

connecting communities



Yilli Rreung Staff with our 15th Anniversary uniform.

From the CEO's desk

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter this year. 2019 is an exciting year for us as there are three housing conferences, two of which I will be speaking on behalf of Yilli Housing and for the first time, Darwin will be the hosting city for AHURI National Housing Conference in August. Check out the events details on the last page of this newsletter.

We are really proud of the achievement we have attained in the short period of time working with Northern Territory Government to upgrade the Town Camps. So far we have renovated more than 50 houses as well as various community infrastructure. This achievement is even more special as we managed to keep Aboriginal, local procurement of more than 80%.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our contractors: Dice, Lewfatt construction, QP builders, Ioannou Contracting, CJ, Full On plumbing, Priority pest and other Contractors who have worked very hard to make it happen.

We have recently welcomed the new Property Service Manager, Lee Worthley, to our team and I would like to introduce her to you all. Please make her feel welcome!

We also just established Audit and Risk Committee, this is part of our commitment to keep our transparency and compliance to achieve National Standards for our industry. We would like to welcome Chris Hammond as part of the Committee, we are very privileged to have him on board especially with new projects on the horizon.

It has been a year since cyclone Marcus. We are glad that everything has been restored and everyone learnt a lot from this category two cyclone. As we are still in the wet season, it is important to clear the surrounding area of items that could be dangerous in high winds.



Did you know

As Yilli Housing tenants you might be eligible to receive Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA). As a primary tenant, you could get rent assistance of more than \$150 per fortnight.

To learn more please talk to your property officer or check out the website:
tinyurl.com/rentCRA

The Department of Health also warned Top End residents to avoid outdoor exposure around dusk and at areas of high mosquito activity as potential Kunjin virus activity which is transmitted by mosquitoes has been detected in the East Arnhem and Darwin regions.

Stay healthy and be safe!

CEO
Leeanne Caton

Town Camps infrastructure upgrades



Over the last year the Town Camps Futures Unit (TCFU) in the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development, have completed infrastructure works across communities serviced by Yilli Housing. These communities include One Mile Dam, Bagot, Minmarama Park, Kulaluk, Knuckeys Lagoon, Palmerston Indigenous Village and Amangal.

The TCFU has worked in partnership with Yilli Housing to ensure that all upgrades are completed respectfully in town camp communities, and for the best outcomes of residents.

The focus of infrastructure works has been to improve housing standards and living conditions for residents, ensuring that houses are safe and sustainable places for families and communities to thrive.

If you would like to know more, please contact the Town Camps Futures Unit, by email at TownCampFutures.DHCD@nt.gov.au or visiting our website www.dlghcd.nt.gov.au/our-services/town-camps.



Bagot community: before and after photos



A house in Minmarama Park: before and after



A house in Amangal before and mid-progress, during upgrade

Tips to Reduce Energy Use

How you live in your home makes a huge difference to the power bill each quarter. Apply these tips adapted from CoolMob.org :

Turning off the lights when you leave the room. It is a common myth that it takes more energy to turn on a light than you save by turning it off when not needed.

Optimise natural lighting where possible. Make sure rooms are well lit with the curtains open to let the light in.

Regularly cleaning and servicing your air-conditioner, ceiling fans, screens as well as ensuring your fridge seals properly will significantly reduce your energy use.



Turning off electrical appliances at the wall (including your electric water heater which still uses energy although you don't use the hot water).

Stand-by power is the power used by your appliances even when they have been switched off using a remote control, or are switched off at the appliance alone (and not at the wall). This means that you are still paying for things that should be turned OFF.

Using the cold water setting on your washing machine and waiting for a full load before turning on the dishwasher.



Choosing appliances with a high Energy Star Rating will reduce your energy use over the long term.

Before you start running your air conditioner have you tried any of the following?

- using a fan before an air-conditioner
- taking a cold shower before going to bed
- cool the room for 20 minutes before sleeping
- setting your air-conditioner to 27 degrees and making sure all doors and windows are closed when using air-conditioning
- setting the timer to switch off after you go to sleep or set to sleep mode



Staff Profile

Everyone, meet Ben!

Ben Evans is our Finance Officer here at Yilli. He was born in Bendigo, Victoria (hence his name, Ben!), he moved to Darwin when he was 11 years old and he has been with Yilli for nearly 11 years now, and he is still enjoying his long service leave!

At Yilli he is the admin for everything, Ben is a MYOB champion – he just completed Advance MYOB course last year – and he is the man when it comes to staff functions, as you can see on the picture!

He enjoys gardening and footie, Ben is a loyal supporter of Carlton in AFL and West Tigers in NRL.

Notifications

Berrimah Estate Power Cards



On Fridays, we run our business from 7am-4.30pm, please take a few minutes to buy power cards during these office hours to avoid \$40 out-of-hours charges, or worse, power outage! Just to be on the safe side, spare at least \$20 on your power box for the weekends.

Emergency Relief (ER)



We do not have Emergency Funding at the moment. The new round of funding is expected to be available in August.

Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA)



We encourage all residents to sign up for CRA to get rental rebate. Please talk to your property manager at your earliest convenience.

Public holidays (March - June 2019)



Our office will be closed for the following public holidays:

- Good Friday: Friday, 19 April
- Easter: Monday, 22 April
- Anzac Day: Thursday, 25 April
- May Day: Monday, 6 May
- Queen's Birthday: Monday, 10 June

Please make sure you have enough power cards for long weekends. Any call-out for purchasing power cards will incur \$40 call-out fees.

Vets are coming to PIV and Knuckeys!

AMRRIC VETS are coming to:

PIV on the 13th March 2019

Knuckey's Lagoon on the 20th March 2019

Come over to the community halls with your cats and dogs from 8.30am onwards. These treatments are free of charge for our community residents and their beloved pets. Sponsored by AMRRIC and Yilli Housing.

Vet Visit
Wednesday 20th March
Knuckey Lagoon
8.30 AM onwards

THE VETS ARE COMING
WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH 2019
8.30 AM onwards
Palmerston Indigenous Village (PIV) Hall

Operations for boy & girl dogs
Operations for boy & girl cats
Medicine for itchy skin
Medicine Ticks and Worms

Operations boy and girl dogs and cats
Medicine for itchy skin and worms

Upcoming events



YOUTH HOMELESSNESS MATTERS DAY

WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2019
10 AM - 2 PM
DARWIN CITY

Youth Homelessness Matters Day
17 April 2019 | 10am at Civic Park in Darwin

Arafura GAMES
DARWIN 2019

26 APRIL - 4 MAY 2019
International multisport event celebrating the uniqueness of the Northern Territory.

GET INVOLVED
VOLUNTEER NOW

Arafura Games
26 April - 4 May 2019, Darwin
arafuragames.nt.gov.au

National Housing and Homelessness Forum
30 April - 2 May 2019 | Hilton Darwin
Putting an end to homelessness

National Housing and Homelessness Forum
30 April to 2 May 2019, Darwin

World Indigenous Housing Conference
20-24 May 2019, Gold Coast

National Housing Conference 2019

Housing future communities
27-30 August 2019

nhc.edu.au



2019 National Housing Conference
27-30 August 2019, Darwin