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Coomalie Community Government Council <stoppress@coomalie.nt.gov.au>
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April Edition of Stop Press Newsletter

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Welcome to Coomalie Community Government Council's latest edition of Stop Press newsletter.

Please feel free to share this email with family, friends, and fellow community members. If you wish to sign up for your own copy, follow this [link](#), or use your smartphone camera to take a picture of the QR Code below.



Have you subscribed to the Stop Press Newsletter and not receiving it? Please check your Junk Mail folder and mark the email as "Not Junk", should you require assistance with this, please call Council offices on 8976-0058 and we will be more than happy to help!

From The Chambers



Council held its Ordinary General Meeting on 19th March 2024. At this meeting, Council considered the following business:

- The renewal of Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation lease at 35 Finlay Road, Adelaide River. This was resolved to continue with the lease.
- Council has released the theme for the Coomalie Art Show 2024 being “Floral Fusion & Wildlife Wonders”. The Art Show will be held at the Litchfield Resort later in the year.
- Elected Members and Executive Staff have been busy workshopping the DRAFT 2024/25 Annual Budget and Shire Plan for community consultation. Council will notify and advertise the scheduled community consultation locations, dates, and times after Council endorses the final Draft Shire Plan and 24/25 Budget to be released.
- Council has appointed ATRIA Group to conduct community consultations about the future land use of the Rum Jungle Lake Borrow Pit and subsequent income from the use of the Borrow Pit by the Rum Jungle Mine Rehabilitation Project. Council will be conducting several workshops, a community survey and meetings seeking community input into the planning and development of this significant community asset.
- Due to the sad resignation of Councillor Sue Bulmer, Council will be calling for nominations in the coming weeks to fill this vacancy.

Council would like to extend their sincere appreciation and thanks to Councillor Sue Bulmer who held her position over 20+ years and was an extremely unique member with extensive knowledge of the Shire and influential with the Shire’s history. Sue will be sadly missed around the Chambers table as a member of Council, the Risk Management and Audit Committee and Cemetery Board.

The 4th and final instalment date for property rates were due on the 29th March 2024.

Instalment Dates:

- ~~1st Instalment – Friday 29th September 2023 – finished.~~
- ~~2nd Instalment – Thursday 30th November 2023 – finished.~~
- ~~3rd Instalment – Wednesday 31st January 2024 – finished.~~
- ~~4th & Final Instalment – Friday 29th March 2024 – finished~~



all done for 2023/24!

If you are experiencing financial difficulties to honour your property rates obligations, please contact the Council Office and arrange an appointment to discuss financial hardship options.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

MYRTLE FAWCETT PARK

Myrtle Fawcett Park stretches from the northern end of the Adelaide River Service Road, backing onto Becker Street and features a well-used public toilet block and small playground.

The park was named after Myrtle Magdalene Fawcett (nee Styles) (1904-1975) who was born and spent her childhood years at Brocks Creek. She was a member of the Darwin Red Cross during the latter part of World War I, an original member of the Country Women's Association in Darwin and a member of the Victoria League. She was evacuated from Darwin to Perth in 1942. Towards the end of the War, Myrtle and her husband, James, established a hotel at Adelaide River on the southern side of the river, near the railway station. In 1951, they moved to the current site of the Adelaide River Inn. James Fawcett died in 1960 and Myrtle continued to run the business with her son Jim, until the business was sold in 1973. She was awarded the MBE for services to the Community in 1970. She retired to Darwin and died at the age of 70 years in September 1975.

Source – Place names Register NT

Free to Residents

Domestic quantities of mulch can be collected from the Batchelor Waste Management Facility.

Commercial quantities are available at \$30/cubic metre.

Need to know more?

Visit Council Meetings page on our website, www.coomalie.nt.gov.au/council-meetings to access the very latest information.

Council's next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 16th April 2024** at 3:00pm in Chambers, 22 Cameron Road, Batchelor. Council meetings are open to the public.

From The Council Services Team

Council's works team are continuing wet season maintenance along with our regular duties.

Ongoing works include:

- Slashing and weeds maintenance on Council roads.
- Firebreak preparation.
- General road maintenance.
- There are a number of necessary road repairs and these will be undertaken in due course.
- General maintenance in both Adelaide River and Batchelor townships.
- Mowing of both townships.
- Regular activities at Adelaide River and Batchelor waste facilities.

Depending on weather, weight restrictions may be lifted 30th April. Council are still issuing permits, weight restrictions are 10 tonne on unsealed roads and 20 tonne on sealed roads.

Reminder - GAP "Gamba Action Program" will come to a close soon, if you haven't

already accessed your chemical then come to the Council office to collect your 5 Litres. This applies to rural properties with Gamba Grass.

Weeds in Coomalie

Bellyache bush

Scientific name: *Jatropha gossypifolia*

Declaration status: [Class A](#) weed except in areas where it is classified as [Class B](#)

Bellyache bush has a statutory weed management plan which outlines the legal requirements for control.

Go to Territory Stories website and read:

- [weed management plan for bellyache bush 2023 - 2033](#)
- [discussion paper: weed management plans for mimosa and bellyache bush 2023 - 2033](#).

For more information, you can also read the [weed management guide PDF \(1.5 MB\)](#).

Bellyache is a Weed of National Significance. For more information, go to the [Weeds Australia website](#).

Bellyache bush is a native of Central and South America.

It has been introduced as an ornamental and medicinal plant to many tropical countries where it has since become naturalised. Multiple deliberate introductions of bellyache bush into Australia resulted in naturalisation by the 1920s.

Bellyache bush is widespread across northern Australia, especially along watercourses.

It has been recorded in at least 30 localities across the Northern Territory (NT).

These sites range from extensive well established infestations in the Daly river catchment, through to isolated sites in the Darwin, Katherine and Gulf regions.

Bellyache bush rapidly forms dense monocultures in areas where native vegetation is degraded. It thrives in riparian zones and can also spread into intact savanna woodland and grassland habitats.

Get the [bellyache bush declaration zone map PDF \(452.8 KB\)](#).



Attention: Road Weight Restrictions

*Road Weight Restrictions will be in force within the
Coomalie Shire.*

*1 October until 30 April***

*** Maybe extended due to weather or road conditions*

Permits available from Council 8976-0058

- 48 business hours notice required*
- 10 tonne max on unsealed roads*
- 20 tonne max on sealed roads*



From Community Services Team

Council Run After School Sports

After School Sports will be returning the first week of term 2 with Adelaide River sessions on a Monday from 2:45pm - 3:45pm and Batchelor sessions Tuesday's 2:45pm - 3:45pm. Please see Council's website for details on enrolling your child! Remember for your child to attend you *must* complete a Council enrolment form signed by the child's parent or guardian!

Youth Week Programming

Youth Week is on!

See your school office or Council's website for details on our major activity and details on how to enrol!

Our libraries will be hosting a Lego Fun Day on Friday 12th April during the school holidays. See flyer below.

Seniors Mystery Bus Tour

The next tour for the year will be held on Thursday 18th April 2024. Pickups are scheduled as: Batchelor 8:30am and Adelaide River 9:00am.

Contact Council on 8976-0058 to secure your spot as places are limited!

From the Community Libraries Team

Our Community Libraries have been very busy places of late with people trying to get away from the heat we have been experiencing!

Community Library Opening Hours

Adelaide River

Thursdays 3:30pm to 6:30pm

Fridays 3:30pm to 6:30pm

Saturdays 9:00am to 2:00pm

Batchelor

Fridays 3:00pm to 5:30pm

Sundays 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Community members and visitors are all welcome at the library during the times above.

Should libraries be closed on short notice, or late opening for any reason Council will publish this information to its Facebook page.

Batchelor Music & Craft Sessions

These fantastic free programs have again commenced at Batchelor Library on a Sunday between 2 - 4pm.

Clean Up Australia Day



Council held a Clean Up Australia Day activity on Sunday March 3rd at Batchelor and Adelaide River.

Council had approx 17 volunteers attend to assist the clean up of the townships, with roughly 50kgs of rubbish being collected. This consisted mostly of plastic bottles and paperboard milk cartons.

Some of the waste collected can be seen in the photos above!

Watch out during February next year for details of Council's Clean Up events!

What's On

ANZAC DAY SERVICE

Thursday 25th April

5:30am sharp



Adelaide River
War Cemetery

We will remember them



**COOMALIE
COMMUNITY**
GOVERNMENT COUNCIL



COTA

Morning Tea

Where: Litchfield Outback Resort (see below flyer)

When: 9:30am 26th April 2024

Gold coin donation please!

Contact: Jan Jewell on 0408 762 257 for further details

Agemoves

Where: Old Rum Jungle Tavern, Batchelor

When: Every Tuesday 10:00am - 11:30am

Contact: Daryl Butler 0428 983 098 or Prue King 0427 332 803

Combined session for people of Coomalie.

Yoga/Pilates and Tai Chi are available on alternative weeks.

All Coomalie people are encouraged to attend both or either sessions.

Monthly Bus Trip

Where: Coolalinga and Gateway Shopping Centres

Pick up Batchelor 8am and Adelaide River 8:30am

When: Monday 29th April 2024

Booking essential – Numbers limited due to small bus

Contact: Jan Jewell on 0408 762 25

Presentation

NORTHERN TERRITORY

CONSUMER
AFFAIRS

**Do you have a question about your rights as a consumer
when buying goods or paying for services?**

**Want to learn more about scams and get tips on what to
look out for and how to protect yourself?**

**NT Consumer Affairs will be visiting the
Litchfield Outback Resort, Batchelor
Friday 26 April 2024, 9:30 am to 11.30 am**

Come and join us!

Bus available from Adelaide River.

Bookings are required for bus and catering purposes.

Ring Jan 0408760257 and leave a message to book.



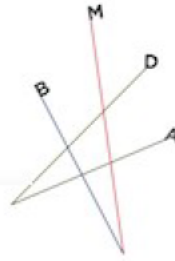
Web: www.consumeraffairs.nt.gov.au | Email consumer@nt.gov.au | Telephone (08) 8999 1999 or 1800 019 319

Fax: (08) 8935 7738 | SMS: 0401 116 801

DARWIN: 1st Floor, The Met Building, 13 Scaturchio St, Casuarina NT 0810 | PO Box 40946, Casuarina NT 0811

Community Groups

BACHELOR
MUSEUM
DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION INC



Batchelor Museum

As of Friday March 29 the Museum is open each day, and there has been a pleasing number of visitors. The extreme flooding of the Stuart Highway would have affected some travellers from interstate but this should resolve from now.

Many thanks to Barbara and to Lucinda for spending time on that irksome but necessary cleaning beforehand. Peter continues to sort the garden areas and has installed a walkway across from the new car park area leading to the office area.

Gaye and Sean will continue to be there for visitors whilst Barb and Pete have a couple of days off each week.

Meantime am organising a PARKING sign to direct visitors and hopefully keep them off the grassed front area along Kirra Crescent.

I have been working on a panel to record the very productive and meaningful life of Kathy Mills. The Mc Ginniss family have contributed hugely in many areas so Kathy's Uncle is also featured, and a panel about her Father pending.

Kathy married David Mills and many will know that the Mills family has played a big role in Music in the Top End. Kathy wrote a beautiful song called "Arafura Pearl" which is about Darwin. So there is the Mills Sisters and then two as separate artists - June and Ally.

I would love to play the Arafura Pearl recording in that area of the Museum as it would widen the audience of that beautiful song.- and likely boost sales!

So much to present about Kathy and her achievements.

Come and talk to any of us if you would consider being involved - we would value your

contribution.

Jan Hills



Rum Jungle Project Update

The latest newsletter from the Rum Jungle Mine Project can be downloaded from Council's website [here](#) and scroll to the section on Rum Jungle Mine Project Newsletter.



Coomalie Gardening Group

First meeting for the year will be at 11:30am on Sunday 21st April at Denmar Downs.



Batchelor Op Shop / Food For Life

Food for Life/Foodbank is no longer operating in Batchelor.

Food Bank has opened premises in Yarrawonga.

Meet and Greet will still operate each fortnight on Friday, commencing March 8th & 22nd 2024, from 9:30am to 11:30am, at the carport next to St Francis Church.

Sausage rolls and mini meat pies will be served together with tea and coffee. This will be followed by cake and biscuits. Everyone is welcome and food and drinks are free of charge.

The Op shop will be operating at the same time. For this month only all clothing items will be charged out at \$1 (one dollar).

The anglicare ladies will, also, be there for anyone wanting to know about or apply for a No Interest Loan (Nils).

Everyone is welcome so come along and have a chat!

St Francis Church

Every Sunday

Mardango Cres, Batchelor

9:00am service start with morning tea at 10:30am


St Francis' Church, Batchelor

WELCOME TO OUR
CHURCH
Service

EVERY SUNDAY
25 Mardango Cr

Service starts @ 9:00am

Morning tea @ 10:30am

How to get there



0401 032 533 RevRuthWalton@gmail.com

Community Markets



Adelaide River Markets

Starting up again beginning Easter Saturday from 8am-12pm

Held during Saturday, Sunday, Monday

All new stall holders welcome.

Email: adelaidrivermarket@gmail.com



Batchelor
Markets

SUN 14TH APRIL 24

8am to 1pm
Town Centre



COME ON DOWN TO OUR FIRST MARKET FOR 2024
AND WELCOME IN THE DRY SEASON WHILST
BROWSING OUR STALLS UNDER THE LOVELY RAIN
TREES. WE'RE A PET FRIENDLY MARKET SO ALL THE
FAMILY CAN COME ALONG AND ENJOY!

Save The Date



WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Adelaide River Market	Glen Huitson Park, Adelaide River	Every Saturday, Sunday & Monday during the dry season
Agemoves	Old Rum Jungle Tavern	Tuesdays 10:00am - 11:30am Call Daryl Butler 0428 983 098 or Prue King 0427 332 803
Batchelor Community Market	Batchelor Oval	Sunday 14 th April 8am – 1pm
Coomalie Gardening Group	Denmar Downs	11:00am start Sunday 21st April
Council Run After School Sports	Adelaide River & Batchelor Schools	Mondays & Tuesdays 2:45pm - 3:45pm (during school terms) Returns week starting 5th February 2024
Grey Panthers Dance Classes	Old Rum Jungle Tavern	Wednesdays 10.30am Call Darryl on 0428 983 098
Seventh Day Adventist Church	Mardanfo Cres, Batchelor	Every Saturday 11:00am
St Francis Church Service	Mardango Cres, Batchelor	Every Sunday 9:00am start 10:30am Morning tea
St Francis Op Shop	St Francis Church Mardango Cres, Batchelor	Every 2nd Friday 5th & 19th April 2024
St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church	Bruce Jones Community Centre, PInaroo Cres, Batchelor	First Sunday of every month

From Emergency Services

**Adelaide River Police Station
Northern Territory Police**

**C/- Post Office,
Adelaide River 0845
(08) 8976-7042**



**Batchelor Police Station
Northern Territory Police**

**PO Box 21,
Batchelor NT 0845
(08) 8976-0015**



**Adelaide River Health
Centre**

Becker St, Adelaide River 0846
(08) 8976-7027



**Batchelor Primary Health
Care Centre**

27 Pinaroo Cres, Batchelor 0845
(08) 8976-0011



The Boring But Necessary Stuff

Council's Feedback Process

If you choose to raise concerns (or compliments) to Council you are requested to write to the Chief Executive Officer outlining the details. There are two (2) forms on the Coomalie Council website; one is for [complaints about dogs](#) and the other is for [feedback](#).

You can also fill out one of the two forms on [Council's website](#).

Council Meetings

Council Meetings are generally held on the third Tuesday of each month and are open

to the public but are closed for any confidential sessions.

Next Meeting: 3:00pm Tuesday 16th April 2024

Stop Press

Should you know of someone that still wishes to receive a paper-based version of the Stop Press, please email [Stop Press](#) to be added to the printed mailing list.

Just a reminder, if you would like an article published, please email it to [Stop Press](#) by the 20th of each month. Each month we start with a clean canvas without articles being rolled over.

Please ensure you have read Council's policy [1.1 Community Communication](#) before submitting an article.

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

To see the previous editions of Stop Press please follow this link to [Councils website](#).

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