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28 SEP, 2019



Budgets killing off tradition

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Weekend Post, Cairns

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## Budgets killing off tradition

JACK LAWRIE

SHOUTING a round of drinks at a pub is a time-honoured Aussie tradition, but in an increasingly uncertain economy for young people, many would rather split the bill.

Data from instant payment app Beem It shows most users aged 16-24 are using its new split payments system.

Pier Bar day manager Magda Milota said Cairns was a popular place for splitting the bill because of the high number of young tourists who couldn't afford to shout a group.

"Definitely younger people are splitting the bills – if they're fresh out of school or backpackers they have to budget, so they generally split," she said.

"Older locals generally are more willing to take turns paying for rounds. You do notice the difference.

"It's actually a bit difficult (for staff) if people want to split the bill, but we can do it and we're happy to."

Local tradie Sam Stafford, 28, said it was still popular for young tradesmen to shout.

"It's a cultural thing; when you're with your mates, what's a dollar here or there?" he said.



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CHEERS: Sam Stafford, Pier Bar day manager Magda Milota and Jake Argent at the Pier Bar in Cairns.

Picture: ANNA ROGERS