Alice Springs Youth & Community Centre INC.

EDITION 7 | WELCOME TO OUR | JUL - SEP 2026

Quarterly Newsletter



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Seniors Month 2026 at ASYCC

In August, ASYCC celebrated Seniors Month with a program of free activities for older members of our community, proudly sponsored by the Northern Territory Government. Throughout the month, Helen Checker led weekly Qi Gong sessions on Friday mornings in the Dojo Hall, and Eunice Lee ran Tai Chi on Saturdays in Higgins Hall. These gentle sessions were a lovely way for participants to stay active, try something new and connect with others.

The month finished with our Seniors Social Lunch on Saturday 29 August, where we welcomed over 50 guests to a full hall. The afternoon began with a Welcome to Country, followed by a generous shared lunch of rice noodles, spring rolls, vegie fritters, sandwiches, salads, roast chicken, fresh fruit and cakes. Guests then enjoyed an afternoon of music from the 1950s. A request for Dolly Parton's greatest hits brought back some wonderful memories for everyone.

It was especially heartening to see guests from a wide range of cultural backgrounds come together to share food, music and conversation.

Thank you to the Northern Territory Government for supporting Seniors Month at ASYCC.



Social Lunch



Qi Gong



Tai Chi

Thank you everyone for your support during the Seniors Month!!







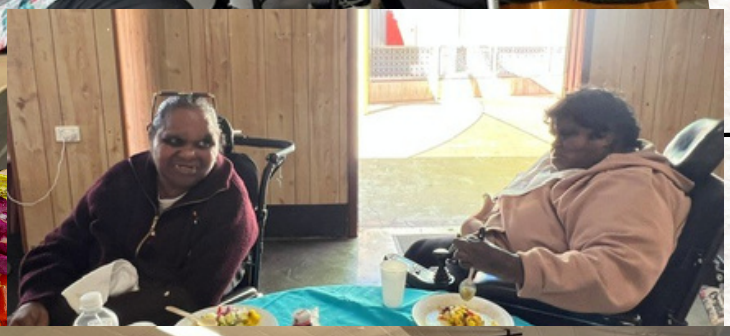
















A Visit from the Hon. Jinson Anto Charls MLA

On 10 September 2026, we were pleased to welcome the Hon. Jinson Anto Charls MLA, Minister for People, Sport and Culture; Disability; Arts; Youth, Seniors and Equality; Multicultural Affairs; and Veterans, to the Centre for an informal visit. It was a great opportunity to show the Minister around, talk about the programs and services we offer, and share some of our plans for the future.





During the visit, the Minister saw how the Centre brings together a wide range of activities, from martial arts to lion dance and drumming, and how our spaces are used by many local community groups.

After his visit, the Minister shared some kind words on Facebook, describing the Centre as doing great work "keeping Central Australian youth active, happy and engaged," while also giving community groups a place to come together.



We are grateful for the Minister's time and interest, and for recognising the work of our staff, coaches, volunteers and community partners.

With his portfolios covering sport, youth, seniors and multicultural affairs, so much of what happens at the Centre every day connects with his work, and we look forward to continuing the conversation.

Our Gymnasts Take on the Gold Coast









On Thursday 24 September, five of our ASYCC gymnasts flew out to the Gold Coast to compete in the Gymnastics Australia National Clubs Carnival. It is the first time in several years that our club has taken athletes interstate to represent Alice Springs outside the NT, and we couldn't be prouder.

The carnival is held at the Gold Coast Sport and Leisure Centre over three weeks, with around 5,000 entrants from all seven gymnastics disciplines. Our Level 6 and 7 Women's Artistic Gymnastics athletes will compete over two days. They will also join training camps, workshops, social events and professional development sessions with clubs and athletes from across the country, and learn from some of the nation's best coaches.

Head Coach Liv Antonelli is travelling with the team, supported by volunteer coach and club judge Marie Baptista. Liv says the girls have been doing extra training on days off and early mornings, on top of their regular 12 hours a week.

Many of them also coach up to 10 hours a week. Their commitment has been extraordinary. The team's story was also featured in The Centralian Today.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our gymnasts along the way. We look forward to hearing all about their experience when they return!

2026 ASYCC Team Challenge





Event details

The 2026 ASYCC Team Challenge will be held on Sunday 15 November at Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre Gymnasium.

Session times:
- Level 1 and 2: 8.30 am–10.30 am
- Team Gym Display: 10.45 am–11.45 am
- Level 3 and 4: 12.00 pm–3.30 pm
- Level 5, 6, 7 and 8: 3.30 pm–5.30 pm

The entry fee is $35 per person, with payment due by 1 November 2026.

What to wear

Participants should wear normal training wear, a leotard or crop top, and black shorts. A coloured T-shirt will be provided on arrival, matching each team's colour.

Gymnastics End of Year Celebration and Awards Afternoon

It has been a wonderful year for our gymnastics program, and we are excited to come together to celebrate everything our athletes have achieved!

All competition athletes and their families (Level 1 to Level 8 and Team Gym) are warmly invited to our End of Year Celebration and Awards Afternoon on **Sunday 18 October, 2:30–5:30pm at the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre.**

The afternoon will include time to relax, swim and enjoy some food together, followed by our awards from 3:30pm. We will present Class Awards, Athlete of the Year Awards, Coach Awards and the Allan Page Perpetual Award, and finish with class gifts and some final acknowledgements.

We would love to see a pop of green on everyone, and don't forget your swimmers and towels if you plan to swim. We also ask each family to bring a plate of food to share, clearly labelled for allergies and dietary requirements.

Each family is responsible for paying their own entry to the Aquatic Centre at the normal reception.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

A Seat with a Story:
Thank You, Pathfinders Youth Boot Camp

If you've visited our front office lately, you may have noticed a new addition outside: a beautiful timber sitting bench. It was built by young people from the Pathfinders Youth Boot Camp and generously donated to ASYCC.

The Youth Boot Camp is a short, intensive program run in Alice Springs by Pathfinders, an organisation that provides community care support services to regional, rural and remote communities.

The program helps young people build practical work skills, reconnect with education or training, and develop positive relationships with their families and communities. With guidance from mentors, strong accountability and restorative learning, it also strengthens cultural identity and gives participants a genuine sense of belonging and purpose.

The bench is a wonderful example of those skills in action. It is already being well used, giving children a comfortable place to wait for their parents after a program session, rather than waiting outside the complex.

It has pride of place at our Centre, and we are proud to have it as a lasting reminder of the program and of what these young people can achieve.

A big thank you to Mark Gepp and the Pathfinders team, and our admiration to the young people who built it. You should be very proud of your work!





Tai Chi Programs





Judo Australia Visits ASYCC

We were delighted to welcome Shane Alvisio, Judo Australia's National Participation Manager, to the Centre. Shane joined in with both our junior and senior judo training sessions and shared some techniques with our judoka. It was a great experience for our members to train with someone from the national level of the sport.

Shane and our Centre Manager also had a casual chat about how judo is growing at ASYCC. More children are joining our classes, many of them thanks to parents spreading the word about the program.

Thank you to all our families for backing our judo community and encouraging others to come along.

They also talked about coach accreditation pathways, which support our coaches to keep developing their skills, and about the Sporting Schools program, which helps get more young people into sport. We look forward to exploring what these opportunities could mean for our judo program and our community.

A big thank you to Shane for taking the time to visit, and to our judo coach and members for making him feel so welcome. If you'd like to try judo, please speak to our team at the front office about class times.



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