

MacDonnell Regional Council Staff Newsletter February 2021 volume 13 issue 1 page 1



ABOVE: Matthew from Titjikala celebrates NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATED

Titjikala, Amoonguna and Areyonga celebrate NAIDOC week full story and photos: PAGES 14-22

PAGES 3-4: Councillor Annie Young elected to represent the Rodinga Ward
PAGE 10-13: MacYouth training
PAGES 24-25: Areyonga MacCare upgrades
PAGES 40-44: MRC Tidy Towns Awards

INSIDE



many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle









2020 was one of the most difficult and challenging years we have ever faced. I feel extremely proud that despite the major challenges, we still managed to deliver outstanding achievements and quality service across the Region. These achievements wouldn't have been possible without the magnificent effort of our Councillors, staff and community members. I would like to extend my gratitude and say thank you to every member of the MRC family for playing your part. Through your leadership, teamwork and a lot of hard work, MRC has continued to lead the way across all our services. You are an amazing group of people and can be very proud of the role you have played in improving the quality of life for our constituents.

Our focus this year will be to achieve our objectives as outlined in the Regional Plan. These include increasing Aboriginal employment opportunities, improving community infrastructure, promoting healthy lifestyle in the communities, empowering community members, and supporting our staff with their personal growth. We will keenly monitor our KPIs to ensure we stay on track with our goals.

MRC has commenced the consultation process for the 2021-22 Regional Plan as we strive to achieve the MRC vision of "many voices, one dream - building a quality desert lifestyle". The Councillors have decided that the strategic focus areas are: Governance / meetings, supporting future leaders, communities working together, employment and training support, environmental health, working with other organisations and community events. MRC is now consulting with the Local Authorities, Youth Boards and staff on how we can address these areas.

A key part of this process is the passing on of wisdom and experience from current elected members to the incoming Council. The new Council will be decided by Local Government election which will take place in August this year. I ask anyone who is interested in representing their community and setting the strategic direction for MRC in the future to consider nominating for the election. We will provide more information on the upcoming Local Government elections throughout the year.

Lastly, I want to congratulate the Member for Gwoja, Hon Minister Chansey Paech MLA for his re-election and appointment to Minister for the Local Government. We are very fortunate to have a local member who is keen to engage when local issues are identified and work with Council to provide solutions. Council also congratulates Mr William Yan MLA on his election in Namatjira. We look forward to working with both local members to assist us in carrying out our mission of improving the lives of Council residents. I am very hopeful this year is going to be a better one. I look forward to working with you all and creating great progress.

> Jeff MacLeod, Chief Executive Officer, MacDonnell Regional Council

























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Councillor Annie Young elected for Rodinga Ward



ABOVE: Councillor Annie Young in her community Santa Teresa

Following the recent by-election in the Rodinga Ward of the MacDonnell Regional Council, Annie Young from Santa Teresa was declared elected.

Councillor Annie Young is Santa Teresa born and bred. She grew up there, she grew up her children and grandchildren there. She has worked locally there at many places including the crèche, the council office and as a Teacher Aid at the school.

She represents her community as a Santa Teresa Local Authority member, as well as on the Congress Board for the local clinic and on the community's Housing Reference Group advising the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities. Continued on next page...

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ABOVE: Cr Annie Young (far right) at her 1st Council meeting with Cr Sarah Stockman (left) and Cr Susan Doolan (centre).

Thank you for accepting me. I'm proud to be here. Thanks for the support from my community, daughter, family and friends. We'll share our ideas for all communities.

Councillor Annie Young in her opening address at her 1st Council meeting

Recently she led a civil action from Santa Teresa residents that successfully sued the Northern Territory Government over housing conditions in the remote community.

"I would like to congratulate Councillor Annie Young on her election to Council representing the Rodinga Ward. Councillor Young has been a long standing member of the Santa Teresa Local Authority and a vocal advocate for the Santa Teresa community, especially with regards to housing "MacDonnell Regional Council CEO Jeff MacLeod said.

Santa Teresa is the largest of 13 communities represented by the 12 Councilors of the MacDonnell Regional Council. Since the 2017 Northern Territory general Local Government elections, Santa Teresa had not been represented by a Councillor from the community. Rodinga is one of four MacDonnell Regional Council wards representing the east of the council region and includes the communities of Amoonguna, Finke, Titjikala

and Santa Teresa. many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle













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Local Authority meetings held in public open spaces

The 2020-21 MRC Regional Plan suggests that some LA meetings are held in a public open space to be more engaging and accessible to the public. This allows community residents to have more access and exposure to the decision making process.



LEFT and BELOW: Mount Liebig LA is held in the Tjangala Nangala outside area.















LEFT: LA member Sammy Butcher and Cr Tommy Conway share a lighter moment in the Papunya LA meeting BELOW: Papunya LA is held in the verandah area behind the Maku Shed.





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Community Infrastructure Plans Planning for the future



ABOVE: Papunya LA members give their input into the Papunya Community Infrastructure Plan BELOW: Community Engagement Officer Min Roebuck (left to right) observes as Cr Annie Young and LA Member Louise Cavanagh give their input into the Santa Teresa Community Infrastructure Plan



A key objective of the 2020-21 MRC Regional Plan is for MRC's Infrastructure to meet community needs. MRC want to plan with communities to identify the current and future infrastructure needs for the next 5-10 years. An Infrastructure Plan that has the community's approval will guide investment and development with Local Authority Project Funding and will strengthen applications for any other funding that is available. At the moment, there is no allocated funding to pay for the infrastructure decided upon for these plans.

For each MRC community, there will be:

- An initial round of Local Authority Consultation
- Broad stakeholder consultation
- Ongoing liaison with the Local Authority
- 4. Community Infrastructure Plan approved by Local Authority by June 2021

All 13 MRC communities are being asked: What would you add to shared community areas?

























Santa Teresa Draft Community Infrastructure Plan



various locations (in 6 x solar lights at development) Fraffic control: speed humps

Jinja way

In men's sacred area (off

the map)

Men's shed

Speed humps along this road

> Scoreboard (in development) Shade and seats (top end)

Consider stage

Portable stage

Trailer

decided upon for these plans.





Stage at back of rec hall

outside Rec Hall old building options for Focus on



More Trees & Shrubs Everywhere

East side, old village

Mature

Plant in cooler months

Seating, trees, fencing (in development)

Youth space

Shade at playgrounds

Front entrance project Cemetery upgrades

(in development)

BMX Track Upgrade

Solar lights

Sorry camp (near

Shade Water **Foilet**

airfield)

Agnes Alice – can be contacted at SANTA TERESA OFFICE: 8958 0999 Cr. Annie Young

Community Engagement Officer: Min ALICE SPRINGS OFFICE: 8958 9600

Louise Cavanagh

Charlie Lynch

Graham Hayes

0 0

0 2

OF CONTACT MEC





















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Local Authority Project: New BBQs for Amoonguna parks

Dustin Oliver and Leroy Riley put on the finishing touches to the new BBQs for Amoonguna.

The Amoonguna Local Authority allocated \$11,700.00 of Project Funds for the Wood fire BBQs in Stuart and Ross Park.



ABOVE: Leroy Riley and Dustin Oliver (left to right) use their hands to finish the BBQs in Amoonguna

RIGHT: Dustin Oliver and Leroy Riley (left to right)













Amoonguna office recycled handwash station

Handwashing station made by Civil Works Team Leader Tony Palmer (in photo) from old BBQ with wheels and old hand sink found at Amoonguna's landfill.



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ABOVE: Our 2019|20 Annual Report cover photo: Jayden Doolan, son of Areyonga Local Authority Chair and MacCare Team Leader Sarah Gallagher and Local Authority member Jonathon Doolan shows us he is still growing strong. Jayden first appeared on the cover of the 2017-2021 Regional Plan proudly showing his developing strength, determination and vehicular asset (photo right).



The MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) 2019-20 Annual Report has been approved by the Elected Councillors and is available at MRC offices and on the MRC website

https://www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au/uploads/agendas/2 019-20-Annual-Report.pdf



This report documents how MRC performed in achieving its shared goals, providing real employment, and improving life opportunities for constituents. It includes reports on our Strategic Planning, Service Centre Delivery, Community Services, Corporate Services and a range of Financial statements.



In summary, it marks MRC against last financial year's Regional Plan (cover to the right).







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The Mac





















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Youth Team





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MacYouth Training



MacYouth held 3 days of training in October last year, at Ross River, with 50+ MacYouth staff attending from across 9 communities.



On the 1st day, staff broke into groups and engaged in a workshop around MRC Mission, Vision and Values and what they meant to the team. This was done to develop a Mission and Vision statement for MacYouth to help feed into the new Community Services Logic Framework strategy.



The 2nd day program started with a session around Restorative Justice and family conferencing for young people on Youth Diversion or The Right Track Program. This covered strategies to make the diversion process intentional, reflective and healing. The session was delivered by MacYouth's Zac Tonkin in partnership with Maddy and Alex from Jesuit Social Services and The Gap Youth Centre. Later that day, Central Australian Women's Legal Service (CAWLS) presented an information session on responding to family and domestic violence.



Also, Youth Service Officers worked with MacYouth's Ted Lawrence alongside Blair and Matt from CAYLUS to run some training sessions on keeping a positive work life balance, alcohol and other drugs and youth work basics.



On the last day, each team showcased their program, proudly sharing a mix of photos, videos and stories about their community and youth program, which were celebrated by the group. Manager of MacSafe Liz Scott also discussed ways MacYouth can work together with Community Safety / Night Patrol and how to support each other to keep community and young people safe. All staff enjoyed getting together at the end of each day to share ideas, learn from each other and share many laughs. In between the training sessions, staff













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MacYouth Training



















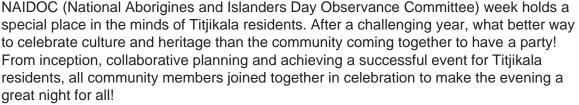


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Titjikala NAIDOC Celebration







The cakes, with flags decorated by Youth Program participants Demarcus , Lydia, Denise, Josephina and Lyneesha, were an important way of including younger community members in sharing their ideas of culture for all to see (and eat!). Activities including T-shirt screen printing, face painting, BBQ, film and photos of community members, a disco dancing competition to round off the evenings event. It was a great celebration for all ages to participate in.



The fundraising efforts from the Local Authority board, along with MacDonnell Regional Council teams: MacYouth, MacSafe, MacCare, Governance and Engagement, and Service Delivery along with Waltja, all contributed huge efforts to assist in making a special and memorable event for the whole community to enjoy.



Darren Wilyuka, Lisa Sharman and Marlene Taylor acknowledged the importance of staying connected to country and culture, and unity between community members to come together and celebrate. They thanked MacDonnell Regional Council for the efforts made to organise the celebration.



The community would like to thank all the MRC staff that contributed ideas, funds, equipment and administration services. Special mention to the MacSafe team for cooking the BBQ, the Civil team for setting up the space, Nathan Brown, Lisa Toolin, Belinda Malone from the MacYouth team for your enthusiasm and organisation, Jeff Tan and Min Roebuck from Governance and Engagement for your support in advertising and capturing the evening's event and Mel and Shakita from Waltja for the T-shirt screen printing station, what a great success! Lastly, thanks to Titjikala CSC Aalia Hape for pulling all of this together!





















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Titjikala NAIDOC Celebration











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Titjikala NAIDOC Celebration

















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Titjikala NAIDOC Celebration













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Amoonguna NAIDOC Celebration





















ABOVE: Councillor Lynette Ellis celebrates with her grandson Dimitri

RIGHT: Amoonguna community lines up for the BBQ!

BELOW: (from left to right) Back row: Veronica Dixon, Cr Lynette Ellis Front row: Dimitri, Tiah Dixon, Shanade Webb and Demitria Hayes



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Amoonguna NAIDOC Celebration



ABOVE: (left to right) Local Authority members Donna Dixon, Lynette Ellis, Rhekita Stuart with the NAIDOC cake.

On November 26 last year, Amoonguna held a celebration for NAIDOC day. From about 12pm, families wandered down to Stuart Park, where Civil Works were cooking a BBQ featuring sausages, steak, chops and salad, as well as a big cake! Councillor Lynette Ellis made a powerful and positive speech before lunch, thanking Amoonguna for coming down to the BBQ and acknowledging the support of the Local Authority.



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Areyonga NAIDOC Celebration















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Minbbinbah Training



MacSafe hosted training out bush in 4 communities. Hermannsburg, Finke, Santa Teresa and Mt Liebig took part in the Minbbinbah Training. It was a 3 day program called "Be The Best You Can Be". Training was free for everyone in the community and MRC staff, stakeholders and community members joined in.



Minbbinbah is an Aboriginal organisation from Queensland designed to start conversations around cultural strengthening, healing and knowledge sharing. Based on the award winning Australian film, Mad Bastards.



"Because some things really do matter"

































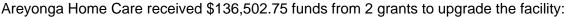
ABOVE PHOTOS (from left to right): Evelyn and Barabra, Taralyn Major, Tony Egglry and Tutuma



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Home Care Infrastructure Upgrade for MacCare Areyonga



- Aged Care Regional Rural & Remote Infrastructure Grant (ACRRRIG) \$122,021.00
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care (NATSIFAC) \$41,481.75

The works were originally scheduled to commence in the beginning of the year but due to COVID, the project was delayed. The project was completed at the end of September.

ACRRRIG grant funded the upgrade of infrastructure at the Home Care Centre. These works included:

- 1. New LED lighting,
- Internal and external painting,
- 3. Replacement of the solar hot water system,
- 4. Replacement and installation of new reverse air-conditioning (split systems),
- 5. Installation of new tiling in office, and
- 6. Significantly, the enclosure of the laundry.

Areyonga Home Care's laundry was originally on the veranda and open to the elements. The laundry would fill with dirt making it an unsuitable room for this use. The laundry has now been upgraded to be a more functional room by enclosing the space, installing a new doorway and many other additional items to increase the functionality.

Additionally through the NATSIFAC grant, the centre received a new commercial washing machine allowing an increase in this key service they provide to their clients.

The installation of new LED lights and new solar hot water system provided energy efficiencies which has lowered the running costs allowing more funds to be available for the centre.















AFTER











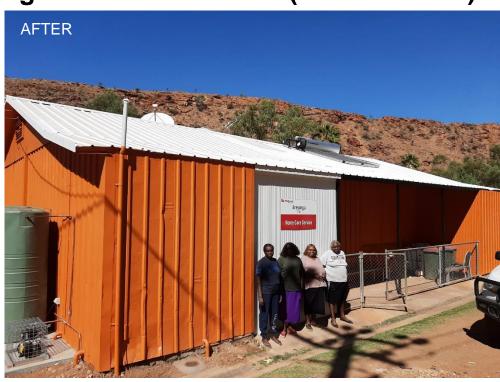
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MacCare Areyonga – before and after (with the team)



AFTER









AFTER







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MRC was gifted a 5KwH solar system through Littil LED Lights sale promotion. The solar system was allocated to Amoonguna Service Delivery Centre. The new solar panels and inverter was installed early August but the install wasn't complete until the a new power meter could be installed. Late last year, the new power meter was installed and the solar system was turned on. Amoonguna SDC is now run primarily off solar power.

MacCare Areyonga Team





ABOVE: (left to right) Edith Bronson, Que Kenny, Liz Hoare, Sarah Gallagher and Mikaela Gallagher



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Mount Liebig Rec Hall Upgrade



























The Mount Liebig Rec Hall has been upgraded thanks to a project management partnership between CAYLUS and MRC. The upgrades include a new music room and Kungka's room, new air-conditioning and an outdoor basketball court. Thanks to local workers Nathan and Solomon (in the photos above) for their work on the project and Dan from Truebuild NT for leading the work. Thanks also Ngurratjuta Aboriginal Corporation CDP for helping to support local workers, and the Aboriginal Benefit Account and Australian Government for funding.

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Kungka Night **Mount Liebig**

















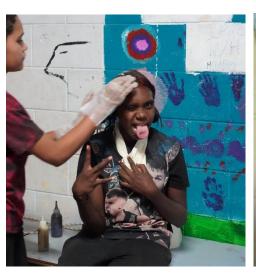






ABOVE (left to right): JD, Rosemary and Timika get deadly with new coloured hair, Rikaya strikes a pose.

Late last year, Mount Liebig MacYouth held one of their first Kungka nights in a few years! It was a great opportunity to get all the kungkas- young and old- down to the rec hall for dancing, makeup and hair. MacYouth YSO Joycelyn, from Papunya, helped out too. MRC welcomes this continued engagement with young people and is one aspect of an initiative in Mount Liebig that the Local Authority have requested MRC to work on. The Engagement Team (Min Roebuck and Jeff Tan) have been visiting Mount Liebig for the last few months, speaking to young people in Mount Liebig and getting ideas around what jobs they would like to try when they leave school. The next Kungka night will be held in January, where the Engagement Team will be working with MacYouth in Mount Liebig to dream big and paint a big mural on the new 'Kungkas wall'. Stay tuned, palyaooo!





ABOVE LEFT: Rosemary ready to embrace the new style

ABOVE RIGHT: Rikishe, Leebina, Nerena, Rikaya and Cena using their hairdresser skills.



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Kungka Night Mount Liebig





LEFT: Zeeniya and Lebina checking out the new do.

BELOW: JD prepares the dye.





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"Field of Dreams **Mount Liebig Softball Field Upgrade**









MRC received grant funds from Northern Territory Government Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture for the upgrade of the Mount Liebig Softball field including the supply of appropriate soil, grading, installation of shade structures, seating, fencing and softball. The total funds received was \$150,000 ex GST.

Technical Services (TS) consulted with the Mac Youth (MY) to prioritise the list of works. TS and MY agreed and prioritised fencing the softball field including a new backstop, dugouts and the outfield, new player and spectator seating, five shade structures for the teams and spectators and a new score sign. While the works were being completed the local Civil Works team graded and levelled the field using fresh soil.























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Mount Liebig Civil Works Team improving their community



ABOVE: Shade shelters from the softball grounds, repurposed and repaired and installed at the basketball court.

RIGHT: Recycled / home made water trough has been working to keep the horses out of the community







ABOVE: Sporting facility maintenance by the Civil Works team at Mount Liebig

LEFT: Outdoor gym made from recycled materials



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Connecting young people to culture through *The Right Track program*



ABOVE: 4 of our Titjikala participants, with Stakeholder WILD1 and Titjikala MacYouth Team Leader and Youth Service Officer pose for a photo before preparing a mulga shield and throwing stick used for hunting.

MacYouth, Traditional Owners, Elders, family and other community members have worked together to provide cultural camps for young people. The cultural camps are part of The Right Track program, which is funded through Territory Families. It aims to support young people to better engage in positive activities within their community.

The camps are structured to encourage young people to strengthen culture through traditional arts and build connections to families and community. Camp activities included traditional tool-making delivered in partnership with Jamie from local organisation Wellbeing and Indigenous Leadership Development 1 (WILD1).

MacYouth has provided our fifth cultural camp for 13 participants from Titjikala over two nights and three days. MacYouth provided intensive culturally specific and culturally safe activities included traditional tool making, visiting country, traditional cooking and talking story. The camp was separated with 4 young fellas aged between 10-13 joining the first night, with the second day for the remaining 9 young women (kungkas).

Titjikala community was selected to strengthen relationships, enhance self-esteem and learn new practical and life skills of participants on the camp. The camp was a preventative platform to engage youth in a casual and organic way.

The camp was based at a bush site roughly 30km away from Titjikala community. The camp location was recommended by a local elder and the local MacYouth Team Leader Nathan Brown to engage participants in cultural activities with access to shade, food, water, communication, medical facilities whilst considering other environmental risks such as the extreme cold.











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ABOVE: Everyone had to contribute and work hard. It was tiring, slow but a rewarding process seeing the items take shape.



ABOVE: At the end of the camp participants posed with their tools that they had created over the last 2 days.



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The Right Track: Titjikala

















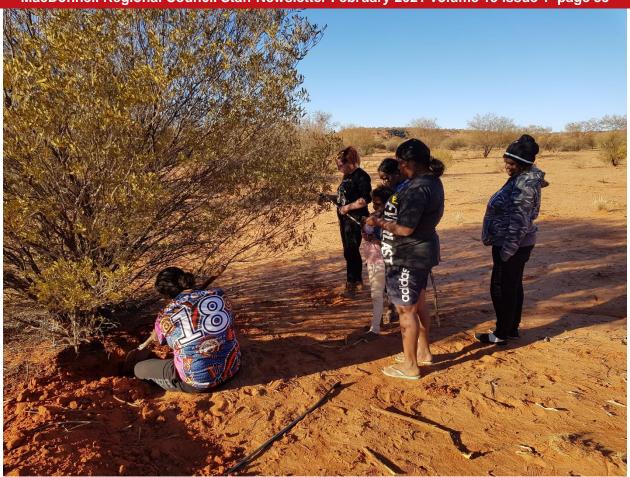


ABOVE: On day 2 the cultural camp swapped with the kungka's. In the photo on the right, the kungkas are preparing a multi-purpose tool the used for digging, spearing, beating and holding items.



MacDonnell ABOVE: Titjikala Cultural Camp aerial shot

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ABOVE: Titjikala MacYouth Senior Youth Officer showing the young kungka's how to find and dig for Witchetty grub.



ABOVE: Day 3 with the kungka's was spent finishing their hunting sticks. Fire assists in this process by hardening the wood and using the natural oils for shaping the tools.



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This event was organised by the Hermannsburg (Ntaria) Youth Board (YB) at their meeting late last year. The YB wanted to host a family fun day and planned the events that would be run, with different YB members at each games station. The YB wanted to have events for all ages and made posters to advertise the event around community. Events included basketball comp, sack race, egg and spoon race, tug of war, dodgeball, eating competition and arts. They also invited Areyonga (Utju) Youth over for the day to join in the activities.

Hermannsburg Youth Board members: Isaiah Jones, Darren Namatjira, Leo Malbunka, Regina Lankin, Menam Ryder, Nicholas Williams, Galvin Malbunka, Sherelle Armstrong, Melina Katakarinja, Lofty Armstrong, Carol Raggett Kevin Coulthard, Renathan Patrick, Sheila Rubuntja.





LEFT: Egg and spoon race with Temiah

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LEFT: Faye, Elsa & Josiah



































New Santa Teresa "Club" Mural

MacYouth, young people, the Local Authority and Traditional Owners worked with Alice Springs artist Tamara Cornthwaite on the new design and painting of the mural at the Santa Teresa rec hall.

Can you find the MacYouth staff from left to right throughout the mural?

- Gordon Mulladad (with guitar),
- Wesley Oliver (with guitar),
- Camilla Hayes (playing catch with young girl), and
- Maxwell Meneri sitting under the tree.

Policy reminder for all MRC staff

Policies guide all MRC staff in our work to achieve our goals. They help us to understand what MRC, Managers and employees should do. All MRC staff should understand and follow this guidance and talk to their supervisors about all of this.

All MRC policies that are approved are published onto the front page of Magig and Council Policies are also added to the MRC website, if you want to have a look you can find them all there. Talk to your supervisor if you have access problems.

Please speak to your Supervisor, Manager or the Policy Officer (Louise Naughton) if you have any questions.

Some newly approved policies

HR10-OP Employee Travel and Associated Allowances Policy

GS03-CP Customer Complaints and Feedback Policy

IR01-CP Vital Records Policy

IR02-CP Digitisation Policy

IR05-CP Records Management Policy

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Which Ltyentyies can you spot?

On The Crawl!

Docker River MacKids and Anumara (Caterpillars)







The children from Docker River Early Learning have found an interest in Anumara (Caterpillars) and how they crawl and eat the leaves in their outdoor areas. They are currently exploring how they turn into butterflies using visuals, sensory play, flash cards and songs along with the classic story book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

"When we take ice cream, lollies and cake most the time, our tummy feels sad. When we eat healthy tucker like pears, oranges, apples and strawberries and watermelon, our tummy feels happy and our body stays strong"

Justina Okafor MacKids Team Leader

"mai wirungku tjuni paltjara pukulmananyi" – means Healthy Tucker makes our tummy happy in Pitjantjatjara



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Wallace Rockhole wins 2020 Northern Territory Tidy Town Award





Sustainable communities

Media Release from Territory Tidy Towns

The proud MacDonnell Regional township of Wallace Rockhole has won the 2020 Northern Territory Tidiest Town Sustainable Community accolade announced today 'on line' in Darwin.

Northern Territory participating communities were desktop assessed this year due to COVID19 travel uncertainty, restrictions and isolation requirements.

Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT) CEO, Heimo Schober said Wallace Rockhole's continual dedication and commitment to keeping their community at its best, tidy and beautiful all the time, made it a stand-out again.

"The residents living in the harsh beautiful MacDonnell region have embraced the Territory Tidy Towns program for so long, with every community member working together in corporation and collaboration to achieve this well-earned prestigious Award yet again," Mr Schober said. *Continued on next page....*























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Wallace Rockhole - NT Tidiest Town





ABOVE LEFT: Park in Wallace Rockhole ABOVE RIGHT: Wallace Rockhole campgrounds

"The township's strong pride and culture of continuous improvement and community participation helped the MacDonnell Desert community win the challenging 2020 competition.

"The MacDonnell Council Staff, Traditional Owners and the residents of Wallace Rockhole all deserve this win for their efforts and dedication to ensure their community is the Territory's Tidiest Town and Sustainable Community.

"This will be MacDonnell Regional Council's eight outright win in nine years. It is inspiring to see a Regional Council consistently producing Territory Tidy Town winning communities."

The township of Wallace Rockhole has always demonstrated great community pride and leadership in local sustainability practices and education, and sets a wonderful example for other remote Territory townships to follow.

"I congratulate the MacDonnell Regional Council for their support inspiring Wallace Rockhole to win this Award," Mr Schober added.

"Yet again, the MacDonnell Regional Council has won many categories at the 2020 Territory Tidy Town Sustainable Community Awards," Schober said.

Wallace Rockhole officially became the 'Territory's Tidiest Town' and is now the Territory's Finalist after winning the overall NT Award as well as receiving the Category Award for 'Best Small Territory Tidy Towns Sustainable Community.'

As the Territory's 2020 Tidiest Town Sustainable Community, the MacDonnell Ranges desert community of Wallace Rockhole will represent the Northern Territory at the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australian Tidy Towns Sustainable Community Awards this year.

The Territory Tidy Towns Sustainable Community Awards program recognises and acknowledges the commitment and hard work undertaken by remote and regional community groups, schools, individuals, businesses and Councils. It showcases innovative ideas and initiatives among community 'Key Stakeholders' that improve social and environmental development and sustainability in regional areas of the Northern Territory.



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MRC Tidy Towns Awards



Coinciding with the Council Services Coordinator (CSC) training in Alice Springs and with a special visit from Heimo Schober, CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful NT, the internal MRC Tidy Towns awards were held on a gorgeous Spring evening. Catering was organised by Kirsten Baliva and was delicious. Heimo and MRC CEO Jeff MacLeod presented the awards to each category recipient.

See the following pages for the awards



ABOVE: Service Centre Delivery team including the MRC CSCs, MRC CEO Jeff MacLeod and Heimo Schober CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful NT



Innovation Award Papunya ESO



Innovation Award COVID-19 - Group Photo



Innovation Award Titjikala Civil Works Team



Innovation Award Finke Civil Works Team





MacDonnell

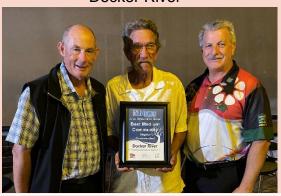
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MRC Tidy Towns Awards

Best Large Community – Runner-up Hermannsburg



Best Medium Community – Runner-up Docker River



Best Medium Community – Winner Mount Liebig



Best Parks Award

Docker River – Lasseter Park



Best Large Community – Winner Santa Teresa



Best Medium Community – Runner-up Finke



Best Parks Award Amoonguna – Ross & Stuart Parks



Best Parks Award Santa Teresa – East Side



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MRC Tidy Towns Awards

Best Parks Award Group Photo



Best Small Community – Runner-up Imanpa



Best Sports Ground – Runner-up Mount Liebig Softball Field



Best Sports Ground – Winner Papunya Sports Complex



Best Recycling Program Finke & Wallace Rockhole



Best Small Community – Winner Wallace Rockhole



Best Sports Ground – Runner-up Amoonguna Basketball Court



Best Parks Award Group Photo



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MRC Tidy Towns Awards

Best Stakeholder Engagement Awards Finke



Best Stakeholder Engagement Awards Mount Liebig



Best Stakeholder Engagement Awards Group Photo



Best Waste Management Facility (large)
Winner - Hermannsburg



Best Stakeholder Engagement Awards Kintore



Best Stakeholder Engagement Awards Santa Teresa



Best Waste Management Facility (large) Runner-up - Papunya



Best Waste Management Facility (large)
Winner – Santa Teresa



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MRC Tidy Towns Awards

Best Waste Management Facility (large)
Winners - Group Photo



Best Waste Management Facility (medium)
Runner-up – Docker River



Best Waste Management Facility (small)
Runner-up - Imanpa



Encouragement Award Titjikala



Best Waste Management Facility (medium)
Runner-up - Amoonguna



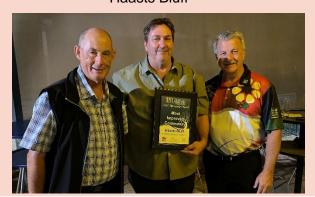
Best Waste Management Facility (medium)
Winner – Mount Liebig



Best Waste Management Facility (small)
Winner – Wallace Rockhole



Most Improved Community
Haasts Bluff





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National Tidy Towns 2020 goes online



The reigning National Tidy Towns Champions Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte) could not host last year's awards because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The awards were held online with special video presentations from the Santa Teresa community. The video from the awards ceremony is available on YouTube at https://youtu.be/1cgz-pXQPEw or searching for "2020 Australian Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Ceremony".



Ltyentye Apurte Traditional Owner Nora Hayes Wheeler gave the virtual Welcome to Country (0:45min). Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School Choir stole the show with their song "Respect Caring and Strong" (3:53min).



The Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte) Men's Shed of Atyenhenge Atherre Aboriginal Corporation made the amazing trophy that was presented to the next winner by the Governor General of Australia.







ABOVE: His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley with the 2020 Australian Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards trophy at Government House.



The trophy is made from wood from the Ityentye tree, after which Ltyentye Apurte was named, and is native to Central Australia. It is a hard wood. The urtne (Arrernte) (coolamon more commonly known) is used to carry and protect both food and small babies.



The men wanted to draw a connection to Keep Australia Beautiful encouraging care and protection for our future and our families.





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National Tidy Towns 2020 Congratulations Beechworth!



ABOVE: Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School Choir stole the show with their song "Respect Caring and Strong" which can be viewed on YouTube at https://youtu.be/1cgz-pXQPEw (3:53min) or searching for "2020 Australian Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Ceremony"

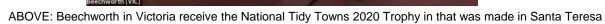
Keep Australia Beautiful has announced the Victorian finalist Beechworth as the winner of the 2020 Australian Sustainable Communities – Tidy Towns Awards, at an online event held on 14 October 2020.

Running nationally since 1990, the Australian Sustainable Communities – Tidy Towns Awards have evolved to encompass projects and initiatives with a focus on environmental sustainability and resource management to reflect a growing awareness of the importance of community-led environmental action. They set out to acknowledge the hard work undertaken by individuals and groups in rural communities and share these best practices and ideas to improve Australia's vibrant rural towns. The awards consist of nine special category awards followed by an overall National winner.

For more information see:

https://kab.org.au/beechworth-crowned-australias-most-sustainable-community/

















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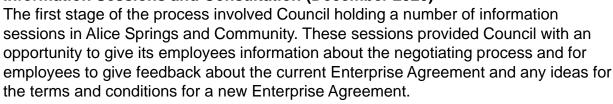
Time to develop a new Enterprise Agreement (EA)



An Enterprise Agreement is an important document as it contains the terms and conditions of our employment. It is an agreement between Council and Council employees. Enterprise agreements are negotiated by the parties (e.g. Council, employee representatives and the Union) through collective bargaining. The *Fair Work Act 2009* sets out how Enterprise Agreements can be made. Every three to four years Council, Council employees and the union work together to develop a new Enterprise Agreement. Contributing to the development of a new Enterprise Agreement allows an employee to provide Council (and vice versa) with advice about any proposed changes they may want to include in the new Enterprise Agreement. The process of developing a new Enterprise Agreement involves the following stages:



Information Sessions and Consultation (December 2020)





Nomination of Employee Representatives (January – February 2021)

The next part in the process involves Council inviting employees to nominate a representative they may want to have represent them during negotiations. This could include nominating yourself or someone else, the United Workers Union will also be involved in the negotiating process.



Negotiations (March - April 2021)

It is expected that negotiations for a new Enterprise Agreement will start in February. This part of the process involves employee and Council representatives negotiating the terms and conditions for the new Enterprise Agreement. After negotiations have ended Council will hold further information sessions to provide staff with the details of the proposed new Enterprise Agreement including any proposed changes from the existing Enterprise Agreement.



Agreement Approval (May – June 2021)

The final two steps of the process involve staff voting on the proposed new Enterprise Agreement and if a majority of staff vote for approval of the Enterprise Agreement then the Enterprise Agreement is submitted to the Fair Work Commission for formal approval. Council anticipates that this will occur between May and June next year. Human Resources is coordinating the development of the new Enterprise Agreement, so if you have any questions or you would like to learn more about Enterprise Agreements or Enterprise Bargaining feel free to contact Alister Stevic or the HR team on 08 8958 9611 or MRC.EnterpriseAgreement@macdonnell.nt.gov.au.







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Tjipowa goes above and beyond for the kids



Tjipowa Meneri, Educator and Mentor from Areyonga Early Learning Centre, was awarded an Employee of The Month Award for going Above and Beyond her role to achieve additional goals and objectives.

Tjirpowa is an Elder of the Areyonga Community and is employed as a local Educator and Cultural Mentor. She is so passionate about her work, that Tjipowa comes every day to conduct the Early Learning Centre's singing circle, sharing her skills and interests in her Pitjantjatjara language and songs. She has worked passionately with the Early Learning Centre Team Leader, other staff and the wider community to record these old songs for the kids in print and digitally and to coordinate the illustration of several song and story books that are integral to the daily program.

Through her community contacts, Tjirpowa initiated and then coordinated regular weekly visits by MacKids to the Areyonga School to share songs with the junior class. She also planned a recent visit to the neighbouring Community of Hermannsburg to share the Areyonga journey of song and story with the Elders and staff at their ELC. Tjirpowa would love to share her Areyonga Song Story with more of our Early Learning Centres.



MacDonnell Regional Council Also due to Tjirpowa's initiative, the team planned and coordinated a recent bush trip for the kids and adults to share in digging and gathering bush tucker - maku. Tjirpowa is very passionate and committed to her work with children. She takes every opportunity to share her skills, song and culture not only with children but also with young mothers and local educators. She is also a talented weaver who uses local wild grasses (Tjanpi), raffia and wool to make beautiful baskets that the Centre uses to store their play resources in. She uses this same skill to enhance the program: making Christmas decorations, puppets and props to support the songs, to decorate their home made cubby house and much, much more...



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REWARD AND RECOGNITION



October 2020 Employees of the Month



Kirsten Baliva, Marilyn Wright, Lloyd Wilyuka and the Amoonguna MacYouth Team



Kirsten, Marilyn, Lloyd and the Amoonguna MacYouth team are to be congratulated for being awarded Employees of The Month.



Kirsten Baliva - Service Centre Delivery - Above and Beyond

Kirsten is congratulated for her extra efforts in recently organising a CSC workshop. Kirsten had to do lots of extra work to organise this so it was a successful event for our CSCs. She worked outside of her normal hours and arrived early every morning to make sure everything was working and setup for the workshop. She also organized a very successful dinner for our CSC on the Thursday night, all on her own too and arrived there before everyone, to setup the venue and make sure everything was organized the way she wanted.



Amoonguna MacYouth Team - Service Excellence

The Amoonguna Youth Team, notably Natasha Stuart and Samantha Stuart, ran an excellent Girls Basketball competition, in Amoonguna on Saturday 26 September. Every aspect of the event, from the planning, preparation and set up, to the running of the competition (coaching, scoring, cooking, cheering, and umpiring) was on point. Not only was this incredibly impressive, but so too were the staff from Santa Teresa, Titjikala and Hermannsburg. Oh, and of course the young people too! The enthusiasm of all the players, spectators and workers truly highlighted this. What a day!



Lloyd Wilyuka - Civil Works Titjikala - Reinforcing Council's Values

Lloyd demonstrated respectful values during weekly project planning meetings. He showed leadership in ensuring everyone was able to speak to the team and ensuring everyone was respectful towards each other.



Marilyn Wright - Records Officer - Above and Beyond

Marilyn exceeded expectations in outcomes – not only in May but previous months in resolving issues with InfoCouncil / Magiq and network compatibility especially in the past 2 months. Marilyn has worked extra hours to assist Governance with the creation of agendas meeting minutes and actions required to keep staff up to speed on what was and is going on. In her Manager's absence, she has maintained Magiq Docs front page for staff out bush, so they could access relevant documents directly from the front page. Her dedication and willingness to assist other members/teams is appreciated by all.







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



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Alice Springs



Brenden Hall Shinae Sullivan Manager Transport Infrastructure and Fleet Administration Officer- Technical Services



Areyonga

Kurt Herzog Naphtalia Scobie Vanessa Summerfield Team Leader Pool Youth Services Officer Customer Service Officer- Centrelink



Veronica Grant

Amoonguna

Youth Service Officer



Haasts Bluff

Hayley Dodd Isiah Larry Home Care Assistant Youth Services Officer



Kathy Mumu

Home Care Assistant



Kintore

Daniel Broadbent Trephina Nangala Jordan Pollard Team Leader Youth Services
Early Learning Educator
Youth Services Officer



Mount Liebig

Luke Wallace

Youth Engagement Officer



Santa Teresa

Olivia Elder Melanie Hayes Dane Luther Team Leader Pool Youth Services Officer Youth Services Officer



Titjikala

William Gobson Francis Wallace

Community Safety Officer Community Safety Officer







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SERVICE RECOGNITION RECIPIENTS



10 Year Service Awards

Peter Blythman Catherine (Kitty) Comerford Manager Information Services Manager Property and Tenancy

Alice Springs Alice Springs



7 Year Service Awards

Rochelle Major Everlyn Morgan Sheree Sherry Lionel Golder Jessica Kragh

Early Learning Educator Early Learning Educator Management Accountant & Grants Community Safety Officer Coordinator Youth Services Projects & Planning

Kintore Mt Liebig Alice Springs Titjikala Alice Springs



5 Year Service Awards

Maisie Jugadai Sharon Napurrula

Millenium Katakarinja

Barbara Waite

Joseph Zimran

Loretta Meneri

Holly Van Vliet

Adam Gibbs

Frankie Dixon

Tony White

Michael Lambourne

Sharona Richardson

Lauren Bloomfield

Nisha Chandran

Jasmine Ngalkin

Lily McKnight

Wesley Oliver

Georgina Malbunka

Parameswara Vilasam

Arvincanz Roping

Cliford Pope

Early Learning Educator Senior Community Safety Officer Haasts Bluff Kintore

Docker River

Alice Springs HQ

Hermannsburg

Hermannsburg

Alice Springs HQ

Santa Teresa

Hermannsburg

Santa Teresa

Alice Springs

Hermannsburg

Hermannsburg

Haasts Bluff

Alice Springs

Kintore

Kintore

Papunya

Areyonga

Finke

Kintore

Areyonga



2 Year Service Awards



Wallace Hopkins Works Assistant Alister Stevic Coordinator HR Project & Planning Sharon Tilmouth Early Learning Educator

Plant Operator

Graeme Miller **Ingrid Young**

Early Learning Educator Youth Services Officer

Children's Services Team Leader

Works Assistant

Youth Services Officer

Early Learning Educator

Works Assistant

Infrastructure Projects Coordinator

Youth Engagement Officer

Community Safety Officer Community Connector NDIS

Works Assistant

Youth Services Officer

Home Care Assistant

Fleet Services Coordinator

Children's Services Team Leader

Home Care Assistant Youth Services Coordinator Youth Services Officer

Hermannsburg Alice Springs HQ Santa Teresa







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STOP PRESS





ABOVE: Marcella Remedio, Cindy Drover and Min Roebuck on the tongs at the Alice Springs office

STAY IN TOUCH

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GOT SOME NEWS?

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ABOVE: Cooking roo tail for Titjikala NAIDOC



ABOVE: Rain at Santa Teresa brought the horses and foals in for a drink.



ABOVE Lily and Jake on the BBQ at the Areyonga NAIDOC celebration.

TRACHOMA MESSAGE FROM MILPA



















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do you need support**\$\$\$f**or:



youth education



health issues





school excursions

youth leadership & role modelling





sporting events

cultural matters



CENTRECORP 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





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Ntaria Basketball Competition

















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Ntaria Basketball Competition









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Ntaria Basketball Competition



From 1st to 3rd October last year, 12 teams from across the MRC region competed for glory in Ntaria (Hermannsburg). Our friends from Ngaanyatjarra, Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara Women's Council (NPYWC) supported Finke, Docker River, Imanpa and Mutitiulu teams to attend. Haasts Bluff won first place, followed by Ntaria and Kintore. What a great few days of competition!





























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Ntaria Basketball Competition





































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Three amazingly talented MacYouth Teams from Kintore, Utju and Ntaria participated in the Mpartnwe NAIDOC Softball Shield on Saturday 14th November last year. All teams played incredibly well with the heat with Kintore placing third and The MacYouth All Stars team placing second. Well done to the Central Desert Regional Council for taking out first place! Also a massive thank you to the NPY Women's Council for partnering up with us again over the weekend and many thanks to Softball NT.





