**CITY OF PALMERSTON** 

### GREY GOSS Newsletter



#### WELCOME, PALMERSTON AND RURAL SENIORS

to City of Palmerston's Grey Goss newsletter!

Published quarterly, the next issue will be released in February, covering events and activities throughout the new year.

As usual, you are most welcome to contribute ideas and information for Grey Goss, please contact Tess by emailing tess.riches@palmerston.nt.gov.au.

Thank you to everyone who has submitted information for this issue.

#### **CITY OF PALMERSTON'S NINTH COUNCIL**

City of Palmerston Elected Members may be contacted by:

Post: PO Box 1, Palmerston NT 0831 Email: <u>palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au</u> Phone: (08) 8935 9922

#### **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

You are very welcome to attend Council meetings to observe proceedings.

Ordinary Council Meetings are held on the First and Third Tuesday of every month, at 5.30pm.

Commencing at 5pm in the Council Chambers, a Public Forum will be held prior to each Ordinary Council meeting, providing an opportunity for community consultation.

Meeting dates, Agendas and Minutes will be listed at:

http://www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/council/meetings/councilmeetings

#### PALMERSTON SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The committee meets approximately bimonthly, avoiding the whirlwind of Seniors' Month, usually at the Recreation Centre.

If you'd like to submit any ideas etc for discussion, please send in writing to Tess. (Contacts above.)

Outcomes will be included in Grey Goss, plus there is a report to Council following each meeting. Minutes, including the Action Table, are included in Council Meeting Agendas.

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#### THE AUSTRALIAN LIGHTHORSEMEN

The last of them, is now gone. Faded away, aged 101. As that old soldier's sight dimmed, did his mind's eye still recall the sight of all those horses, all those young men who set out to help the Empire defeat the enemy? So few are left

who even remember that time when those youths and their mounts sought to achieve the nigh impossible.

He now seeks his mates where cloud steeds

and riders are one.

Cirrus clouds, stirred by hoofs, ensure that when we, who are left,

look up, we shall not forget.

#### © SANDRA PARKER





# CITY OF PALMERSTON GREY GOSS *Devisetter*



CITY OF PALMERSTON RATES PAYMENTS

Rates Instalment Dates\*: Friday 30 November 2018 Wednesday 30 January 2019 Saturday 30 March 2019

#### NT CONCESSION SCHEME

Eligible pensioners are entitled to a concession on rates. The City of Palmerston receives a listing from NT Concession Scheme of all ratepayers that are eligible for a concession on 1 July each year.

Concessions for eligible pensioners are automatically included on the rate notice. If a pensioner becomes eligible part way through the rating year they must pay the rates in full to Council and then contact the NT Concession Scheme for reimbursement on 1800 777 704 or Palmerston Community Care Centre on 08 8999 3344. For more information visit <a href="https://ntconcessions.nt.gov.au/">https://ntconcessions.nt.gov.au/</a>

\*Where the last date for payment falls on a weekend or Public Holiday, payment should be made by the next working day (e.g. If the due date is a Saturday, the payment should be received by 5pm on the following Monday.)

Note: Should you not receive your rates notice prior to these dates please call (08) 8935 9922 or email <u>rates@palmerston.nt.gov.au</u> to confirm postal details or request another copy.

#### **DISABLITY PERMIT HOLDERS - A REMINDER**

All Disability Permit holders may park in any Council car park (both on and off-street) for FREE and up to twice the time displayed for that zone.

Previously, only the dedicated Disability parks were free. (All of these allow all-day parking EXCEPT for the one near the Post Office, which is short term.)

Permiit-holders may now park in a Council-owned two-hour park for up to four hours at no cost.

However - you MUST display your permit on the dash, or the Ranger cannot tell that you are not parked illegally.



#### **CREATE / SPACE:**

Do you make things? Paint things? Play music, write or dance? Or know someone who does? City of Palmerston are on the look-out for creative people to share their talents with others in 2019. Please get in touch with Arts and Cultural Community Development Officer Leah on 8935 9926 or leah.sanderson@palmerston.nt.gov.au for more information.



### CITY OF PALMERSTON GREY GOSS *Newsletter*

#### **CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE - REMEMBRANCE DAY - 1 NOVEMBER 2018**

At 11am on November 11, many people across the world stop to remember the end of World War 1 (WW1) and the service of armed forces everywhere.

"The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month." is commemorated as the Anniversary of Armistice, and in 2018 it is especially significant as this year marks one hundred years since the end of WW1.

The First World War, or WW1, began in 1914 and ended in 1918. It was originally called The Great War, and The War to End All Wars.

Subsequent conflicts and the Second World War became associated with the day of commemoration, prompting its renaming to Remembrance Day, to include all the of fallen and serving.



#### **FLANDERS POPPIES**

Would you like to make a poppy for the Poppy Wall? The Flanders poppy has long been associated with this day, as well as ANZAC Day, and we're making a beautiful, colourful feature of it for the 2018 Remembrance Day celebrations.

Design and make your poppy, in whatever style and materials you like, and it will join many others in decorating the temporary Poppy Wall of Remembrance, installed alongside the path in Memorial Park.

tess.riches@palmerston.nt.gov.au





GREY GOSS *Newsletter* 



**THE PALMERSTON SENIORS FORUM** has a couple of functions; the main one is to canvas the participating seniors for concerns, suggestions and issues that they'd like the Palmerston Seniors Advisory Committee (PSAC) to consider on their behalf.

PSAC is an advisory committee to Council, and the rolling Action Table of issues is the mainstay of their work during each year.

Issues raised at the Forum but relating to specific sites, (such as damage to a section of footpath), are directed to the appropriate Council Department for immediate action, rather than incorporation into the Action Table.

The outcomes of the 2018 Seniors Forum were considered at the 10 September PSAC meeting, and it was determined that information about reporting issues to Council, and selected seniors' services, be included in Grey Goss as often as possible. (The Reporting to Council flyer is on page 11.) So, each edition you may expect any of these topics to be introduced or revisited:

- 1. HOW PUBLIC MAY REPORT CONCERNS TO COUNCIL Site-specific issues such as:
- Illegal parking in CBD disabled car parks
- Overhanging trees
- Parking on footpaths
- Problem dogs barking, whining, roaming
- Road gutters blocked with leaves
- Disability access issues on Council controlled property
- 2. HOW PUBLIC MAY REPORT CONCERNS TO OTHER AUTHORITIES: Non-City of Palmerston site-specific/incident specific issues such as:
- Loud music and other noise disturbances
- Road gutters blocked with leaves
- Identified Palmerston hot spots for mobile camera units to be placed in
- Issues with tenants/visitors of Territory Housing

cont. next page



#### **CITY OF PALMERSTON**

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- 3. PROMOTE SERVICES AND ADVICE FOR SENIORS:
- Bus service info as available (Hospital Bus, new service to Durack Retirement Village) (See page 7)
- Volunteer Drivers Scheme (PRSC MLA initiative) (See page 9)
- Council initiatives that benefit seniors, including library seniors' technology initiatives Computer Access and Skills (*See page 10*)
- PSAC meeting outcomes (See pages 4-5)
- Home safety advice
- Contact details for services such as VICTIMS OF CRIME

In addition, some topics may be raised for information to be included in Grey Goss, as result of discussions held in PSAC meetings. This edition you will find information about complaints regarding fences erected around domestic properties. (*See page 8*)

**Reporting site-specific issues** (you're able to identify the exact location of the property, identify the dog etc.) starts with you collecting the details so you can provide these to Council to have your issue looked at promptly. For instance, reporting "A car keeps parking on the footpath on Victoria Drive" needs the exact location "outside number..." and a description of the vehicle - including registration - as well as times and dates you have observed this activity. Providing these details helps the Rangers schedule inspections to observe the activity and document it to begin the process of enforcing compliance. (In layman's terms - catch 'em in the act!)

It is the same process for reporting road gutters blocked with leaves, overhanging trees making it difficult to use footpaths and also disability access issues on Council controlled property.

Again, it's the same process for reporting illegal parking in CBD disability permit-holders-only car parks or problem dogs – e.g. unregistered, roaming. Collect the details - while always maintaining your safety - and report to Council. Please note: reporting dogs regarding nuisance noise needs to be in writing. (Use the website form, send an email or letter.)

You may find when you contact Council that an issue is not in a location that Council controls, however the Council staff member you speak to will let you know what to do.

#### You can report issues to Council in a number of ways:

Phone us: (08) 8935 9922

Email us: palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au

By post : PO Box 1, Palmerston NT 0831

Via our Website: http://www.palmerston.nt.gov.au/contact-us (There are three links that will take you to the forms to report Graffiti, Public Lighting Faults and General Enquiries.)

Complete the form available at Customer Services - Civic Centre, cnr Chung Wah Tce and University Ave.

#### WHAT'S 'APPENING? USEFUL EMERGENCY PLANNING APP\* FOR YOUR PHONE...

get it from www.redcross.org.au/prepare

\* an app is an application<sup>\*\*</sup>, you download it to a mobile device, e.g. your phone. \*\*an application is a software program that's designed to perform a specific function directly for the user... ANYWAY... this particular app, from RED CROSS, is excellent



for getting you organised to deal with emergencies that might crop up. But if the idea of an app doesn't thrill you, check out the website for great ideas!



# GREY GOSS *Newsletter*

Free Event

MERSTON

24TH NOVEMBER 2018 | 5-9PM

GHTI

### **GOYDER SQUARE**

Activity includes

Children's entertainment - face painting, plaster painting, sand cards, balloon twisting, Santa, food & craft stalls available, special guests Angie Sublime, Ambrose Nicholls-Skene, Shalom Kaa, Lisa Sennett, Paolo and the Vox Crocs Choir and local schools.

WWW.PALMERSTON.NT.GOV.AU





### CITY OF PALMERSTON GREY GOSS *Newsletter*

#### FREE HOME ENERGY AUDIT PROGRAM



**CONTACT: LOU DE MATTIA** COOLmob Project Officer - Energy Efficiency Community Educator

Phone: 0431 336 760

Email: lou.demattia@ecnt.org Website: http://coolmob.org

#### Don't miss out on a FREE Home Energy Audit!

This is a fantastic opportunity for low income earners - receive expert and tailored advice, in your home, on ways to save on your power bills and use less energy.

The FREE Home Energy Audit Program consists of a visit to your home from a COOLmob Energy Efficiency Expert. Someone will visit your home to see how you are currently using energy and show you how you can use energy more efficiently, making sure you still feel cool and comfortable and aren't sacrificing your comfort. The visit is informal and normally takes around 1 hour to 1.5 hours and consists of you walking around your home and outdoor living space with the COOLmob Expert. Whilst you're walking you will chat with the Expert who will be filling out an audit form for you, noting down things about your home and appliances. Following the audit visit, the COOLmob Expert will send you a report with information and recommendations for you and your family to live more energy efficiently (and comfortably) in your home. Note that all your information is anonymous. COOLmob will also point you in the direction of resources you can use to make any

**ELIGIBILITY:** It doesn't matter if you are a homeowner, renter or live in Government housing, but you will need to have a low income health card or a Centrelink payment for Aged Pension, Carer Payment, Disability Support Pension, Parenting Payment Single or New Start Allowance.

#### **BUS TO PALMERSTON REGIONAL HOSPITAL**

To find an up-to-date bus timetable, with map of the route, go to:

https://nt.gov.au/driving/public-transport-cycling/public-buses/Darwin-and-Palmerston-timetables-and-maps

changes you are interested in.

#### Click on Palmerston to Palmerston suburbs and return.

#### Bus Route 88 picks up in Palmerston and ravels to and from the new Palmerston Hospital



**CITY OF PALMERSTON** 

**GREY GOSS Newsletter** 



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO GOES 'ABOVE & BEYOND' FOR THE PALMERSTON COMMUNITY?

> Nominate them NOW for the 2019 Palmerston Australia Day Awards

#### CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR

#### NOMINATIONS CLOSE 5PM, FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2018

Collect your nomination forms at: www.palmerston.nt.gov.au Council's Office Civic Plaza (1 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston)





### CITY OF PALMERSTON GREY GOSS *Newsletter*

#### **PROPERTY COVENANTS AND FENCING** (Or: What to do when your neighbours put in the ugliest fence, ever!)

First of all - there needs to be a covenant in place. A covenant is not the same as the Building Code. A covenant may be put in place by the developer of the property and these are incorporated into the purchase contract of the house or land and would typically be registered on the title. A covenant may cover a range of aspects including permitted fencing (styles, location, materials, colours) building size, external materials allowed, color of external materials, location of bins, air conditioners and driveways.

Covenants can be enforced by any party benefitted by the covenant. In new developments it is typically the Developer who would enforce compliance with the covenants – for as long as they have deemed them to apply. However, a covenant may last 'forever' or only a set amount of time, such as 10 years.

How do you know what the situation is with that ugly fence?



You could find out the Developer's name and contact them

to report the fence and check if they can do anything. You may first check *your* property title for any covenants – if they are your close neighbours then there's a good chance their property is under the same covenant as yours. If the fence is contrary to 'the rule' then the Developer *may* contact the fence (property) owner.

However, if there is no covenant, or it has expired, or if the Developer is no longer operating then there is probably nothing to be done.

City of Palmerston does not regulate fences on private properties. Depending on the fence structure you may be able to report it to NT Gov, as building approval may be required. Find out more at:

https://nt.gov.au/property/building-and-development/build-or-renovate-your-home/building-a-garden-shed-carport,-fenceor-shade-structure

Remember - Pool fencing laws are administered by the Northern Territory Government. Enquiries regarding pool fencing should be directed to the Water Safety Branch on (08) 8924 3641 or you can visit them online. https://nt.gov.au/property/swimming-pools-and-spas/fencing-and-barrier-requirements/about-pool-fencing-and-barrier-safety-standards\_

#### **MAKE THE SWITCH**

If you ever want to report to, or have questions for, a NT Gov department then the best thing to do is call the **NT Gov Switchboard on 8999 5511** 

and explain your needs to the wonderful Switchboard Operator. The Operator will direct your call to the perfect person to assist you. Be prepared with all the relevant details before you call, so you are ready to provide all the information they may need.

And please remember, the Operator is just there to help you get in contact with the right person. They don't take the reports, or action them, so please be considerate and help them to help you.







#### THE PALMERSTON AND RURAL SENIORS COMMITTEE INC. IN CONJUNCTION WITH BRENNAN ELECTORAL OFFICE

Linking Seniors through Smart Partnerships

#### Palmerston Volunteer Driver Program (PVDP)

#### Seniors – Do you need a Lift, No Transport Available?

Do you live in Palmerston or Litchfield Council areas and need a lift to get to an appointment?

These appointments may include, but are not limited to:

- Local doctor appointments,
- Dentist appointments,
- Optometrist appointments etc

#### This free service for Seniors commenced Monday 21 May 2018.

#### Do you need to make a booking? - contact the Brennan Electoral Office on 8999 5587

The people who provide the transport service for Seniors are volunteers. Volunteers donate their time at no cost to either of the partners organising the transport services or the Seniors being transported.

Volunteers will pick you up from a designated point and return you to that location at the completion of the trip or as otherwise arranged at the time of pick up.

The volunteers will not divulge any information relating to your trip or discuss it with any third party unless authorised to do so **UNLESS** there is an emergency.

Volunteers will remain with Senior for the duration of their appointment unless other arrangements are made at the time of pickup.



# GREY GOSS *Newsletter*

#### ADULT DROP-IN COMPUTER SESSIONS

Need help using your computer, tablet or phone? Then come to our drop-in computer sessions. Computers and iPads are available, or bring your own device and get one-on-one assistance with all of your computer/IT issues from a library staff member. **All welcome, bookings are essential!** 

When: Wednesdays Time: 2-4pm City of Palmerston Library





Every Australian online.

### Network Partner

Australian Government

**BE CONNECTED** is an Australian government initiative committed to increasing the confidence, skills and online safety of older Australians. Be Connected aims to empower everyone to use the internet and everyday technology to thrive in our digital world.

Through the Be Connected online resources, Australians will be able to learn the basics of using digital devices and engaging with the internet, including:

- being safer while online
- talking to, or seeing, family and friends who live far away
- finding new friends who share interests and hobbies
- connecting with old friends
- keeping up to date with what's happening in communities and around the world
- shopping and selling online, safely and securely.

Be Connected is not just a website; it is a national movement working across Australia, within communities, to help people with their digital skills. Our Network Partners are the local arm of Be Connected, and offer in-person help and support to older Australians who are disengaged with digital technology.

Australians with minimum internet skills can often feel isolated from their community and family at a time in their lives when feeling connected is increasingly important.

Be Connected aims to change this through a family and community centered approach by supporting community organisations that are committed to digital inclusion and supporting older Australians bridge the digital divide.

You may sign up via the link provided or attend our Adult Drop In Computer Session on Wednesday between 2pm – 4pm, so that Library staff can help. If you sign up independently please select City of Palmerston Library as your support centre.

#### HOONUIT

City of Palmerston Library has launched an online software training database - Hoonuit, a comprehensive online database of how-to training tutorials covering popular Microsoft, Apple, Adobe and Google software programs.

Please speak to library staff to find out how you can get the most out of your technology!



#### **CITY OF PALMERSTON**

REPORT

### GREY GOSS Newsletter

#### **CONTACT US BY:**

- Visit www.palmerston.nt.gov.au and complete the Contact Us section online or print and complete the Customer Activity **Request Form**
- Phone 8935 9922
- Email palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au
- Write to City of Palmerston PO Box 1, Palmerston NT 0831
- Visit Council and speak to our Customer Service Officers

Please provide as much detail as you can; including your contact details so we can get the most appropriate staff member onto your issue immediately.

#### EXAMPLES OF COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Potholes on roads
- Overgrown or damaged footpaths and verges
- Animal management
- Car parking in the City Centre
- · Parks irrigation, lights, play equipment, exeloo problems
- Tree maintenance in parks and on verges
- · Blocked or damaged stormwater drainage
- Damaged, missing or graffiti-covered signs
- · Damaged, stolen, un-collected or new services for rubbish bins
- Bins in parks
- Damaged or new driveways
- Council reserves issues such as Council Clearances, applications to work on the reserves or stormwater flow
- Deceased animals, if on Council land
- Issues with Gray Hall, Driver Family Resource Centre, Palmerston Library, Palmerston Swimming & Fitness Centre
- Streetlights Tel: 8935 9922 or www.palmerston.nt.gov.au

#### TO REPORT ISSUES WITH THE FOLLOWING NT GOVERNMENT ROADS, PHONE 8999 5511:

• University Ave, Elrundie Ave, Roystonea Ave, Lambrick Ave (Hutchison Tce to Stuart Hwy) and Chung Wah Tce (between Temple Tce roundabout and Elrundie Ave).

#### **ISSUES WITH:**

- Telstra pits with broken or missing lids phone Telstra on 132 200
- Bus stop maintenance including bins phone Department of Transport on 8999 5511
- Private property speak to the property owner or phone the Community Justice Centre on 1800 000 473 (free call).





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# CITY OF PALMERSTON GREY GOSS *Devsletter*

#### THE ELEVENTH OF THE ELEVENTH, AT ELEVEN

When I was a child everything stopped at eleven, on the eleventh of the eleventh.

Books and pencils downed Assembled together to sing God Save the King and salute the flag by numbers. Adding to the wreaths, transforming our flagpole to a shrine for the day,

Standing as quietly as children can stand, for that interminable minute. We remembered the dead soldiers, it seemed always soldiers, always heroes, always men.

I felt I knew Simpson and his donkey well, especially when the Last Post sounded. Later I realised how many hundreds of cornets, bugles or even trumpets, were needed at eleven on the eleventh of the eleventh at all those places at once.

My father's medals glinted on my chest. He never wore them, despite receiving one from the King himself. I never told my friends that he was not a soldier. They didn't know that other people got medals.

#### © SANDRA PARKER

#### **POW - PALMERSTON'S OWN WRITERS**

Palmerston's Own Writers began as a result of Palmerston City Council's Poet in Residence Program and the First Palmerston Festival. We have continued since then and have 2 original writing members and quite a few with more than 10 year's association.

We currently have around 30 members from many cultural backgrounds, some more active than others. Our youngest member is 15 and our oldest in her eighties.

Some now live out of town or even interstate, but join us whenever they are here, and keep in touch electronically. We are a very diverse group, with a common aim, the love of literature. POW aims to foster this interest

In recent years we have taken an active part in 'Wordstorm' Writers' Festival, Palmerston Young Writers Festival, Adelaide River Rosella Festival and Taminmin Senior's Poetry Lunch.

We have a number of winners of the NT Literary Awards and interstate and overseas competitions and events. We also have a number of authors with their own books.

For the our first 10 years we ran a Young Writers' Competition. The next 10 years have centred on the work of older writers.

As you will see from our latest anthology. This year, we are celebrating 20 years of our group. Our 5 anthologies are available to borrow at the Palmerston library.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Member for Brennan's Community Room, Palmerston Shopping Centre at 5.30pm.

For more information contact Sandra Parker on 0427 451949 or

sandra@parkershouse.net



### CITY OF PALMERSTON GREY GOSS *Newsletter*

#### PALMERSTON 50+ CLUB

Excerpts from the Public Officer Report presented at the 16 October 2018 AGM of Palmerston's popular seniors club, which meets on Tuesday mornings at Gray Hall.

The club provides a venue for activities, guest speakers, outings, events and morning teas. We have card playing, as well as card-making, scrabble, board games, carpet bowls, and often a quiz or bingo. Any ideas for more activities are received with enthusiasm. We now have over 40 members.

We were fortunate to receive a \$10,000 grant from the Federal Government. We certainly put it to good use! We organised an overnight trip to Katherine. We went to Pine Creek for morning tea, Edith Falls for lunch, then on to Katherine. We stayed at the Paraway Motel. Some of us went for a refreshing swim before dinner at the Katherine RSL. Up early for breakfast and visited the Culture Centre, then the Katherine Gorge was our next stop for a relaxing cruise. We traveled back to Mount Bundey for a late lunch, which was most enjoyable. Then we headed home, very tired people. A great time was had by all.

#### Club visitors included:

Gray Creche children, who are always excited to visit us, with special songs and dancing and they love the old people's food. The Boys in Blue with Lupo, Ranger and Fitzy (very well-behaved Patrol Dogs). Ian from Don Dale Detention Centre gave a talk and was happy to answer any questions the members had. Dr Bo Remenyi, NT Australian of the Year, talked about her journey in Australia as a migrant, which was very interesting. What Dr Bo has achieved as a Paediatric Cardiologist is amazing!

#### Club activities included:

Shrove Tuesday had us making large amounts of pancakes. Easter activities included fancy hats, games, prizes, Easter eggs and a yummy morning tea thanks to Cath. Mini-Golf at the Flight Path Golf Course with pizza, watermelon, cakes and slices for lunch. Melbourne Cup - hat parade (judged by our Federal Members), prizes and sweeps on racing board game. (The Alzheimer's Group aslo attended.)

We had several fund-raising activities; in-house raffles with donations from members, sale of handmade cards and lucky number cards. All profit goes back to the club, and supports activities such as the purchase of goods for hampers which are raffled to raise more money.

Our Christmas Bash (sponsored by City of Palmerston) was attended by over 80 seniors from Palmerston and Rural area. We decorated the hall, had a Christmas tree, special food and drinks, prizes, hampers, raffles, entertainment, two singing groups (Senior Songsters and Still Belting Out) and Santa Claus (Mike) helped to hand out presents, which everyone received.

Christmas lunch for all members was at the Howard Springs Tavern - good food and good company!

#### Each member pays \$3 per week for a delicious morning tea, thanks to Cath; a job well done every week.

Membership fees are \$10 each, annually payable in March. All members receive a card on their birthday and cake for special birthdays. Thank you to Gerry for making our beautiful birthday cards for all our members.

The ambience and cameraderie experienced at our club on a Tuesday morning are enjoyed by all our members.

#### Want to know more? Contact Mary 8931 0963 or Jannette 0412 372 418

