



FOOTBALL SEASON COMMENCES.

Well the season is finally upon us for 2003. Good to hear that the Football Jerseys have been designed and ordered for the Mapoon Ruggupoin team from Fourex clothing in Townsville. These have been emblazoned with the MAC logo.

No doubt you all know who the team is going to be. We wish you all every success this year and you can be sure of the support of all the Mapoon people when you represent your community in this sport. The Mapoon footy fields will not be ready for some time as they need to be ripped again and cleared, water sprinklers installed and grass re-seeding and fencing etc.

Mapoon Draws for the Rugby League are as follows:-

26-27/04	Lockhart River Roosters	(Lockhart Rvr)
10-11/05	Coen	(Coen)
24-25/05	Aurukun	(Weipa)
07-08/06	Napranum	(Weipa)
21-22/06	Lockhart River Scorpions	(Weipa)
05-06/07	Lockhart River Roosters	(Weipa)
19-20/07	Coen	(Weipa)
02-03/08	Aurukun	(Aurukun)
16-17/08	Napranum	(Weipa)
30-31/08	Lockhart River Scorpions	(Lockhart Rvr)

Quarter-finals: Team 3 v 5 Team 4 v 6
Games to be played at Home Ground of 3rd and 4th.
Date: **13-14/09/03.**

Semi-Finals: Teams 1 and 2 go straight into the semi-finals.

Winner of 3 v 5 plays Team 1.
Winner of 4 v 6 plays Team 2.
Games to be played at Home Ground of 1st and 2nd.
Date: **20-21/09/03.**

Central Grand Finals:- **27/09-28/09/03.** To be played in Weipa.

Cape York Rugby League: Semi-Finals and Grand-Finals on **11-12/10/03.**

MAPOON ABORIGINAL COUNCIL

DATE
11TH APRIL, 2003.

ISSUE NO 4

**NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING
IS ON
EARLY NEXT MONTH
MAY 2003**

NEWS FOR THE YOUTH

An ACC Youth Conference was staged in Cairns from 7th—10th April, 2003. Our current local youth representative Dennis Hall was appointed to attend this inaugural youth conference. We wish him every success in talking strong for our youth in Mapoon and Cape York.

The position of the Youth Officer for Mapoon has been interviewed and is yet to be filled. Activities for our youth can be planned and co-ordinated better and some good programs can result. This does not stop the Mapoon kids from giving us some ideas now for activities.

I GOT FLOWERS TODAY.

I got flowers today
It wasn't my birthday or any other special day.
We had our first argument last night, And he said a lot of
Cruel things that really hurt me. I know he is sorry and didn't
Mean the things he said
Because he sent me flowers today.

I got flowers today.
It wasn't our anniversary or any other special day.
Last night, he threw me into a wall and started to choke me.
It seemed like a nightmare. I couldn't believe it was real. I woke
Up this morning sore and bruised all over. I know he must be sorry,
Because he sent me flowers today.

I got flowers today,
And it wasn't Mother's Day or any other special day.
Last night he beat me up again. And it was much worse than
All the other times.
If I leave him, what will I do? How will I take care of my kids?
What about money? I'm afraid of him and scared to leave. But I know
He must be sorry,
Because he sent me flowers today.

I got flowers today.
Today was a very special day.
It was the day of my funeral.
Last night, he finally killed me. He beat me to death.
If only I had gathered enough courage and strength to leave him,
I would not have gotten flowers today.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO STOP VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

FAMILY VIOLENCE BREAKS UP THE FAMILY

RELATIONSHIPS COUNSELING.

If any Mapoon couples are seeking relationship counseling in their lives to improve their family life, perhaps you can consider this as a real option. If persons show a genuine interest, we could look to arrange for a Councilor to attend the community and give this assistance individually or co-jointly with your partners or with your entire family/s. Register your interests for calling in this type of Counseling and we could look at all these possibilities.

Many of the personal relationships and the playfulness and quarrelling of the children can lead to community violence and disharmony and this is not good for the life of the families and the children out at Mapoon.

DON'T BE SHAME, BE GAME.

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS WALK AWAY—COOL DOWN.

DOGS AND PETS

The poor state of some of the dogs in Mapoon is a sight no veterinarian would like to see. Council previously had a dog wash and dip where all the dogs were put through to help clean them up from fleas and ticks and other diseases that they carry. Previous discussions also centred around a possible pound and compulsory spaying of the bitches to stop them from having a thousand puppies. To have a dog is a big responsibility, and this involves feeding and watering them correctly and having injections and worming etc., as well as a regular bath and shelter. Too many dogs can cause disease and problems around the house with smell and rubbish etc. Some households seem to have too many dogs, many of them are scrawny and underfed and in need of serious attention. When all the dogs fight for the one bowl of food, obviously some of them are going to miss out and the children could get bitten. When the dogs all land at the Clinic or the School, they can also be a pest and are likely to be zapped by the prodder. It is obvious that many of the dogs have the same diseases such as mange etc and are catching the diseases from each other.

SO PLEASE CARE FOR YOUR ANIMALS AND KNOW WHERE THEY ARE ALWAYS AT.

ACC & COUNCIL BUSINESS

Chairman Peter Guivarra has recently attended a meeting in Bamaga on the WCCC Agreement, which is the West Cape Communities Co-existence Agreement.

He is also attending to the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council (ACC) business in the Northern Territory and Arnhem Land.

A week of the full Council of the ACC is to be staged in which Mapoon Councillors, Lou Akenson and Maria Guivarra are also attending from 7th—11th of April, 2003.

The Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council is the representative body of Aboriginal Community Councils in Queensland, and seek to influence and set policy on indigenous issues in the state.

MAPOON HOUSING NEWS.

Currently there are five new houses being constructed and these have been allocated to: -

- Danny and Josephine Parry & Family.
Dianne Pitt-Nicholls & Family.
Danny and Christine Cooktown & Family.
Jason Wheeler and Anna Motton & Family.
Sheree Jia & Leslie Hall & Family.

As previously announced, another seven additional houses are also to be constructed and have been allocated for the Mapoon people. These are: -

- Willy & Priscilla Hudson & Family
Veronica Douthat & Family
Peter Guivarra & Family
William Busch & Family
Maud Day & Family
Margo Guivarra & Family
Cecil Woodley and Family

RENTAL DEDUCTIONS - CENTRELINK BENEFIT.

Many Mapoon residents, particularly the pensioners, have their rent deducted from their pension benefits, so if any more tenants want their rent to happen this way, please see the Council office administration to arrange this deduction. Those tenants who have fallen behind in their rental will soon be visited for increasing their deduction authority.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

We remind all the residents of the houses to report any problems with running taps or electricity immediately as this can cause further serious damage to your home. Any damages to walls, windows or railings etc will have to be paid for by the tenant holder of the house. The tenant is required to pay these damages, especially if they fail to report who caused the damage in the first place for any deductions to be made from the wages or benefits of those responsible.

PEST ERADICATION

The management of pests such as cockroaches, spiders, rats and snakes etc are the responsibility of the tenant of the house to get rid of. If there are any major infestation of any rodents and vermin, please advise the office administration. Remember to empty out and store those containers and cans and bottles that help vermin spread or any mosquito viruses and to stop them from breeding up.

MEN'S GROUP MEETING.

A meeting of the Mapoon Men was held in the Council Chambers on 10th March, 2003. Twenty Five young and elderly men alike met to discuss various issues of concern to them. Some of the issues listed were: -

Role of Men in the Justice Committee
Literacy and Numeracy
Cultural Awareness Programs

Anger Management Courses
Vehicle License Program
Council Support

Health Activities
Bible Study

The group felt that a formal committee was required to guide the group and make applications and submissions on their behalf. An election was held and **WILLY HUDSON** was declared the **CHAIRMAN** and **RONNIE GUIVARRA** was declared the **DEPUTY CHAIRMAN** of the **MAPOON MEN'S GROUP**,

CAMERON HUDSON was appointed the **TREASURER** and **RICKY GUIVARRA** was appointed the **SECRETARY** of the Men's Group.

Rex Burke attended the meeting also, on behalf of the Queensland Health ATODS Group, which stands for **ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUGS (ATODS)**. It was good to have a number of Mapoon people in a position to be able to assist the Men's Group to achieve their goals, aims and objectives.

There was further discussion on the taming of the Horses out at Mapoon and some of the men expressed concern for the way the vehicles were being treated. If the cars were going to be treated continually like they were, it was obvious that we would have no more Council vehicles left soon in the community.

Also, developments at the Mapoon Clinic were discussed with Michael Murphy and he gave an outline of the effects of self-abuse and how this can affect us in our later years.

Many of the men saw the need for cultural revival out at Mapoon and it was stated that Mapoon was once very rich in culture.

Some discussion was tabled on Bible Study. It was noted that a number of groups were gathering for the Sabbath observances, and the men seemed happy enough for the option of receiving spiritual guidance. It was noted that the Jehovah Witness group were out at Mapoon recently.

Concern was expressed by some of the men about the amount of rubbish collecting in the Mapoon swamps and along the highway to Weipa. This should be kept in the car and thrown in the bins or dump out at Mapoon.

The men were appreciative of the BBQ provided by Council to help them form the group and for the luxury of meeting in the Mapoon Council Chambers.

NEXT MEN'S MEETING:
VENUE:

TUESDAY, 15TH APRIL, 2003.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

NEWEST ARRIVAL

Congratulations go to Josephine Samson and her new baby Boy. Definitely the Mapoon population is noticeably increasing. What a wonderful place for these children to be growing up in, and we wish them all strength and God's blessings for their lives in Mapoon.

SCHOOL NEWS.

- The school welcomes Mrs Christine Cooktown to the Mapoon Campus staff this week. Chrissy will be working with students from all groups as a teacher's aide in Kara Oastler's absences.
- The Mapoon Netball girls did well at netball on the weekend. This year we have been able to train on a grassed and marked netball court which helps us immensely.
- All students have also been training for the up-coming College cross-country also to be held in Weipa.
- In the classrooms there are a number of projects currently happening such as papier mache Giant Peaches, the Mapoon Campus Store which is set up to learn more about money, rehearsing for play performances and story writing.
- The P&C Easter raffle is in full swing and will be drawn in the week leading up to the Easter break. Some children have already brought back their tickets—well done.

HAVE A HAPPY EASTER BREAK

H.A.C.C. NEWS.

Centrelink Visit.

On Tuesday the 8th April, at 10.00 am, Mandy Barsa and Matthew Starr from Centrelink visited and had a morning tea with HACC Clients and Carers who wished to attend. The morning was a discussion and question time and information sharing if there were queries surrounding Centrelink issues. Centrelink generally attends the community every month.

Next Elders Meeting:

We are yet to decide the next date of the Elders Meeting, but thank you to all those who attended the last meeting. The letter to the Council in regards to the speed bumps at the school is almost completed for signing as soon as possible.

Absence of HACC Staff:

Ailsa Ling is away for a short time. She is in Cairns doing some training and she returns to work on Monday 14th April. The HACC Co-ordinator Louise Akenson is away on Mapoon Council business from 7th-11th April, 2003 also.

BIBLE WORD:

DRINKING OF STRONG DRINKS.



Proverbs Chapter 20., Verse 1: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Isaiah Chapter 5., Verse 11: "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them."

SEE ALSO: Judg. Ch 13. Vs 4., Deut. Ch 32. Vs 33., Prov. Ch 21. Vs 17., Isaiah Ch 28. Vs 7., Eph. Ch 5. Vs 18., 1 Peter. Ch 4. Vs 3., Hosea Ch 3. Vs 1., Hosea Ch 4. Vs 11., Prov. Ch 23. Vs 20

POSITIONS VACANT.

- Sports & Recreation Officer** - **No interest shown for this full-time position. (Please see Ian Rossbridge to register any interests.)**
If no interest is shown we may have to employ persons from outside of the community.
- Fishing/Crabbing** - **Interviews for registered participants are progressing. (See Jason Pfingst for further registering of interests.)**
Cooking facilities to be set up and Training to commence asap.
- Environmental Health Worker** - Great opportunity for someone who is committed to a rewarding career to receive ongoing training in Certificate 3 or 4 (DATSIP funding to 4 years) and a real career path.
- 2 x Traineeships** - **Disappointing response to date. (Breaking the Unemployment)**
- 2 x Apprenticeships** - **Interested persons to complete Expression of Interest.**
- 4 x Youth for the Environment Traineeships** - **Interested persons from 24 years down can come and register their expressions of interest with the office management.**

POSITION VACANT.

Expressions of Interest for the position of

ADMINISTRATION CLEANER

24 Hours per Week

Please come into the Council Office and see Allen McIntosh—Finance Officer.

COMALCO RECRUITMENT FOR TRAINEESHIPS.

Comalco attended Mapoon on 03/04/03 in a recruitment drive for Traineeships. It was good to see a number of youth and not so youthful people take advantage and attend the office and discuss their interests with the two officers. It was also refreshing to see uncle Silver Blanco back out here at Mapoon assisting in these recruitments with Jim Sanderson of Comalco. If any persons still wish to register their interests, forms have been left with Council administration.

Trades and professions offered ranged from Horticulture to Aquatic Attendant, Warehousing, Child Care, Heavy & Light Tyre Fitting, Library Assistant, Marine Operator, Automotive Underbody, Information Technology, Engineering, Business Office Administration, Metalliferous Mining Processing and Metalliferous Mining Operations.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Any persons who wish to put items of interest or would like to recommend issues for mention in the Yarntime Newsletter, please contact Ricky Guivarra and he will discuss your concerns with you. All the Mapoon people are welcome to contribute newsworthy items to the newsletter.

Issues you may wish to talk about could be: - **Police Stationing., State Emergency Servicing (SES)., Church Services., Playgroup., Men's and Women's issues., Drugs and Alcohol., Housing., Vehicles., Rubbish., Child Care., Horses and Cattle., Feral Animals., Industry., School., Farm., HACC., Youth., Tourists., Mapoon Country., Football and other Sports., Store., Clinic., Rangers - Land and Sea Management., Road conditions., Tide times., Personal - Poetry, Story telling, Historical information, Traditional info etc.**

ROAD RULES.

Please remember that the wearing of your seat-belt can save your lives. Please slow down when driving around Mapoon, particularly on the bitumen area and especially around school hours and at night time. There are many children out at Mapoon now who play near the road and have to walk across the road. There are also horses roaming free and dogs lying on the road.

Don't forget to use your indicators when you need to, as we have many roads and turn-offs at Mapoon now and it is important that we indicate to other vehicles where we are intending to turn and go to. Riding in the back of utilities is dangerous and vehicle 'surfing' can land you with serious head and bodily injuries and even death.

NO ROAD HOONING FOR MAPOON PLEASE

ROAD WORKS AND CONDITIONS.

The highway to Weipa is in a firm condition though there are many pot-holes. The rainy season was not as severe on the roads this time round, even though the "Gillies" was underwater. It took all the experienced drivers to know where the danger areas were and how to get around them safely. Looks like the rains may not be finished yet either.

Word out is that road-works will commence after the Easter break, so you can bet William Busch will be out looking to set the road crew in order to do the road maintenance. We do recommend to all that we still drive careful and be mindful of the dangers existing, such as pot-holes and slippery areas. Community members are considering requesting speed bumps around the school and clinic area due to the speeding vehicles and the danger to people walking and the little children.

REMEMBERING ALWAYS THAT SPEED CAN KILL AND TO WEAR YOUR SEATBELTS.

MAPOON RANGER NEWS.

Laurie Booth, Cecil Woodley and Manuel Jackonia recently attended a three (3) week course for Coxswain in Weipa. This course will allow them a ticket to operate 11.5 meter sea vessels.

The Rangers give their many thanks to those who assisted to pull the large nets from the waterline on to the top of the beach. They intend to destroy these soon as they can be a serious hazard to fish, turtles and other marine life.

The rangers are continuing to fence off the mission house area at this time. The planted trees are coming along nicely and will provide much needed shade and shelter in the future, and a few new camping spots for the locals.

MAPOON HORTICULTURE FARM NEWS.

The Storage container facility has been transferred from the old store down to the Farm to allow for safe storing of all farm tools and equipment.

The fencing is yet to be completed to stop pigs, kangaroos and feral animals from digging around the gardens. The water pipes for irrigating are now also being laid and the water pipes have yet to be connected down to the farm.

The plans for the gardens is to have plots for Vegetables and for Fruit with the middle bushland section being for bush tucker. The dozer will be returning soon to rip the fields.

The men have built their little barbecue area and regularly enjoy their billy tea.

MAPOON HEALTH CLINIC NEWS.

Reminder that the Physiotherapist visits Mapoon every Tuesday fortnightly. No pediatrics comes visiting and any clients will require to fly down to Cairns for treatment.

The yearly flu vaccinations for influenza are available for dispensing and also the Pneumovax vaccinations which are given every five (5) years is available. The elders are particularly encouraged to attend for these shots.

Dr Ashim and the Diabetes Educator will have planned clinics throughout the year, with a clinic on Tuesday 29/04/03.

The Dentist has a regular visitation schedule and patients should register their names for dental attention. All dental work is done in at the Napranum clinic and an appointment is generally required through the Mapoon clinic. The Mental Health attended on 07/04/03 and will attend again on 22/04/03.

MAPOON STORE NEWS.

- The shop staff welcomes Jason Tilberoo and Natasha Kennell to the store staffing.
- The store regularly has specials when shelves need clearing or stock becomes aged. Ask if you need to.
- Hardware and household items are stored for purchasing in the display area at the rear of the store.
- Shoppers are requested to keep the front area of the shop clean and tidy and to use the rubbish bins provided.
- Dogs are considered a health hazard and should be kept away from the store please.
- Stamps are now for sale through the store at .50 cents each.

Latest news is that Tuxworth will soon be running again and we will have all the fresh milk and vegetables we need in the store again soon.

EASTER TRADING HOURS:

Friday	18/04	CLOSED
Saturday	19/04	9.00am - 12.00 noon
Sunday	20/04	9.00am - 12.00 noon
Monday	21/04	CLOSED

No staff will be available to open the store outside of these hours. Stock up on all your essentials - Check your Power Cards, Fuel and Smokes.