



Media Release

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Countdown to makeover for town clock

It's time for a change as photos of tourist hot spots are being prepared to place on the panels of the new Tennant Creek town clock.

Eight photos of different Barkly beauty spots, including Lake Mary Ann and Karlu Karlu (Devil's Marbles), have been enlarged and will be placed on the town clock before New Year's Eve.

Councillor Hal Ruger, whose vision for a town clock finally came true in August, said the town clock has also been set to play the Westminster Chimes on New Year's Day every half hour from 8am to 6pm.

"The Westminster Chimes are world famous and are fitting for a structure this size," he said. "It will be a great way for the town clock to officially announce its presence."

The town clock project was given the go ahead after receiving a major cash boost from Territory Generation with donations from Barkly Regional Council, the Tennant Creek Local Authority and from Cr Ruger himself.

The Territory Government's Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) provided the land on the corner of Paterson Street and Memorial Drive and Aurecon Developments came up with the design.

In-kind support came from Outback Crane Hire from Alice Springs, which brought the framework up the highway, local businesses Barkly Plumbing, Mike Nash Electrics, Remote Concrete NT, and Scott Clarke Renovations as well as the Language Centre and Tennant Creek Sign Shop.

"The town clock was a great example of community spirit with many individuals and businesses offering their time and services for free," said Cr Ruger.

While some residents are ticked off with the new town clock, others have embraced the unusual structure.

"It looks like a watchtower from World War II," said one disgruntled resident.

"Oh, I don't know – it sort of fits with this environment. I just hope they put something on it," said another.

Cr Ruger said there are also plans to install a town map on one of the clock's lower panels to highlight landmarks such as the hospital, police station, Lake Mary Ann, and accommodation for visitors.

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