



*connecting communities*



Photo from the launch of the refitted Media Box at Knuckeys Lagoon Community  
Michael Berto – CEO, Yilli Housing  
Kevin Tilmouth – Regional Development Officer, Department of the Chief Minister



### Did you know

Yilli is managing the short stay accommodation, widely known as YiSSA.

It is located at 55 Batten Road Marrara with a current capacity of up to 300 rooms.

YiSSA is a one-stop-service-centre where the transient visitors who are coming to Darwin have a safe place to stay. YiSSA guests also get three meals a day included in their stay.

For booking and enquiries please contact: [yissa@yillihousing.com.au](mailto:yissa@yillihousing.com.au) or 040 789 3130. (due to limited room vacancy, please ensure that you have an advance booking).

# YiSSA

@ Stayover in Darwin  
Operated by



### From the CEO's desk

*It's the end of another year and what a busy year it's been. Nonetheless, we are proud of what we have achieved this year. 2024 is set to be an equally busy year for us.*

We attended the AHNT (Aboriginal Housing NT) Remote Housing & Homelands Conference in April which was held over 3 days, the Conference featured guest speakers and leading thinkers from across the country, including Senior Traditional Owners, Government representatives, Land Council representatives, service provider organisations, policy experts, academics and allied stakeholders to discuss and critically explore the establishment of the Northern Territory's Aboriginal community-controlled housing and homelands sector.

I attended a three-day National Housing Conference in Brisbane along with 1,300 other representatives to address the challenges and develop the future shape of housing in Australia and more so for us in the Northern Territory. It was a great conference with some positive outcomes.

We again held a Naidoc day celebration at YiSSA in July which was enjoyed by all Guests. Some great activities for the kids and a comedy night full of belly laughs was enjoyed by all.

We also celebrated our 20th Anniversary on Saturday 15th July 2023 at Silks Darwin. It was a fantastic night enjoyed by staff, previous staff, the Board of Directors, members, stakeholders, Northern Territory Government, and other Aboriginal organisations. The event included a smoking ceremony, speeches from our current and previous CEO's, an awards presentation, comedy performances by Matthew Bonson and Norman Grogan. To end the event we had live entertainment from Jaxon De Santis. Special thanks to our suppliers for their donations towards the event!

As we approach the wet season we urge our Tenants to be prepared with their cyclone plan. Please make sure you know your nearest cyclone shelter and what to do in the event of an emergency.

We are looking forward to celebrating a safe Christmas with our friends and family.

Please check our opening hours at the back of this newsletter. Merry Christmas and have a wonderful new year to you all.

YILLI RREUNG HOUSING ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

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## NAIDOC Week Celebration

NAIDOC celebrations at YiSSA in July 2023  
We had a BBQ for the residents which also included a pig on the spit and fresh kangaroo tails.

Smoking Ceremony & Welcome to Country by Tony Lee



## NAIDOC Week Celebration

For the children we had fun activities which included x2 large waterslides



# Start of Mosquito and midges season

it's time of the year when there will be higher activities of mosquitos and midges.

Highest biting midge numbers will occur within 1.5 km of extensive areas of NT coastal mangroves. Peak biting midge activity will occur until the first heavy monsoonal rains occur. Numbers are highest three days before and after full moons, and to a lesser extent around new moons.

High tides and rainfall trigger extensive salt marsh mosquito breeding until monsoonal rains flood all the breeding areas. Salt marsh mosquitoes can carry the Ross River virus.

## How to avoid being bitten by mozzies and midges:

- Avoid breeding grounds: outdoor locations near coastal swamps, beach and mangrove areas, , especially between dusk and dawn.
- Cover up! Wear long sleeves, long trousers, socks, especially between dusk and dawn.
- Use insect repellents.
- Use mosquito coils, mosquito lanterns, and barrier sprays in patio and outdoor areas.
- Ensure children and animals are adequately protected against insect bites.

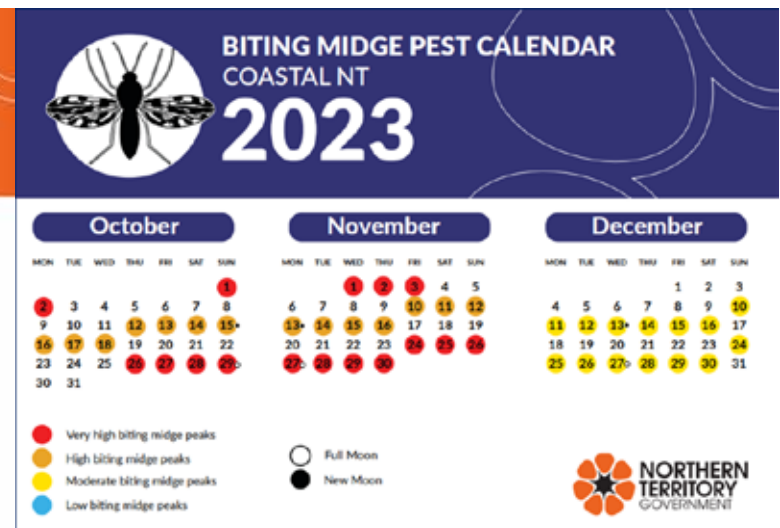
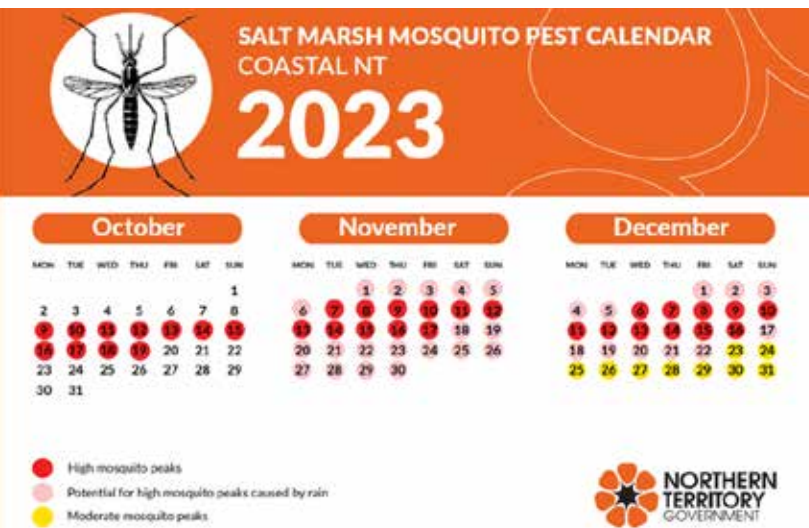
## Treat Midge/ mosquito Bites

- The first step is to wash the area with warm water and soap. This washes off any residual insect's saliva on the skin and reduces the chance of infection.
- Remember not to scratch or itch the bites as this can break the skin and cause infections. Cover the bites to stop the reflect to scratch directly on the skin.
- Cold pack, using anti-itch creams or ointments / moisturiser can soothe the skin.
- Taking oral antihistamines, available without a prescription, can help reduce itching and manage allergic reactions caused by midge bites. Follow the recommended dosage and consult a healthcare professional if needed.
- Hot water/ hot air (as hot as you can stand) directly to the bug-bite location can ease itching, breaking down compounds left in the bite and disrupting the nerve signals relaying the itching sensation.

Midge bites can last a lot longer than mosquito bites because mosquitos inject a syringe-like tube into the skin to drain out blood, while biting midges actually cut the skin open with their mouths.

Individual reactions to insect bites can vary. Some people may exhibit stronger responses. If the bites become infected or the symptoms worsen, it's recommended to seek medical attention for further evaluation and treatment.

Below are the midge and mosquito calendars between October and December this year:



## Happy 20th Anniversary Yilli!

Yilli Reung Housing Aboriginal Corporation is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Yilli is a nationally registered Community Housing Provider (CHP) and the largest single provider of community housing in the Northern Territory.

On the 15 July 2023, Yilli celebrated it's birthday with many past and present staff, directors and supporters. Congratulations to Yilli Housing on it's 20th anniversary!





# Christmas Closure 2023

Palmerston Office closed	Friday, 22 Dec 2023 12pm onwards
Palmerston Office Re open	Tuesday, 2 Dec 2024

## Notifications

### Cyclone Season Preparation

It is the time of the year again! Please make sure that you have everything in place:

- Prepare an emergency cyclone kit
- Have enough food, water, cash and fuel
- Think of how you would cope with no electricity
- Make an evacuation plan
- Discuss with your family what you will do in the event of a cyclone.
- Know the closest shelter from your dwelling
- Keep the Yilli Emergency Number handy (1300 726 820)

### Berrimah Estate Mobile Kiosk

Yilli housing runs a mobile kiosk in the old office for Berrimah Estate tenants. You can buy power cards, washing machine tokens, pay rent and check mail from our mobile kiosk.

Between Christmas and New Year, the kiosk is open on: 27-29 December 1pm-2pm

### We value your feedback

You can send your feedback through [info@yillihousing.com.au](mailto:info@yillihousing.com.au) or download 'Customer complain and feedback form' from our website: [yillihousing.com.au/publications-and-forms](http://yillihousing.com.au/publications-and-forms).

### Job Vacancies

YISSA is looking for Expressions of Interest for: receptionists and housekeepers  
Please email your CV to: [hr@yillihousing.com.au](mailto:hr@yillihousing.com.au)

### Berrimah Estate Power Card Kiosk Schedule during Christmas Shutdown:

- Wednesday, 27 December 1PM-2PM
- Thursday, 28 December 1PM-2PM
- Friday, 29 December 1PM-2PM

Please make sure that you have enough power cards. Any call out for power cards will incur \$60 call-out fees.



YISSA short stay accommodation opens as usual. 7 days a week 7AM-10PM.  
Please contact YISSA directly for room enquiries:  
**Mobile: 040 789 3130 – email: [yissa@yillihousing.com.au](mailto:yissa@yillihousing.com.au)**  
**55 Batten Road Marrara**

## school holiday events Jan 2024

Youth NT -Palmerston: [shorturl.at/doE29](http://shorturl.at/doE29)



Youth NT -Darwin: [shorturl.at/AFK04](http://shorturl.at/AFK04)



Darwin City Council: [shorturl.at/uyEQV](http://shorturl.at/uyEQV)



# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

