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CANE TRUCK DELAY

Shaun Hollis

Mossman cane growers are anxiously awaiting the release of the results of a Captain Cook Highway B-double truck trial, saying sorting out the haulage issues to

Mulgrave Sugar Mill in Gordonvale as soon as possible is the key to making the local industry viable in the longer-term.

But the State Government Transport and Main Roads De-

partment (TMR) would not say last week when the trial results will be released.

Mossman CANEGROWERS chairman Matt Watson said the ability to transport larger quanti-

ties of cane in each truck was one of the ways to make haulage affordable in the wake of the closure of Mossman Mill last year.

Continued Page 6

Apprentice locks in a state tilt

Port Douglas hairdresser Mira Bannerman is the best apprentice in Far North Queensland -P5



Port Douglas apprentice hairdresser Mira Bannerman has been rewarded for her skills. Picture: Shaun Hollis



Dingo petition launch - P3



Water, sweet water - P6



Splash Park party - P6



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Noah bridge crossed off

Shaun Hollis

Essential works to return the Noah Creek Bridge to its 16-tonne load rating and restore access for service vehicles will begin next month.

The bridge is a key connection between Cape Tribulation, Wujal Wujal and other Daintree communities, playing a vital role in the delivery of goods, tourism operations and everyday travel.

Douglas Shire Mayor Lisa Scmazzone said restoring the bridge's previous 16-tonne load rating will be imperative for services.

"This is crucial for allowing larger vehicles to cross safely," Mayor Scmazzone said.

"It is an important activity to be undertaken for residents, tourism operators and the transport industry, and Council is committed to actioning it as quickly and safely as possible."

Large timber girders are being



Noah Creek Bridge is set to be returned to a 16-tonne load rating.

custom-made for the bridge and are due to arrive on site in late September and are scheduled to be installed the following month.

Mayor Scmazzone said the council had secured Queensland Reconstruction Authority funding for the project, although the final costs would only be known on completion.

"We're very grateful to the QRA for funding this vital project.

"Their support enables Council to deliver essential infrastructure upgrades that benefit the entire region," she said.

Extra bite to road repairs

Road and ferry workers have been dealing with the added challenge of "lurking" crocodiles while working on Douglas Shire transport projects at Daintree River.

The State Government Transport and Main Roads Department (TMR) has been working on the Mossman-Daintree Road where it runs beside the river, with local crocodiles looking on curiously.

"One of the local crocodiles (is) regularly spotted from the reconstruction site," a TMR release states. "He has not been admitted on site due to lacking hi-vis."

And earlier this month Pacific Marine Group workers doing preparation works for the Douglas Shire Council Daintree River Ferry replacement project were using croc cages to ensure safety.

"While most of us were sleeping, a team of early risers - suited up in diving gear fit for a deep-sea expedition - were already hard at work at the Daintree River," DSC stated. "All of this was carried out inside crocodile-protection cages, keeping the crew safe from any curious river dwellers lurking nearby."



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Save our dingoes

Petition calls for changes

Bryan Littlely

The dingoes of the Douglas region are back on the agenda, with Cairns-based conservation Luke Cooper launching a petition to protect the local population.

Mr Cooper advocated last year for education about dingoes when a pair of young ones took up residence at the Port Douglas Sports Complex, raising concerns, being the focus of a Douglas Shire Council trapping program and a report of an attack on a domestic dog on Christmas Day.

He is the only person to have studied the purity of the Douglas Shire dingoes, and began his push to have the population permanently protected. He also campaigned successfully for signage to be put up warning people of the presence of dingoes and educating them on measures to take to limit interactions.

His petition, Ensure Protection for Dingoes in the Wet Tropics, had received close to 500 signatures on the change.org platform by last Sunday, August 24.

"I am a passionate dingo conservationist with over a decade of experience. Based in Cairns, Queensland," it reads.

"Among the most iconic Australian animals, dingoes hold a special place not only in our ecosystems but also in our cultural heritage. Yet, they face myriad threats that endanger their survival, especially



A petition has been launched to help further protect Far North dingoes.

in the Wet Tropics region. Every year, countless dingoes are left orphaned/sick or injured to die throughout Queensland, with insufficient rescues or rehabilitation centers.

"To protect these magnificent creatures, we must implement full protection of dingoes across the entirety of the Wet Tropics region, ensuring the survival and welfare of dingoes for generations to come. This starts with improved education.

"By highlighting the importance of dingoes and teaching the public how to safely coexist with them, (let's) promote a positive and informed relationship between humans and dingoes."

The petition pushes for funding to establish a dedicated dingo rescue centre in the region.

"Such a centre would offer sanctuary and rehabilitation to countless orphaned or injured dingoes across Far North Queensland providing the care they need to thrive. It would also serve as an educational hub, fostering under-

standing and respect for this vital species," Mr Cooper says.

"By signing this petition, you are lending your voice to protect an emblematic species."

Petition signee Richard has added in comments: "The dingo plays an important part in our ecosystem. They have been treated poorly and with prejudice since 1788. I hate to see them go the same way as the Thylacine."

And Lara added: "Save our dingoes to save our ecosystem!"

A petition launched by Port Douglas resident Rosie Wang at the height of the dingo dramas late last year called for the immediate removal of traps targeting dingoes in Port Douglas and a shift in council policy away from automatic baiting and killing. It called for a strategy of relocation from public spaces and increased public education on safely coexisting.

The petition was supported by more than 1300 people.

News in Brief

PLAN FOR ROAD SHUTDOWN

Night closures of Captain Cook Highway in September have been ruled out, but drivers need to start preparing for highway and other Port Douglas road closures on both Saturday, September 13, and Sunday, September 14, for the Gran Fondo Festival weekend.

On the Saturday, parts of Port Douglas Road will be used for the running race from 5am to 8.30am, but will remain open to traffic, while a host of other roads will be fully or partially shut down in the morning. Then, on Sunday, road closures will be in place for the Gran Fondo event, including the Captain Cook Highway. The Highway will be closed for northbound traffic from 5.30am to 1.30pm from Palm Cove to Craiglie, and for southbound from 6am to 1.30pm.

MANAGEMENT NEEDED

Have you ever dreamt of managing a resort or luxury hotel in paradise? Well, there are a couple up for grabs in Port Douglas.

The management and letting rights of Port Douglas Peninsula Boutique Hotel at the Flagstaff Hill end of The Esplanade on Four Mile Beach have been put up for sale for \$5.75m. And the management rights of the high-profile Reef Club Resort on Port Douglas Road are also on sale for \$1.35m.

ARREST AFTER BREAK-IN

A 17-year-old Smithfield boy has been arrested after a Holloways Beach home was broken into and a car and cash were stolen.

Police raided the teenager's Smithfield home on Saturday morning, where the boy was arrested without further incident.

He has been charged with entering a dwelling and unlawful use of a motor vehicle, and was due to appear before the Cairns Childrens Court yesterday.



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Cane truck limbo

From Page One

"We don't know if we can have a 40-tonne truck or a 20-tonne truck, or something in between.

"Until we know what trailer we're allowed to use, we can't actually do the costing properly," he said.

"That's pretty much the main hold-up at the moment."

Mr Watson said he hoped TMR would release the results soon.

"If we can go to a bigger volume without impacting the road we'll see the cost come down," he said.

"At the moment it's quite expensive because we're only carting with small trucks.

"If we can get that volume up a little bit, the economies of scale will make it more profitable."

He said growers needed to know about the trial results so new crops could be planted.



Mossman CANEGROWERS chairman Matt Watson and, inset, the crashed cane truck. Main picture: Shaun Hollis, Inset: Stuart Norris

"The window's closing very fast, we really should be at the end of our planting schedule by now."

"If we could plant enough this year, that gives us a decent chunk to be able to expand that out for next year."

When contacted by Newsport last week, a TMR spokesperson would only say the department was working with the Primary Industries Department and mill owner MSF Sugar to "identify a safe option for heavy vehicles to transport sugar cane on the Captain Cook Highway". "To assist



with this, TMR carried out trials with various heavy vehicle configurations on the Captain Cook Highway in July," they said.

"The trial results, together with other data such as crash history and expected cane volumes, will inform TMR's advice on how cane can safely be hauled on the Captain Cook Highway in the future."

Cook MP David Kempton said the State Government's offer of \$6m to buy new purpose-built truck trailers remained on the table, but it was not directly involved in negotiations. "I am fully

aware that growers and MSF need to reach agreement to enable the growers to plant for next season and I am in constant contact with all parties to ensure this eventuates as soon as practicable," Mr Kempton said.

"These trailers will be a substantial contribution to the transportation cost and will replace the subsidy that has applied for the last two seasons," he said.

The issue has been further complicated by a cane-truck rollover the weekend before last, which caused five-hour delays for some commuters on the busy highway.

Newsport reader Kate Jessaca said this following the crash: "I really hope this highlights just how inappropriate it is to be funding the cane trucks to transport cane using a vulnerable, damaged road packed with tourists who don't know the road."

Billy King: "The cane growers need to realise... They are putting more pressure on our roads, and they can't keep expecting this to be subsidised."

But Aaron Crimmins had a different view: "It's perfectly acceptable.

"The road is barely damaged and tourists should learn to drive properly."

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Tradies get hammering

Bryan Littlely

Noise is being made in Port Douglas tourist accommodation circles about noise being made by construction works, Silkari Pavilions raising issues with tradesmen for Northern Building and Construction pushing their patience and allegedly operating outside of permitted guidelines on their Warner Street project.

Silkari management has written directly to the local construction company to seek support to control "loud music, unprofessional

language, and overall lack of site management".

Northern Building and Construction director Will Verri said, while sympathetic to the issues, there is a limit to how he can control behaviour of individual tradesmen who, while likely inappropriate, have worked within the rules.

He was in touch with Silkari manager Shannon Deas last Tuesday trying to manage a complaint.

And while Douglas Shire Council has made it clear audible noise is permitted only between 6.30am and 6.30pm Monday to Saturday,

a spokesperson also said it has received no formal complaint.

"However, we encourage community members to report any concerns if work occurs outside these hours," they said.

In a letter to Northern Building and Construction, Ms Deas said she wanted to address "the ongoing construction at the rear of the Pavilions in Port Douglas and the continued negative impact it has had on our business".

"Over the past 18 months, we have tolerated extensive noise, unsightly construction views, a

continuous stream of tradesmen, and general disturbances, all with minimal formal complaints from our side, despite the very real damage being done to our guest experience.

"Workers positioned barely a metre away from guest balconies with loud music and inappropriate language is completely unacceptable."

Mr Verri said he and his site managers had worked hard to mitigate issues: "We are trying so hard and had so much pushback."

Mira, Mira, on the wall, who's the best of them all?

Port Douglas apprentice hairdresser Mira Bannerman will know within a month whether she is Queensland's Apprentice or Trainee of the Year when the award is announced at a glittering ceremony in Brisbane in mid-September.

This is a busy time for Ms Bannerman - in between studying Year 12 at Mossman State High School, she is doing her apprenticeship at DS Hair and Makeup salon and has just taken the crown of Far North Queensland Apprentice of the Year.

"I was very excited, I was really happy and a bit shocked," she says of the win. "There was 743 applicants and I made top three, so I was just happy to make it."

"I was very overwhelmed when I won."

After taking that award, Ms Bannerman is now hopeful of beating out the other six competitors from regions across the state.

"Maybe, hopefully."

Ms Bannerman has been working at the salon for two years and



Mira Bannerman is the Far North Queensland Apprentice of the Year. Picture: Shaun Hollis

has been an apprentice for just a bit over a year now, with two or three years left to become fully qualified.

"I want to own my own salon one day, but I'm just looking forward to finishing my apprenticeship and finishing all my little goals

like graduating school and getting all that stuff done," she says. Many of us will be hoping she ticks one of those boxes next month.



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Splash Park opening party

The time has come for lovers of water parks to unite - the opening date for the Port Douglas Splash Park has been announced.

The new tourist attraction will be open to the public at 10.15am on Saturday, September 20, with a full day of festivities planned by Douglas Shire Council to celebrate the day.

After the clock ticks down, Mayor Lisa Scmazzone will press a button to activate the water-spouts and invite the crowd to rush in and enjoy the fun.

The opening-day party will include a live DJ, Sea Circus performances, a Bubble Lady and Daintree Ice Cream giveaways.

And, from 5-8pm, there will be a Splash Park After Dark event.

This will include choreographed water fountains and coloured lights.

The official opening, from 10am, will include speeches by Mayor Scmazzone, Cook MP David Kempton and JMAC construction manager Greg LeBrocq.

The Splash Park is located at Jalunbu Park, Garrick Street, Port Douglas, behind the Surfy.

Water plant on way

Shaun Hollis

A new \$16.4m water-treatment plant is set to be built in Mossman to help secure the long-term water future of Douglas Shire.

The council has put out the call for contractors to apply to build the plant next to Mossman River, with the money to come from a \$10m grant provided by the Federal and State Governments, as well as \$6.4m from a National Water Grid Fund grant.

Douglas Shire Mayor Lisa Scmazzone said there was much interest from companies to take on the project.

"The strong turnout at a recent briefing and site inspection shows just how much interest there is in being part of this generational project," Mayor Scmazzone said.

"This is about securing our water future for decades to come and it's encouraging to see so many experienced contractors eager to contribute."

The successful tenderer will design, build and commission a new raw water intake and pre-treatment plant. The plant will play a



Archer is all smiles after finding out a new Douglas Shire water-treatment plant is set to be built. Picture: DSC

vital role in strengthening water security, supporting population growth, tourism and climate resilience, the DSC stated.

About 2000 million litres per

year is likely to be added to the Douglas Shire water network when the new intake is operational, with the contract scheduled to be awarded early next year.

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Spongebob all set to hit the stage



The production includes a cast of talented local performers aged 8-18. Picture: supplied

Contributor story

This September, the Clink Theatre will transform into the vibrant underwater world of Bikini Bottom as it proudly presents **SpongeBob the Musical: Youth Edition**.

With a cast of talented local performers aged 8-18, this joyful and high-energy production promises a celebration of community, creativity, and the power of youth theatre.

The show is directed and produced entirely by local artists, highlighting the Clink Theatre's commitment to nurturing young talent and fostering a sense of belonging through the performing arts.

From the youngest cast members just beginning their theatrical journey to seasoned teen

performers honing their craft, every child involved brings a unique spark to the stage.

Beyond performance, theatre helps children and teens build confidence, teamwork, discipline, and empathy, while providing a safe space for self-expression and fostering friendships.

For many, the stage becomes a second home where creativity and lasting connections flourish.

Clink Theatre President Michael Kerr said youth theatre is about more than just putting on a show.

"Productions like this are vital," he said.

"They give kids a chance to shine, to be seen, and to be part of something bigger than themselves. It's about building confidence and a sense of community."

Audiences can expect a heartwarming, hilarious, and visually stunning performance that captures the essence of the beloved Nickelodeon series while delivering a message of optimism, resilience, and friendship.

The production will run throughout the September school holidays, with performances from September 24-28 and October 1-5.

Tickets for **SpongeBob the Musical: Youth Edition** are available online at clinktheatre.com.au.



To read the full story scan this QR code

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10 YEARS AGO

High-vis fencing, necessary or not

The entrance to the north end of Four Mile Beach and some of the foreshore is visually standing out to any passer by, but not in an aesthetically pleasing way for tourists.

In response to a tourist complaint regarding metres of orange high vis mesh barrier fencing cordoning off the beach as well as (at the time) along Grant Street and Rotary Park, we asked DSC why?

The Council is replacing all of the old copper logs on the Esplanade with REPAS post and rail along the Port Douglas Esplanade in front of the vegetation.

"The barrier mesh is a temporary measure as people are not following the designated paths and damaging revegetation. Once the new plants are established the barrier mesh will be removed," said General Manager of Operations Paul Hoyer.

Regarding the roadworks in the region Council said that roadworks cannot be done in the wet season without significant additional costs and inconvenience to ratepayers and visitors.

"In some instances barrier mesh is required for public safety. Particularly in regard to roadworks, there are statutory requirements as to the control of vehicles and pedestrians which cannot be reduced regardless of the aesthetic impact," said Mr Hoyer.



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Tuesday the perfect taco time

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

Tacos, tunes, cocktails and plenty of good vibes.

Welcome to Taco Tuesdays at 3Sixteen Bar and Bistro, the lively new weekly tradition at Ramada Resort Port Douglas.

It's the perfect mix of flavour and fun, fast becoming a favourite spot for locals and visitors to unwind midweek.

Since kicking off last month, Taco Tuesdays have been a hit, thanks to their fresh, flavour-packed tacos.

With options ranging from zesty chicken and slow-cooked beef to vibrant vegetarian mushrooms and prawn dishes, the menu is designed for sharing and sampling. Guests can also enjoy share plates like guacamole and chips, corn ribs, and spiced tuna tostadas, and round off the night with indulgent desserts such as churros and charred pineapple.

The bar team shakes up an irresistible list of cocktails to match the tropical vibe. Think refreshing margaritas, icy mojitos, or a



Taco Tuesdays at 3Sixteen Bar and Bistro are shaping up as the go-to midweek spot. Picture: Jamie Jansen

cheeky tequila sunrise to pair with your tacos.

General manager Damian Flynn said the nights are all about creating a relaxed atmosphere where people can come together over great food and music.

"It's a way to bring the community in, have a laugh, and enjoy something simple but special,"

he said. "It's about connection as much as it is about tacos."

With its poolside setting, friendly service, and flavours that transport you straight to Mexico, 3 Sixteen's Taco Tuesday is shaping up as the place to be.

So, grab your friends, settle in with a cocktail, and let the tacos and tunes take you away. Taco

Tuesday runs every week from 5.00pm at 3Sixteen Bar and Bistro, Ramada Resort Port Douglas.

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BIG NOISE OVER BIG BUILD DISTURBANCES

Bevan Bobbermein

Stop whingeing. Is it going to destroy your business? It might be noisy but put up with it. It's only short-term pain for a big gain.

Christopher Saint

Someone has to put a full stop to this, but clearly not the journalist who constructed this story!

Geoff Field

Loud music!!! I assume you are referring to the builders listening to the radio????

Lorraine Symons

This new build in Warner St has been in progress for about 18 months so far. The people who own the units facing the new building (bought as an investment) will be badly out of pocket with no end in sight. I imagine the managers have had to smooth many ruffled feathers from their guests. I feel so sorry for all parties. Especially as the new building is SO close to the Pavilion's balconies. Hardly a peaceful holiday experience. Maybe Douglas Shire has issued a DA with not enough sympathy and foresight to surrounding neighbours?

OPENING DATE FOR NEW SPLASH PARK

Julie O'Gorman

Wow! That sounds awesome! I'm so excited, especially lights at night! We were in Gladstone, at their water park, one night with the coloured lights streaming through the water fountains. It was absolutely magical!

Emily Parsons

Family holiday 2.0.

Jess Uhlig

ooooh exciting!!! That's so soon!

Nadine Lowenstein-Jones

Sounds awesome

IS REVEGETATION REALLY A GOOD THING?

Mark Kane

Another excuse for dole bludgers to never work.

Michael Scomazzon

There's that much rainforest between the coast and the head waters of the Daintree, it won't make a difference. The thin corridor between Julatten and Kuranda is where they should concentrate their efforts if they are trying to protect the biodiversity of the Greater Daintree National Park.

Rob Davis

Well Laurie, you pen an interesting piece, very fashionable I note, in the big argument of whether to replant or to crop/graze. Even 20 years ago, there was a very dubious commercial undertone in the money being made out of the "reforestation" industry. It's not cheap replanting forest in the plant and de-weed business. It costs hundreds of thousands over time, for small areas, but if you just leave it to nature, you get a similar result but over a longer timespan.

It's an interesting debate, where urban green guilt rules the roost. I detect things are changing. For example, every second tourist island had a turtle hatchery years ago - a feel-good thing but there are dozens of semi-abandoned tourist turtle hatcheries as they failed.

Now the trend is to make wire cages to regrow coral, where tourism smashed the original pristine coral. There was an interesting comment in this thread saying it's time emphasis went to



From the Holster



Shaun Hollis brings you a lighter look at local news online.

corridors like that between Julatten and Kuranda. As to whether it's worth squillions to buy back that lowland cattle property just across the ferry is an interesting debate in this current time. Would the money be best spent elsewhere? Sadly the old green politics of years ago, led by those who simply loved nature, has been hijacked by guilt-ridden concrete dwellers for the inner city who think de-industrialising Australia will save the planet. If Australia was 100 per cent net zero... the theoretical effect on the temperature would be one one hundredth of 1C. Welcome to the new world of environmental motive driven by urban guilt.

Alex Horstmann

While the merits of broad-scale conversion of productive farmland may be questionable, restoring high-conservation-value land that adjoins or connects other

forests, regardless of its zoning, has an important role to play in today's landscape.

Beau Scomazzon

Yes, revegetation of areas is important. However groups like Rainforest Rescue that are now targeting land that is zoned for agricultural use in Douglas Shire Council is a joke. If the DSC approves RR's current development application for the change of use of nearly 450ha of agricultural-zoned land out Daintree to permit it to be revegetated back to rainforest then we are on a slippery slope as this will set the precedent. And at what cost in the future to the businesses in our community?

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Queensland Government

SOCIALS

Schools across the district took part in Book Week last week, including Port Douglas State School and Miallo State School. Pictures: Shaun Hollis, Kristen Knight, supplied



Miallo's Ellie and Brooklyn as Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz.



The Keune family at Miallo State School.



Miallo teachers getting into the Book Week spirit.



Port Douglas State School year 3/4 winners Jett, Hunter and Evie.



Port Douglas school siblings Luca, Neo and Hope as the houses from the Big Bad Wolf.

WHAT'S ON

STAY UP TO DATE

Scan this QR code to stay up to date with the latest events in the region



AUGUST 29

Cam Kettle (Duo)
@ Ellis Beach Bar & Grill, Time: 5.30pm-8.30pm, Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill

Rockin' Rick Karaoke,
Time: 7.30pm-10.30pm, Location: Club Mossman

AUGUST 30

NicNak Shed Fashion Parade, Time: 2pm-5pm, Location: Pullman Sea Temple Resort & Spa

Yahdoh, Time: 5pm-8pm, Location: Club Mossman

Tusk-The Fleetwood Mac Tribute Show, Time: 5.30pm-10pm, Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill

AUGUST 31

Geoff Black, Time: 11am-2pm, Location: Club Mossman

80th birthday Major prize draw - \$10,000 cash total in prizes, Time: 2pm-5.30pm, Location: Club Mossman

TUSK - The Fleetwood Mac Tribute, Time: 4pm-8pm, Location: The YACHTY - Port Douglas Yacht Club - 1 spinnaker cl - Port Douglas

SEPTEMBER 4

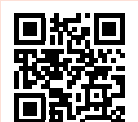
Bingo, Time: 7pm-9pm, Location: Club Mossman

REAL ESTATE

OPEN HOME
8 Yiki Street,
Saturday, August 30
9am-10am
Ray White

OPEN HOME
9 Coral Sea Drive
Saturday, August 30
11am-11.30am
Ray White

OPEN HOME
1-3/2 St Crispins Avenue,
Saturday, August 30
11am-12pm
Ray White



Scan the QR code to list your property, and it will be added to our print edition for free.

SEPTEMBER 5

Geoff Black, Time: 7pm-10pm, Location: Club Mossman, Time: 4pm-5pm, Location: Steep Port Douglas, Shop 1, 46 Macrossan St

Monthly Social Dancing, Time: 6.30pm- 9.30pm, Location: Pullman Sea Temple Resort Port Douglas

SEPTEMBER 11

Trivia with Supa Sal and Wevs, Time: 7pm-8:30pm, Location: Club Mossman

SEPTEMBER 12

Rockin' Rick Karaoke, Time: 7.30pm - 10.30pm, Location: Club Mossman

SEPTEMBER 13

Gala Fundraiser, Time: 5pm - late, Location: Mossman State High School Indoor Sports Centre

Yahdoh, Time: 5pm-8pm, Location: Club Mossman

SEPTEMBER 14

Richie Langford, Time: 4pm-7pm, Location: Club Mossman

Visit www.newsport.com.au to list your event for free

SPORTS DIGEST

Dragons on a roll leading to finals fever



Dragon Will Pycroft scored on Friday night. Picture: Shaun Hollis

From Page 12

The Far North Community League Division two finals start this weekend, with games set to be played at Macca Park in Cairns on Friday, August 29.

The finals format starts with first versus second and third versus fourth, meaning the Dragons are set to come up against top-placed Stratford Dolphins for a chance to play in the Grand Final.

In the other semi-final, Innisfail

United will be facing up to Redlynch Strikers.

Douglas United finished the home-and-away season with 14 wins and two losses from 16 matches.

Last Friday night, their superior pace and strength showed out against a slower and less mobile team. The Dragons probably could have won by more, with several open goals missed, but will surely be happy with the way they finished the regular season off.

IN BRIEF

LAWN BOWLS

Mossman Men's Jackpot Bowls results Saturday, August 23, Bill Allison & Wayne Parks W 2; Keith Bunge, Greg Smith & Steve Hefernan W 2; John Arnold, Barry Baker & Troy Churchill W 13 with 12 ends; Bob Lawrie, Peter Worley & Col Widdows W 13 with 13 ends and winners on the day Jock Constantine & Ranald Edwards W 13 with 15 ends.

Sunday morning, August 31, from 10am there will be a come-and-try day for anyone interested in experiencing the art of lawn bowls.

A sport that all ages and abilities can participate in, all players are welcome, make it a family occasion.

This will be followed by the club's 80th Birthday \$10,000 lucky member draw.



Julatten soccer player Wini Heatley has switched European clubs.

Wini moves clubs, aiming at Champions League match

Matildas soccer player Wini Heatley has switched clubs to Italian powerhouse AS Roma, and was yesterday set to make her club debut in the European Champions' League.

Heatley, of Julatten, was aiming to play against Kazakhstan champions Aktobe in Prague at 11pm last night, after the Newsport deadline.

She moved to Roma in the European off season after spending three years at Danish club FC Nordsjaelland, where she played in three cup finals in three years.

"It feels like I'm leaving home again," she stated when she left the club.

"Words can't describe the love I have for this team, this club and this city."



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Mossman school boys conquer the Far North



The Mossman State School Year 7/8 rugby league 9s team has been crowned Far North Queensland champion after going undefeated in the regional tournament this month.

Coached by teacher Harry Cobb, the boys did not concede a point all tournament until the Grand Final, which they ended up winning 3-2 against Woree high.

The winning try was scored in the last minute, sparking jubilant scenes when the final whistle blew.

Mr Cobb said "the boys played out of their skins".



Javier Puertos in action on Friday night against Southside Comets, where the Dragons won 7-0. Picture: Shaun Hollis

DRAGONS FIRE IS BURNING

Shaun Hollis

The Douglas United Dragons are entering the finals race in second place with significant momentum after a pair of huge victories in the past two weeks.

On Friday night the Dragons dominated Southside Comets for much of the night at home at Casowary Park, with the ball locked in their front half for long periods of time.

The final score finished up being 7-0.

And the week before, Douglas United beat Leichhardt 11-0 away from home in another absolute whitewash.

Javier Puertos opened the scoring in the sixth minute, with the Dragons putting away five goals in the first half and then six in the second.

Rafael Vihl and Ignacio Ipinazar both scored four-goal hauls.

And Georges Laulhe also finished with a two-goal brace.

Continued Page 11

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