



**COBRA TILING**  
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## President's Welcome

Welcome all to another edition of Croc Tales as we continue to build towards the start of the 2013 season.

We're excited to announce that our new web site went live this week. The web site was one of our major initiatives over the off season and a big thank you to all who were involved in getting it up and running. Special thanks should go to Chris Bree of Blue Sky Graphics for her amazing design work and layouts, to web developer Dylan Hamilton-Foster for exceeding our expectations regarding the website construction and to Selina Blyton who took on the massive task of organising the content and making it all happen. The website will be updated regularly with news and events, calendar items etc. Make sure you check it out: [www.palmerstonrugby.com.au](http://www.palmerstonrugby.com.au)

Not so great news this week is Drew, Fiona and Eddie Weaver leaving town and heading for Cobar, NSW. (That's right, Gary Harper country). Both Drew and Fiona have only been with us a short while; however they have made significant contributions to rugby in the Top End over many years. We at Palmerston certainly noticed their energy and passion for the game, and Drew made an immediate impact as Vice President after taking on the role last year. We wish them all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

**Ben Blyton**  
President

Drew Weaver,  
Vice President



## What's on this week...

**Thursday 14/2** – Players Tea after training  
**Saturday 16/2** – Pathways to Gold trials @ Rugby Park  
**Saturday 23/2** – 10s Tournament @ Moulden Oval  
**Sunday 24/2** – PRUC Stall @ DCO Welcome to the Top End Expo

# 10s

## TOURNAMENT

**Saturday 23 February**

Palmerston will be hosting the first of the 10s tournaments on Saturday 23 February.

At this stage we will be entering two senior teams (A Grade and B Grade) and an Under 18 team.

It promises to be a great afternoon of rugby, with clubs having up to 3 teams competing.

### MATCH DAY OFFICIALS REQUIRED!

Please contact Ben or Rob ASAP if you are able to assist with any of the following jobs:

- Ball boys
- Bar staff
- BBQ staff
- Ground announcers
- Linesmen
- Timekeepers

There are jobs to suit everyone and all offers of assistance will be welcomed. Many hands make light work!



## Around The Grounds



Training this week again has been encouraging, with 25 to 30 seniors and 16 or so Under 18s attending.



Stalwart Tommy Hurse at training

**If you haven't made it to training yet – it's definitely time to get down there!** By the time you read this there will only be one week to go before the rugby starts. The sooner you start the better you will be.

Today, Thursday 14 February, we will be having a **Players Tea** after training. Come in and grab a snag and make sure your rego is done leading up to the start of the season. On page 7 of Croc Tales is an article about why the club needs your subs now!

And lastly, read all about A Grade coach Kerry Smith who appears 'In the Spotlight' on the following pages of Croc Tales.



### THE JUNIORS

The **Junior-Sign On Day** will be held on Sunday 10 March. A flyer with full details accompanies this edition of Croc Tales.



## 2013 KERR-BARLOW SCHOLARSHIPS

Thank you to our scholarship sponsors:

**Dennis & Cecily Bree, Martin & Lavinia Mills,  
Garry & Marcia Russell, Denys & Cathy Stedman and  
John & Alby Sullivan.**

Your support in this initiative is gratefully received.



## 2013 A Grade Coach Kerry Smith



Sue & Kerry Smith at the 35<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Dinner



Kerry at the Bunning's BBQ last  
weekend

## In the Spotlight...

**Name:** Kerry Smith  
**DOB:** 03 - 11 - 1960 (now maybe the guys at training will understand why I don't try to run laps)

### When did you first join Palmerston?

I joined Palmerston in November 1982.

### Why did you join Palmerston?

I was living in Geraldton (WA) where I'd met the most wonderful woman in the world (can you guess we got married and that she reads Croc Tales?!). I'd had a crack at the local footy code and didn't quite understand it (does anybody... really) and I started to think about how I could get back on a rugby pitch (normal).

I'd heard that Darwin had a fairly new rugby comp and that the season started towards the end of the year. I put an advert in the NT News to see if anyone was looking for players and if there was a chance I could get a hand to find work. I got two responses, one from South's and one from Palmerston. I got in touch with Bernie Bree who'd written on behalf of Palmy and made some arrangements to head up to Darwin for the start of the season.

Sue and I took the Greyhound from Geraldton to Darwin and were met off the bus by "Scrubber" (Paul) who was the secretary of the club at that time. Paul put us up for a few days until we found work and a flat to rent and I think I started training the following Thursday at Nakara Oval (which is where Palmerston trained back then).

### Playing history?

I played the following 3 seasons for Palmerston, then left Darwin to head back to NZ to get married, finish some study and have a think about where to settle.

### Representative honours?

*Editor's note – back in the 80s, rugby in Darwin was played over the wet season (the off season for teams down south) and the era of professional rugby was still a decade away. As a result, some outstanding rep games were played in the Territory. Read on...*

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PALMERSTON CLUB



Kerry playing for Palmerston in the early '80s



In those days!!!! There were the Darwin Mosquitoes and the NTRU representative teams and I was in the right place at the right time to be picked for both across the next 3 seasons.

The Darwin Mosquitoes were a side that was picked from all the local clubs excluding Casuarina and was supplemented with around 6 - 10 international players, mostly All Blacks. The Mosquitoes played once a year on Aussie Day against the Casuarina Invitation side which included Casuarina's senior players and 6 - 10 Wallabies. The games were marketed as exhibition games and were an absolute dream to be part of. The first one I played in in 1983 was one of the best games I remember and finished with a 32 - 32 draw. The NTRU sides played only a couple of games per year at the end of our season but they were great games and we were competitive with other regional representative sides.

I also played a handful of games for rep sides in NZ through under 18, U21 and seniors.

### **What are you looking forward to most about coaching Palmerston?**

First of all I am really looking forward to coaching Palmy! Period! But the details are: I want to get some real structure and discipline about the way our senior teams approach the season. Numbers have been good for training so far but we've got room to build some more to get the fitness and skills to the right level, so we can get stuck into our game plans over the next couple of weeks. I want to build each week by maintaining skill development and fitness in the early stages and then apply both those factors to the game plan so that we control as much of the game as possible.

### **Ambitions or goals for this year?**

First off to finish the season with two full senior squads that can say "what a great season". I'll be satisfied with a top four finish providing we finish in a position to build on for next year. I'll be happy with a top 3 finish but similarly we need to finish with momentum we can carry into next year. I think we have some awesome playing and coaching talent (author excluded) at the club and we have an opportunity to rise to the top and maintain some dominance over an extended period.

### **Other interests?**

I have an awesome family to be proud of. My other two passions are surfing and music.

**CAZALYS**  
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Team 1 – Ned Kelly, Dennis Grant, Mal Leach, Rob Sloan and Dan Bree



Team 2 – Jacob Blyton, Ben Blyton, Glen Brady and Garry Russell



Team 4 – Jai Wyles-Kelly, Brad Hogan and Anthony Smith

## Other News...

### BUNNING'S SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The club held its first Bunning's Sausage Sizzle of year last Sunday 10 February. One down, four to go!



Thank you very much to the four teams of volunteers who manned the stall for two hours each. Your efforts raised over \$1200 for the club. Thanks also to Pauline Wyles and Mal Leach for helping out on the Saturday, giving Dennis Grant a hand with chopping onions, sorting sausages, stacking eskies, etc.

Our next Sausage Sizzle is set down for the Sunday 31 March. Mark it on your calendar. They really are a lot of fun!

Team 2 – Brock Evans, Dennis Bree (pictured above), Cec Bree, Kerry Smith (pictured below)



### POSITIONS VACANT – JUNIOR COACHES: U6, U8 AND U10



With our 2012 Under 6 coach leaving town, and our Under 8 and Under 10 coaches moving up age groups, we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to fill these coaching positions.

The club supports coaches in obtaining the necessary coaching qualifications. Several Coaches are also required to obtain an Ochre Card.

Several coaching courses are scheduled for mid-March. Refer to the club calendar for details.

If are interested in becoming a junior coach, or if you would like to find out more, please phone Ben Blyton on 0417 082 531.

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Palmerston Under 10  
Ayden Whitehouse



Brumbies players with Palmerston  
Juniors Aaron McFarlane, Jacob  
Blyton and Connor Blyton



Signing the Palmy ball

*Thank you to Fiona Austine for  
supplying photos.*

## Other News...

### BRUMBIES VS WESTERN FORCE GAME

It was great to see so many Palmerston families at the Brumbies vs. Western Force trial match on at Rugby Park on Friday 1 February.

A big thankyou to the Palmerston Juniors who were ball kids for the game - hopefully you enjoyed the night and at least saw a bit of the game, some of you were very close to the action so you should have had a good view!

### MEET THE BRUMBIES EVENT

The Meet the Brumbies event held on the Sunday following the Brumbies vs Western Force game proved to be a real let down, with the Brumbies arriving and departing prior to the published starting time. Sincere apologies to the families who drove in from Palmerston and arrived after the Brumbies had already left; it is understandable that people felt let down and the NTRU will need to address these issues before something like this happens again.

For the kids who were lucky enough to be there early, the Brumbies players did make themselves available for photos and to sign autographs. All the Brumbies players who attended also signed one of the new Palmerston Rugby Union Clubs balls and this will be paced in the clubhouse.

### SELECTION DAY FOR PATHWAYS TO GOLD

The NTRU will be running two 'Pathways to Gold' squads in the Under 15s and 17s categories. The trials for these squads will be held on Saturday 16 February. The format for the trials will be as follows:

9:15 - 9:45	Player registration (nomination not required)
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome / intro
10:15 - 1:00	Rugby activities

Further information about the Pathway to Gold program can be found on the ARU website:

<http://www.rugby.com.au/tryrugby/PathwaytoGold.aspx>

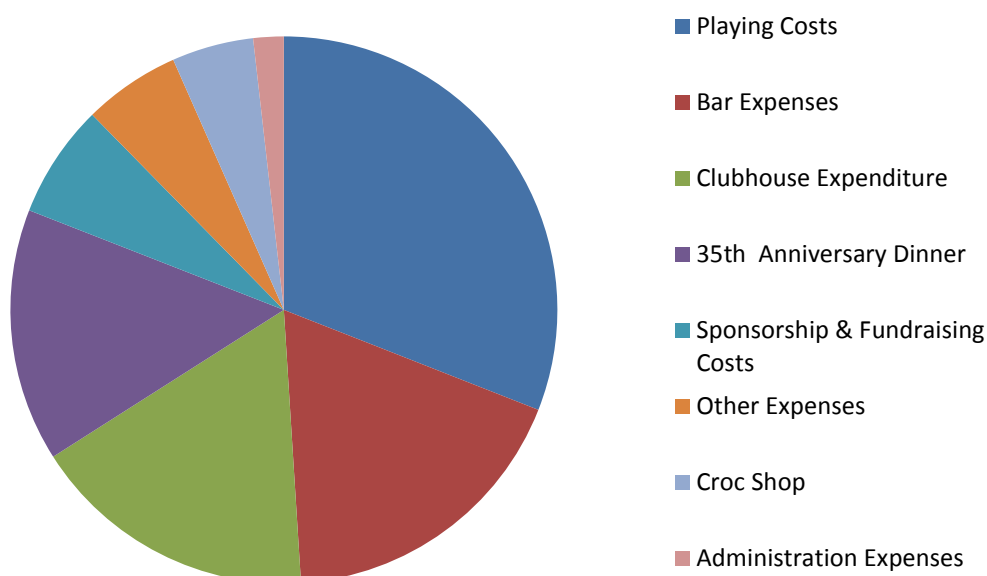


## Fact Sheet... WHY WE ASK YOU TO PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS!

Last year the club cost over \$100 000 to run. A third of that consisted of playing costs, with the majority of that being the playing kits that were ordered for our nine sides. As with any start of any season, the majority of our bills are payable in the first three months. By the beginning of March the club will have spent over \$30 000 in preparation for the new season (major items being playing kits ≈ \$20 000, playing insurance ≈ \$5 000 and NTRU related accounts such as affiliation fees ≈ \$3 000). For your reference, the graph below provides an indication of the club's running costs (these were last season's figures).

Your subscriptions can be paid off over a period but we need you to start making the payments now! Remember, under ARU policies you do not have insurance until you are a financial member of a rugby club. A schedule of our 2013 registration fees is included on the following page.

### Where our money goes



## PRUC Vision, Mission and Values

These will guide the decision making, governance, culture and behaviours of the Club into the future.

### VISION

To be recognised as the premier Rugby Union Club in the Top End

### MISSION

Providing opportunities for players, coaches, administrators and volunteers to develop their skills in a positive, safe, well resourced, supportive and enjoyable environment.

Contributing to the wider community by providing an activity in a family safe environment and one that supports and encourages a healthy, active lifestyle.

### VALUES

POSITIVE, RESPECTFUL, UNITED, CHARACTER, INCLUSIVE

**CAZALYS**  
PALMERSTON CLUB





# 2013 REGISTRATION FEES

## PLAYING MEMBERSHIPS

### SENIOR PLAYING MEMBERSHIP: \$200.00

#### Inclusions:

- PRUC Player Membership
- PRUC membership key ring
- ARU insurance
- NTRU affiliation fees
- Clubhouse contribution
- Qualified coaches
- Club training singlet
- Playing socks and shorts
- Laundering of playing jumpers
- Player jumper for premiership winners
- Membership of Cazalys Palmerston Sports Club
- Use of Caddies at Palmerston Golf Club

### JUNIOR (U8 - U18) PLAYING MEMBERSHIP: \$100.00

#### Inclusions:

- PRUC Player Membership
- ARU insurance
- NTRU affiliation fees
- Qualified coaches
- Club training singlet
- Playing socks and shorts
- Player jumper for premiership winners (U12 and above)
- Presentation Day, including participation awards for players at the end of the season
- Membership of Cazalys Palmerston Sports Club for nominated parent or guardian
- Use of Caddies at Palmerston Golf Club for nominated parent or guardian

### JUNIOR (U6) PLAYING MEMBERSHIP: \$60.00

#### Inclusions:

- As per U8s to U18s inclusions.

## NON-PLAYING MEMBERSHIPS

### ABOUT

Non-playing memberships are not compulsory. However they do provide supporters with the opportunity to show their support for the club while also making a valued financial contribution. Furthermore, the membership fee ensures that we satisfy the liquor licencing requirements of our clubhouse.

### NON PLAYING FULL MEMBERSHIP: \$50.00

#### Inclusions:

- PRUC polo shirt
- PRUC membership key ring
- Membership of Cazalys Palmerston Sports Club
- Use of Caddies at Palmerston Golf Club

### NON PLAYING SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP: \$5.00

For those who enjoy the occasional beverage from the bar and utilise the amenities at the Clubhouse.

#### Inclusions:

- PRUC membership card

## FUNDRAISING

As a club, we strongly believe in the value of young people being involved in sport. As such, we heavily subsidise our membership fees to encourage healthy and active participation in the sport of rugby union.

We rely on our valued sponsors and ongoing fundraising efforts throughout the season to run the club.

We encourage club members to support our fundraising activities. Further information about our key fundraising activities can be found in the Club Handbook.

# CAZALYS

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