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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 <u>link</u>, or use your smartphone camera to take a picture of the QR Code below.



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The Northern Territory Government's Business Hardship Package is being continued until 1 July 2021 for businesses that have experienced a 30 percent loss in turnover due to COVID-19.

Register online in minutes for your Business Hardship Certificate that can then be used to access relevant concessions such as payroll tax, power and water bills, rents and rates.

For more information and to apply, visit: https://businessnt.smartygrants.com.au/businessnardshipregister

COUNCIL UPDATES

FROM THE COMMUNITY RECREATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Council Run After School Sports

Continues for Term 1 with Adelaide River being held on Tuesdays and Batchelor on Mondays this term. Should you wish your child to participate please obtain a copy of your enrolment form from your school office or from Council's website here. It is a requirement that all participants have completed this form. This is to ensure we have emergency contact details, as well as any allergy information.

Cemetery. A larger than normal crowd of 100 attended the commemoration this year. Special thanks to Shane at the War Cemetery for his help and making the grounds perfect, and all those that assisted with the day. Extra special thanks to 2 of our veterans for attending and laying a wreath.

Seniors Mystery Bus Tour

The first tour of the year was held on Monday 8th February 2021, with a trip to the historic Manton Dam followed by a lunch at Berry Springs Tavern. The next tour will be on Monday 8th March 2021, please contact Council offices on 8976-0058 to secure your seat!

ANZAC Day Dawn Service

Planning is underway for the 2021 Dawn Service, please keep an eye on Facebook in the near future for details of the event.

Andrew Roberts
Community Recreation Development Officer

FROM THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Council met on Tuesday 16th February 2021. Members of the Lake Bennett Residential Estate Body Corporate Committee provided Council with a presentation regarding options to manage onsite wastewater. Council thanked the representatives and looks forward to learning of future developments.

Preparations for the introduction of the new *Local Government Act 2019* (that takes effect from 1st July 2021) continue and Council adopted two further policies – "Breach of Code of Conduct" and "Confidential Business and Information".

Royal Life Saving Society Australia NT (RLSSANT) undertook an Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment of the Batchelor Swimming Pool recently and Council agreed to implementing a number of the recommendations that will see improved service provision, greater compliance and public health and safety measures introduced. Council agreed to refer an amount of \$5,000 to implement urgent key initiatives.

Ongoing improvements continue at the Batchelor Swimming Pool with the installation of a new fence and a new shade structure complete with photovoltaic (solar) panels. This has not only improved amenity at the facility but will reduce considerably, the ongoing operational costs of the facility. There are more improvements to come and these will be announced in the coming weeks. The incidence of heavy rains and a number of water leaks did not make the project any easier and set back landscape improvement works. Hopefully with drier weather over the coming week, lawn and plantings can be reinstated quickly.

Last month the Chamber met with the Member for Daly, Mr Ian Sloan MLA and raised connectivity and communications issues with him. Ironically, the Chamber discussed at its February meeting the ongoing issues not only Council, but the entire township of Batchelor are enduring. During the month, normal Council operations were significantly impacted by loss of connectivity through disruptions to Telstra's ADSL connection. The matter was escalated to Telstra's management team, in addition to the Member for Daly's office and the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman. Council and the community experienced internet outages for multiple days many weeks in a row. This is an unsatisfactory situation for individuals, organisations and Council and leads to significant

Whilst Council and the team are well prepared in the event of a significant wet weather event or severe storm, the onset of the monsoon has already tested Council's road infrastructure and assets. Whilst council staff and contractors endeavour to implement a regular repair and maintenance regime that can keep level with the demand for repair, it is also of the utmost importance that road users, in particular heavy vehicle users observe weight restrictions permit requirements and enable council staff to inspect road conditions prior to proceeding with truck movements.

Council also considered the ongoing discussions with the NT Land Corporation and the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (Local Government and Community Development) regarding the process of opening roads, particularly to provide improved access to the Chin Estate and north-west region of the Shire. This process will continue over the coming months and residents will be contacted and consulted with regarding planned modifications.

Council also discussed planning and development regarding the Waste Management Strategy and Environmental Management Plan for Council's waste management facilities. These documents will be issued for community comment in the coming months.

Need to know more?

Each month the Council meeting agenda and minutes can be accessed from the Council website and a regular link will be provided on Council's Facebook page. Visit www.coomalie.nt.gov.au/index.php/meetings-agendas-and-minutes to access the very latest information.

RUM JUNGLE MINE REHABILITATION PROJECT

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RUM JUNGLE PROJECT UPDATE

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade is working on the rehabilitation of the former Rum Jungle mine site located near Batchelor.

The project team will provide an update of the project's status at the upcoming Coomalie Community Government Council meeting.

If you'd like to hear about the current works and future plans, please join the online broadcast for the half hour presentation and Q&A.

Coomalie Community Government Council Meeting

Tuesday 16 March, 5pm

Join online: www.tinyurl.com/yb5gc6yy

COVID-19 restrictions allow a small number of guests to attend this presentation at Council Chambers in person. If you are able to join online, it would be appreciated if you could do so.

industry.nt.gov.au





You are invited to a Zoom meeting. **When:** Mar 16, 2021 05:00 PM Darwin

Register in advance for this meeting: www.tinyurl.com/yb5gc6yy

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the

meeting.





As part of Council's Waste Management strategy, stage 1 of the facility upgrades has occurred with the installation of some gatehouses at both Adelaide River and Batchelor Waste Management facilities.

Installation of water tanks and solar panels are the next stages to be undertaken in the near future. Keep a look out for more exciting changes to the areas in the coming months!

COUNCIL EVENTS

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ANZAC Day Dawn Service Sunday 25th April 2021 Adelaide River War Cemetery

Please note traffic restrictions apply Service begins at 5:30am sharp

Limited seating is available on application for current & ex-service personnel, wreath layers, aged people and those with special mobility requirements.

For bookings please call Council on 08 8976 0058

Poppies and candles will be available for a gold coin donation.

Traditional Gunfire breakfast & two-up follows the service at the Adelaide River Show Society, Dorat Road

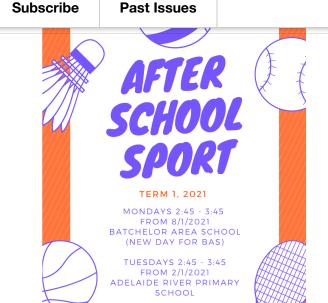








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BOMBING OF DARWIN COMMEMORATION









Bombing of Darwin Commemoration 2021 - Adelaide River War Cemetery

A large turnout was had for the commemoration this year with noted dignitaries in attendance as well as quite a few locals. We were honoured to have Servicemen from Adelaide River in attendance, Mr George Ah Kit and Mr Stephen Noble.

Special thanks to the team at Adelaide River War Cemetery for preparing such a wonderful venue for us to hold this commemoration, and thanks to everyone that attended to honour those fallen Armed Services Personnel and Civilians that lost their lives in the initial attack on Australian Soil.

Lest We Forget

COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

ADELAIDE RIVER COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Community Opening Hours

Thursday and Friday Afternoons 3:30pm to 6:30pm Saturdays 9:00am to 2:00pm

After some quiet times over the school holidays, Library is back in full swing for the New year.

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

We maintain a Covid-19 contact tracing register for every visitor, and have all the required social distancing, cleaning and hygiene measures in place to keep everyone using the facility safe.

Children over 8 years old may visit Library unaccompanied but must be signed in by a parent or caregiver to make sure we are not over our maximum visitor capacity. This is particularly important on Saturdays which are very popular sessions especially with our young engineers and gamers.

To help provide the best service possible and to plan for the future of library services in the community, Council has prepared a survey to gain feedback and suggestions about our service and opening hours from patrons and community members.

The Be Connected Network free IT and computer training sessions for Seniors are starting up again. We have two highly qualified experienced Tutors available who understand the challenges of adult learning. Lessons can be one on one, or in small groups, and are suitable for absolutely anyone no matter what level of experience learners have. Please phone Council to make a booking.

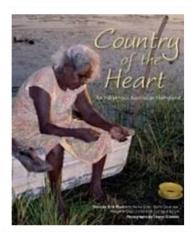
We are looking forward to seeing all our regular Library family and seeing some new faces as well this month.

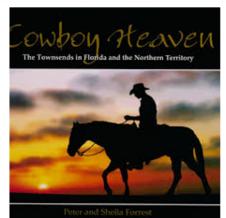
Community Opening Hours

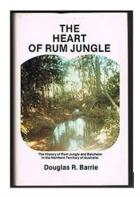
Thursday and Friday Afternoons 3:30pm to 6:30pm Saturdays 9:00am to 2:00pm

BATCHELOR COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Batchelor Library has several books dealing with the history of the Coomalie region. The stories are told from an Indigenous and non - Indigenous perspective. Three outstanding books are *Country of the heart : an Indigenous Australian homeland, Cowboy Heaven,* about the Townsend family settling in the district, and Douglas Barrie's history of Batchelor, *The heart of Rum Jungle.* Come and read these or other accounts of the district.







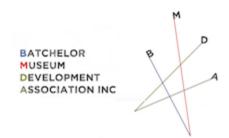
Kids' Time in the Library

Friday 3.00 - 5.30 pmSunday 1.00 - 4.30 pm

people, this is due to current COVID-19 restrictions, you are however allowed to bring your own and use in our devices.

Please respect this decision when advised.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



The Museum has advertisements out for caretakers to assist with the opening so we can be more flexible with opening times. Meantime the committee decided to open the Museum on Saturdays and Sundays, 11am to 3pm; and on Tuesdays from 10am until 2pm.

Sean had people go through on Saturday, possibly after the Adelaide River Memorial Service. However Sue had no visitors on Sunday.

There seems to be less people around currently, probably because of the wet conditions. Certainly this is a good Wet! Hopefully our Tamarind trees which were affected by the dry conditions, will recover foliage after collapsed branches are trimmed.

Lucida has now on USBs a great selection of photographs for two sections, being WWII and Rum Jungle Mine with associated subjects- township, school etc. The photographs will be a further attraction to these displays as well as serve to utilise the many photos which interested people have sent. Just have to get the technology settled and this will add great interest for visitors, particularly those who have a connection in that area.

There are people who have emailed their intention of coming later in the year, One lady is bringing her Mother to see where her husband served –he was in 18 Squadron. This is just one of the connections advised to us and there are many more. Whilst these people are coming in June 2021, I think there will be extra visitors to Darwin in February 2022 for the eightieth anniversary of the bombing, so we could expect some of those visitors to the Coomalie area also.

The very excellent signage that was put at the Airstrips down the highway for the (I think) 70th commemoration, was later removed, and the plain signs reinstated. Trevor Horman and I had several discussions about this as it seemed ridiculous to us that those excellent signs were taken away.

One hopes that when reinstated that they remain on site to give people the history which quite often they are seeking.

DONATIONS

Whilst the Batchelor Museum is primarily an interpretive one, we have been given some wonderful display items. When you visit you will see the name on the object and the person who has donated it- some of the notices are yet to be done.

Items must be given permanently to the Museum and there is a form which we will have availablethe format given to us from the Military Museum in Darwin, please be aware this is a common policy of museums.

Be proud of the Museum – it will showcase the unique town of Batchelor and will be a valuable resource to bring visitors from all over.



Coomalie Gardening Group met on 21st February 2021 at Denmar Downs. Each monthly meeting is held at 11 am on the third Sunday. Attendance this month was good and included some that had travelled down from Howard Springs.

There were two important announcements were made.

- 1. Open Gardens is, again, in operation this year, and
- Seniors Gardening Competition is, again, being hosted by Keep Australia Beautiful.

An additional category for this year covers Home Grown Vegetable section.

Brochures covering these events will be in circulation in the near future.

Thoughts went out to members having wedding anniversaries this month of February.

- Denise and James Wright
- Dennis and Mary Ashley

Congratulations to all.

A scrumptious morning tea was enjoyed with the meeting concluding around 1 pm.

The next meeting will be at 11 am on Sunday March 21st 2021, and again, will be at Denmar Downs. All are welcome to join us. Morning tea is free and there are no charges to join etc.

It is a great resource in which to exchange knowledge or even swap plants and/or cuttings etc. in a friendly environment.

If you have any queries you can email Coomaliegardeninggroup@gmail.com

Or

Ring Mary on 89 760 379.

CHILDREN'S DENTAL SERVICE



finish primary school (year six).

All children in the Northern Territory, aged 0-18 years, with a current Medicare card and still at school, are eligible for free dental services through Top End Oral Health Service (TEOHS).

TEOHS operates a visiting dental service from Batchelor School. Dental Therapist, Milly and Dental Assistant Justin will be at the school clinic this week, March 1-5.

We recommend that all children have regular check-ups. Your children can visit the Batchelor school-based dental clinic from age 0 until they

Phone 08 8922 6466 to make an appointment at a school or community dental clinic.



Morning Tea

Where: Rum Jungle Bowls Club When: 26th March 2021 9:30am start

Contact: Jan Jewell on 8976 0255 for further details

Coomalie Community Shed

Where: Cutler Place, Batchelor

When: Every Tuesday 8:30am - 2:00pm Contact: Jan Jewell on 8976 0255

Agemoves

Where: Adelaide River Primary School When: Every Tuesday 3:30pm - 4:45pm Contact: Darryl Butler on 0428 983 098

When: Every Wednesday 5:00pm - 6:15pm

Contact: Prue King 0427 332 803

Monthly Bus Trip

Where: Coolalinga and Gateway Shopping Centres

Pick up Batchelor and Adelaide River Stores When: Monday 22nd March 2021 at 8:00am

Booking essential – Numbers limited Contact: Jan Jewell on 8976 0255

NORTHERN TERRITORY for senior Territorians

MEDIA RELEASE

FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2021

COTA NT launch Petition to allow the NT to enact laws dealing with voluntary assisted dying

The Northern Territory became the first jurisdiction in the world to introduce an assisted dying framework passing laws allowing a doctor to end the life of a terminally ill patient at the patient's request in the *Rights of the Terminally Ill Act 1995*. The legislation was overruled by a federal Private Members Bill entitled *Euthanasia Laws Act 1997* which inserted a clause in the ACT and NT's *Self Government Acts* which states that these two jurisdictions have no power to make laws with respect to assisted dying.

"This was, and still is, unfair and unreasonable," says COTA NT CEO Sue Shearer. "It is increasingly untenable as states around the country are passing legislation in this area. Territory citizens are being denied their democratic rights and the choice for end of life decisions solely based on where they live. This situation should not be allowed to persist."

"This petition is about enabling Territorians to have dignity and choice in how their life ends."

"Assisted dying is not a comfortable subject for a lot of people, and can become very emotive," continues Ms Shearer. "But reluctance to talk about death and dying can prevent future planning of care and medical intervention, and a terminally-ill person from expressing their final wishes. We need those conversations. This petition is about enabling Territorians to have dignity and choice in how their life ends."

COTA NT has launched a petition calling on Federal Government to repeal Section 50A of the Northern Territory (Self Government) Act 1978 so as to allow the NT Legislature to enact laws dealing with voluntary assisted dying.

To support the petition, visit www.cotant.org.au/petition.

####

Media Contact

Sue Shearer, CEO, COTA NT 08 8941 1004

COTA Northern Territory is the peak advocacy and representation organisation for senior Territorians advocating for and working towards an age-friendly, just, inclusive and equitable society since 1969

COTA NT Inc GPO Box 852 Darwin NT 0801 65 Smith Street Darwin NT 0800 ABN 86 316 991 800

P: (08) 8941 1004 E: admin@cotant.org.au www.cotant.org.au

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Free Sessions for Seniors

Want to learn more about your smartphone, tablet or computer?



BOOKINGS REQUIRED

Ph:8976 0058

Email.beconnectedcoomalie@gmail.com

BATCHELOR AREA SCHOOL

family Playgroup

WHO: All families with children from birth to 4!
WHERE: Batchelor Area School Pre-School
TIME: 9:00am – 11:00am

WHAT's ON: Investigative play, learning games, music, movement and outdoor play!

TERM 1 DATES: Every fortnight on a Friday, during school term:

- 12th February
- 26th February
- 12th March
- 26th March
- 9th April



DANCE GROUP FOR AGES 60+

WEDNESDAYS 10:30AM - 12:00PM

Litchfield Motel

COST: \$10 donation per class

Contact Darryl on 0428 983 098 OR admin@tracksdance.com.au









IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Northern Territory Police

C/o Post Office, Adelaide River, NT 0845,

08 8976 7042

Officer in Charge:

Remote Sergeant Peter Birch

Northern Territory Police

PO Box 21, Batchelor, NT 0845,

08 8976 0015

Front Counter open:

Mon—Thurs 8am—4pm

Officer in Charge:

Remote Sergeant Paul Parkanyi





WHAT WHERE WHEN

Agemoves Adelaide River School

Tuesdays 3:30pm - 4:45pm Call Darryl on 0428 983 098

Agemoves Batchelor Area School Hall Mondays 5:00pm - 6:15pm

Call Prue King 0427 332 803

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		Datcheiof Afea School	9:00am - 11:00am	
	ardening Group nonthly meeting	Contact Mary Ashley for this months location 8976-0379	11am, Sunday 15 November Denmar Downs	
	ouncil Run After School Sports	Batchelor Area School	Every Monday from 8th February 2021 2.45pm - 3.45pm	
	ouncil Run After School Sports	Adelaide River School	Every Tuesday from 2nd February 2021 2.45pm - 3.45pm	
Grey Pa	nthers Dance Classes	Litchfield Motel	Wednesdays 10.30am Call Darryl on 0428 983 098	
	mbing of Darwin commemoration	Adelaide River War Cemetery	Saturday 20th February 2021 10:00am	

COUNCIL INFORMATION



DO YOUR RESEARCH
Familiarise yourself with the risk

Familiarise yourself with the risks that could occur in your community

2 PREPARE YOUR HOME

Coordinate with your family on your protocol during an emergency. Keep important numbers on hand.

PACK AN EMERGENCY KIT
They should all contain food, water and supplies for a minimum of 72 hours.

4 STAY INFORMED

Contact your local government to find

Contact your local government to find out how it will share alerts and instructions during an emergency

FOR MORE SAFETY TIPS VISIT

SECURENT.NT.GOV.AU

March 2021 Edition of Stop Press

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Cyclones

The Top End of the Northern Territory is prone to cyclones from November to May.

Cyclones usually affect coastal areas up to 50km inland from the sea.

Cyclones are dangerous and can produce destructive winds, heavy rainfall, flooding and storm surges.

They affect essential services and disrupt your ability to travel and communicate.

Your responsibility

The protection of your family, your home and your possessions is your responsibility.

You need a cyclone emergency plan and an emergency kit.

You must also make sure your house is safe if you choose to stay at home during a cyclone.



Council will have weight restrictions in place on all Council owned roads, sealed and unsealed.

- 20 Tonne on sealed roads (bitumen)
- 10 Tonne on unsealed roads (gravel)

Any heavy vehicles wishing to access these roads will need to apply to Council for a permit, subject to change depending on weather with limited notice.

It is at Council's discretion to approve permits.

Permits must be applied for at least 2 business days prior to planned movement.

A copy of the form can be downloaded from Council's website here.

All enquiries please contact the Coomalie Council on ph 8976 0058 or mail@coomalie.nt.gov.au

DOGS IN THE COOMALIE SHIRE

All dogs within the Coomalie Region over 3 months of age must be registered.

You can register your dog at the Coomalie Council Office in Batchelor or Adelaide River or via

email.

Dogs must be on a leash at all times in any public area otherwise they will be impounded.

Fees apply if your dog has been put in the pound.

Impoundment fees are initially \$90.00 for registered dogs and \$165.00 for unregistered dogs, then \$60.00 per day kept in Pound. Registered dogs are kept for 3 days and unregistered dogs kept for 2 days. Unregistered dogs must be registered before being released from the pound.



Registration Fees

<u>Town Dogs</u> - A limit of 2 dogs per household applies

Registered **Sept-August** (1 year)

\$30.00

Registered March—August (6 months) \$20.00 Concessions

1/2 price

<u>Rural Dogs</u> - Registration is free and no limits apply

Click the image above to download a dog registration form.

^{**}Unless otherwise signed



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

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: 5pm, Tuesday 16th February 2021

Adelaide River Council Office

The Adelaide River Council Office operates from the Adelaide River Library at the below times.

 Thursday
 3:30pm - 6:30pm

 Friday
 3:30pm - 6:30pm

Stop Press

Should you know of someone that still wishes to receive a paper-based version of the Stop Press, please email <u>Stop Press</u> to be added to the printed mailing list.

Just a reminder, if you would like an article published, please email it to <u>Stop Press</u> 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 <u>1.1 Community Communication</u> before submitting an article.

PREVIOUS EDITIONS

To view the previous versions of Stop Press please follow this link to Councils website.

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22 Cameron Road, Batchelor NT 0845 or mail@coomalie.nt.gov.au

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^{*} Only when Hilary Brett is on duty

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