



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

Newsletter



Mayor Around Katherine



Mayor Lis Clark

+ You may have noticed that the flood levy wall has begun. The drain that comes along Lindsay Street is having culverts put in. The levy bank will begin behind the complex where the markets are held. This is to help with the next flood that may occur in the future. It will not protect everyone but it will help to protect one part of the town. The Department of Infrastructure, Planning, and Logistics (DIPL) is looking after this project so if you have any concerns, please contact them.

+ South of town there is roadworks to add lanes for a safer way of going into Katherine East than the current turn off into Cyprus Street. This is also being looked after by DIPL. Please obey traffic management

+ Our Council has been part of LGANT's Working Together for our Communities group. We are looking at better ways of working with all tiers of government in the management of projects and more efficient methods that could be used for a more cohesive relationship.

+ 30 Year 8 students from St Josephs College visited the Civic Centre. They saw a set-up of a Council meeting. There was a discussion about Council and what it does and then to finish off there was a tour of the building so that Students had a chance to see the different parts of Council for themselves.

+ Upcoming events are Territory Day on July 1 and Doggy Day on July 9, just to mention a couple.

Other happenings in the last month are the following with some photos:



The Charles Darwin University has upgraded their kitchen at the rural college to be a high standard for hospitality. Anyone that wants to learn any culinary skills can now apply to the uni to do courses here.



The North Australian Observer Unit (Norforce) celebrated their 80th anniversary in the Top End. They look out for illegal fisherman or any unusual activity that may be happening in the northern parts of Australia. They are an important part of our security.



I attended the Top Didj Grand Opening recently which is owned by Petrena Ariston. Petrena and her late husband Alex built the new building to accommodate all the paintings and souvenirs that are for sale. Manuel Pamkal gives visitors and locals an experience in indigenous culture. It is on the Gorge Road so go and pay them a visit you will be surprised. (Photo: From left, Councillor Ben Herdon, Deputy Mayor Kym Henderson, Petrena, Manuel, Mayor, Jo Hersey).



I had a visit from staff from Australian US Embassies passing through Katherine. They also visited the Katherine Gorge and GYRACC. The Counselor for Public Affairs was very keen to see as much as possible of Katherine during their short visit. (Photo: From left, Counsellor for Public Affairs Jeff Anderson and Head of Public Affairs Gabrielle Connellan.)



The Civic Centre had a visit from our new Chief Minister Natasha Fyles.

Draft Municipal Plan released

In my opinion

- Katherine Town Council CEO Ingrid Stonhill

Executive Statement from the Municipal Plan:

Since I began at Katherine Town Council in February, my observation is there still exists within Katherine and the Big Rivers region a high level of uncertainty around the role of local government and the role of locally elected councillors.

This is by no means limited to our community, as research shows since the 1990s that local governments across Australia have been undergoing a process of reform. The main stated objective has been to strengthen local democracy and make local governments more effective and efficient in order to ensure their financial sustainability and their ongoing capacity to provide services to the community.

Processing change can be uncomfortable but change is coming to Katherine Town Council to strengthen our financial sustainability and capacity to provide services in our projected fast growing development stage.

Local government is ever-present in residents' lives. At Katherine Town Council we employ over 60 staff who participate in the Katherine community. Staff live here, work here, and see their families grow up here. Decisions that Council make impact staff as much as everyone else in community.

Our staff provide vital services that allow residents to live comfortably here. These include waste collection, keeping our town tidy and maintained, and providing facilities that allow residents to recreate and enjoy time in the community such as our sports fields, show grounds, aquatic centre, local hot springs and many community events.

Since commencing I have identified many challenges that exist within and for Council. I am working with our

team towards getting Council up to date with policies and procedures, ensuring we are compliant with regulations and providing responsible leadership and expenditure.

Planning a way forward for Council in partnership with community has been a key priority for elected members. It is an essential part of business, understanding what we are working towards and why.

Our strategic plan is currently being developed and will provide a blueprint for the next 15 years, allowing for the planning and implementation of important projects. In future our strategic plan and municipality will be aligned to ensure ease of understanding of what we are working towards.

As a first step we have addressed our values, mission, and vision statements. They have been refreshed as will our organisation as a whole.

We acknowledge our past as we journey into the future.



View the plan at www.katherine.nt.gov.au
Submit comments records@ktc.nt.gov.au

Events



Doggy Day

Saturday July 9

9 a.m. - noon

Civic Centre Lawns

If you want to have a stall, fill out an expression of interest form by Monday 27 June.

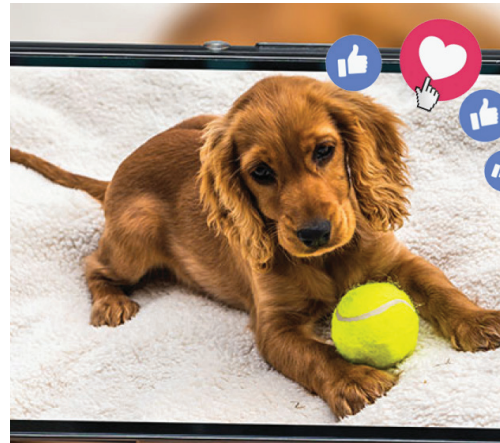
Doggy Day is a chance to :

Chat to rangers and veterinarians.

Register your dog

Meet other dog owners and dogs

Fun competitions and prizes



Do you have a cute photo of your dog?

Submit here for the chance to win over \$100 in goodies including dog toys and a training session. Competition closes Monday 4 July at 5pm

Shortlisted photos will be voted on by attendees at Doggy Day so make sure you come down to have a great day and vote!

*To be eligible to enter into this competition your dog must have an up to date dog registration with Katherine Town Council.



Katherine PRIDE Festival is on the weekend of Friday the 17th of June.

- The Festivals of the Dry program lists most of the events happening over the dry season in and around Katherine. In June, the weekend from Friday the 17th of June.

- 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.

At the library



Katherine Library Programs Coordinator Kellie Hoffman was lucky enough to participate in the ALIA (Australian Library and Information Association) National Conference in Canberra. The theme revolved around the diversity and individuality of all people.

"It was a full week of information and fabulous to be able to network with librarians from a range of libraries across the country," Kellie says.



On May 25, the library held a special children's story time for National Simultaneous Storytime. Katherine children joined others from around Australia to read the book *Family Tree* by Josh Pyke. Children then worked with their carers to use leaves and craft materials to create their own family tree artwork to take home.

Visitor Information Centre

Nitmiluk National Park - Swimming and canoeing in Katherine Gorge opens second week of June!



Photo: Tourism NT/Helen Orr

We can swim in Katherine Gorge 2 and beyond from the second week of June. Gorge One is never open for swimming as they cannot be sure of crocodiles. Call the Katherine Visitor Centre to book a cruise that includes swimming or book a boat to Gorge 2 where you can rent a one- or two-person canoe to explore the stunning Katherine Gorge. To book see staff at the Visitor Centre or call 8972 2650.



Shelving wanted: We're after bookshelves similar to the ones in the image. Please get in touch with the Visitor Centre if you have something like this.

Project Updates



June 2022

- Morris Road - Shoulders and resealing the road, early June. There will be short delays for vehicles.
- Sportsground Ring Road - After Morris Road, workers will fill in potholes on the ring road. It will be resealed later in the year.
- Solar Lights - 53 solar lights for Katherine East. Along walkways on the sportsground ring road, Grevillea Park, pathway from Chambers Drive to Maluka Road (path divides into two as it nears Maluka Road. Both legs will be lit.)
- Visitor Information Centre Upgrades - From Territory Tourism funds to improve disabled access. Includes changing the carpet, putting in automatic doors and updated reception desks.



\$50,000 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.

Jobs



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



Visitor Information Centre short-term

You're the face of tourism in Katherine! Report to the Visitor Information Centre manager and provide friendly, efficient, and accurate customer service to our visitors. Grow your knowledge of local attractions, accommodation and touring options available within Katherine and its regions.

- Pay range is \$25.21 to \$31.87 per hour (casuals receive an additional 25% loading)
- A few positions available

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