# MacNews

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# HEALTHY COMMUNITY DAY WALLACE ROCKHOLE

ABOVE: Hannan Enalanga and Kashanti Mcmillan with their BushWok lunch that they made

## Council Election August 2021

information inside, pages 14-17

INSIDE

PAGES 18-19: 2021-22 MRC Regional Plan released
PAGES 24-25: MRC's 1st Female Aboriginal ESO
PAGES 30-37: Youth Board activities

*many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle*

MacDonnell Regional Council

# MacNews



Welcome to MacDonnell Regional Council,

There are some important events coming up that I encourage all staff and community members to be involved in, the Council Elections and the National Census.

Residents can now nominate to be run to be a Councillor of the MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC). Councillors play an important leadership role in ensuring community voices are heard and in guiding the future direction of the organisation in our mission to improve the lives of Council residents.

Nominations are open until **12 noon Thursday 5 August**. Please see the CSC in your community for more information and to pick up a nomination form
(see pages 14-17 for more information).

Voting for the MRC Election will be held from **Monday to Thursday, 23-26 August**, at each community council office. As an organisation, we have put our hand up so that remote voters have four days to vote in their community, as opposed to previously only having a few hours in some places. Please support your ward nominees and ensure your vote counts.

The Census will be held on **Tuesday night 10 August**. The Census is a survey that counts the people in your community and asks other questions that can help to identify community needs. It is held across the country and the information collected is important as it is used for planning purposes, to make sure that there is enough housing, schools, clinic, road, infrastructure and project funding for the amount of people that live in your community
(see page 45 for more information).

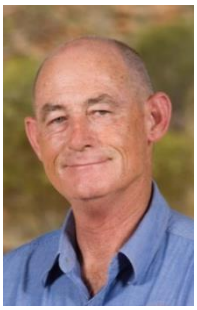
The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to cause disruption around the world and across Australia. We continue to be lucky to not have had community transmission in Central Australia, but the lockdown in Alice Springs is a reminder of the danger we face from this virus that has taken lives in Australia. I encourage all staff and residents to listen to the message from the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to get vaccinated. It is the best way to protect the communities we support and is the path back to being able to travel and play sport without restriction. Myself and the Executive Leadership Team have all had our first vaccination doses and have booked in for our second does.

The President Roxanne Kenny and her fellow Councillors have approved the 2021-22 MRC Regional Plan, which sets out the strategic direction for the organisation for the year. To ensure we meet the goals of the plan, Key Performance Indicators have been set, and I encourage all staff to work together to achieve these (see pages 18-19).

Finally, I would like to thank all the Councillors that served on Council for the past 4 years. Your guidance for the organisation and myself has been appreciated and has helped us to strive towards the MRC vision: many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle. I wish all nominees in the upcoming LG Election the very best and thank you for standing up for your communities and the MacDonnell Regional Council.

Jeff MacLeod, Chief Executive Officer,
MacDonnell Regional Council

The CEO gets his 1st COVID-19 vaccination jab, thumbs up!



MacDonnell Regional Council

many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle

# Utju (Areyonga) lead the way on COVID-19 vaccinations

## "Now I've had the needle, I'm safe and happy now"

Tarna Andrews, Pitjantjatjara teacher and Utju resident

ABOVE: (left) Local Authority Chair and MacCare Team Leader Sarah Gallagher waits for her vaccination with other community residents

The community of Utju (Areyonga) has rolled up their sleeves to keep their community safe with most people in the community receiving their first COVID-19 vaccination.

The ABC covered this and can be watched at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eX4bNZWWtJ4

Full ABC story here: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-07-01/remote-vaccine-uptake-northern-territory-utju-covid19/100258084?fbclid=IwAR0aB_cLMztCiUy535_KpoBqIBLf54Nqi2j6ZmEE45-ROnt6aLiWyXojq8Y

**MESSAGE FROM ABORIGINAL MEDICAL SERVICES ALLIANCE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

http://www.amsant.org.au/

ABOVE: (left) Local Authority member Jonathon Doolan and other fellas from Areyonga wait for their vaccinations

# NAIDOC Week: Heal Country https://www.naidoc.org.au/

## NAIDOC Week poster by Gugubadhun woman, Kiah Mackenzie

**"Go out there and kick, sing, dream, write, rap, speak, fight, invent, run, protest, study, lead, compete, practice, and be BRAVE!"**

Kiah MacKenzie, Gugubadhun woman

# NT Healthy Communities Day Wallace Rockhole

Earlier this year, a NT Healthy Communities Event was combined with the judging for the Australian Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards. This enabled the entire community, including visitors, to take part in a Welcome to Country; view the video presentation of Wallace Rockhole that will be shown in Victoria at the National Tidy Town Awards; have a morning tea with damper; as well as going on a site visit to the Rockhole to demonstrate the cultural significance to the community. The NT Healthy Communities Program is funded by the Northern Territory Government, Department of Health. This program will see a Healthy Community Day held in each of the 13 communities that MRC supports.

Around 100 residents attended this community event, basically the whole community!

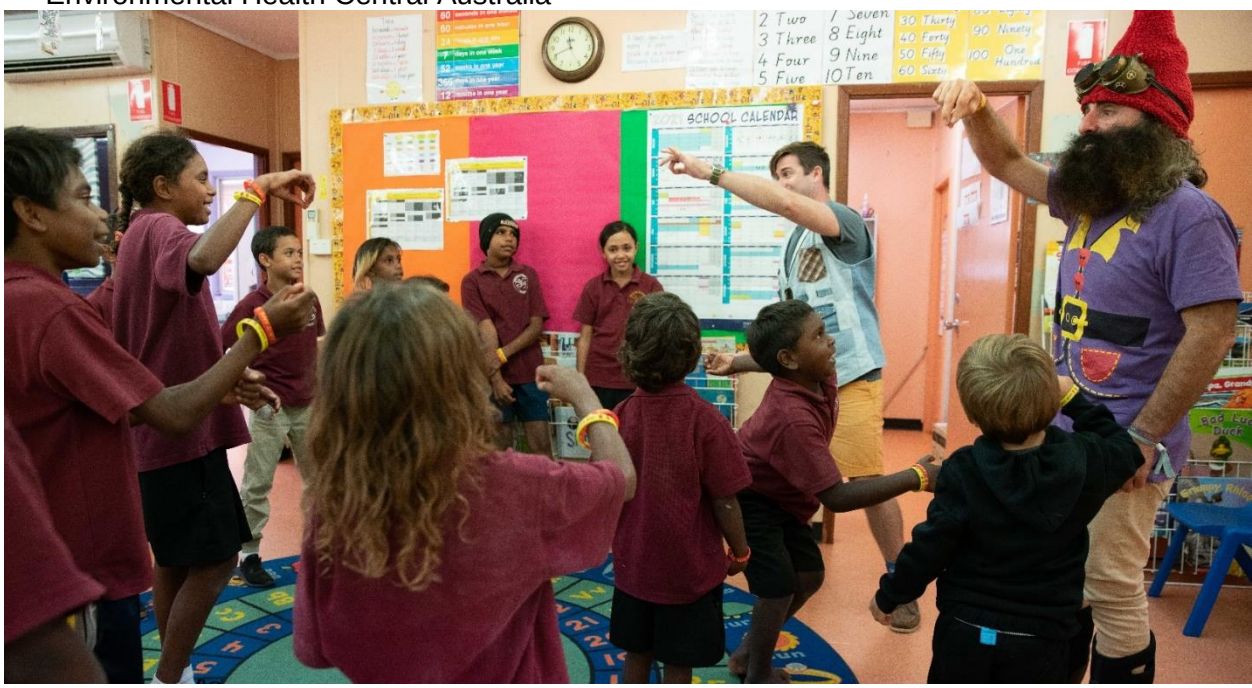
Get Grubby crew Costa the Gnome and Scrap Boy were involved with the students at the Wallace Rockhole School planting veggies, trees. This also included health and hygiene messages such as “No Germs on Me” into the educational program.

MRC provided a portable hand hygiene washing station for the community event. (This station was gifted to MRC by NT Health for use at community and other public events).

Probably all of the community took part in the lunchtime BushWok cook-off with 8 teams participating. Costa, MRC CEO Jeff MacLeod, National Tidy Towns Judge Gail Langley, became the judges for the cooking competition.

Thank you to all of the other agencies that participated in this wonderful community event:

- Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT)
- Indigenous Eye Health (University of Melbourne)
- Centre for Disease Control – Trachoma
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress
- NTG Oral Health
- Centre for Disease Control – Rheumatic Heart Disease
- Centre for Disease Control – Sexual Health
- Environmental Health Central Australia




ABOVE: Scrap Boy and Costa the Gnome (red hat) with students at Wallace Rockhole School

# NT Healthy Communities Day - Wallace Rockhole

ABOVE: Wallace Rockhole School with Costa the Gnome, Scrap Boy, Gail Langley, National Tidy Towns Judge and Principal Maryse Tureene. BELOW: Cultural tour to the Wallace Rockhole

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# NT Healthy Communities Day - Wallace Rockhole

## Getting Grubby

## Getting un-grubby

Local Legend Ken Porter leads the orchard tour

## Welcome to Country by Terry Abbott

## Cooking roo-tail

National Tidy Towns Judge Gail Langley gives it a go

## Community Infrastructure Plan consultation

# NT Healthy Communities Day - Wallace Rockhole

## BushWok Cook-off

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# Yummy Healthy Lunch – Thanks To The BushWok Cook-off

## Congress Health Promotion

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# MacSafe

PHOTO: MacSafe team training at Ross River

# MacDonnell Regional Council Election August 2021

## Do you want to be a Councillor?

Do you want to lead the MacDonnell Regional Council to improve the lives of Council residents?

Do you want to represent your community and be the link to MRC services?

Do you want to build a strong path to a quality desert lifestyle?

If you answered yes to these questions, then you should nominate to run in the Council Election in August

MacDonnell Regional Council

MacDonnell Regional Council Election August 2021

# What do Councillors do?

As a Councillor, you listen to the community residents and the Local Authorities to make sure that MRC serves communities' needs and aspirations.

Councillors also make sure that the MRC organisation is performing well and strong, and help to guide and select the CEO.

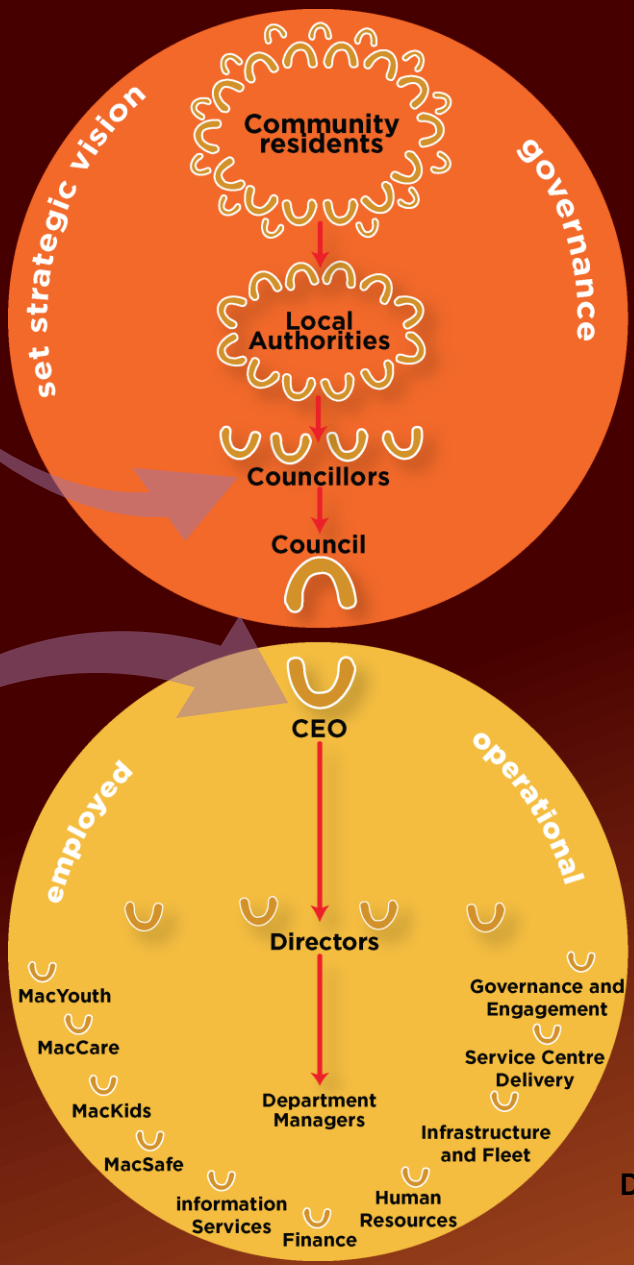
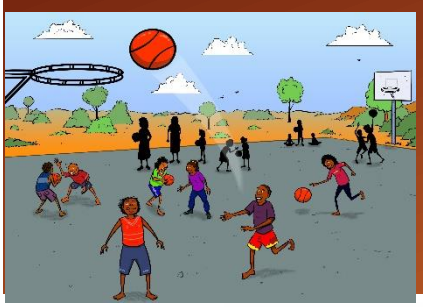



Diagram by S. Anderson

The CEO and staff carry out the Council's decisions.



MacDonnell Regional Council

# Council Election – Key Actions and Dates

I want to run to be a Councillor

Nominate by filling out an NT Electoral Commission (NTEC) nomination form and submitting between Friday 16 July and 12 noon Thursday 5 August.

Nomination forms are available in the Council office. The CSC can assist you with the form but can't fill it out for you

I don't want to run to be a Councillor, but I want to vote for someone that will best represent my community and my ward

It is best to make sure you are on the electoral roll by Tuesday 27 July

or

you can enrol on the day when you vote in August

**Voting at MRC offices: Monday to Thursday, 23-26 August**

Vote for who you want to represent you as a Councillor

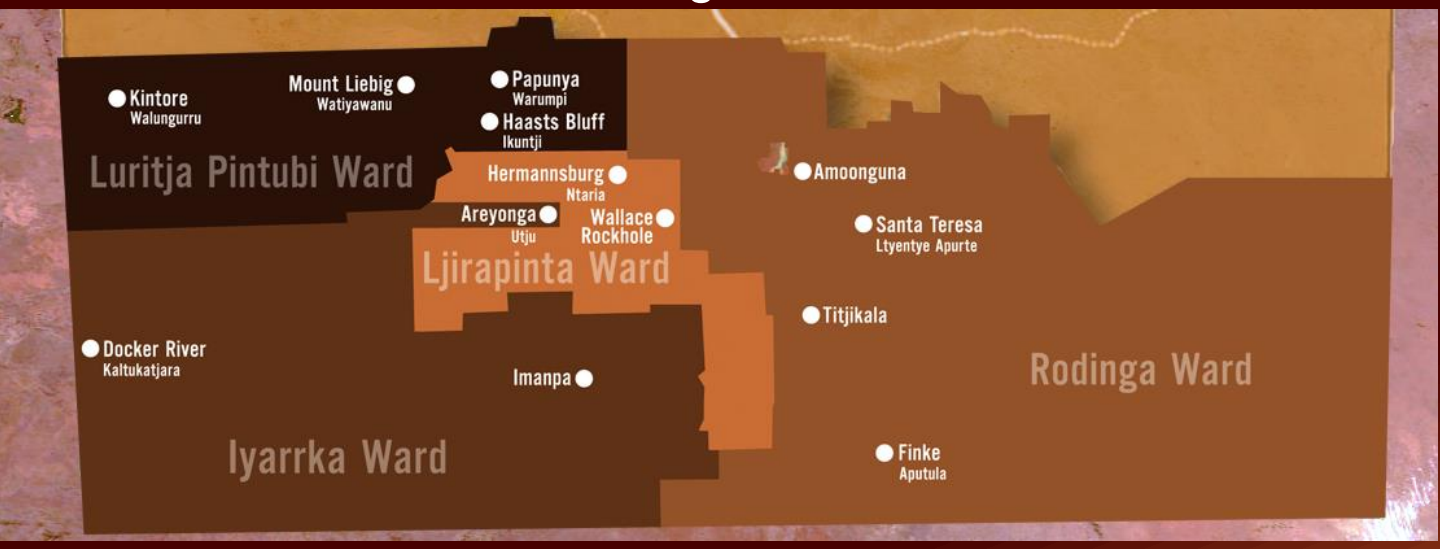
Election day: Saturday 28 August
(MRC offices will be closed this day)

# Council Election – Questions and Answers

## Who can become a Councillor?

- Anyone 18 years or older and
- live in the MRC area (address on the electoral roll)
- Please refer to full list in section 47 of the Local Government Act 2019

## MacDonnell Regional Council area




## Do Councillors get paid?

Yes, Councillors are paid allowances to represent MRC, attend meetings, for travel and for professional development and training.

## What meetings will I need to attend?

A Councillor is expected to attend Local Authority meetings in their ward and Council meetings to make the best decisions for their ward, their community and all 13 MRC communities.

## Can I nominate to be a Councillor if I work for MRC?

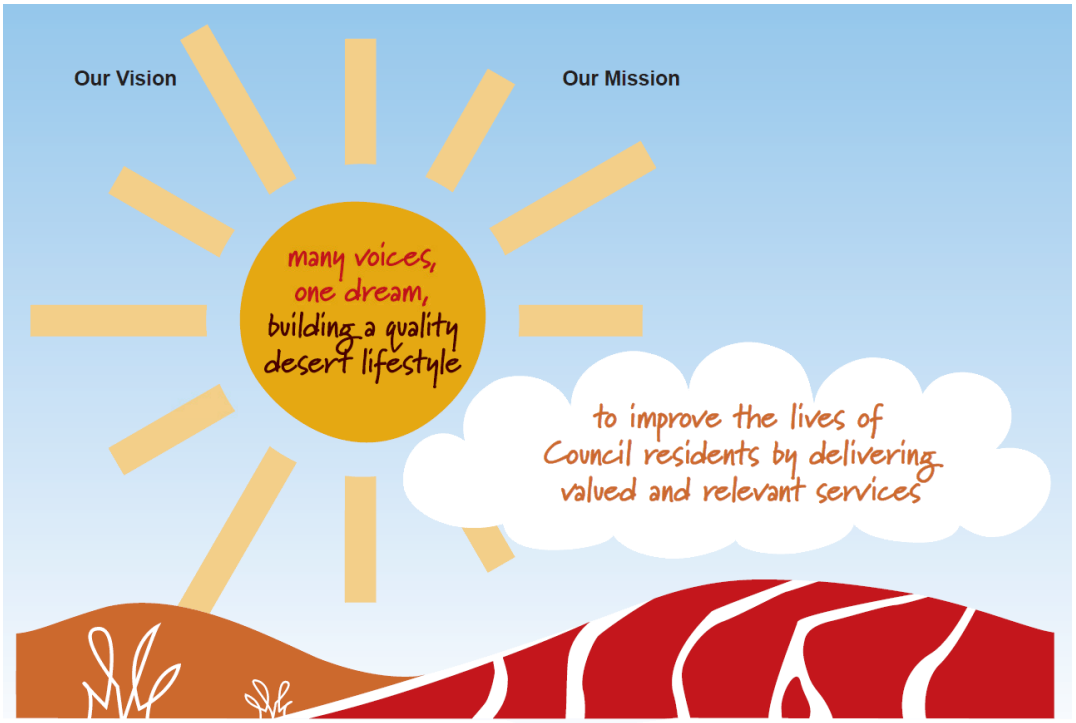
No, but if you to nominate for Council, you can write a letter to the CEO saying you want to resign temporarily to run. If you do not get elected to the Council, the CEO will then give you your job back.

For more information, see the NTEC website
https://ntec.nt.gov.au/elections/2021-local-government-elections

# 2021-22 MRC Regional Plan

At the Council meeting held on 25 June 2021, the 2021-22 MRC Regional Plan was approved. The Regional Plan guides MRC staff to deliver on our mission *to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services.* MRC will continue to strive towards the goals of Developing Communities, Healthy Communities, Empowered Communities and A Supportive Organisation, and the objectives that sit beneath these goals.

It is available for download here:
https://www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au/uploads/misc/2021-22-MRC-Regional-Plan.pdf

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# Our Regional Plan 2021–22

## Our Goals

- Developing communities — Council Goal #1
- Healthy communities — Council Goal #2
- Empowered communities — Council Goal #3
- A supportive organisation — Council Goal #4

## Our Objectives

**Developing communities**

- Council's infrastructure meets community needs
- Create employment opportunities
- Increase Aboriginal employment opportunities
- Support local Aboriginal enterprise
- Increase awareness of and involvement with community employment opportunities

**Healthy communities**

- Support active and healthy lifestyles
- Improve environmental health outcomes
- Support community and cultural events
- Safer communities

**Empowered communities**

- Young people are empowered to be engaged representatives
- Local Authority and Council members are trained and empowered in their roles to lead into the future
- Future Leaders are empowered to be engaged representatives
- Local Authority and Council members, constituents and stakeholders are engaged and informed
- Services are community led

**A supportive organisation**

- Support the development and advancement of our staff
- Improve efficiencies through our use of technology
- Support staff safety and wellbeing
- Build emergency management capability
- Staff are empowered to inform MRC decision-making

MAIN PHOTO: Kintore youth team: (left to right) Clive Raggett, Phyllis Rowe, Naomi Rowe, Dan Broadbent, Danisha Gallagher, Rakeem Anderson and Cheryl Raggett

INSERT PHOTO: Mount Liebig civil works team member Sabin Jackson on the whipper snipper

# CAAMA hit the airwaves from Docker River

From the 17th-21st of May, Community Engagement Officer Min travelled out with Allan Nielsen and Pam Reilly to deliver a radio training workshop for the young people at the school. The Local Authority in Docker River have been trying to find some opportunities for the young people to have more media training, so this was a perfect fit.

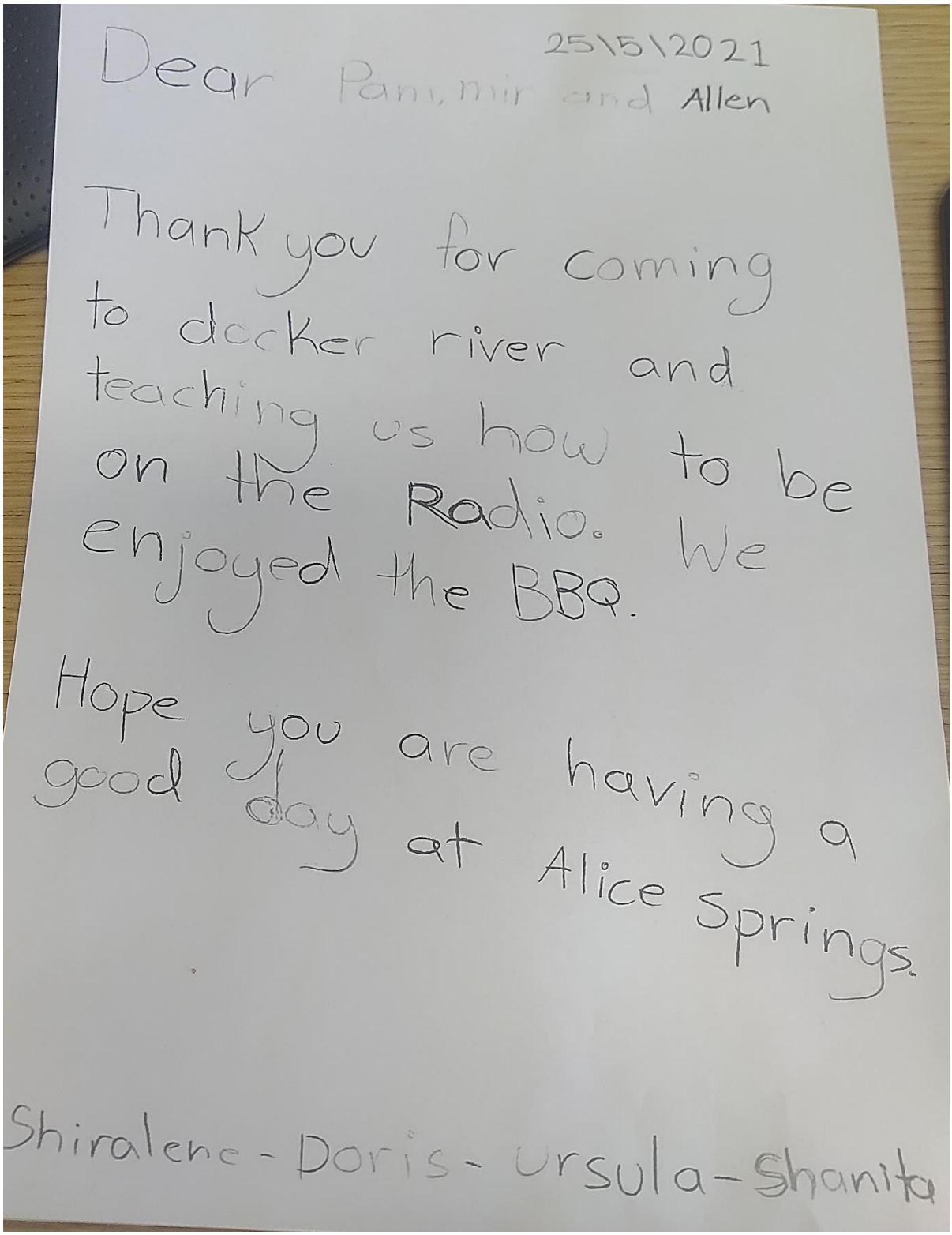
Throughout the week, the youth of Kaltakutjara learnt the basics of radio, how to present music and talkback, and how to conduct interviews with proper equipment. The week was wrapped up with a big BBQ to celebrate. The 30-minute radio show that the youth created was live on National CAAMA radio on Friday, the 28th of May.

## Heading out to conduct interviews…

Students conducted interviews in:

- The clinic
- Art Centre
- Aged Care

MacDonnell Regional Council




**The students from Nyangatjatjara College say thanks! Palya!**

Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association

NYANGATJATJARA COLLEGE

MacDonnell Regional Council

# First Aid Training

## Amoonguna

## Santa Teresa

# MRC's 1st Female Aboriginal ESO

Jessica Slater is our new Essential Services Officer (ESO) at Haasts Bluff. Jessica is Macdonnell Regional Council's 1st full-time female Indigenous ESO. Jessica who likes to go by the name Bella has settled into her role very well after completing her training and has already completed a couple of engine services and performed some minor repairs to Power and Water equipment.

ABOVE: Washing generator radiator during service
RIGHT: Replacing Service Fuse to house using pole stick
BELOW: Emptying air cleaner bowl during Service

# MRC's 1st Female Aboriginal ESO

ABOVE: Cleaning generator

# Council Meeting held in Amoonguna

# Alice Springs Office Opening

## Renovation supports local economy

The Alice Springs office of MacDonnell Regional Council was officially opened by the Hon Chanston Paech MLA Minister for Local Government, MRC President Roxanne Kenny and CDRC President Adrian Dixon on Thursday 27 May 2021.

Central Desert Regional Council (CDRC) and MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) were proud to be able to support local jobs and the economy in this large construction project. As construction occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, the boost to the construction industry and supply businesses in the Central Australian region provided certainty in unprecedented times.

Designed by Central Australian architect practice Susan Dugdale & Associates, the building was constructed and project managed by MPH Projects, a well-known Central Australian construction company, who successfully tendered for the project. MPH Projects utilised the services of 29 Alice Springs-based contractors in the build, with over 80 workers employed, including 15 apprentices. Their skills included demolition, concreting, flooring, cabinet making, scaffolding, rigging, rendering, power and data, window tinting and fire systems. MPH Projects sourced 79% of all materials, as determined by value, from 37 local suppliers. The majority of products sourced non-locally were not available in Alice Springs.

In striving towards both Council's objective of increasing Aboriginal employment opportunities through tendered contracts, 3241 hours of Aboriginal employment was achieved during the office redevelopment.

Another benefit from the $4.5 million MacDonnell Regional Council Alice Springs office building project includes the extra office space provided to deliver valued services to constituents of both regional councils. Both regional council teams play an important role in supporting the wide variety of valued services delivered by their great teams located in each of the communities. The new facility also includes an updated Council Chambers providing a space for formal decision-making processes.

ABOVE: (front left to right) Central Desert Regional Council President Adrian Dixon, Minister for Local Government Chansey Paech and MacDonnell Regional Council President Roxanne Kenny, with the two regional councils

The Alice Springs based teams of the CDRC and MRC had expanded to outgrow the previous office buildings on Bagot St. Approval was received from the Development Consent Authority to expand office space by building a second story on the existing ground floor office.

**Diane Hood, CEO CDRC** said there is mutual benefit to both MRC and CDRC of the refit and it is a great example of the sharing of resources and infrastructure, as well as the close working relationship that we have. “Refreshing our shared asset has been worthwhile and demonstrates the close working relationship that both our Councils enjoy.”

**Jeff MacLeod CEO MRC** said he was proud that the project provided a boost to the local economy through the construction and supply industries. “It is fantastic that the construction of such a great building could support local businesses and the families they support in such uncertain times during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

# Alice Springs Office Opening (continued)

MRC President Roxanne Kenny (above) gave the following speech:

Thank you all for coming to the official opening of this amazing building. It provides such a nice space for our Alice Springs-based staff to continue to do a great job supporting the communities of the MacDonnell Regional Council.

Thank you to Chansey and the Northern Territory Government for their financial assistance.

As Adrian said, we are so proud of the work that both MacDonnell Regional Council and Central Desert Regional Council do in achieving our visons of “Two – ways – One Outcome, equality of access to services and opportunities that enhance well-being” and “Many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle.”

Both Councils want to deliver the best services we can to improve the lives of Council residents.

Today we had a special joint meeting of both Councils in our shared decision-making space.

I want to acknowledge the past Councillors of MacDonnell Regional Council who we have honoured by placing their photos in our building.

Welcome to and thank you to their families for allowing this. They were my role models and teachers and put me where I am today.

Thank you to my fellow Councillors for their support over the years. You have represented your ward and communities with such honour.

ABOVE: MRC President Roxanne Kenny and CDRC President Adrian Dixon cut the opening cake.

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LEFT: MRC sign goes up
ABOVE: Minister Paech

BELOW: Councillors from both Councils (left to right) Annie Young, April Martin, Lynette Ellis, Cr Freddy Williams, Dalton McDonald, Joe Marshall

RIGHT: MRC and CDRC staff mingle
BELOW: (left to right) President Roxanne Kenny, Barry Abbott Jnr, treasured employee Kirsten Baliva

ABOVE: Building team: (left to right) Architect Miriam Wallace, Site Foreman Ian Lawrence and MRC Director Technical Services Simon Murphy

# Santa Teresa Local Authority allocates funding to Youth Board Projects

Following requests from the Santa Teresa Youth Board, the Santa Teresa Local Authority (LA) allocated 2 amounts of funding to projects that will benefit young people.

In collaboration with Catholic Care, the Santa Teresa LA allocated $10,000 of Project Funds to the youth space, which included: greening, seating, fencing and art work.

The Santa Teresa LA also allocated $33,000 of LA Project Funding to the Family Area and Volleyball court at the Club / Rec Hall which included - Turf, sand, installation, concrete plinths, netting, backhoe hire, turf tape, pins, road base soil, topping sand.

# Santa Teresa Local Authority allocates funding to Youth Board Projects (continued…)

# Amoonguna Youth Board Minutes

MacDonnell Regional Council

## Youth Board - meeting minutes

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | Thursday, 6 May 2021 |
| Community | Amoonguna |
| Chair | Richard "Winky" Dixon |
| Minutes | Adam Bell & Natasha Stuart |
| Youth Board Members | Waylon Dixon, Lianna McCormack, Monica Ellis, Kianna Peters, Tanika Maher, Elwyn Hayes, Jahquille Stuart, Leathan Rubunja, Leroy Dixon, Troy Peters, Jonathan Webb, Kyle Stuart (MacSafe) |
| Youth Workers | Richard Dixon, Samantha Stuart, Natasha Stuart, Ted Lawrence, Adam Bell |
| Guests | NIL |
| This week's agenda items | • Welcome from Chair<br>• Last Youth Board meeting actions<br>• Feedback for MacYouth<br>• Feedback for Council and the Local Authority<br>• Questions/comments on anything not in this week's agenda |

| | |
|---|---|
| Agenda item1 | Feedback for MacYouth<br>• *What's been working in youth program (e.g. last week, youth board, events etc.)*<br>• *What hasn't been working?*<br>• *What would you like to see happen?* |
| Notes<br>Questions<br>Comments | • YB members expressed their desire to see *young kids (6 and under) be better behaved* and 'controlled' by youth team.<br>• With footy season in full swing, YB members would like to see the *Amoonguna Footy Oval cleaned up* so they can use it.<br>• YB members wish to have *more couches* and 'chill-out' areas available within rec hall.<br>• Female YB members expressed their desire to have more *Girl Trips and Girl Nights.* |
| Outcome/Action | Action:<br>Amoonguna Youth Team to discuss the above points at next Team Meeting.<br>• Will request civil team grate footy oval<br>• Check budget with Coordinator to see about purchasing more couches<br>• Need to address young kid's behaviour in more detail to come up with solutions – i.e. speak with parents, invite families along, etc.<br>• We have started to support the girls to attend footy in Alice Springs. We hope to continue doing this, but recognise not all girls enjoy footy. Will implement Girls (and Boys) nights on a regular basis. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Agenda item 2 | Feedback for Council and the Local Authority<br>• *Are there any recommendations?*<br>• *Why are these recommendations important to us?* |
| Notes<br>Questions<br>Comments | • At the last YB meeting (11/3/2021), The YB discussed the Community Infrastructure Plan and came up with a shortlist (via majority votes) of projects they would like the LA to review.<br>• The Youth Team then compiled the prospective projects on large butcher paper for the YB to vote on at this YB Meeting. Each YB |

# Amoonguna Youth Board Minutes (continued)

| | |
|---|---|
| | member was given three votes and were allowed to allocate their votes as they wished. The vote was done anonymously.<br><br>**Note: some proposed projects are recommendations that can be fulfilled without Local Authority input, but were still included in the vote as they came directly from the Youth Board members. Where applicable, the Amoonguna Youth Team will look to implement these recommendations on their own.*<br><br>• Final Vote Tally:<br>o Ladies/Fellas Nights – 2 votes<br>o Nets to stop balls from running away on Basketball court – 0 votes<br>o Mirrors for Toilets – 3 votes<br>o Fix Pool Table (quoted to cost $500) – 0 votes<br>o Graffiti/Murals for Rec Hall – 10 votes<br>o More trampolines – 0 votes<br>o Make Orchard into Sports Field – 4 votes<br>o Amoonguna Scoreboard at Basketball Court – 1 vote<br>o Swimming Pool – 6 votes<br>o Gym Equipment (indoor/outdoor) – 3 votes<br>o Moving Rec Hall stage outdoors – 0 votes<br>o Water Bubbler (at Basketball court and/or Rec Hall – 3 votes<br>o Fix lights at Playground – 2 votes<br>o More band equipment – 1 vote |
| Outcome/Action | <u>OUTCOME:</u><br>• The clear favourite with 10 votes was painting a Mural in the Amoonguna Rec Hall.<br><br><u>ACTIONS:</u><br>• Amoonguna Youth Team to write-up and submit LA project proposal for the Rec Hall Mural in time for the next scheduled Amoonguna LA Meeting.<br><br>• Other ACTIONS include:<br>o Seek updates on Orchard plans across from Rec hall.<br>o Implement regular Ladies/Fellas nights at Amoonguna Rec Hall as part of Youth Program<br>o Finish setting up existing Band and Gym equipment in Rec Hall. |
| | |

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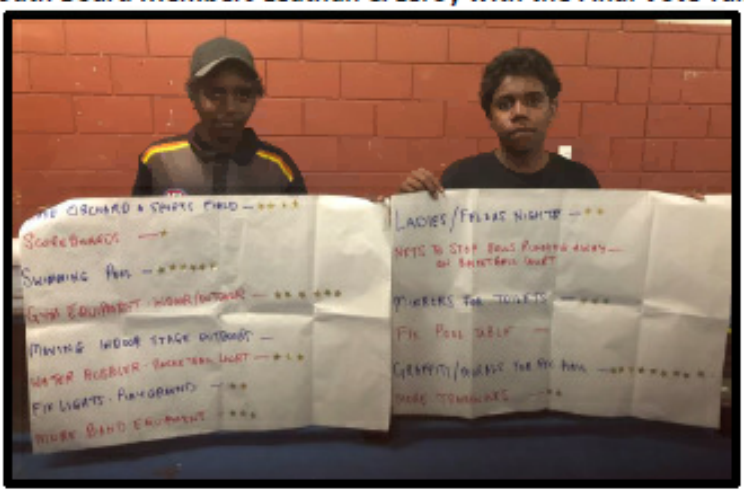
Youth Board Members Leathan & Leroy with the Final Vote Tally




# Youth Board – Actions and Outcomes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date** | **6 May, 2021** |
| **Community** | **AMOONGUNA** |
| **All outcomes & actions:** | • Amoonguna Youth Team to write-up and submit LA project proposal for the Rec Hall Mural in time for the next scheduled Amoonguna LA Meeting.<br>• Seek updates on Orchard plans across from Rec hall.<br>• Conduct regular Ladies/Fellas nights at Amoonguna Rec Hall as part of Youth Program<br>• Finish setting up existing Band and Gym equipment in Rec Hall<br>• Will request civil team grate footy oval<br>• Check budget with Coordinator to see about purchasing more couches<br>• Need to address young kid's behaviour in more detail to come up with solutions – i.e. speak with parents, invite families along, etc. |
| **Next meeting date** | **17 June, 2021** |

# Kintore Youth Board Meeting Minutes
# 22 June 2021

Attendees: Louie Young, Shimona Pollard, Cindy Gilles, Louise Egan, Zaria Sampson, Zanita Green, Winston Jackson, Luke Rowe, Fabian Rowe, Trenton Young-Gibson, Mikaela Rowe, Trevor Rowe, Daisy Abbott

Staff: Meredith Draper, Karey Major, Danisha Gallagher

Words that they think of when someone says 'Kintore youth team'

**Fun Singing Greenshed Loud**

Feedback for MacYouth:

- A fence around basketball court to prevent young children entering when game is happening
- Toilet at basketball
- New pool table
- Tv in kungka room
- Program for hair, including dye, make-up and razor for male haircuts
- Game ideas: train track, Lego, art and crafts, tie-dye, bingo, snap,
- Smaller basketball goals for younger children
- Paint building around basketball shed
- Enjoy mix up programs over u12, kungka and wadi separate programs
- Bush trips, basketball and soccer are current favorite programs
- Want more overnight bush trips
- Move gym equipment from greenshed and put into drop in computer room and move computers into main room
- Favorite things to have at cooking program: chicken curry rice

Actions:

- Explore option to get a new pool table and cue
- Buy program supplies (hair, dye, razor, train track, Lego, arts and crafts, bingo and card games)
- Meredith to organize an overnight bush trip for Kungkas in July.
- Move gym equipment if possible to drop in if computers are moved.

# Kintore Youth Board Meeting Minutes – 22 June 2021

# Kintore Youth Board Meeting – 22 June 2021

# MacCare Titjikala

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# MacCare Facilities Upgraded

MRC has recently completed upgrades on our 8 Aged Care Centres thanks to a $400,000 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program (NATSIFACP) grant.

The grant supported the delivery, quality, safety and accessibility of our MacCare services through:

•The upgrade of washing machines. Many of MRC's facilities were operating with 10kg domestic washing machines and/or very old commercial washing machines. The installation/replacement to new commercial grade washing machines across MRC's 8 Home Care facilities has improved the functionality and service by ensuring each centre has a working washing machine. The machines can take a larger load and complete the cycle in a faster time. This allows more clients to receive this service each day.

•The improvement of water pressure throughout the facility. The low water pressure contributed to the lengthy washing machine cycle as the machines were slow to reach the needed water level to operate. The installation of break tanks and pressure pumps has rectified this and improved the water pressure throughout the facilities.

•The installation of grease traps. NT Government require commercial kitchens to have a grease trap on their premises. The grease arrestor improves the quality of the Home Care facility and kitchen preventing blockages of the main sewer lines saving future funds.

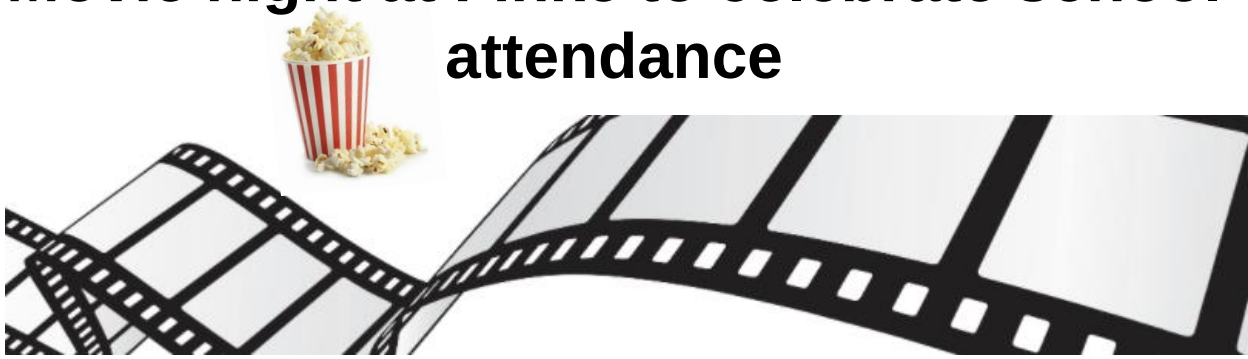
ABOVE: Papunya grease arrestor

ABOVE: Amoonguna 2 x commercial washing machines

ABOVE: Finke break tank and pressure pump

ABOVE: Imanpa kitchen stainless steel bench and new flooring

# Movie night at Finke to celebrate school attendance



The Local Authority in Finke have been working with the Engagement team to establish ongoing support for school attendance, encouraging the young people of Finke to go to school every day of the week.

The Engagement team have been working closely with the principal, teachers and assistants to understand the different factors that affect attendance, and how they could support youth to continue attending.

In March, the Engagement team travelled out and worked with MacSafe in Finke to host a movie night and BBQ at Finke school, celebrating incredibly high rates of attendance, that have been improving all year! Woo hoo! The youth were very excited, ate heaps of popcorn and danced around the school yard with families watching and laughing. Councillor Susan Doolan was in attendance, and enjoyed the films.

# Movie night at Finke to celebrate school attendance

# Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) Census

ABOVE: AMRRIC staff Chelsea Smart and Michelle Hayes conduct the animal census in Amoonguna

Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) and MacDonnell Regional Council collaborated in March and April 2021 to complete an animal census, deliver anti-parasitic treatments targeting ticks and deliver animal-focused education in schools. The census covered all MRC communities, capturing detailed data of both the cats and dogs living in each community. The census will be followed by data analysis and reporting that will aim aid council in engaging a tailored veterinary service and targeted animal management strategy for each community.

AMRRIC is a Darwin-based not-for-profit organisation that works with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities nationally to promote One Health, One Wellbeing – the notion that human and animal health and environmental services and management are inextricably linked, and that one cannot thrive without the successes of the others. AMRRIC are primarily funded to: facilitate and coordinate animal health programs including, but not limited to, veterinary services; collaborate with local government authorities and veterinary service providers to support existing programs where facilitate programs where none exist; support and facilitate community and school based education programs and resources that reinforce responsible pet ownership and promote animal health and welfare; and, collate data on companion animal populations and management history.

In addition to the census, AMRRIC were able to visit almost every school throughout the communities to deliver important animal-focused education. The ever-growing presence of Ehrlichiosis and its devastating impacts in community dogs and their loving owners meant much of the education was centred around recognising the signs of the disease and the most effective preventative measures people can take to stop their dogs from getting sick. The emotional and social impact of Ehrlichiosis affecting dogs in remote communities is of concern to AMRRIC, which is why education is vitally important to stopping the spread of this disease, especially in areas that often experience infrequent vet visits and/or little to no animal welfare authority.

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# AMRRIC education a step towards the best animal management in MacDonnell Regional Council communities

The education program was a huge success, with a total of 164 students and their teachers engaged across the schools of the region. Students watched the Ehrlichiosis animation, produced by AMRRIC and collaborators, and were engaged with hands-on, fun activities which produced great learning results across all age groups.

The best recommendation to prevent the spread of Ehrlichiosis is to have dogs on effective tick prevention products. AMRRIC, in addition delivering this education in schools, is also pleased to be working with pharmaceutical companies and remote community stores to try and ensure that these preventative products are available in all community stores at affordable prices.

With the growing numbers of cats seen in communities, cat-focused education was also delivered in schools which highlighted the impacts cats can have to the native wildlife populations in community. Students loved AMRRIC's Felt Cat Activity and recognized the need to limit the cat population and hunting practices at night in communities, to maintain and minimize the impacts to native wildlife populations.

ABOVE: Felt cat activity in Santa Teresa

# AMRICC census and education program in MRC

ABOVE: AMRRIC staff Chelsea Smart Michelle Hayes conduct the census in Kintore
BELOW: AMRRIC staff Michelle Hayes teaches about ticks and Ehrlichiosis in Mount Liebig

## Message from the Australian Bureau of Statistics - ABS

Australian Bureau of Statistics

# Census

# What you need to know

'Our Story. Our Future.' was created by proud Wiradjuri, Wotjobaluk, Yuin and Gumbaynggirr artist **Luke Penrith** and Mulullgal people, Badu Island artist **Naseli Tamwoy**.

## The 2021 Census

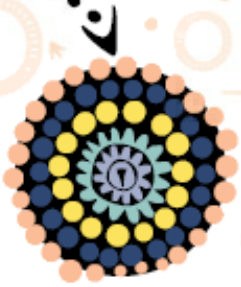
The Census counts every person and home in Australia. It helps to tell **our story** of who we are as a people.

- The Census asks questions about our communities, who we are, where we live, and about people living and staying with us.
- People living in **cities and regional areas** will either get a letter with instructions on how to complete online, or a paper form. You can start as soon as you get instructions, if you know where you'll be on Census night, **Tuesday 10 August.**
- There will be Census staff in **remote communities**. They can come to your home and help you fill in your Census.
- It generally takes about 30 minutes to complete the Census. It might take longer for bigger households.

## Make your community count

The Census can help plan for community needs and **our future.** That's why it's important to include **everyone** who is staying in your home on Census night, such as Elders, babies and visitors.

- Having the right numbers means the right services can be provided for our community. For example, knowing the number of babies in a region can help plan funding for preschools or mums and bubs health programs.
- It's used to make decisions about schools and early learning, health clinics, housing, aged care, jobs, roads, language centres and community programs.



## Your personal information is safe

Your personal information is protected by law and isn't shared with anyone.

- You can't be identified by the information you share about yourself and your family in your Census.

**Need more information or assistance?** Visit www.census.abs.gov.au/indigenous or call 1800 512 441.

**For more information, visit www.census.abs.gov.au/indigenous or call 1800 512 441.**

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## REWARD AND RECOGNITION

# Employees of the Month

### Sustainability - Areyonga MacCare Team and Sarah Gallagher

The Areyonga Home Care/School Nutrition Program team have embraced change in the past 2 months and have willingly learnt new work methods to increase productivity. Including new recipes and engaged with clients to receive feedback re same. The new methods will in medium term reduce costs by minimising waste and over ordering

Sarah in particular has lead the team with minimal support over a long period of time and has been more than happy to embrace the changes I have suggested.

### Above & Beyond- Ricardo Wallace – MacKids Hermannsburg

Ricardo answered questions from the team from CCFR Quality and Safety Review on the 7 May 21. She showed great understanding and knowledge of the centre procedures. Ricardo was confident in her responses and happy to answer all question. She turns up for all her shifts has started coming early supports other staff

### Above & Beyond - Kurt Herzog – Technical Services Areyonga

Kurt has been running an excellent pool program, when possible to open over the summer period. This has been complementing Youth Program and the community as a whole. When the pool has not been open Kurt has been positively engaging with the community. Daily going out of his way to help community members, and hanging out with children and youth in the community. The positive benefits in the community from the extra engagement have been warmly welcomed.

### Reinforcing Councils Values – Zachary Coe – Service Centre Delivery Kintore

Provides services to PowerWater during a water outage that has gained recognition from their senior management

"He was very diligent and accommodating when dealing with the breakdowns"
Senior Water Treatment Engineer

### Above & Beyond- - Luke Wallace – MacYouth Mount Liebig

Luke has stepped up into Team Leader acting role, which he was nervous and worried about. He did this role whilst waiting for the Team Leader position to be filled. He supported local staff support young people (YP) attending Papunya soccer comp, remaining in the community to run programs for the remaining YP.

Luke has gone and above his duties, pushed himself out of his comfort zone, all successfully and deserves to be recognised.

Do you know someone that works for MacDonnell Regional Council whose work deserves Recognition for **Sustainability, Service Excellence, Innovation and Creativity** or going **Above and Beyond**? Contact Thomas on thomas.coelli-donaghy@macdonnell.nt.gov.au or 8958 9617

## AWARD NOMINEES

# Employees of the Month (continued)

### Service Excellence - MacYouth Papunya

The MacYouth Papunya team have had many challenging circumstances over the past year with high staff turnover, difficult working conditions, and misbehaving youth disrespecting staff and youth facilities. However this past week there has been a huge improvement with the team working closely together, collaborating with other services, problem solving and creating consistency within the program. The young people are showing a great deal of respect and admiration to the team and they are working harder than ever. The local team start at 8am to clean all the facilities, then conduct meetings, working with other services including the local school and then deliver programs late into the evening catering for all young peoples needs. The MacYouth Papunya team deserve this special recognition because they have worked incredibly hard to change their workplace into a safe and happy environment and they are a highly functioning team.

On the 3/3/2021, it was observed that Sam Nowicki YEO delivered the most well prepared and structured OSHLP (Outside of School Hours Learning Program) alongside local staff. seen. Sam delegated the local staff to set up the space while he walked around the facility with young people collecting rubbish, once the area was clean they proceeded inside to sit in a circle and talk about their favourite part of their day and who their favourite football team was. The young people also went around in a circle explaining to a new MacYouth staff member what the rules of the recreation space were and then they proceeded to play structured activities in a safe and respectful manner. The young people enjoyed hours of structured games and actives and the local staff were engaged and working hard.

This kind of success doesn't come easily and the team continue to deliver high level services for the community.

### Above & Beyond - Sarah Grant - MacCare

Sarah Grant performed above the expectations in month of February and stepped up for managers position when manager was on leave. She did amazing job without any training.

### Above & Beyond- Marilyn Wright - Records Officer

Marilyn plays an integral role at MRC and often goes beyond the scope of her position to assist others who come to her for help. She has a wealth of knowledge and is happy to share it with others. She works quickly and efficiently and is a fantastic asset to the organization.

Do you know someone that works for MacDonnell Regional Council whose work deserves Recognition for **Sustainability, Service Excellence, Innovation and Creativity** or going **Above and Beyond**? Contact Thomas on thomas.coelli-donaghy@macdonnell.nt.gov.au or 8958 9617

# SERVICE RECOGNITION RECIPIENTS

ABOVE: (left to right) Councillor Annie Young presents a 10 year service recognition award and pin to her daughter Council Services Coordinator (CSC) Santa Teresa Annalisa Young

## 10 Year Service Awards

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kenneth Newman | Director Services | Alice Springs |
| Ivan Palmer | Senior Community Safety Officer | Finke |
| Wayne Young | Community Safety Officer | Santa Teresa |

## 7 Year Service Awards

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Darren Wilyuka | Senior Outstations Assistant | Titjikala |
| Dennis Douglas | Works Assistant | Titjikala |
| Elaine Kantamara | Community safety Officer | Mount Liebig |
| Michelle Allen | Customer Service Officer | Finke |
| Marressha Luckey | Community Safety Officer | Imanpa |
| Patricia O'Neill | Team Leader Children Services | Santa Teresa |
| Donna Dixon | Customer Service Officer | Amoonguna |
| Christopher Broomhall | Coordinator Service Centre Delivery | Areyonga |
| Kayme Matasia | Home care Assistant | Finke |
| Sarah Lynch | Home Care Assistant | Finke |

# SERVICE RECOGNITION RECIPIENTS

## 5 Year Service Awards

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tony Palmer | Team Leader Works | Amoonguna |
| Adeline Malbunka | Educator- early learning | Hermannsburg |
| Stefan Poulson | Community Safety Officer | Areyonga |
| Christine Allen | Educator- Early Learning | Finke |
| Menam Ryder | Senior Youth Services Officer | Hermannsburg |
| Neil Peterson | Senior Community Safety Officer | Mount Liebig |
| Stuart Millar | Coordinator Services Centre Delivery | Mount Liebig |
| Samantha Stuart | Senior Youth Service Officer | Amoonguna |
| Tony Eggley | Community Safety Officer | Mount Liebig |
| Stephanie Stuart | Home Care Assistant | Titjikala |
| Florrie Cooper | Community Safety Officer | Docker River |
| Helen Tiukintja | Senior Community Safety Officer | Areyonga |
| Selwyn Burke | Community Safety Officer | Docker River |
| Jezebel Hopkins | Educator- Early Learning | Docker River |
| Sarah Murnik | Administration Officer- Technical Services | Alice Springs |

## 2 Year Service Awards

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Keith Hassett | Manager Service Delivery | Alice Springs |
| Denise Pareroultja | Youth Services Officer | Mount Liebig |
| Rosita Jugadai | Community Safety Officer | Haasts Bluff |
| Nevio Tjami | Works Assistant | Finke |
| Phillip Doolan | Works Assistant | Finke |
| Rowan Baldock | Works Assistant | Kintore |
| Vincent McDonald | Works Assistant | Papunya |
| Jocelyn Andy | Youth Service Officer | Papunya |
| Stephen Trindle | Coordinator Service Centre Delivery | Docker River |
| Gabriel DeRose | Works Assistant | Docker River |
| Danisha Gallagher | Youth Services Officer | Kintore |
| Elkin Wilson | Works Assistant | Papunya |
| Aaron Collins | Works Assistant | Mount Liebig |
| Taralyn Major | Senior Community safety Officer | Papunya |
| Ivy Trindle | Customer Service Officer | Docker River |
| Stanley Long-Turner | Works Assistant | Mount Liebig |
| Edith Bronson | Home Care Assistant | Areyonga |
| Yarran Cavalier | Coordinator Community Safety & Remote Sports Program | Alice Springs |
| Edward (Ted) Lawrence | Coordinator Youth Services- Sport Development & Training | Alice springs |
| Lornie Multa | Home Care Assistant | Areyonga |
| Roseanna Larry | Community Connector NDIS | Haasts Bluff |
| Danielle Schaeche | Coordinator Work Health & Safety | Alice Springs |
| Keirrin Strange | Essential Services Officer | Papunya |
| Natasha Glen | Educator- Early Learning | Areyonga |

# STAFF MOVEMENTS

## Alice Springs

| | |
|---|---|
| John Chisholm | Project Officer- Digital & Library Services |
| Cameron Wilson | Coordinator Transport Infrastructure |
| Rahul Meda | Administration Officer Technical Services |
| Bruce Howie | Mobile Mechanic |

## Amoonguna

| | |
|---|---|
| Shaquille Stuart | Home Care Assistant |
| Gregwyn Dickson | Youth Services Officer |
| Waylon Dixon | Youth Services Officer |

## Haasts Bluff

| | |
|---|---|
| Jessica Slater | Essential Services Officer |
| Unisha Magar | Coordinator Home Care (Haasts Bluff) |
| Felix Meyer | Team Leader Youth Services |

## Hermannsburg

| | |
|---|---|
| Anglea Ebatarinja | Educator- Early Learning |

## Kintore

| | |
|---|---|
| Zachary Coe | Essential Services Officer |

## Mount Liebig

| | |
|---|---|
| James Anderson | Team Leader Youth Services |

## Papunya

| | |
|---|---|
| Anna McGlynn | Team Leader Home Care |
| Janelle Eggley | Community Safety Officer |
| Deanne Major | Community Safety Officer |
| Claydon Minor | Community Safety Officer |
| Jonathon Youngut | Works Assistant |
| Unisha Magar | Coordinator Home Care (Papunya) |
| Norm Raggett | Works Assistant |
| Shona Kelly | Youth Services Officer |

## Santa Teresa

| | |
|---|---|
| David Farrell | Works Assistant |
| Charles Hayes | Works Assistant |
| Edwina Lynch | Educator- Early learning |
| Shauna Williams | Educator- Early Learning |

## STAFF MOVEMENTS

### Titjikala

| | |
|---|---|
| Denise Boko | Educator- Early Learning |
| Nevernca Cooper | Educator- Early Learning |
| Ainsley Gorey | Educator- Early Learning |
| Beryl Davis | Home Care Assistant |

## SERVICE RECOGNITION RECIPIENTS

ABOVE: (left to right) Danielle Schaeche – WHS Coordinator (2 years), Peter Blythman – IT Manager (10 years) and Jahnavi Gupta - Human Resources Officer (2 years)

## MESSAGE FROM CENTRECORP

do you need support $ $ $ for:
youth education
health issues
school excursions
youth leadership & role modelling
sporting events
cultural matters
CENTRECORP Foundation
may be able to help.
contact us for an application form on 8952 5827
or go to our website for information & application form
www.centrecorpfoundation.com.au

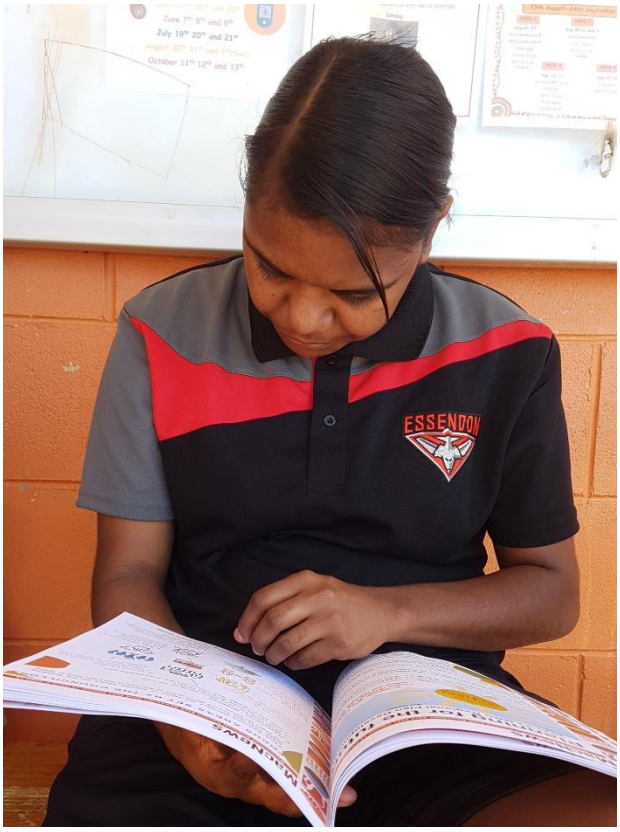
# MacNews



## STOP PRESS

ABOVE: Scarlett from Amoonguna

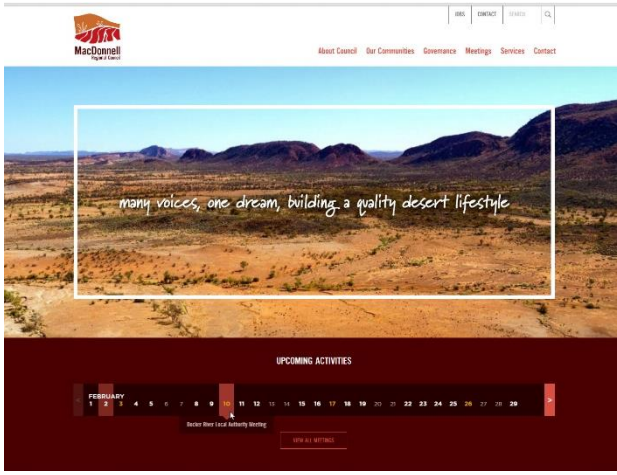
RIGHT: Cr Lynette Ellis and Hon Chansey Paech read the MacNews




ABOVE: Shania from Santa Teresa reads the MacNews

## STAY IN TOUCH

www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au

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Email: media@macdonnell.nt.gov.au

## TRACHOMA MESSAGE FROM MILPA

many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle

MacDonnell Regional Council

# Western Cluster U/14s Soccer

The Western Cluster of this year's under 14's fellas soccer was held under a beautiful Papunya twilight on the evening of the 14th of April. Teams from as far as Kiwirrkurra joined host's Papunya, Mount Liebig and Kintore, (with Haasts Bluff joining with the fellas from Kiwirrkurra) to play a riveting round robin under the lights.

Kintore claimed three consecutive games with Papunya behind them on two. Mt Liebig had one win and the amalgamated (and youngest team) of Haasts Bluff / Kiwirkurra none.

We were again shaping up for another Kintore / Papunya final when the unexpected happened. Mount Liebig, who only having one win in the preliminary rounds, knocked Papunya out of the running to score a finals spot against Kintore. In what was seemingly a David and Goliath struggle, Kintore fired the first shot going 1-0. Not perturbed, the underdogs from Mount Liebig kicked 5 unanswered goals! To add hilarious community drama to the fray, the football oval lights dropped out with 45 seconds of play left. There was no doubt at this stage that the trophy would be going back to Mount Liebig this time around.

Many thanks to all who participated and helped, from both MacYouth and the NPYWC. We greatly look forward to future events with our friends from over the border!

# Western Cluster U/14s Soccer

# Southern and Eastern Cluster U/14s Soccer

On a chilly Saturday morning in May, in Alice Springs, over 50 players from 8 communities gathered to participate in the MacYouth Southern and Eastern Cluster U-14 fellas Soccer Competition. Representing MacYouth were Amoonguna, Areyonga, Santa Teresa, Hermannsburg, Titjikala and from our friends over at NPY Women's Council we featured teams from Finke and Mutitjulu (with representation from some young fellas from Imanpa).

With over 24 games played on two fields across 4 hours the day was jam packed with skill and competitiveness from all representatives. As the clouds peeled back to a sunny afternoon, Amoonguna and Hermannsburg started to establish their dominance with the Finke fellas showing some prowess as well.

Following a delicious barbeque lunch the youth sat aside to allow the staff from both organisation's to play a friendly and very entertaining 9 v 9 staff match. This set the tone for the remaining few rounds of play. The two clear ladder leaders Hermannsburg and Amoonguna played off for the grand prize, which was taken out by the Amoonguna mob 4-1, with Finke beating Santa Teresa to claim 3rd.

Many thanks to the 20 plus staff from both organisations that made a brilliant day possible. We continue to strive to work with other organisations to achieve our goals in unison and keep connection as strong as possible across the vastness of the desert!

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# Southern and Eastern Cluster U/14 Soccer

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# SPORT

## Western Cluster U/14s Soccer

## Southern and Eastern Cluster U/14s Soccer