

# Mayor gives media the slip

PALMERSTON Mayor Robert Macleod appeared in court on Friday charged with being armed with an offensive weapon and seven counts of assault.

Mr Macleod, 53, allegedly hit 19-year-old Moulden neighbour Jake McGillivray and pregnant friend Ella Cole, 20, with a golf club in an argument over the pair's dogs.

One of the dogs allegedly entered Mr Macleod's Buckland Court garden.

But Mr Macleod denied the allegations after the incident.

Media got the slip when his hearing on Friday moved from 10am — as per the daily court list — to 9am.

Darwin Magistrates Court spokeswoman Malika Okeil said Mr Macleod's lawyer Peter Maley had the time shifted.

"During (Friday's) 9am sittings before the registrar, Mr Peter Maley made an oral application to have Mr Macleod's matter mentioned during these sittings," she said. "The application was

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consented to by police prosecutions and the matter proceeded. Police prosecution issued the summons for Mr Macleod to appear at 10am, hence why the matter was listed for 10am on the Court list."

Ms Okeil told Channel 9 that "nobody gets special treatment". The case has been adjourned until January 3.



Allan, Gemma and baby Lillian Maloney at the lunch

# Working lunch full of possibilities

JOBSEEKERS and employers got together in Casuarina last week to forge new partnerships.

They were attending the Max Employment Christmas lunch to talk business.

Several hospitality jobseekers, such as Alicia Hines, 15, from Palmerston, were even demonstrating their skills by making sure everyone had a drink and a sausage roll.

Greenant Gardeners proprietor Barry Dalton employs between five and 10 workers — but he had a keen eye out for more ants.

"It's a reasonably hard job — it's suited to some but not to others," he said.

Red Rooster Casuarina store manager Mel Robertson has four staff members from Max.

She said jobseeking could be a daunting task and informal parties were a good way to break the ice.

"It's a little bit harder for some," she said.

"I've had some good results from here.

"I always ask: 'Why did you leave your last job or why did they make you leave your last job?'"

Max business manager Katerina Kouras said they had jobseekers from all walks of life, particularly "eligible school leavers".

"We try to catch them before they get out on the streets," she said.

"We give them whatever training and assistance we can.

"These lunches are just for people to meet and have a chat and anything could happen."

# Keeping in touch

CHRISTMAS is still a month away but now is the right time to send cards overseas.

Helder Carapeta, 64, of Fannie Bay, has already scribed, stamped and sent his greetings all over the world.

Passers-by looked twice at his small coffee table covered in cards and lists and addresses in the Paspalis Centrepoint last Friday.

His mail is on the way to family and friends in Portugal, Canada and the US.

The pensioner said he had spent about \$20 on stamps — but still had a few more cards to send.

Mr Carapeta does send a few electronic words over email but prefers the written format — he said he sent and received more cards now than ever before.

"I find Christmas cards have three dimensions — spiritual, traditional and social," he said.

"They are more personal.

"Last year, I got 24. I keep them for a year or so."

"When you're young, you're busy. When you get older, you think more about your uncles and aunts."

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Helder Carapeta has sent Christmas cards all over the world





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