ISSUE 12 MAY 2022

Council Connects Alice Springs





Lennie (46) encourages others to join the team at ASALC. Story page 5.

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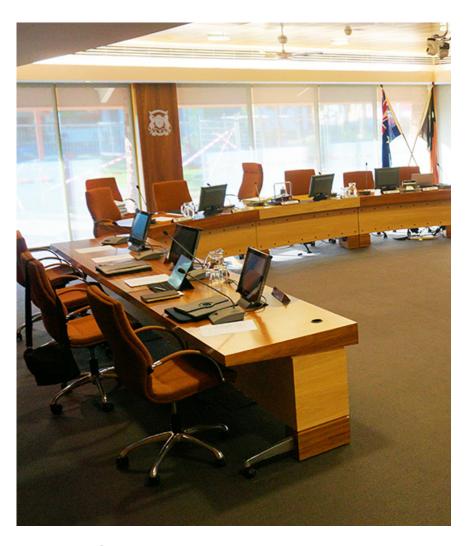
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Alice Springs Town Council
acknowledges the
Central Arrernte people
who are the Traditional Owners
and Custodians
of Alice Springs-Mparntwe.



Ask your Council a question

Is there a specific Council project that you want an update on? Maybe there's a particular item you would like to update the Elected Members on?

Well, you have the opportunity to ask a question during Council meetings.

Public question time is at the start of each Council meeting. This is your opportunity to ask questions of Elected Members as well as the Council Executive.

To participate, make sure you're on time to the meeting and step forward when public questions

are asked for. The open section of meetings begin at 11am and meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

If you can't make it to the meeting in person, you can also send your questions to the Council Collective team for the chance to have it answered in the next issue.

Just send an email with the subject line 'A question for my Council' to media@astc.nt.gov.au. Please include your name and a description of what you would like to know.

Upcoming Council Meetings...

Commence 11.00am in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, 93 Todd Street. Public welcome to attend.

Tuesday 24 May

Tuesday 28 June





Councillor's Column

Werte – hello everyone – I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break and reflected on Anzac Day, remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice and those who continue to keep us safe.

I have been a member of Council now since August and it has been a busy time gaining a better understanding of how Council works, what has been achieved previously and what is required into the future to ensure Council meets the needs and expectations of ratepayers.

I am confident that all the Elected Members are committed and willing to work together on the key issues that matter to the community, and I look forward to progressing these issues.

We recently spent considerable time working on a plan to deal with some of the more complex and systemic issues in Alice Springs including youth issues and it is pleasing to see the major political parties commit to supporting a number of initiatives under the plan. We have also

been working on the 2022/23 budget and longer-term strategic planning process discussing the direction and priorities of Council into the future.

One aspect that I personally would like to see Council strengthen its role is around economic development to support local business and traders and to be a facilitator of economic growth within the municipality and region. Activating areas through economic growth within our CBD can assist in driving down anti-social behaviour and crime. We should do what we can to reclaim these areas to have lawful activities and business flourishing and thriving without the fear of broken windows or disruptive behaviour.

Of course, any such growth needs to be sustainable and accessible for everyone and with recent significant commitments from both the Northern Territory and Australian Governments, we have some great opportunities to activate areas around town to be more welcoming, safe, and productive.

I am really pleased to see that a number of residents have taken advantage of our new initiative Verge Care – this initiative encourages residents to clean up and maintain their own verges in exchange for vouchers. I would encourage people to visitCouncil's Verge Care webage for more information and to be a part of this initiative. I am aware that council staff are working hard to get on top of the verge issues from significant rain earlier in the year, but any assistance from community is appreciated.

And finally, a big shout out to all the mums out there as we approach Mother's Day – this day reflects the particularly key role played by mothers and women more generally in our community. I thank all the mums out there and honour the best mum in the world – your own mum!

Cr Mark Coffey



CLICK ME to sign up for your digital vouchers at...

myAlice.me ...and \$AVE!







Your Council



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Operational News

Alice Springs Town Council played host to a visit from Prime Minister Scott Morrison last month with the Prime Minister committing funds to a range of stakeholders through the community.

During a press conference in the Alice Springs Town Council courtyard, Prime Minster Morrison pledged \$14million for a range on initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour in Central Australia.

The announcement included funds to expand the Alice Springs Public Library, additional CCTV cameras, new mental health services and expanded night patrols with Traditional Owners.

There will also be a focus on supporting local diversionary activities, including funding Casse Australia to provide youth camps and Tangentyere Council to deliver the Ngurra Palyapayi – Safety at Home project.

The visit comes following a letter from Alice Springs Mayor Matt Paterson in January declaring a crisis in Alice Springs, and was the Prime Minister's second visit of 2022 after a trip in February.

"Alice Springs residents are fed up, that's no secret," Mayor Paterson said.

"I was fortunate enough to raise some of these concerns with the Prime Minister during a visit in February and share the challenges our community is facing.

"I am grateful to the Prime Minister for engaging with the Alice Springs community and taking these concerns seriously. This won't solve everything but if we going to make progress, all tiers of government need to work together rather than in silos.

"Alice Springs Town Council are willing to work with anyone to get positive outcomes for our community. This is testament to that and it's a really positive step forward for our community."





Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre wants YOU!

If you'd like to make some extra money, hang out at the pool all day, and interact with the lovely people of this town, a job as a lifeguard could be for you.

Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre is feeling the pinch of Australia's lifeguard shortage, and Lifeguard Coordinator Cheryl Gray is calling on anyone with some spare time to consider applying for the gig.

She is particularly looking for applicants who are older than school age.

"Older people have an ability to evaluate and see things before they happen," she said.

"They have life experience, maturity and the ability to make decisions quickly."

Current lifeguard Amiuus Lennie, 46, commenced work at ASALC eight weeks ago.

He put up his hand while his daughter was working as a Customer Service Attendant.

"I'd heard there were difficulties getting staff," he said.

"I thought it sounded like fun, but I'm not a swimmer

so I wasn't sure if I was cut out for it, but I gave it a go."

Mr Lennie discovered that the fitness requirements were quite achievable – to be qualified you need to be able to swim 400m in 13 minutes.

Since beginning he said he has really enjoyed his new workplace.

"There's such a broad cross section of people that come here," he said.

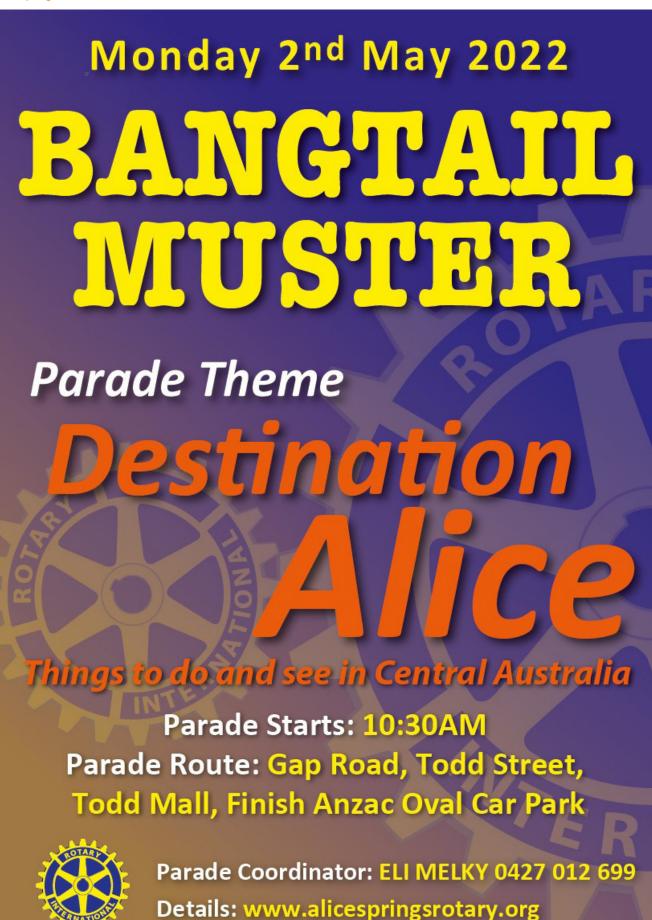
"There are highly skilled athletes to people who have extremely restricted mobility who are going through a rehabilitation process and this place transforms their life."

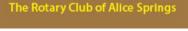
If you're hesitant because you might think lifeguarding is for school aged people or 'Baywatch dudes' I'd encourage people to recalibrate their thinking."

It isn't daunting, just get in and have a crack."

For more information on the role and how to apply visit Council's **Jobs** webpage.

asalc.com.au 8950 4360 info@asalc.com.au







Don't miss this year's Bangtail Muster!

After a two-year hiatus, the Bangtail Muster is back in 2022!

The May Day parade will take to the streets of Alice Springs on Monday 2 May at 10.30am. The theme of this year's parade is 'Destination Alice: Things to do and see in Central Australia'.

Parade Coordinator (and Alice Springs Town Council Deputy Mayor) Eli Melky said it's great to see the parade returning after the Covid-19 first impacted the event in 2020.

"It was the first time we had to postpone the event in 60 years," he said.

"It was an unfortunate but necessary precaution due to the pandemic, but we are a resilient lot and so we are back."

"It will be great to see the

community get back and enjoy a pre-COVID normality of life."

Mr Melky said this year's theme was chosen to celebrate what makes the Red Centre so special.

"I wanted to encourage all the participants to dress up or design their entry float in the theme and promote our iconic town with all its tourism destinations."

The parade will start in Gap Road, continue along Todd Street and through the Todd Mall, and finish at the Anzac Oval car park.

The roads involved in the parade will be closed during the morning of the event.

For further information, contact the Parade Coordinator on 0427 012 699, or email secretary@alicespringsrotary.org



Looking for a new challenge in 2022? Why not join the team at Alice Springs Town Council?

Alice Springs Town Council employs over 200 staff at its Civic Centre, Public Library, Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, Regional Waste Management Facility and Works Depot.

As our staff are our greatest asset, Council offers very competitive salaries and our employment conditions are among the best in the Northern Territory. They include:

- 5 weeks annual leave
- 20 days personal leave
- Paid Domestic & Family Violence leave
- Cultural/ceremonial leave
- Training and development opportunities
- Flexible working arrangements
- Up to 11.5% superannuation
- Relocation assistance for eligible positions.

Council is currently advertising a number of positions across a range of business units.

If you are committed to providing excellent service to the community, personal growth and development, and you are a team player, we want to hear from you.

For a full list of current vacancies and further information on how to apply, visit Council's **Jobs** webpage.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Advertise your event here!

Email marketing@astc.nt.gov.au

alicesprings.nt.gov.au/jobs

f @AliceSpringsTC







...and that's a *YRAP!!*

If you had the opportunity to check out the 2022 Youth Recycled Art Prize exhibition in April, then this won't come as news to you we're afraid... but it was a raging success!

A total of 60 entries were submitted into the prize with young people aged between 12-25 showcasing their creativity by turning reclaimed and recycled materials into pieces of art.

All 60 pieces of art were on show at a special exhibition from 8 April to 16 April with more than 600 people visiting to witness the talent first hand.

"The Youth Recycled Art Prize is a fantastic opportunity for young people across Alice Springs to

express their creative side in a healthy and productive way," event organiser Gloria De Vincenti said.

"The 2022 edition was a huge hit. It was the most inclusive edition to date with workshops delivered across five youth centres that assisted young people that wanted to give it a go.

"Anyone that came down to see the exhibition in person I'm sure will agree, there was a fantastic amount of talent on show, as well as some deep thinking inspired by environmental issues and the courage to explore and affirm one's identity".

A total prize pool of \$1,800 was shared among a range of winners with a full list shown right:

f @AliceSpringsTC









AGE GROUP 12-15 YEARS

WINNER Toby Bloomfield, Dragonfly

HIGHLY COMMENDED Jasmine McGinness, *Vicious Venus*

Jahkye Kells, *Robot Man*

Jessie Bethune, Tenacious Tidal Wave

AGE GROUP 16-19 YEARS

WINNER Alexsandra Thorogood, Debbie Debris

HIGHLY COMMENDED Callie Rodgers, Unto Death

AGE GROUP 20-25 YEARS

WINNER 'Future Stars Team' (Saltbush), Saltbush Woman

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

WINNER Miru Forrester and Emily Glover, Chad the Peacock

Pensioner Green Waste Collection – Application for Service



Submit completed form to Customer Service: astc@astc.nt.gov.au

Applicant Details		
Name		
Street Address		
Aged Pension Card Num	ber	
Contact Email		
Contact Phone	Contact Mobile	
Conditions of Service		
Important Information	Alice Springs Town Council removes garden green waste and prunings from approved aged pensioner properties twice each year in May and November.	
 please ensure you have understood all Important Information & Conditions of Service before signing 	Green waste and prunings must be placed inside the property in an accessible location for easy loading onto a vehicle. Please ensure prunings are no longer than 1.5m in length.	
	PRUNINGS ARE NOT TO BE PLACED ON ROADS, FOOTPATHS OR STREET VERGES. Aged Pensioners who wish to use this service should complete this application form and lodge it at the Civic Centre, 93 Todd Street, Alice Springs.	
	Evidence of pensioner entitlem lodging your application – pleas you. For application closing dates, place of the pensioner entitlem.	nent to the service is required to be sighted at the time of se remember to bring your Aged Pensioner Card with
	www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au Robert Jennings CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	
I confirm that I have read Service, as provided on to	•	nformation, and agree to comply with all Conditions of
Applicant Signature		Date
Office Use Only		
AREA:		
REMOVAL COMPLETE:	□ NO DATE OF RE	:MOVAL:
Alice Springs Town Cour	F. (08) 8953 0558	FORM Version 3 / October 202
93 Todd St, Alice Springs Northern Territory 0870	E. astc@astc.nt.gov PO Box 1071, Alice	

f @AliceSpringsTC



FREE Green Waste Collection for Pensioners!

As the weather well and truly is starting to cool down, it's the perfect time of year to get in the garden and start pruning your trees and trimming those hedges.

With a significant amount of rain to begin 2022, gardens have been flourishing across the town creating plenty of green waste.

The good news for aged pensioners is that Alice Springs Town Council will remove green waste and clippings from your yard, FREE of charge!

That's right, the Pensioner Green Waste Collection Service is back up and running for 2022 with the next pick up dates running from Tuesday to Thursday, 24-26 May.

Council will bring the truck directly to your residence and load all your green waste while you kick back and enjoy a well-deserved break.

Once collected, the green waste is taken to the Regional Waste Management Facility where the team turns it into mulch. This helps to reduce the amount of waste going into landfill.

To register for a collection you can fill in the form on the opposite page or download it from Council's **Services** webpage and return the completed form before 4.30pm on Friday 20 May to **astc@astc.nt.gov.au**











BIG Day Out in Harmony!

Harmony Day is a UN-recognised global celebration, officially held on 21 March each year to coincide with the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. In Alice Springs (in the kinder May weather), Harmony Day has been enthusiastically embraced by MCSCA as a community celebration called Big Day Out in Harmony (BDOiH).

MCSCA works with Council to combine resources in staging BDOiH on the beautiful Council lawns at the corner of Stott and Todd. With a setting like a village green, there are performances, food and drink stalls, family-focussed activities and lots of places to sit down with old and new friends. It is a community celebration of culture and coming together that draws hundreds through its simple message of unity and strength through sharing culture and friendship.

All local multicultural groups and associations are invited to participate in the event and share their culture with the wider community.

For further information, visit mcsca.org.au

If you would like to be involved please contact MCSCA on (08) 8952 8776.

What's on in May







FRIDAY 27



SATURDAY 28



SATURDAY 28



SUNDAY 29



SATURDAY 4 JUNE



THURSDAY 9 1UNE





Sowing seeds in the creative arts

As the weather is cooling down, the Red Hot Arts Central Australia (RHACA) office at 67 Bath Street has been heating up with preparations well underway for a vibrant year of Arts in Mparntwe Alice Springs.

The 2022 Desert Festival will begin on Saturday 22 September and run over ten days until Sunday 2 October. This year we are supporting the creation of over ten new works through the new initiative Project Seed. Project Seed is made possible with support from the Northern Territory Government and the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund.

From inception to presentation of the new work, Red Hot Arts Central Australia will support local artists by providing funding, time, space, and expertise in various design and production elements over a five-month period in the lead up to the festival. It is exciting to see new works beginning to take place and we can't wait to unveil our 2022 Project Seed recipients – watch this space!

After another pandemic affected year, we are seeing the 2022 Alice Springs events calendar fill up with wonderful arts and cultural offerings. From art exhibitions, Pop Up Parks, comedy, live music, performance and even lip sync battles, there is a plethora of events to choose from.



Visit **redhotarts.com.au** to see our Events Calendar and subscribe to our weekly *What's On* newsletter

to get your comprehensive guide to the week ahead straight in your inbox so you don't miss out!

For further information, contact Red Hot Arts on 8952 2392, or email to admin@redhotarts.com.au

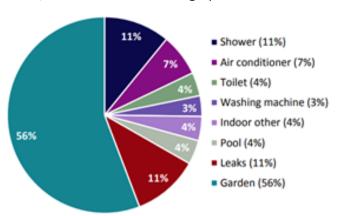




Many may not know that Alice Springs' water supply is a finite resource that comes from an underwater bore just 15km south of Alice, and gets piped into town. To extract this groundwater, pumps are used and the more water we use, the harder and deeper these pumps have to work.

At the current rate of use, it is predicted that we will need a new borefield in 20 to 50 years. By reducing our water use we can significantly delay costly investment in new water pumping infrastructure, while helping to reduce household energy costs.

A 2013 survey of water use in 1000 Alice Springs homes revealed that the top 2 areas where water savings could be better achieved were gardens and leaks, as shown in the below graph.



Alice Water Smart survey data (2013)

There are many simple steps that can be taken to significantly reduce water usage. The following are 5 of the top ways you can save water:

 Use efficient irrigation and adjust water timers seasonally. Drip irrigation is the most efficient watering method if installed and used correctly. Water is delivered slowly to the root zone where it is needed, and fewer weeds grow as the water is applied very specifically. A water smart lawn

Did you know...

- An estimated 80% of Alice Springs gardens are overwatered
- In Alice, 56% of home water is wasted through inefficient irrigation systems
- 25% of water waste is through leaks you aren't even aware of

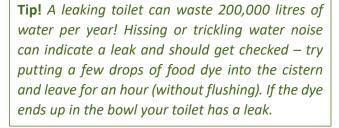
needs watering every few days in summer but only every few weeks in winter.

2. Water between 8pm and 8am. A lot of water can be wasted through evaporation if you water gardens during the hot parts of the day. Watering before sunrise or after sunset means more water for your plants and less for the sun. Adjusting your watering schedule or timer seasonally can mean big water savings.

Some other ways you can save on your water consumption:

- Choose appliances with a higher water efficiency rating (ie. more stars mean a higher water saving rate).
- Electric hot water is very expensive. Try limiting your shower time, and use cold water for your washing machine whenever possible.
- Ensure you have a water efficient showerhead
- When you go away turn off the hot water
- Use a pool cover as often as possible
- Know your water bill. The average Alice Springs house uses 490kL per year. A water efficient house uses on average 370kL per year. Check your bill to understand how much water you are currently using.





- 3. Set an appropriate water schedule. A crucial skill is knowing how often and how much to water different plant types to learn more, go to alec.org.au/sustainable living information
- 4. Find hidden leaks. A simple test you can do is to turn your water off for 10 minutes, and see if your water meter reading goes up during that time. If it does, then you have a leak!

Fix leaks quickly. Check for wet patches, green spots, and popped off drippers or joiners in the garden irrigation system every couple of weeks. Several times a year, you should turn on irrigation lines during the day to inspect for leaks.

There are many more ways you can save on water and energy – for more info visit our website at alec.org.au/sustainable_living_information.

This article was compiled by the team at the Arid Lands Environment Centre; Central Australia's peak environmental organisation defending the desert for over 40 years. We influence, promote and champion environmentally sustainable behaviours through community education and engagement. Check us out and find useful resources at alec.org.au







Parrtjima – A Festival in Light 2022 has finished in Alice Springs, but don't worry, the much-loved free event will return to the Red Centre from 7-16 April 2023, and organisers are already planning how to wow the crowds all over again next year.

Celebrating thousands of years of culture, Parrtjima is the only Aboriginal light festival of its kind in the world. This year it took place from 8–17 April at Alice Springs Desert Park and Araluen Arts Centre, and attracted more than 23,000 attendances.

People from across Australia, and even the world now borders have reopened, enjoyed everything the lively program had to offer. That included a spectacular light show on the MacDonnell Ranges, large-scale light installations, live music from the likes of King Stingray, Dan Sultan and Barkaa, workshops ranging from screen printing to pottery, talks with a range of Aboriginal performers, artists and experts, and a retrospective of the works of acclaimed Australian director and cinematographer Warwick Thornton.

As well as 10 nights of free entertainment, this year's event included exclusive Parrtjima experiences, such as a special Preview Night, Araluen Art Centre tours, Merne bushfood tours and a nocturnal tour at Alice Springs Desert Park. The majority of guests joined these experiences as part of an interstate travel package, specifically designed to attract visitors to the Red Centre.

"Parrtjima is always something special, and this year's festival was no exception. With an ever-developing program, Parrtjima continues to offer more and more reasons to visit, encouraging people from all over the country and the world to journey to the Red Centre," Minister for Major Events Natasha Fyles said.

"Red Centre residents enjoy time under the stars catching up with friends, while visitors make the most of their trip by seeing and experiencing as much as possible."

2022 Youth Recycled Art Prize













YRAP Workshop & Curation

Baby Rhymetime @ your Library

















Simultaneous Chess @ your Library

Where to find...



FREE

online listing

for your Alice Springs
Community Event*

alicesprings.nt.gov.au

*Conditions apply

Work

Careers @ Council

Alice Springs Town Council

current vacancies

alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Click 'Jobs'

News

from your Community

and

Alice Springs Town Council

alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Click 'News'

Contact Council...

Alice Springs Town Council

ABN 45 863 481 471

Civic Centre & Administration

93 Todd Street, Alice Springs

PO Box 1071 NT 0870

(08) 8950 0500

astc@astc.nt.gov.au

Monday to Friday, 8am - 5pm

(ex. Public Holidays)

Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre

10 Speed St, Alice Springs

(08) 8950 4360

info@asalc.com.au | asalc.com.au

*SUMMER HOURS (1 September to 30 April)

Weekdays, 6am – 7pm

Weekends & Public Holidays, 9am – 7pm

*WINTER HOURS (1 May to 31 August)

Weekdays, 6am – 6.30pm

Weekends & Public Holidays, 9am – 3pm

*Outdoor 50m pool closed in August

for annual maintenance. Hours exclude Good Friday,

Alice Springs Show Day, Christmas Day

Alice Springs Public Library

cnr Gregory & Leichhardt Tces, Alice Springs

(08) 8950 0555

library@astc.nt.gov.au

alicesprings.nt.gov.au/library

Monday to Friday, 10am - 6pm

Weekends, 10am – 1pm (ex. Public Holidays)

Regional Waste Management Facility

Commonage Rd, Alice Springs

(08) 8950 4340

astc@astc.nt.gov.au | alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Open 7 days, 8am – 4pm

(ex. Good Friday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day)

Rediscovery Centre

Commonage Rd, Alice Springs

(08) 8950 4340

astc@astc.nt.gov.au | alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Monday to Friday, 8am – 4pm

Weekends, 9.30am - 2.30pm

(ex. Good Friday, Christmas Day, New Year's Day)

Alice Springs Animal Shelter

Len Kittle Dr, Alice Springs

(08) 8953 4430

alicesprings.nt.gov.au