our U/14, U/16 and U/18 sides are going to make it through to their respective Grand Finals. They don't find out until this weekend but we expect two of the three will be there on Grand Final Day. We are the only club to field teams in all grades of the Tassie comp and much like Palmy pride ourselves on the efforts of our juniors and the strength of our club family, not just the Senior grade.

If any wandering Crocs are down this way it would be great to see them come along, our club details are on the website:

<http://tarooniarugby.rugbynet.com.au/>.







## Noticeboard

### BAR TABS

Anyone with a bar tab can come to the club this Tuesday and Thursday to clear them up as it is the end of the season. BIG ERROL has been delegated to chase up if not paid!!

### CLUB SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to everyone who took the time to complete a junior or senior survey. We are collating all responses and will publish these in an upcoming edition of Croc Tales.

### NTRU DATES FOR THE DIARY

**22 - 23 September**

NT Country Rugby Union Carnival  
See the flyer on the right →

### PRUC DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Sunday 9 September**

Junior Presentation Day

Don't forget hats and lots of sunscreen, as shade is limited!

**Saturday 15 September**

Senior Presentation Night



**Sunday 28 October**

Annual General Meeting



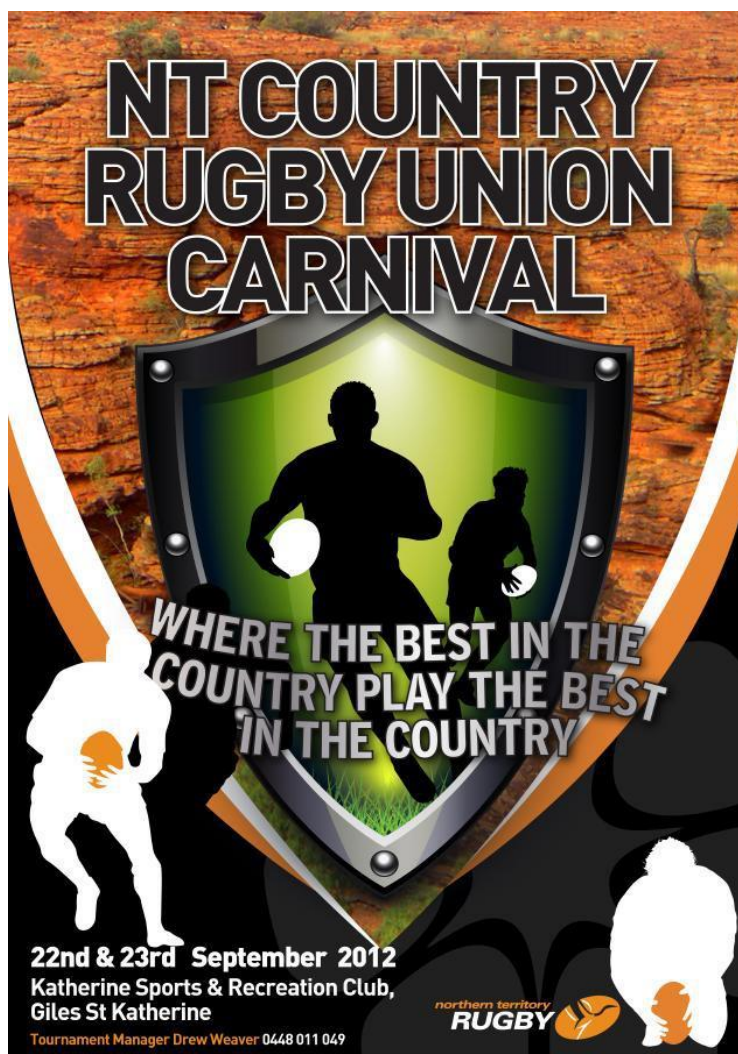
## Other news...

### FITNESS TRAINING



Want to stay fit in the off season? Current A Grade player **Paul Williams** will be running **fitness training sessions** from 6:30 to 7:30 at Moulden Oval, on a 6 nights on, 2 nights off roster. All ages and abilities will be catered for and non-players are also welcome. For details, refer to Paul's flyer and calendars attached.

### NT COUNTRY RUGBY UNION CARNIVAL



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## Noticeboard



### MONSTER RAFFLE PRIZE LIST UPDATE

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Prize

Approx. value \$1800

- \$70 food & drink voucher from Arch Rivals
- \$100 food & drink voucher from Casuarina Sports Club
- 10 x visits to Life Balance Gym in Rosebery
- 1 x gerni
- 1 x large esky
- 1 x small esky
- 1 x trolley / ladder
- 6 x Bohemia crystal wine glasses
- 1 x Uniden wireless power pad
- 1 x 4 man tent
- 1 x camping chair
- 1 x pewter hip flask
- 2 x bamboo cutting boards
- 6 x Heineken beer glasses
- 1 x Coopers Pale Ale pewter beer mug
- 6 x Tiger Royal rokal wine glasses
- 1 x fishing rod and reel
- 1 x club polo shirt
- 1 x club cap
- 1 x club stubbie cooler
- 1 x car sticker

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

- **\$500** gift basket donated by Hair Studio, Casuarina. Contains Wella products and 8 packets of hair extensions.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

- **\$100** voucher from Rivergum Meats, Oasis Shopping Centre

## Fundraising news...

### BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

A big thanks to the following who helped out at our last sausage sizzle for the year. It was great to see a few new faces. The profit from the day was about **\$1200.00**.



**7.30 – 10am** Mal Leach, Ned Kelly, Rob Sloan, Dennis Grant



**10 – 12pm** Percy Peel, Glen McPhee, Greg Jarvis, Ben Blyton



**12 – 2pm** Brocky's crew: Paul Williams, Nadine Vine, John Herbert, Ashley Cunningham (where is Brock?)



**2 – 4pm** Robbie and Bec Taylor, with the assistance of two Junior players.

### MONSTER RAFFLE PRIZE LIST UPDATE

We now have a **third prize** as well - a \$100 meat voucher from Rivergum Butchers at Oasis Shopping Centre! The raffle will be drawn at the Senior Presentation Night on **Saturday 15th September**. Tickets will be also available on the night.



### CAMPER TRAILER RAFFLE



Our **Camper Trailer Raffle** will also be drawn at Presentation Night. Prize donated by club sponsor *Outback & Beyond Camper Trailer Hire*.

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PALMERSTON CLUB





# Celebrating 35 Years

**A '70'S NIGHT FROM OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> YEAR:** In 2002 our club celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary season. We kicked-off the celebrations that season with a 70's night. This year we'll be concluding our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary year with a 70's themed presentation night. Here are some fashion ideas...



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