

COUNCILCONNECTS

Alice Springs Town Council's Newsletter



alicesprings.nt.gov.au

New Health & Wellness Programs



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

Upcoming Council Meetings...

TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

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



GREAT SPRING CLEAN

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER
8.30AM | COUNCIL LAWNS

Spring has definitely sprung here in Central Australia, so come and spend a few beautiful spring hours cleaning up our local spaces.

The GREAT SPRING CLEAN is an annual Clean Up Australia event that Alice Springs Town Council participates in to keep our beautiful town clean.

This year we will meet at the Council Lawns at 8.30am. We will then head down Todd Mall, turn right onto Parsons Street and head towards the Todd River (Lhere Mparntwe), go along the river, and back to the Council Lawns.

Bring your refillable water bottle and gloves (if you have them) and wear a hat and closed toe shoes. We will supply tongs, gloves (if you don't BYO) and rubbish bags.

Register at <https://bitly.ws/T5Ms>

Clean Up Australia - Lhere Mparntwe/Todd Mall
Great Spring Clean-Up. *See you there!*



NIGHT MARKETS 2023

IN CELEBRATION OF



Desert
FESTIVAL

**THURSDAY 21ST
SEPTEMBER**

Support Small while you grab a bargain from our Retail Trail to celebrate the Desert Festival Night Markets! Check out participating stores and take advantage of the great specials and discounts on offer!

**5-8.30PM
TODD MALL**

MARKETS STALLS & ENTERTAINMENT (5-8.30PM)

**SWANK
SHOES**

-10%

6pm - 6.30pm

**INTER-
SPORT**

-10%

5pm - Until Store Close

**ADELAIDE
HOUSE
MUSEUM**

FREE
TOUR

6.30pm - 7pm

**UNITING
CHURCH
OP SHOP**

\$5
FOR A
BAG

5pm - Until Store Close

**MIXED
LOLLIES**

-20%

5pm - Until Store Close
*On Selected Range

**NOVITA
GIFTS**

-10%

5pm - Until Store Close

**BELLA
ALICE**

\$20*

6pm - 7pm

*Pizza & soft drink combo
on selected Pizzas

**JILA ARTS
ABORIGINAL
ART GALLERY**

-20%

5pm - Until Store Close

**THIS IS
ABORIGINAL
ART**

-20%

5pm - Until Store Close

**ABORIGINAL
FABRIC
GALLERY**

FREE
GIFT*

5pm - Until Store Close
*With purchase over \$\$

**GRILL ME
CRAZY**

-10%

5pm - Until Store Close

Come and check out great live acts by Super Raelene Harmonium Band, Michael Connell, The Holy Dimes and Valbaby Skates.

Your Council



Mayor
Matt Paterson

0424 652 640

mpaterson@alicesprings.nt.gov.au



Deputy Mayor
Allison Bitar

0491 055 224

abitar@alicesprings.nt.gov.au



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Regenerating the Alice Town Centre

I want the Alice Town Centre to be....?

Leichhardt Terrace

Todd Mall

Hartley Street carpark area

Visit our website
and have
your say



regeneratingalicetc.com.au

Have you got an idea to make Alice Springs a better place to live?

Alice Springs Town Council is delivering the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project, which aims to engage with the Alice Springs Community to develop Concept Designs for the Alice Springs Town Centre. This project will help revitalise and energise our CBD with a particular focus on Leichhardt Terrace, Todd Mall and the Hartley Street car park area.

Council have officially endorsed a Community Engagement Plan for the project, detailing how and when you can have your say. Now it's time to tell us what you want our CBD to look like and

share your ideas that can turn the centre of our town into a vibrant hub of activity!

At this stage, there are absolutely no concrete proposals on the table. We are starting with a blank canvas and will be looking for input from community members. This is an opportunity to ensure that your thoughts and ideas shape the future of our town's centre

To have your say today, visit the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre website here: regeneratingalicetc.com.au

In person consultation will also take place, with the full engagement plan available on the Alice Springs Town Council [website](http://alicesprings.nt.gov.au).

We can't wait to hear your ideas!

Alice Springs Councillors met on Tuesday 22 August 2023 for their monthly Ordinary Council Meeting. The following is a summary of some of the matters discussed. To see the full Council reports and minutes check out the ASTC website. A full video of the meeting is available on Council's [Vimeo channel](#).

August Council meeting wrap up

Alison Bitar takes on role of Deputy Mayor

Allison Bitar has been appointed as Deputy Mayor of Alice Springs Town Council following a vote by Elected Members in Chamber on Tuesday afternoon. Elected Members voted for Cr Bitar to take the role after serving as an Elected Member for two years.

A long-term Alice Springs local, Cr Bitar has shown a dedication to public service during her time as Councillor. Cr Bitar is a strong believer in working together with people from all walks of life and will bring a fresh perspective to the role that will contribute to the growth and long-term prosperity of Alice Springs.

Cr Bitar takes over the role from Eli Melky, who has served in the position for two years. Each year, Councillors vote for the position of Deputy Mayor for a term of 12 months.

Advisory Committee appointments

Your Elected Members do a lot of behind the scenes work to ensure your voice is heard by key decision makers across the NT. One way they achieve this is by sitting on Advisory and External Committees. In August's meeting, Councillors nominated for seats on these various committees with a full list of representatives below:

- **Risk Management & Audit:** Mayor Paterson, Cr Hopper and Cr Coffey
- **Sports Facilities Advisory:** Mayor Paterson, Cr Brown, Cr Coffey and Cr Morris
- **ASTC & Tangentyere Steering Committee:** All Elected Members
- **ASTC & Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation Partnership Committee:** All Elected Members
- **Outback Highway Development Council:** Mayor Paterson and Cr Coffey
- **LGANT General Representatives:** Mayor Paterson and Cr Coffey
- **Development Consent Authority:** Mayor Paterson, Cr Hopper, Cr Bitar and Cr Coffey
- **Alice Springs Art Foundation:** Cr Bitar
- **50+ Community Centre:** Mayor Paterson
- **Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council:** Cr Banks

Parks a prime priority

We know that kids in Alice Springs want better parks, and they should be able to play on playgrounds all year long. That's why Council has been hard at work upgrading parks across the community and there are some exciting plans still to come.

Last month we finalised a shade structure for play equipment at Finlayson Park to protect kids from the harsh summer sun. That's in addition to the 12 parks we shaded earlier in 2023! Work is underway to shade more parks in 2023/24 as well so our playgrounds can be used every day of the year.

We are also progressing with our Parks Masterplan with a draft implementation plan being prepared for Council endorsement in October. This will help Council identify exactly what parks in our community need a little bit of love and attention.

Preparing for a Greener future

Council are planning for a more sustainable Alice Springs with planning now underway for a game changing Greening Strategy! Aimed at enhancing our town's green spaces and helping with heat mitigation, this strategy will incorporate planting more trees, enhancing public parks, and implementing measures to conserve water.

In a major step forward on the project, Council have engaged O2 Landscape Architecture to develop this strategy. It will then come back to Elected Members and guide decision making on tree planting moving forward.

Helping everyone feel welcome in our community

We already know that Alice Springs is one of the best places in the world to live and visit, and we want to make sure that is known throughout the country. To make sure the message is spread far and wide, Council is aiming to develop more strategic partnerships to boost our visitor economy, including visiting family and friends. In addition to work we already do with major Government agencies in making new arrivals feel welcome, we will be look to partner with Tourism Central Australia (TCA) to expand this program and complement work they may already be doing.



Pawsome Tales



It was a special Children's Book Week in August with the Alice Springs Public Library partnering with Council Rangers to put on a fantastic Pawsome Tales event.

Celebrating our four-legged friends, children from schools around our community flocked to the Civic Centre to hear Deputy Mayor Allison Bitar and Councillor Mark Coffey read stories about some very cheeky dogs. Our very own Library dog Booka even made a very special appearance!

While stories were the highlight of the day, children also learned some important tips on how to keep our pets safe and sound at home. Ranger Stacey and Ranger Andy were on hand to give some helpful hints on responsible pet ownership.

This came at a perfect time, with Council Rangers getting out to our parks in coming weeks to ensure our pups are being walked in an appropriate manner to keep everyone happy and safe.

A big part of this is making sure our dogs are on an appropriate lead. A lead should be no longer than 2m, and held by a person over the age of 10. People should also be mindful of their own abilities, noting that Rangers have investigated a number of recent incidents where a dog was able pull away from their owner, despite being on lead.

6 |



Dog owners should also be mindful of the fact that many dogs don't do well off-lead. Even in areas that allow off-lead walking, it is critical that dog owners maintain effective control over their pets.

Taking these small steps will greatly reduce the chance of an incident occurring, keeping us and our furry friends safe.

musicNT
PRESENTS

BUSH BANDS BASH 2023

CELEBRATING POSITIVITY AND UNITY

YELLOW NATION • MULGA BORE HARD ROCK
PUKATJA BAND • DESERT EAGLES
LARAMBA BAND • PJ REGGAE
EASTERN REGGAE • EJU • PELE
ARRKULA YINBAYARRA

SUNDAY 10TH TELEGRAPH 4-10PM
SEPTEMBER STATION ALICE \$10 ENTRY
SPRINGS

DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE • 16 YEARS & UNDER FREE • TICKETS AT THE DOOR • TAKE THE BUS, RIDE OR WALK!

FACEBOOK.COM/BUSHBANDSBASH • MUSICNT.COM.AU



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**APRA
AMCOS**



Australian Government
Indigenous Languages and Arts



Australian Government



Australia Council
for the Arts



Produce sponsored by
**NORTHERN
TERRITORY
GOVERNMENT**



**OUTBACK
Stores**
Working With Communities

Be fire safe this summer

Please take the time to stay safe, be prepared and take responsibility for your safety and the safety of your loved ones as the Central Australian Bushfire Season approaches.



Residents should be aware of the Australian Warning System used to issue alerts and warnings, which explain what is happening and what action people in the affected area should take. There are three warning levels:

- ▲ **Advice (Yellow)** - An incident has started. There is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.
- ▲ **Watch and Act (Orange)** - There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing, and you need to start taking action now to protect yourself and your family.
- ▲ **Emergency Warning (Red)** - An Emergency Warning is the highest level of warning. You may be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts your life at risk.

You can receive alerts and warnings through the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services Facebook page, subscription list or the NT Fire Incident Map.

For more information on bushfire safety and where to receive alerts, visit securent.nt.gov.au.

NTPFRS District Officer Stephen Hunter said, "Central Australia and the Barkly are predicted to have an above-average fire season this year, and we are urging residents to re-familiarise themselves with the warning systems and to ensure they are prepared.

"The Tijoritja Park wildfire earlier this month saw an Advice warning placed over Larapinta, Araluen, Ciccone and Braitling that was almost raised to a Watch and Act for all 4 suburbs. Residents must understand the risks, know where to go for information and have a bushfire survival plan.

"Firebreaks aren't a suggestion; they are essential to protecting lives and property, and rural residents, in particular, need to look into their backyards right now and ensure they have the required 4 meter cleared areas around their property free from flammable debris.

"Look around your property for anything that can catch fire, whether gutters filled with vegetation or a couch sitting under a veranda. Assess whether a small decision now could save your property if the worst were to occur."

If you see any illegal or suspicious fire activity, you are urged to contact police on 131 444 or anonymously via Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

To view the fire protection zones in your area, visit:

- <https://depws.nt.gov.au/bushfire-information-and-management/planning-for-a-bushfire/firebreaks>

For the latest information on fires and warnings, visit:

- <https://pfes.nt.gov.au/incidentmap/>

For more information relating to the NT Fire Danger Ratings, visit:

- <http://www.bom.gov.au/nt/forecasts/fire-danger-ratings.shtml>

Follow Bushfires NT on Facebook:

- <https://www.facebook.com/BushfiresNT>

Follow NTPFES Alice Springs on Facebook:

- <https://www.facebook.com/NTPFESALiceSprings/>



Come & Try

Health & Wellness Programs

- Try the Outdoor Gym | 10 -10.45 am
- See an Aqua Class in Action | 10am
- Indoor Gym Session | 11 - 11.45

Free coffee & morning tea!

Wednesday 13 September | 10am-12pm

Council Connects | September 2023

New Health & Wellness Programs

Timetable released!

Alice Springs Town Council is committed to supporting the health and wellness of Alice Springs residents. We have partnered with Get Physical to offer various programs and exercise options.

On Wednesday 13 September, between 10am and 12pm, you are invited to come and check out some of the Health and Wellness Programs at the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre. You can try the

outdoor gym, see an Aqua class in action, and take part in an indoor gym session. There will also be free coffee & morning tea.

For more information about the programs or to download a copy of the timetable, go to <https://alicesprings.nt.gov.au/about-alice-springs/living-in-alice-springs/healthy-communities>

BiobiN @ the RWMF

Did you know that up to 30% of residential bins are filled with food waste? Council is working on minimizing the impact of contamination by offering new ways to dispose of your organic waste.



Starting from 1 September 2023, ASTC will introduce a new station at the Regional Waste Management Facility (RWMF) dedicated to collecting all things “food”. We have recently installed a BiobiN, a revolutionary bin that is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The BiobiN begins the composting process automatically, giving a range of benefits including:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Prolonging the lifespan of landfills
- Breaking down food waste efficiently
- Contributing to the concept of a circular economy

The best part is that it's incredibly simple to use! All you need to do is separate your food waste and remove any packaging or gardening materials and drop it off at the Transfer Station. That includes anything from coffee grounds to meat and citrus products.

*You're welcome to drop off your
It's a small change that can make a
big difference!*

*food waste any day of the week,
from Monday to Sunday, between
8 am and 4 pm. Just head over to
the designated bin at the RWMF
transfer station.*

*Look for the willy bin with the
FOOD ORGANICS sticker!*

FOOD 
ORGANICS



You can now bring your

FOOD ORGANICS

to the Regional Waste Management Facility

From September 1st 2023

A specific bin will be designated at the RWMF
for your food only waste (not gardening)

*All things "food" (without packaging)
including coffee grounds, meat and citrus.*



Peewii and the Tree

On Sunday 24 September 10am - 1 pm
Alice Springs Public Library will be hosting
two workshop with children's book author
and illustrator Emma Stuart!

WORKSHOP 1: 3 - 6 years | 1 hour

1. Artist and student intro Q & A, (introduce myself and the students, we share our favourite colour) - 10 minutes
2. Reading of "Peewii and the Tree" - 10 minutes
3. Illustrator process step by step (kids turn to follow process) - 30 mins
4. Show students process videos, followed by a Q&A about the process 10 minutes

BOOK SIGNING AND SALES

WORKSHOP 2: 7 - 12 years | 1.5 hours

1. Artist and student intro Q & A, (introduce myself and the students, we share our favourite colour) - 10 minutes
2. Reading of "Peewii and the Tree" - 10 minutes
3. Illustrator process step by step (kids watch and learn) - 5 mins
4. kids turn to follow process (simple intro to watercolour process) - 15 mins
5. Outside 'Tree walk' and collection of found object (also to allow first illustrations to dry) - 10 mins
6. Illustration from found object (artist process followed by students illustration) - 30 mins
7. Show students process videos, followed by a Q&A about the process 10 minutes

BOOK SIGNING AND SALES

Emma Stuart has been illustrating Children's books for the past 23 years. In this time she has illustrated over 250 books. In July 2023, Emma's first Author Illustrated book "Peewii and the Tree" was released through Serenity Press. Emma specialises mainly in children's book illustration but has also worked in advertising, public realm, editorial and design. Publishers; Hachette, New Frontier, Little Steps, Brolly Books, Serenity, The Enid Blyton Estate, Bolinda audio, the ABC, and The Age. Emma has also worked with many organisations including the VCA, Melbourne University and the Victorian Arts Centre. Emma works primarily with water

colours, but also works with acrylics, oils, pen and ink, pencil, photoshop and procreate. Awards and acknowledgements include *International book awards* finalist for "Climb", written by Caroline Tuohey 2014. *Literary Titan Book Award 2021* for "Charlie, Blue and Larry Lamppost", written by the Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson.

Shortlisted for the *Australian Speech Pathology Book of the year Awards* for "Eddie Pipper", written by Janeen Brian 2013. As well as illustrating Emma also exhibits her landscape paintings annually through Jacob Hoerner Galleries Melbourne.



The Northern Territory Mental Health Coalition has begun planning for the 2023 NT Mental Health Awareness Week! This year Mental Health Week will run from Saturday, October 7 to Sunday, October 15.

Celebrating Our Strengths is this year's theme – calling for reflection on the things in our lives and communities that we are proud of that keep our mental health and well-being and our spirit strong.

By valuing and celebrating our achievements and contributions we help create more of the change we want to see, building hope, well-being and inspiration.

Green is this year's Mental Health Week colour, symbolizing new life, new growth and new beginnings and representing hope, strength and support. The green ribbon is the international symbol of mental health. During Mental Health Week, people are encouraged to wear a green ribbon, and display the colour green in their workplace, home or at their Mental Health Week events.

In the spirit of this year's theme 'Celebrating Our Strengths', we are inviting Territorians to create a short video sharing what things in your life or community help keep you strong.

We welcome people of all ages from all walks of life to join in this campaign!

We invite individuals, families, communities, workplace or other teams, to pick up their smart phones and share the things that help them stay strong. Get creative and have some fun! These short videos will be shared on the NT Mental Health Coalition's [YouTube channel](#) and [Facebook page](#) throughout the next few months and during Mental Health Week in October.

To learn more about NT Mental Health Week and the video campaign visit Mental Health Week - Mental Health Coalition (ntmhc.org.au)



NT MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

7 - 15 October, 2023

Celebrating our Strengths

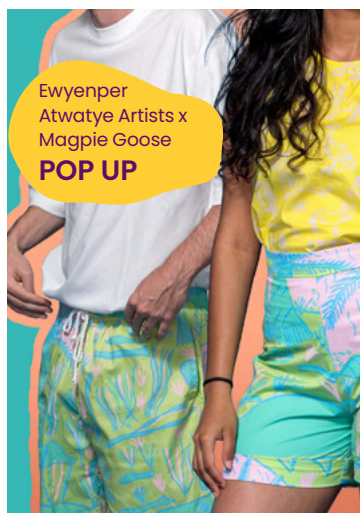


www.ntmhc.org.au/mentalhealthweek



What's on in September 2023

WEDNESDAY 6



THURSDAY 7



FRIDAY 8



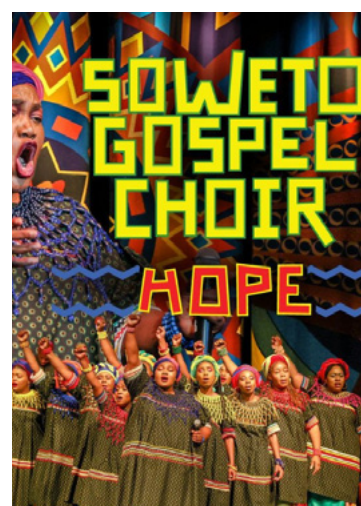
SATURDAY 9



SUNDAY 10



SATURDAY 19



THURSDAY 21



FRIDAY 22



FRIDAY 29



Subscribe to Council's newsletter, Council Connects

Are you looking at ways of staying up to date with what's going on in the community? We have the answer. *Subscribe to Council's newsletter, Council Connects, today!*

Council Connects is a monthly online e-newsletter that includes the latest information from Council and abroad. It has important information for ratepayers, the latest programs and events Council is running and fun stories about members of the Alice Springs community.

You can access Council Connects at the ASTC website at your leisure, or find a hard copy of the newsletter at any of ASTC's facilities. You can now also opt in to receive Council Connects to your email inbox each month, saving you the effort of going looking!

To have Council Connects delivered to your inbox each month, subscribe at the ASTC website [here](#). Don't miss out on the latest info from your Council.



Invitation to the Community of Alice Springs



2023 AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP DAY CEREMONY

The Alice Springs Town Council extends an invitation to the people of Alice Springs to observe the Citizenship Ceremony proceedings in conjunction with Australian Citizenship Day, to be administered by His Worship the Mayor Mr Matt Paterson.

Celebrate being an Australian at an Affirmation Ceremony at the conclusion of the citizenship program.

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2023

8.30am, to be seated by 8.25am

Civic Centre Courtyard,
93 Todd Street, Alice Springs

Seniors Month Celebration



Home Composting Workshop



Pawsome Tales



Legacy Week - 100 years celebration



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 the Community
and Alice Springs
Town Council

alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Click 'News'

Contact Council...

Alice Springs Town Council

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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 for a time 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
Wednesday to Sunday, 8am – 4pm
(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