

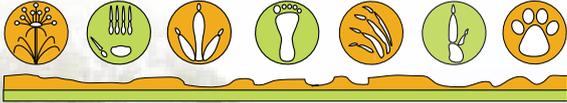
Barkly



**AUSTRALIA
DAY SPECIAL**

**2015 1st Quarter
January - March**

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



Buzz



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The Barkly is a strong and vibrant council that values and respects its cultural diversity

Engaging with our community

Welcome to this first issue of **Barkly Buzz 2015** highlighting some wonderful community events including Australia Day, International Women's Day and the Borella Ride launch.

I had a wonderful time on Australia Day, attending the official ceremonies at Battery Hill in the morning followed by an afternoon of family fun at Lake Mary Ann.

It is always an honour to welcome a new citizen to the community and to hand out the Local Government Australia Day awards to well-deserving residents.

In the afternoon I joined the crowds at Lake Mary Ann, helping councillors with the free BBQ, delighting in the novelty Aussie games and joining our CEO, Edwina Marks, in the tug of war.

In all my years I don't think I've



seen such a crowd. It was a truly special day, helped greatly by the generous support of our local businesses and organisations. For a full report go to our Australia Day Special P4-6.

The Borella Ride launch (P10) and International Women's Day

(IWD) Breakfast (P3) also drew big crowds. My heartfelt thanks go out to young high school student Tshanka Storey, who gave an impassioned speech at the IWD event.

Her plea for mentors dovetailed perfectly into our theme this year of Connecting the Generations - Make it Happen.

Council actively encourages opportunities to engage with and listen to the community and it is wonderful to see young people taking up the mantle.

Our beloved 50-year-old pool went under the jackhammer in February to make way for the exciting new federally funded swimming pool complex and entrance building. Construction is well underway for both the pool and football change rooms at Purkiss Reserve, and I

am keeping residents updated with regular posts on my Facebook page and via monthly newspaper columns.

The first three months of 2015 was also a time of advocacy for the benefit of communities in the Barkly including negotiations over the IAS funding cuts and helping community members of Elliott and Marlinja lobby Federal and Northern Territory Ministers to solve the housing crisis (P9).

I continue with my role as Chair of the TCA Alcohol Reference Group and other meetings attended include the Tennant Creek Regional Economic Development Committee, Tennant Creek Local Authorities and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT). Enjoy this issue.

President Barb Shaw

Wheelie good way to brighten up bins

It's anything but rubbish. In fact, encouraging local youth to be creative over the school holidays was a wheelie good idea.

Six young men, from 12-16, took part in an art project producing collaborative artworks and designs on paper, canvas and for several wheelie bins, donated by Barkly Regional Council.

Organised by Youth Diversion Officer Constable Matthew McKinlay, the results were showcased at the council Library in late January before the wheelie bins were donated to various organisations around town.

Constable McKinlay, who ran the program with the assistance from Catholic Care's Sam Gubicak, said the group had lots of fun and he was really impressed with the standard of work.

"They were all happy to be learning new skills and making a positive contribution," Constable McKinlay said.

"The whole idea was to produce some street art that would be seen in a positive light.

"The youngsters were involved in the whole process from the planning stage through to production and they were very proud of their efforts."



What's new...

- A draft report of the electoral review, endorsed by council after a period of public consultation, has recommended renaming the Yapakurlangu Ward to Kuwarrangu which means mixed Jingili – Mudburra people including Wambaya people (from the east). The new name for this Ward will be included in the report to the Local Government Minister.

- Elected members take professional development seriously, especially with all the policy reforms around local government. Earlier in the year councillors took part in a workshop around professional roles and code of conduct, provided by LGANT's Sue Davy, People and Capacity Development Consultant, and Council's former Acting CEO Rodney Donne.

- Council reviewed its green waste fees during 2014 and waived the fee for green waste in December 2014. The waiver was a strategy aimed at households rather than commercial providers. As a result it has been recommended to adjust the current 2014/15 green waste fees to exclude commercial or for profit businesses to bring this in line with council's current policy framework.

- Council would like to remind staff and visitors that it has a smoke free policy. You will find a copy of this policy, along with all other adopted council policies, on <http://barkly.nt.gov.au/council/policy>

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Edited by KTIMA HEATHCOTE
Cover photo by BARRY NATTRASS

Pupil's plea makes connecting the generations happen

A 16-year-old girl brought women to tears at the International Women's Day (IWD) Breakfast in Tennant Creek.

With call for locals to be understanding and supportive rather than judgemental, Tshanka Storey also asked community members to become mentors for younger people.

Barkly Regional Council President Barb Shaw said Tshanka, one of the High School's Stronger Sisters, was a strong, courageous young woman who had not only enlightened, but inspired the 200-strong crowd at the event held on March 8.

"She is a perfect example of the dynamic, talented youth we have in Tennant Creek," she said. "Tshanka was loudly applauded by the guests and everyone present was hugely proud of her.

"The theme of the day was 'Connecting the Generations - Make It Happen' and with people like Tshanka on our side it is very obvious that Tennant Creek is well on its way."

The IWD event was held at Nyinkka Nyunyu where a photographic exhibition focusing on the importance of mentors in the community was also held in the gallery. There was also a banner highlighting all the various women's groups in town.

Locals Sean Spencer, Lincoln McKinnon and Ktima Heathcote took photos especially for the project where women from all walks of life met up with young women from the

Stronger Sisters program to share stories, ask questions and have fun. Mothers and daughters and residents at Pulkapulka Kari Nursing Home also collaborated for a photo shoot.

Ktima Heathcote, of the IWD Committee, said the response was amazing and the photographs were poignant and moving.

"One particularly emotional experience was when Tshanka dressed in the cloth of the legal profession to have her photo taken," she said. "All the older women were in tears. She changed, she stood up taller, and she took on the character of being a lawyer.

"It was not so much about the photos; that's the end result. The exhibition was about young girls coming together with older women and finding out about opportunities and goals and dreams and inspirations."

President Shaw said the exhibition was a unique celebration of the women in the Barkly region who have inspired, enriched and contributed to the community. "There is a web of rich and diverse local activity that connects us all and marks the considerable achievements of women here," she said.

Other speakers included Jennifer Kitching, who along with her team served a hearty breakfast, and Adrienne MacKenzie who spoke about the creation of the banner.

Rosemary Plummer welcomed the group to country and also read some of her own poetry.



Council President Barb Shaw and Barkly MLA Gerry McCarthy.



Women and children enjoy a hearty breakfast.



Participants share stories.



Tshanka Storey in legal dress and below with mentor Sall Forrest.



Stronger Sisters were an integral part of the activities. Photos by Marlie McNamara-Wright and Sean Spencer.





Australian pride alive in Tennant

It was a dawn start for a group of athletes gathering at Lake Mary Ann for the best Australia Day in Tennant Creek yet.

Locals, from eight to 42, donned their swimmers, runners and bike helmets to compete in the 100m swim, 2km run and 2km bike ride with some participants braving the race as a solo entrant.

It was a close call at the finishing line but Team N.A.H (Allan Spence, Helen Marsh and Nathan Collier) took out the top spot with Paul Campbell coming first in the solo racers.

Tennantites then headed up to Battery Hill for a champagne breakfast and official proceedings with the flag raising, singing of the National Anthem, and President Barb Shaw conducting the Citizenship Ceremony and Local Government Australia Day Awards.

Refuelled and ready for some fun, hundreds of locals then made their way to Lake Mary Ann for an afternoon of novelty Aussie races,

including thong throwing, egg catching, leaky bucket race, cold pie eating contest, tug of war and the raft race.

Gerry McCarthy, MLA Barkly, was the MC, keeping the crowds entertained while Triple J's Hottest 100 played in the background.

Hosted by Barkly Regional Council, President Barb Shaw said this year's Australia Day was hectic with a record number of people turning up.

"So many locals came along and took part. In all my years here I don't think I've seen such a crowd."

Councillors slaved over a hot BBQ plate all day for the free sausage sizzle with council staff, lifeguards and volunteers from the NT Firies, Tennant Creek NTES Volunteer Unit and Barkly Work Camp racing around making sure everyone enjoyed themselves.

"I took part in the tug-of-war, along with our CEO Edwina Marks," said President Shaw. "Our team didn't win but that's not what it's about.

It's about the community letting their hair down and having fun and joining in a spirit of camaraderie that is unique to Tennant Creek.

"I'd also like to say a big thank you to our sponsors, volunteers and the community for making this day so special."

Six teams battled it out for the popular Australia Day raft race, with T&J Pirates taking the title for the fourth year in a row with Bridgestone Babes hot on their heels in second place and NT Firies coming third.

Other winners on the day included the Hospital Hippies (Tug of War Females), T&J Pirates (Tug of War Males), Young Guns (Tug of War Kids), Spitfires (Leaky Bucket Race Adults), Young Guns (Leaky Bucket Race Kids), Matthew and Andrew Green (Egg Catching), Charlie Bourke (Thong Throwing), Ken Brown (Cold Pie Eating Adults) and Alex (Cold Pie Eating Kids). Kirsty Eberl won Best Dressed with Abbey Green taking out Best Dressed (Kids).

Did you know?

Australia is the 6th largest country in the world, occupying an entire continent of some 7.6 million square km, and that the Barkly region covers an area of 322,514 square km and is the second largest local government area in Australia.



Photos by BARRY NATTRASS.





Australia Day 2015



Did you know?

The first Australian of the Year award was presented to Professor Macfarlane Burnet in 1960. He won the Nobel Prize in the same year for his ground breaking physiology research.



SPONSORS

GOLD



SILVER

- Tennant Foodbarn
- Hal & Donna Ruger
- Mr Perry's Ice Creamery
- Tennant Creek Transport
- T&J Contractors
- Wan's Thai Massage



New Aussie Avinash Singh, left, cuts the cake with award winners Telita Braun and Duane Fraser.



Did you know?

Today's Australia is very multicultural with Indigenous peoples and migrants from some 200 countries.

Did you know?

Since the first Australian citizenship ceremony in 1949, more than four million people have chosen to become Australian citizens

Locals in the spotlight

A man who is involved in sporting, community and cultural development in Tennant Creek took out the Citizen of the Year Award on Australia Day.

Duane Fraser works in community development with the Council of Elders at Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation, where he has served as a board member since 2007.

Raised in Tennant Creek, Duane also supports many sporting, youth and community activities and has been one of the main organisers of the NAIDOC celebrations in Tennant Creek for the past eight years.

Tennant Creek's Young Citizen of the Year went to Telita Braun who has been hailed as a positive role model for Tennant's youth and the community. She is currently completing a cadetship with Westpac Bank.

Event of the Year was awarded to Desert Harmony Festival which has been hosted by Barkly Regional Arts since 2009.

Last year, the festival marked 25 years of artistic and cultural celebrations and cemented its reputation as the Barkly's premier community event.

Council President Barb Shaw presented the awards, which are part of the Local Government Australia Day Awards, at the Australia Day breakfast and formalities at Battery Hill and also welcomed new Aussie, Avinash Singh, in a Citizenship ceremony.

Originally from Punjab in India, Avinash moved to Australia seven years ago and now works at Wycliffe Well.

Up at Elliott, locals had their own Australia Day celebrations combining formality and frivolity with the Local Government Australia Day Awards and a community BBQ.

Citizen of the Year was Christopher Neade with Josiah Nuggett taking out Young Citizen of the Year and Big Morning Tea (Elliott Women's Group) awarded Community Event of the Year.



SPONSORS

BRONZE & IRON

BRONZE SPONSORS: Barkly Butchers; Barkly Hardware & Gas; Barkly Plumbing; Bluestone Motor Inn; Centrepoint Food and Fuel; Gerry McCarthy, MLA Barkly; Katerina's Café; Lavery Plumbing; Outback Outfitters; Tennant Creek Tyre Centre.

IRON SPONSORS: Jen's Edible Images; Mike Nash Electric; Top of Town Café; Rocky's Pizza.

Other people who made the day possible are Anyinginyi Sport and Recreation, Battery Hill, Barkly Work Camp, the Firies, Karen's Kitchen, Little Athletics, St John Ambulance, the Tennant Creek NTES Volunteer Unit and Rotary Club of Tennant Creek.

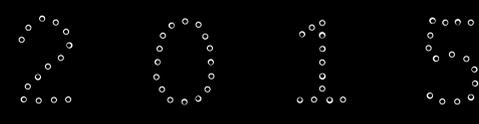
Barkly Regional Arts presents

DESERT HARMONY FESTIVAL

let NDIS be light!



ANYINGINYI MANU



'Little Boys' by Dion Beasley

FRIDAY JULY 31ST - AUGUST 5TH

MAJOR SUPPORTER



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSOR



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FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS





Ali Curung junior team with BRC staff member Andrew Sua.



Ampilatwatja junior team with BRC staff member Glen Townsend.

Kicking goals for kids

The Barkly region has always had a strong passion for football.

From little kids kicking around anything that resembles a footy to the community teams that travel up to 600km every week to compete in the AFL Barkly.

It's the number one passion in communities around the region and in January this year the Sports and Recreation team organised football games for three teams of youngsters to take part in a special match day held in Ali Curung.

Sport and Recreation Coordinator Sean Spencer said youth from Ali Curung, Ampilatwatja and Arlparra

all turned up to play on the day, with Ali Curung taking the top spot.

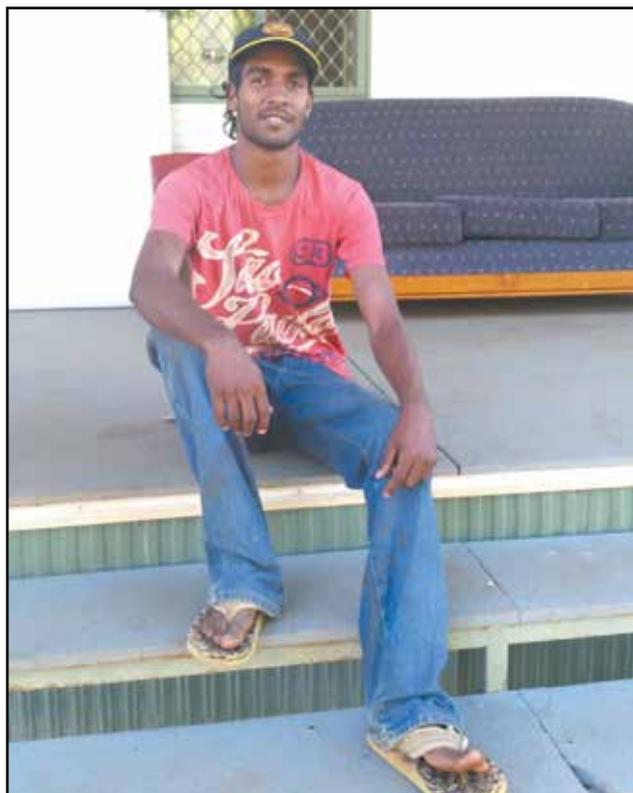
"The young ones watch the older players avidly, but they don't get many opportunities to play in competitions," he said.

"It's great that through our organised sporting events youth can learn new skills, experience what it's like in a competitive environment and have fun, too."

Sean said footy is a game that touches everyone in the region in one way or another. "Footy is not just the most popular sport in the Barkly, it's the glue that brings the whole community together."



The Arlparra junior team. Photos by by Sean Spencer.



Elliott School Attendance Officer Josiah Nuggett.

Elliott sets new benchmark for schools across Australia

Elliott has become the inspiration for communities around Australia seeking ways to get kids to school.

It has become the first school in the Remote School Attendance Strategy (RSAS) to reach 90 per cent student attendance.

Elliott's School Attendance Officer Josiah Nuggett said the success is due to the close working relationship between the school, night patrol, the Australian Government's Indigenous Engagement Officer, elders and the community, as well as the many locals volunteering to help kids get to school in the morning.

"The community as a whole has really gotten behind this," Josiah said.

"All the locals want to help our kids get to school and get educated so it was easy to increase attendance this term."

While he's modest about his own role in the school's success, Josiah has been identified as one of the main reasons behind Elliott School's rapid rise to ninety per cent attendance.

"I start work at 8am and I really enjoy supporting parents getting their kids up in the morning and off to school," he said.

"We have an assembly at 8.30am where we do a roll call and then chase up the kids who aren't there. I like to get the kids excited about going to school because it's so important for their futures."

Josiah's hard work has been recognised by Elliott School, which has employed him to work three hours a day as a teacher's aide.

He works with students with special needs and volunteers as a coach and umpire for the school's sports programme.



A house in the Wilyugu town camp at Elliott. *Picture courtesy of Northern Land Council.*

Lobbying for change

The Minister for Local Government and Community Services Bess Price has agreed to meet with Elliott residents in June to discuss the housing crisis.

At a meeting held in early February, Council President Barb Shaw and Councillors Bob Bagnall and Ray Aylett met with representatives of the Federal and Northern Territory governments, the Northern Land Council (NLC) and a delegation of residents to discuss the need for housing replacement in Elliott (Gurungu and Wilyugu) and

Newcastle Waters (Marlinja).

Following these talks the council invited Ms Price and the Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator Nigel Scullion, to talk to community members about the state of their town camps and the Marlinja outstation.

Ms Price, who is scheduled to visit the small township in June, said that Elliott had been left out when the former Federal and Territory Labor Governments picked which communities would get new and upgraded housing.

“I think people forgot about Elliott when that funding was rolled out,” she said.

Ms Price said to upgrade Elliott’s housing her Government would first need to negotiate a lease over the Indigenous-owned land.

Other proposals highlighted at the February meeting included sending out a technician to immediately assess houses, liaising with Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation (JCAC) to find more workers from their Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP) for

housing maintenance and searching for funding for an environmental officer position in the community as well as a housing condition report.

Reporter Jane Bardon made a series of ABC TV news items about the housing crisis in Elliott following the meeting called by councillors and residents.

● To watch these videos, visit our website at <http://barkly.nt.gov.au/news-events/news/elliott-housing-update>

Council wins fight for bigger slice of youth funding pie

Barkly Regional Council (BRC) has announced that the youth funding slashed under the Federal Government’s Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) has been reinstated.

BRC CEO Edwina Marks said council talks with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) to renegotiate IAS funding, including youth-related activities, had been hugely successful with nearly \$2m extra put on the table for a two-year period.

Since the announcement in February that 27 Indigenous jobs with Sport and Recreation were on the line, council has been renegotiating with the local office of the PM&C.

President Barb Shaw, who was a guest speaker on Fran Kelly’s

ABC Radio National morning slot, said at the time that the Federal Government, whose mantra was jobs, jobs, jobs, was actually delivering to the most vulnerable, poorest and disadvantaged people in the country a package of jobless, jobless, jobless.

In early March the Federal Government agreed in principle to reinstate \$446,000 under the Indigenous Sport and Active Recreation Program (ISARP) to BRC.

However, council continued to lobby for more funding for youth-related activities to recover the additional shortfall from the original IAS application.

“We explained that the original amount was not nearly enough to deliver frontline services for youth-related activity in a land mass as

big as the state of Victoria,” said Dr Marks. “Jobs were still on the line if any of the funding went.

Dr Marks said final IAS figures showed that council received \$1.9m extra to deliver a whole range of programmes, including youth-related activity under safety and wellbeing and night patrol.

“This funding is critical to retaining jobs on the ground across the region. It has saved real jobs for real people, which is fantastic news for the bush and its communities,” she said.

Council’s IAS funding includes 2.5 years for delivery of night patrol and two years for the school nutrition program, Elliott community radio, youth transition and the Elliott playgroup bringing the total IAS funding stream to \$11.8 million.



Council employees Faron James and Tommy Gillett can continue to work in youth-related activity now funding has been reinstated.

The Big Wet



Lake Mary Ann was overflowing. Photo by Ktima Heathcote.

Record rains fall in the Barkly

Creeks flooded, dams overflowed and roads and communities were closed as record rains fell across the Barkly region in January.

The total rainfall was 343.5mm over 24 days – that’s more than three times the average rainfall of 110mm for January with 5 January recording the wettest day of 69.4mm, just shy of the 69.8mm record set in 1983.

A spokesperson for the Bureau of Meteorology said the above average rainfall was caused by the influence of a monsoonal low coming down from the Top End, delivering some excellent rain to parts of the Barkly.

Bush roads to remote communities including Ampilatwatja, Arlparra and Wutungurra were closed, stranding residents for several days, with drivers advised to take extra care and flood warnings for the upper Georgina River in the Barkly Tableland.

Torrential rains filled Lake Mary Ann from a trickle to overflowing in time for the Australia Day celebrations, and also made the local attraction a mecca for birdlife such as pelicans, egrets, herons and curlews.



Kurundi Road was impassable.



4WD training pays off.



The Sandover Highway to Arlparra.

Stormy start to wet season

Rain which fell on the first day of December 2014 ended 230 rain-free days – almost breaking the 232 dry days record set in 1994.

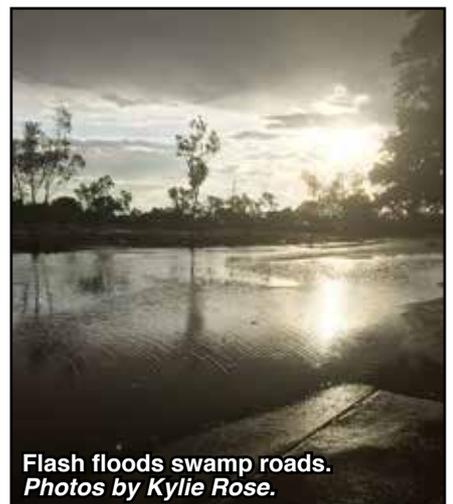
Two days after a massive storm – with 96km/hour wind gusts – raged through town felling trees, branches and causing minor damage to several homes.

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, there was also flash flooding – 54mm of rain in just one hour, 18mm in the first 10 minutes – washing a car off the road in Paterson Street.

Within the first three days of December, 75.8mm of rain had been recorded at the Tennant Creek Airport.



Storm rolls into town.



Flash floods swamp roads. Photos by Kylie Rose.



Chief Minister Adam Giles presents Council President Barb Shaw with a plaque to commemorate 100 years of Anzac.



Tracey Sant, Susan Cooper, Emma Lewis-Alum, Kylie Farrarwell and Rebecca Newman.



Charlie Cloos and Richard Borella depart Tennant Creek.

Plaque celebrates trek into Australia's history books

Tennant Creek stepped back in time to 1915 as residents paid tribute to the Territory's only Victoria Cross recipient Albert Borella.

There was a great buzz in town as locals, many dressed in period clothing, waved off a team of walkers retracing the journey of Territory war hero Albert Borella.

Albert's grandson Richard Borella, along with a crew of support riders, cooks and military historians, was also at the Borella Ride launch on 20 February.

He was there to retrace the footsteps of his grandfather, whose epic 1000km journey from Tennant Creek to Darwin to enlist in World War I has become entrenched in Australian History.

To forever remember the start of Albert's challenging trek, the Chief Minister Adam Giles presented Barkly Regional Council President Barb Shaw with a commemorative plaque.

President Shaw said the plaque is for the community of Tennant Creek, and that the council will find a suitable location in town for the plaque so everyone can enjoy it.

"When Albert set off from Tennant Creek he travelled through a harsh climate at the peak of the wet season, on foot to Renner Springs and at times swimming in flooded creeks. He is the embodiment of the true spirit and courage of people who live in remote communities such as ours."

Mr Giles also presented the President of the Tennant Creek RSL Club Kevin Rowland with a mounted replica set of Albert's medals.

TV Presenter Ray Martin hosted the flagship event in Tennant Creek as part of the Territory Government's \$4.5 million ANZAC Centenary program. Distinguished guests included Mr Giles, Member for Lingiari Warren Snowdon and Territory Senators Nigel Scullion and Nova Peris.

Albert's son Rowan, who was also at the community launch, said it was great to be in Tennant Creek. "It's great to be honoured by the people of the Territory taking my dad, Albert Borella, into their hearts. He was always very quiet about his achievements but I know he was proud to have served Australia."



Crowds gather to look at the travelling display.



Residents dressed in period garb.

Elliott gives a warm welcome to the crew

The Borella Ride team arrived in Elliott on Monday 23 February to a very warm welcome from the entire local community.

Students lined the streets waving Territory flags and residents held a community event including a BBQ. The chance to view the Albert Borella Travelling Display was on show containing information about the Territory's foremost soldier and artefacts from 1915 and World War I.

Locals were particularly excited about dressing up in the uniforms and period clothes, and kids enjoyed working out how to use a gramophone - so very different to downloading music on to iPods today.

Council takes the plunge with innovative design

As Sports and Recreation workers packed up lost goggles, the odd thong and leftover swimming costumes, plus boxes of balls, kickboards, and flotation devices, men in High-Vis gear rocked up into town for the big bulldoze.

The iconic Tennant Creek Swimming Pool, opened 50 years ago by another Aussie icon Dawn Fraser, was to be demolished for a brand new innovative design.

There were a few moist eyes as excavators and men with jackhammers waded into the waterless structure and set about knocking down the diving blocks and tearing up the foundations.

Within weeks of starting the demolition process in late February, workers with Queensland-based Taylor Builders Pty Ltd then moved on to the beginning stages of the huge task of constructing the new swimming pool complex for Tennant Creek.

Barkly Regional Council (BRC) President Barb Shaw said this project was able to move forward after the council secured funding of \$3.6m from the Federal Government's Community Development Grant, which also included upgrading the amenities at the town's main sporting oval, Purkiss Reserve.

"The submission put through to



The excavator demolishes the old town pool in a matter of days.

the Commonwealth in 2013 was focused on a positive outcome for the community, providing a healthy focus for the town in terms of recreation as well as other health-related matters," she said.

Part of the project included the innovative design of arranging a 25m lap pool, a learn-to-swim pool and a toddlers' pool into a single structure, addressing accessibility issues with a beach-style entry for all patrons.

Plans also highlighted a water park, upgraded change rooms, and a new administration building

incorporating an office, first-aid area, upgraded seating and water treatment equipment.

President Shaw said that last year council awarded a contract to design a new pool complex and adjacent football change rooms to Hames Sharley.

In October 2014, Hames Sharley delivered the 95 per cent concept design and documentation to the Purkiss Reserve Consultative Committee for review and approval, followed by calls for a tender for the construction of the swimming pool complex and for the football

change rooms.

Queensland-based Taylor Builders Pty Ltd was awarded the tender for the construction of the swimming pool complex with local firm GK Painting Contractors winning the tender to upgrade amenities at Purkiss Reserve.

"By the end of March this year, workers had removed the old pool structure and laid out the new design and by April concrete had been sprayed-on and the administration building started to take shape," said President Shaw.

"Each time I go past the pool construction site I notice something new. It is an exciting development for Tennant and its inhabitants and for people from outlying communities as well as visitors."

Over at Purkiss Reserve football oval, there has also been a hive of activity with local builders, GK Contractors, constructing the modern football change rooms.

Opus International Consultants Limited have been hired to assist the council with project management for the pool and change rooms.

Along with the Australian Government grant, other funding sources include the NT Government, Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation, YDU Memo Demon's Football Club, Bella's Hair Dressing, the late Eddie Taylor and BRC.

Memories are made of this

When President Barb Shaw mentioned on her Facebook Page that the old pool was being replaced, we reached more than 4,000 people. Below are some of the comments by old Tennantites who remember the beloved Tennant Creek Pool well.

"OMG - I have no idea how many hours I spent in that pool - from learning to swim at age four when it was still 33m to training morning & nights, Friday night club nights, carnivals and all the way to running the joint while Bill went on holidays. I think most of my childhood was spent in that place - TC won't be the same without it!" - Michelle Pearce.

Pool Party - the Last Hurrah

Hundreds of locals came to the beloved Tennant Creek town pool in February for one last dip before it was demolished.

Residents have many fond memories of the pool, and kids and adults alike made a big splash at the pool party as they all said farewell to an old friend.

President Barb Shaw said it was sad to see the old pool go but it was really starting to show the signs of its age and a change was necessary.

"The pool was nearing the end of its lifespan," she said. "It was time to find a more suitable solution that addressed accessibility issues and provided a healthy focus and positive outcome for the community."



Pool Party - the Last Hurrah



Footy change rooms make their mark

Local builder George Konedaris, above, second from left, at Purkiss Reserve, along with President Barb Shaw, Councillor Tony Boulter, CEO Edwina Marks, council staff and construction workers. Building work, left, for the change rooms is well underway.

Memories are made of this

“So many midnight fence jumps on the way back from the pub... and a couple of skinny dips too! Good times in that pool.” – Leaha Hevans.

“All those early mornings taking my daughter for swimming training and the Friday night club nights – great times at that pool.” – Bruce Webster.

“Walking down from Karguru Primary School or sometimes catching the bus for swimming lessons. Change is good, but this memory will always be a part of my happy childhood.” – Douglas Fairbanks.

“It’s a shame to see the pool go, so many memories and kms done training for events. I still remember when I was training for the Pacific School Games and the town council kept water in it so that I could keep training a month or so after it was closed. When I was in school I don’t remember too many afternoons that I didn’t spend with my friend on the black/blue line at the bottom.” – Andrew Pearce.

“Great times. We knew every shady spot from home to the pool. Loved the spider drinks we used to get there, and loved the diving board that broke.” – Jeannie Mountier.

“Sad. One of my first community involved jobs when I moved there in 1976 detailed by District Officer Bruce was to sand blast and paint the pool.” – Tony Pope.

“Oh, that’s sad. My Dad built that pool and I remember Dawn Fraser was there for the opening.” – Jane Daniels.

Tennant's first librarian yarns about the old days

When Marjorie Fullwood came to Tennant Creek in 1946, she was having parcels of books sent freight free on the railway from the Country Lending Service, Adelaide Library. Nearly a decade later she became the first official librarian in town. Here is an excerpt of her story written in 1980.

“One of the first requests made by the Tennant Creek District Association (TCDA) to the NT Administrator was the establishment of a public library in this town.

After long negotiations the TCDA were asked to supply the names of a number of volunteers to run the service for two years, and if warranted, the library would be placed on a firmer basis.

Just before the opening of the library on 23 March 1954, five volunteers gathered to become familiar with their duties. These were Reg Carter (Municipal Officer), John Horn (ES&A Bank Clerk), Les Ashenden (Head Master), Mrs E Griggs and myself. Within a few weeks the others had resigned on account of transfers or pressure of business and I carried on the out-of-hours duties for ten-and-a-half years.

The arrangement was that the books would be stored on tall shelves around three walls of the room used by Mrs Evelyn Turner, the Mines Branch stenographer (Typist), in the private house taken over by the NT Administration from Mrs Weaver (the family of Nobles Nob fame) on the corner of Windley and Paterson Streets (site of Peko Park).

This was an iron walled and roofed building on blocks about two-foot high, with wooden



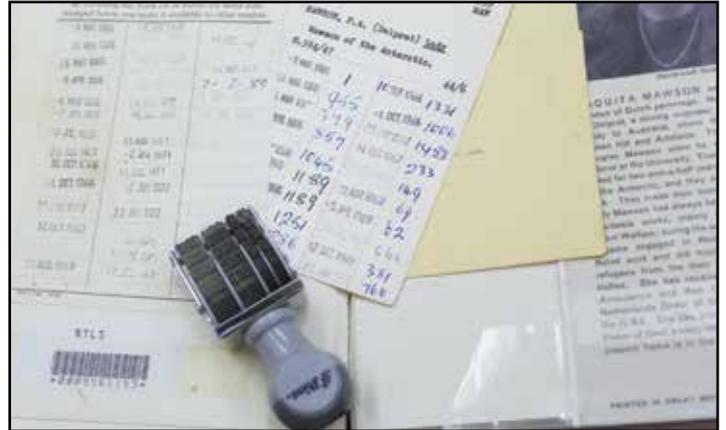
Marjorie Fullwood.

floors and fly screened verandah, which became more shaky as the white ants caused damage. This building housed the Mines and Land Branches, Municipal Office, the Library and for some time was the venue of the voluntary Fire Brigade on after hour's duty.

Mrs Turner attended to office hours openings about four hours weekly and I took over the Wednesday evening and Saturday morning duties of four-and-a-half hours weekly. The space in this small room was most crowded, if only two borrowers were there at one time, and soon became impractical to find storage for the extra books sent from Darwin.

It was really inconvenient for the official inspecting librarians to check the books annually and it was a relief when this house was vacated for the more commodious building purchased by the NT Administration from A. F. Campbell (site of the bus terminal).

In about 1960 the library was sited in a fairly large room with several electric lights – extra light



In the days before digital, due dates were stamped in the back of books.

being allowed by the glass louvers facing on to Paterson Street but which also admitted dust and a draught, a mobile air conditioner and a small annex which we used as the children's section, extra shelving, office table and one chair.

After the two years trial I was paid 10/- (shillings) a week, but later when I was employed by the Welfare Branch the library duty was classified as overtime, so that was on a higher rating. I was given ½ hour after closing the library to tally the books borrowed, cards and place on the shelves all books returned and make out the daily borrowing. I cannot recall the number of books taken out but I was usually busy on Saturdays when about 100 books would be handled in the two hour opening.

Books were catalogued by Darwin Library staff, but we had to keep the reference cards in order. I made out the monthly returns and attended to fines notices for books two weeks overdue, with a follow up reminder a week later. Fines were chargeable at 3d a day per book, with a limit of 5/- per

borrower. Adults were allowed two books and a magazine returnable any time within a fortnight and children could take only one book at a time.

I did no cleaning and was pleased about this as I was a sufferer of long periods of hay fever – even the handling of the ever dusty books brought on trouble – and actually led to my resignation in September 1964 for by that time I was doing all of the library duty, as Mrs Turner had resigned.

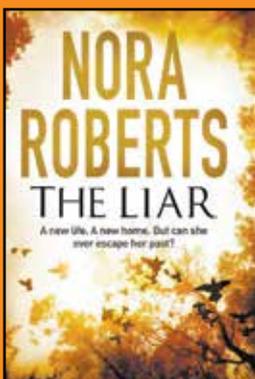
With the fluctuating population there was quite a bit of non recovery of books, but not exceptionally so.

Sometimes we had a bonus when someone found and returned material left by the previous borrower. One thing I do remember was that there was very little damage.

After my resignation a part-time librarian was appointed (the first one being Mrs Jane Carter) which led to the expansion in hours and amenities.

On the whole I enjoyed my association with this service.”

Great reads!

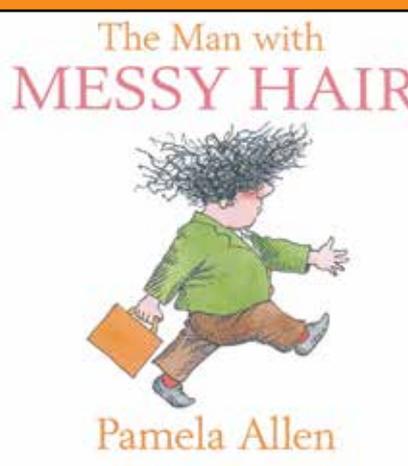


The Liar By Nora Roberts

When her husband Richard dies in a freak accident, Shelby Pomeroy is devastated.

But his death reveals a horrible truth - Richard was a liar and a cheat. Now Shelby is left with huge, terrifying debts and mounting proof that her late husband betrayed her in every conceivable way.

Even in death, she is not safe from his shady past. With her life in danger, Shelby must face the lies of the past - or lose everything.



The Man with Messy Hair By Pamela Allen

There once was a man with messy hair. He liked the mess.

He didn't care. But his messy hair soon got him into all sorts of trouble.

Part cautionary tale, part wry observation of the quirks in all of us, this is a delightful story to be enjoyed by children and adults alike.

SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT AND CAREERS EXPO 2015

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ALICE SPRINGS

Alice Springs
Convention Centre
TUES 4 AUG
5.00pm - 7.30pm
WED 5 AUG
8.30am - 12.30pm

TENNANT CREEK

Tennant Creek
Civic Hall
FRI 7 AUG
9.00am - 12.30pm

KATHERINE

YMCA of Katherine
(Skating Rink)
MON 10 AUG
10.00am - 2.00pm

DARWIN

Darwin Convention Centre
TUES 11 AUG
5.00pm - 8.00pm
WED 12 AUG
8.30am - 2.30pm

NHULUNBUY

Nhulunbuy Town Hall
FRI 14 AUG
10.30am - 1.30pm

FREE ENTRY

www.skillsemploymentexpo.nt.gov.au

An Initiative by the Department of Business
Phone (08) 8981 8870 Email expo@youthworxnt.com.au

Barkly Regional Council offices

Tennant Creek

41 Peko Road Tennant Creek NT 0860
PO Box 821 Tennant Creek NT 0861
Telephone: 08 8962 0000
Fax: 08 8962 1801
Email: library.tennantcreek@barkly.nt.gov.au
Office: Monday to Friday 8.15am - 12 noon
1pm - 4.15pm

Elliott

Care of Post Office Elliott NT 0862
Telephone: 08 8969 3902
Fax: 08 8969 2076
Office: Monday to Friday 8.15am - 12 noon
1pm - 4.36pm

Ali Curung

Community Mail Bag 188 Ali Curung
via Alice Springs NT 0872
Telephone: 08 8964 2902
Fax: 08 8964 1975
Office: Monday to Thursday 8.15am - 12 noon
1pm - 4.15pm
Friday 8.15am - 12 noon

Alpurrurulam

Private Mail Bag 23
Mt Isa Queensland 4825
Telephone: 07 4748 4800
Fax: 07 4748 4913
Office: Monday to Friday 8.00am - 12 noon
1pm - 4pm

Tennant Creek Public Library

41 Peko Road Tennant Creek NT 0860
PO Box 821 Tennant Creek NT 0861
Telephone: 08 8962 0094 or 08 8962 0092
Email: library@barkly.nt.gov.au
Open: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 12 noon

Arlparra

PMB 127 via Alice Springs NT 0872
Telephone: 08 8956 9850
Fax: 08 8956 9851
Office: Monday to Friday 8am - 12 noon
1pm - 4.30pm

Wutunugurra

PMB 148 via Alice Springs NT 0872
Telephone: 08 8964 1683
Fax: 08 8964 1669
Office: Monday to Friday 8.15am - 12 noon
1pm - 4.36pm

Ampilatwatja

PMB 68
via Alice Springs NT 0872
Telephone: 08 8956 9966
Fax: 08 8956 9153
Office: Monday to Friday 8.15am - 12 noon
1pm - 4.36pm

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



<http://barkly.nt.gov.au>