



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

Newsletter



Fresh Eyes Offer New Solutions

In my opinion

- Katherine Town Council CEO Ingrid Stonhill

There is nothing like moving into a new job and a new town to heighten your senses. I really relish that small window of opportunity you get to see everything through fresh eyes, before settling into everyday life and simply not noticing as much anymore.

Fresh eyes is a real thing and it's a management tool, recognising the importance a fresh perspective can bring to solving a problem or creating a more effective way of doing things. Of course, that can mean change — oh dear, the C word! Change is tough for a lot of people as it means having to tackle new things, which can cause fear. Change requires effort, and uncomfortable feelings, to adapt. For many, human nature means we'll resist and have a good old-fashioned whinge about change, rather than make the change.

Add the "C" word to a local government setting and you immediately have a double whammy, as local council is an easy target. Complaining about council services, and what is perceived as a lack of, is also a real thing, and here in Katherine our council is, for some people, responsible for everything in their lives.

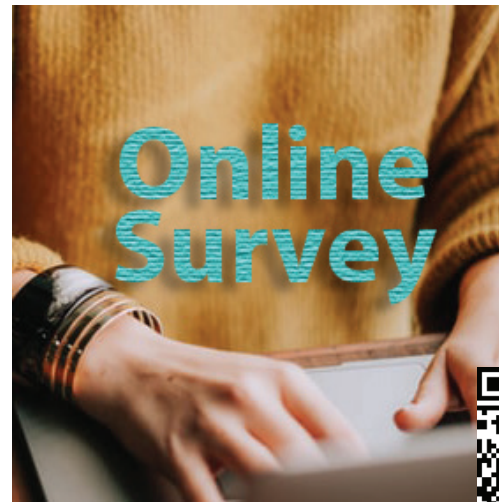
An average person is said to complain nearly 15-30 times a day! Hence, as much as we might want to believe

that complaining is something that only others are guilty of, the truth is that we are all complainers, but we do so for many different reasons. I tend to agree with the train of thought that nothing good happens when people only complain. No one likes listening to someone unload their negative thoughts on to us.

For a fresh perspective I am asking Katherine residents to change their approach to us at Council and help us find solutions for the future of our town. What you can do if you don't like something, is change it. And if you can't change it, change the way you think about it. We are having community consultations that give you the opportunity to share with us what you would like to see us at council change in the future. What's your vision for Katherine? Try on some fresh eyes to tell us a more effective way to do things. We would be glad to hear your thoughts, as we are looking for change!



Community Consultations for Katherine's Strategic Plan



Come to our Community Consultations:

- Wednesday May 4, and Thursday May 5
- 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- GYRACC on 3238 Stuart Highway
- Tea, coffee, water, and biscuits
- Guided audience session

Do the short online survey:

- The survey asks what your priorities are for now, and the future.
- You may want different things over this time, or maybe just the same thing.

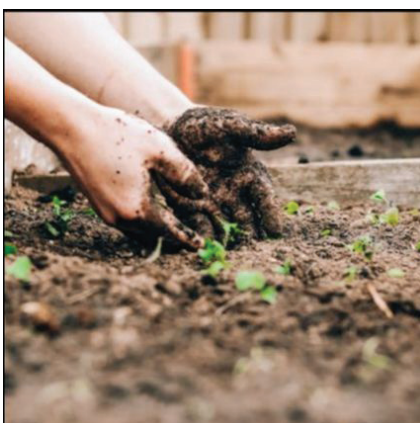
Events



The Festivals of the Dry is kicking off in Katherine. Pictured here is the Mataranka Never Never Festival and Campdraft, this year in mid May.

Download the Festivals of the Dry program or pick up a hard copy at the Civic Centre, Katherine Public Library, or the Visitor Information Centre.

Events in this program are subject to change so please be sure to check in with the event organisers on the contact details provided.



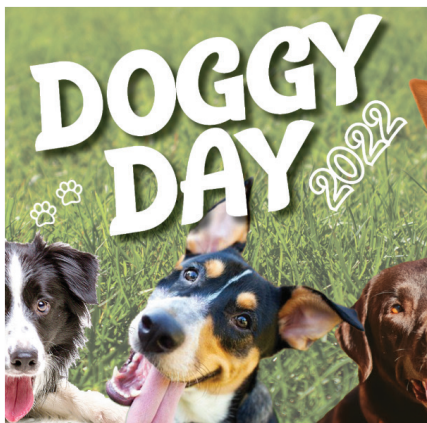
Proposed community garden

Councillor Jeremy Trembath is pushing for a community garden in Katherine.

"What we are looking for are support and ideas from the community," he said at the council meeting on Tuesday April 26.

"We're wanting to go ahead with it as soon as possible."

Contact Cr. Trembath on 0439 899 832 or email Jeremy.Trembath@ktc.nt.gov.au.



Stallholders wanted Doggy Day

- Saturday July 9
 - 9 a.m. - noon
 - Civic Centre Lawns
- Fill out an expression of interest form by Monday 27 June.

- Doggy Day is a chance to:
- Chat to rangers and veterinarians.
 - Register your dog
 - Meet other dog owners and dogs
 - Fun competitions and prizes

At the library



The Mobile Petting Zoo came to Story-time at Easter at the library. Children listened to stories about animals and held rabbits, chickens, and this baby wallaby



The School Holiday Program saw a number of activities including the Dungeons & Dragons mentor program, jewellery making, science events and big games at Town Square.



Library attended the Seniors Expo and engaged with the seniors community, seeking feedback.



Library manager Colleen says the library has received hundreds of new books in the last month, so enjoy some time there and find something that suits your interest.

Visitor Information Centre



Some of the Katherine Visitor Information Team. From left: Jennifer, Julia, Morgane (acting manager), and Taylor.

The Visitor Information Centre can book the following experiences starting in May:



Starting May 1, there will be boat tours all day at Nitmiluk National Park through the Katherine Gorge.

Dawn Cruise - see the sunrise, starts at 7a.m.

Dinner Cruise - three-course dinner on the water. Only a few spots left for the entire dry season.

Timeless Cruise - four-hour cruise, starts at 9a.m. Glide past three gorges. As there is no swimming in the Katherine River until June, you have the option to hike up to Lilly Ponds and swim in the waterhole there.



Katherine Outback Experience

The Show is booking for Mid-May. This show was voted won Best Tourist Attraction in Australia at the Australian Tourism Awards! Take the family and see demonstrations of horse-starting (a kind of training) and working dog abilities, with live music and bush tales.



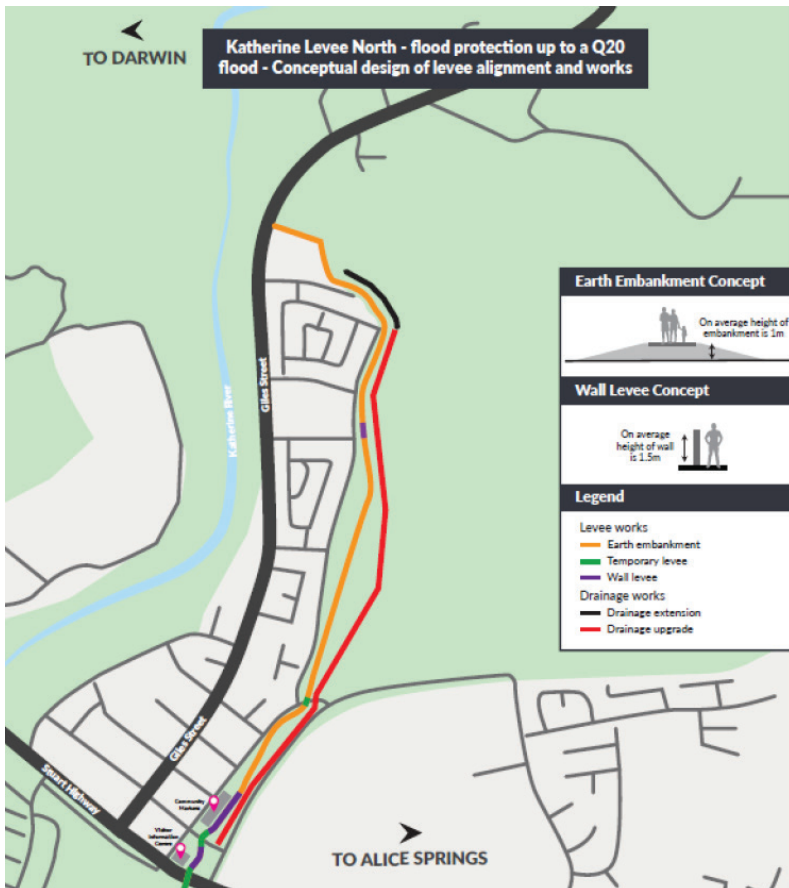
Top Didj Cultural Experience

See this TikTok sensation in the flesh! The Top Didj Cultural Experience has visitors interact with Top End Aboriginal artist Manuel Pamkal and ask questions about aboriginal culture whilst being educated on the significance of his painting style, weapons used and how he lived off the land.

Project Updates



That's a real nice lawn Bozz.
Pristine conditions on Oval 2.



Construction commencing – Katherine North Late April/early May 2022

The Northern Territory Government is moving forward with the Katherine Flood Mitigation Project to improve flood protection of Katherine residential areas in flooding events up to a one in 20 year event.

Works will occur along from the northern side of the Knotts Crossing Resort and Caravan Park, near the old Katherine Airstrip, along the eastern side of Katherine Town to the Stuart Highway. This will include the construction of a levee approximately 3km long.

While the works take place, there may be some impact to surrounding walking paths and traffic flow. Pedestrians and road users are asked to adhere to the signage and temporary traffic management devices in place, and take care when passing through the area.



\$92,000 to spend myKatherine before June 30th!

Register for myKatherine vouchers on your phone or computer. Get discounts off your purchases. E.g. spend over \$80 get \$20 off! Show retailers your unique voucher code to save. Businesses get reimbursed.

Vouchers can be redeemed at local food, retail, hospitality, and tourism businesses.

Once you register you will have \$40 worth of myKatherine vouchers. It will take 24 hours to replenish after use.

Round 4 is thanks to the Territory Government putting in \$80,000 and Katherine Town Council, \$40,000.

Keep local businesses running, which in turn keeps Katherine vibrant and alive.



Elected members training

Katherine councillors and the mayor attended a professional development day on April 22, along with the CEO.

The goals was to further understand their role and responsibilities, as well as understanding each others strengths and plans to make Katherine a better place to live.



Governance and Executive Officer

Report directly to the Chief Executive Officer, providing support to her, the mayor, and councillors. This position performs the full range of secretarial support functions including coordinating council meetings.

- Pay range is \$72,872.50 - \$89,352.50
- Experience in a similar role



Visitor Information Centre Manager

Manage a small team at Katherine's busy Visitor Information Centre. You will hit the ground running as dry season is upon us. Showcase to the rest of the world why Katherine is a must-see destination. Sell tours and accommodation and promote the centre's membership base.

- Pay range \$83,000-\$92,000
- Experience in a similar role

See jobs at katherine.nt.gov.au/employment