



## Leading the Barkly into an exciting and sustainable future

Welcome back after the Christmas and New Year celebrations. I hope you enjoyed the break and have returned to work refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

Here at Council, we have been looking at ways to do things differently and to lead our Council and the Barkly region into the future.

Indeed, as the new Council takes the reins and embarks on an exciting new chapter, there's plenty on the agenda for us to start working on as we review future priorities and plan for the long-term and sustainable future of the region.

Less than five months since the swearing-in ceremony of elected members in September 2017 a great deal has already been reviewed and achieved by Council.

A recent review of Council's organisational structure has led to the appointment of a Director of Operations to bring a greater focus on service delivery in our communities.

Last year we established a formal partnership with the 'No More Campaign' and revised Council's Local Authority Establishment Policy to ensure LAs meet monthly and have a maximum of seven appointed members.

These achievements and others were



**NEW CHAPTER:** Ricky Holmes, Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin, Cr Ray Aylett, Cr Kris Civitarese, Cr Hal Ruger and Cr Ronald Plummer. Front row: Cr Noel Hayes, Cr Lucy Jackson, Mayor Steve Edgington, Cr Jane Evans and Cr. Sid Vashist.  
PHOTO CREDIT: Karl Herzog-Heinz.

outlined in my last column and many are included in the 'What's New' section of this column.

There are also a number of projects underway that will give Council the opportunity to take carriage of and work with the community to deliver, including the campaign to prevent illegal dumping launched today, applying for support for the Animal Management Program across all remote communities and the development of a five-year infrastructure plan to improve facilities in towns and communities of the Barkly.

Council now has a list of about 30 projects to be completed in the next five years. Some ventures can be achieved easily, while others will require external funding to get up and running and will take some time to complete.

Council's five-year infrastructure plan will be there to ensure we stay on track and can measure our success in future years.

This strategic plan – and many other initiatives – will also require extensive community consultation and I encourage all residents to contribute when the time

comes later in the year.

Council will continue to invest in the local economy and building capacity in our local businesses.

We're all very passionate about supporting the local economy and know how tough the struggles are for the community when businesses close down.

We also continue to invest time and energy into the Tennant Creek/Mt Isa Cross-Border Commission (a partnership between our Council and the Mt Isa City Council) to bring greater focus and attention to the development of Northern Australia, in relation to expanded investments in tourism, education, mineral resources, energy, roads, rail, agriculture and water in the Barkly and surrounding areas.

From the outset, we have been determined to ensure Council is an inclusive one; one that talks and listens to the community and maintains an ongoing conversation with residents about what Council is doing right, what Council can do better, and importantly, what the community's ideas are for the future.

Our Council is committed to delivering a local government organisation that's honest, open and accountable, as well as remaining focused on making Tennant Creek and the Barkly region the preferred location to live, work, visit and invest in.



### Australia Day 2018

It's Australia Day next Friday, on 26 January, and we at Council encourage all residents to join in and celebrate what's great about your community and the Barkly.

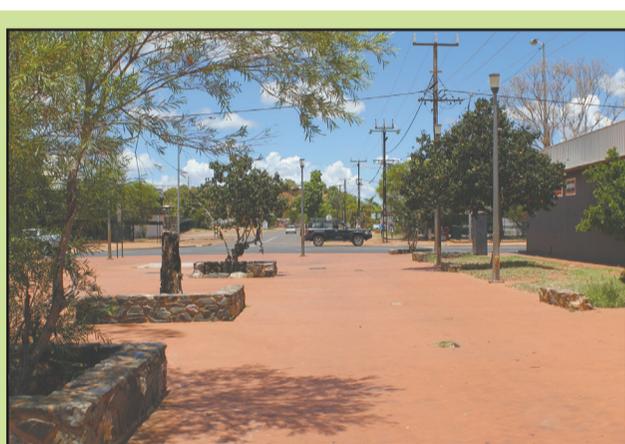
Staff members are busy gearing up for a Triathlon, outdoor breakfast, citizenship and awards ceremony and family fun afternoon in Tennant Creek. There will also be celebrations in Elliott.

The Australia Day Triathlon has now been moved into town, starting at the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool with a 200m swim, followed by the 2km bike ride and 2km run

along Ambrose St, Stuart St, Perry Drive and Peko Road. Participants need to be there no later than 6am.

The breakfast and official ceremonies will still be at Battery Hill and the family fun afternoon will still be held at Lake Mary Ann from 12.30pm.

Please check the Council website [www.barkly.nt.gov.au](http://www.barkly.nt.gov.au), Council's Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/barklyregionalcouncil/>, my Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BarklyMayor> or call reception on 8962 0000 for updates as we draw closer to the big day.



**REMOVAL:** Davidson Walk has been earmarked for a clean-up.

### Graffiti Hot Spots

Several significant graffiti hotspots have been identified in Tennant Creek at Davidson Walk and ANZAC Hill.

Council recently purchased a Graffiti removing chemical (Strip Ease) that is being trialed and early results are positive with most graffiti being removed.

The depot crew is currently embarking on a graffiti removal schedule which will eventually be integrated into a Graffiti Removal Management Plan initially for Tennant Creek.

Over the coming months we will encourage members of Tennant Creek town to spot and report the presence of graffiti on Council's streets via the website <https://barkly.nt.gov.au> or call reception on 8962 0000.

### Meet Councillor Ray Aylett

Councillor Ray Aylett joined the Barkly Regional Council during the amalgamations in 2008 and represents the Kuwarrangu Ward. He was a member of the former Tennant Creek Town Council Board for a year.

A Queenslander by birth, Cr Aylett moved over to the Northern Territory in the late 1990s to manage Balbarini Station in Borroloola and then Muckaty Station, 100km north of Tennant Creek.

He is keen to promote Elliott and improve amenities for the township including housing, footpaths for locals, the cemetery and recreational facilities such as the football fields. This is his third term on Council.



### WHAT'S NEW...

- Rescinded a previous Council resolution so that the new Council can build a strong partnership with Community Development Provider (CDP), Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation, across the region
- Hosted a Business Forum in November 2017 with local businesses to discuss and seek feedback about Council's Purchasing and Procurement Policy and other issues of concern, including providing opportunities for local businesses, ensuring equitable opportunities for

local businesses and to update the Trade and Business Directory on Council's website - <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au/region/traders-services-directory>

- Rescinded a previous Council resolution to transition out of Arlparra. Council is now committed to working with the Urapuntja Aboriginal Corporation, the NTG's Department of Housing and Community Development, the CDP Provider (My Pathway), the Australian Government and other stakeholders to deliver on Council's obligations.
- Investigating options for improving waste management in Tennant Creek, including the operation of a recycling program. As part of research both the CEO and Mayor were given a tour of the Alice Springs Landfill and

Recycling Centre in 2017. The visit showed what could be achieved in time with staggered investment.

- Funded and received a three-hour training session for all elected members to assist in improving corporate governance, meeting procedures, roles and responsibilities, agendas, minutes and following through on actions.
- Applied to the Commonwealth Government under the Building Better Regions Fund to continue funding of the Animal Management Program across the Barkly to ensure the safety of the environment and residents, reduce the population of feral animals and maintain the management of healthy dogs and cats.

### BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



**Working together with local communities**  
Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Elliott, Tennant Creek, Wutunugurra

### BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

PO Box 821, Tennant Creek NT 0861

41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek NT 0860.

Tel: 08 8962 0000 Fax: 08 8962 1801 Web: <http://barkly.nt.gov.au>