

Palmerston On the Web

Have a look at photos from the Grand Final at our website.

palmerstonrugby@rugby.net.com

Try again!!!

There has been a dramatic discovery as to why there is always a prominent supply of Bundy Rum in the ClubHouse.

Mr Graetz showed everyone his eyes are in fine working order as he found the ring pull of his Bundy can telling him to "try again".

Being faithful to the beverage of his heart, what else was he do but head to the bar and get another.

Hence begins a vicious circle of blame.



New items coming soon...

include navy blue **PRUC Polo Shirts (\$35)**, Ladies Supporter Tops and the rumour mill has heard possibly Hawaiian Club Shirts! **Jackie Howe singlets (\$25)** are arriving and orders are sought now. Get in early and don't miss out on the sizes you want.

Still in the shop we have the **Canterbury Dress Shirts (\$70)**, Stubby Coolers (\$10), Key Rings (\$10) and the best Old Faithful of all, the **TERRY TOWELLING HAT (\$20)!**

 **For details** about these or any of our other great products or uniform supplies please contact Caboose.

Club memberships. Pay up... and keep your club going strong!

The time has come with the new season for 2003 already kicking off that we ask for all membership and player fees to be paid up. Our Club can only survive with your help. Non Playing Members are asked \$5.00 and Player Fees are \$120.00. Fees can be paid at training or at the Games. Socks (\$10) and Shorts (\$20) are available also. No booking up this season but part payments can be made. Contact Bryony Bree (Club Treasurer) for further or have a chat to your coach.

Non playing members are encouraged to register for our on line newsletter. Please contact Kate Chandler or Garry Russell so you don't miss out on any of the Palmy action. Let's all help in keeping the club going strong.

For all persons willing and wanting to have their say in the next CrocTales please contact Kate (Mrs Caboose) Chandler at the games or e-mail:

ktbear78@hotmail.com



DRAKE INTERNATIONAL



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Did somebody say 2003 was a Dry Season?

A Wet Dry season or not Palmy are off to a great start, with big wins in Round One of the new season. Big defeats over Casuarina saw A and B grade maintain their pre-season form. Perhaps someone should have ordered the Cougars Rugby jumpers rather than Soccer ones they have donned in 2003. C Grade kicked off the first of many Wednesday night games, also against. Sadly numbers were down and despite some rather high profile fill ins from the Mozzies... sorry, meant the South's bench and agile performances from our regulars with Noel Bree making lightning pace up the field, we just couldn't quite get over the line in time. Everyone is encouraged to help Graetz out and help get 15 men on the field.

Round 2 was looking good too. In the opening of B Grade Round Two Canada found some form in Full Back and stopped a South's tackle close to the line and then turned around and got over himself. Good to see James "Spunky" Ballantine back but despite efforts and newcomer to Palmy Brent "Frog" Kerehona scoring a Try on debut, South's were too good for us in the end. A's held their own in triumphant form against the 2002 Runner's Up and proved we are going to be just as strong this year as last. Good kicking and keeping our cool helped edge South's out of the game and as a particularly frustrated South's d@%!head walked to the side for 10 after trying to take out Palmy's Willy mason look a like, the crowd erupted showing that again, Palmy out class on and off the field.

Juniors have been going strong but numbers are still sought for the U8 - U16's. These are our seniors on the future so be sure to put the word out. If you have



the time check out the rocketing U12's who are gearing up for another dominating year at the top. Did someone say they have a U6's spot for Jacob Blyton?

The Jabiru trip was set to be yet another memorable Palmy outing. Graced with an A Grade bye, the bus was full of both players and supporters. A heap of those being Jabiru Virgins, sure to make the impact of the Crocs felt on every person between Palmerston and Jabiru. Babby's hands are sure to be full but game results are far from the minds of those making the journey. Congratulations to the Bush Rats for getting a team together and keeping the NTRU strong.

Palmerston Rugby Union
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**HEAD DOWN
BUM UP**

Like some of other clubs we too have had a slight change to our Senior Uniforms. Our scrums have never looked so good and as the crowd gaze down they are well aware of where we get our supplies from.

Top End Hotel has proudly sponsored the Crocs for some time and we are now proudly returning the favour when giving our best side to the fans as seen here. Mystery prize awarded to the first who can guess who's butt this is!

BP Palms are also back with us again and helping us through the year. Show your support for them by coming down after the games where the Crocs will be relaxing poolside @ the Village, Saturday March 22nd. Bring your friends and family and lets show them how much we appreciate all their support.

Ross 'Boots' Blundstone

Ross 'Boots' Blundstone joined Palmerston Rugby at the start of this season, having previously played with Dallas Smith in Queensland.

Ross is in the Navy, is a fiery redhead and has twin yearling (a Squirter description) boys.

He managed to play the 7s with us and was looking forward to the new season when he found himself posted to the Gulf.

The club wishes him and his mates all the best and hopes they stay safe.

BIG BURLEY BEN BLYTON



After growing up involved with numerous sports, it was in his mid teens when Ben "BURLEY" Blyton saw the light and conformed to the pleasures of Rugby Union.

Just on 20 years ago Palmy was graced with Benny's charisma, who was then taking the field as a lightening quick and agile Winger. Yes, that says WINGER! Perhaps this was due to fact he was facing men a years his senior, but who really knows? It wasn't long until Ben grew into his boots and made his presence more noted making the migration through the field to the 2nd Row. Ben's regular big hits and great effort through each game has seen him awarded with numerous Representative Jersey's. Four of those being with the Australian School Boys, where he holds the record for playing in four championships. Form there his excellence continued, playing with the Australian Second Division team in 1984.

Despite brief appearances in other teams such as Jabiru Bush Rats, Federal Devils and the mighty Brahmans in Katherine, it was with Palmy he made his home. Ben's talent has been acknowledged many times with Best and Fairest and Best Clubman awards. He has also made his mark as a premiership player several times over, clocking 8 A grade appearances so far. Most recent appearances were in the 2002 ABC Cup where he made an influential impact in both A and B grade Grand Finals.

Considering his abundant involvement with the committee and the club, it is no wonder this is a man of "Gold". What else is ever in the esky or fridge when it come decision making time?!! Perhaps it was after a few of

these mind enlightening beverages we can attribute such creations as Nude Rugby or perhaps even the world famous No Undie Sundie. In true Palmy fashion, neither of these rumours can be confirmed.

As like all of us, some changes of life came about as Ben matured. Two memorable moments being when he made an honest woman of Selina (think that should be Selina made an honest man on Ben!) and the birth of their beautiful son, Jacob. Jacob is already showing promise as a Palmy boy making many red white and blue appearances already including one of those being in tartan. We look forward to seeing him in the number 5 soon.

Ben was awarded his Lifetime Membership to PRUC in 1999 and in 2001 was presented with an honour very few others (only one actually!) have achieved, having played over 200 A Grade games. He can also be seen in all his glory in the PRUC calendar. A topic which caused a stir (or a spill!) at the NT Fashion Awards if we recall correctly! Ben thinks he's hung up his boots but it's very possible we will see him on the field again in 2003.

So despite self opinion of being a "has been" it is very safe to say that is not only Big Burley Benny Blyton a great mate, a fantastic 2nd Rower, inspirational leader and a dynamic boat racer, but he is also a rather rare type of bloke. One whom we are proud to declare a Palmy Club Legend.

>>> Know your Croc! >>>

1. Who is most likely to bare his butt and cover himself with body paint?
2. Who showed his loyalty to the Crocs on his face at the Grand Final 2002?
3. Who has a noticeable "birthmark" that he wasn't born with?
4. Who, in a past life, considers himself a WWF legend known as "The Violator"?
5. Who coached C Grade only a couple of years after moving from another club?
6. Who is the Brainchild behind the Stray Creek 4-A-Side Competition?

ANSWERS
Jesse "Jester" Leal

1. This should be self-explanatory.

2. Jesse braved the masses at the Grand Final with "Croc Teeth" shaved into his facial hair!

3. Is there anyone out there who doesn't already know that Jess has a branded butt? Literally!

4. Despite constant medication, he still believes he is a WWF champion.

5. Jesse was coach of C grade after his move from Cougars to Palmy.

6. It's safer not ask and just accept the fact that yes, that Jess has his idea.

The Palmerston Crocrales is proudly sponsored by **Beyond Design** Graphic Design → 3D Displays → Illustration → Total Project Management

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