

Community Development

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Mutitjulu Pool Opening makes a Splash

Mutitjulu threw a big wet party to launch the community's traditional owner-funded swimming pool - a dream that has been seven years in the making. In September the community celebrated with inma performed by senior women and girls, acrobatics by Mutitjulu's very own Tjitji Ninja, and the reggae sounds of the Tjintu Band.

"The kids are very excited today", said traditional owner Judy Trigger, who led the inma. "This is something we've worked hard for."

Judy is one of the traditional owners and residents who decided in 2006 to put most of the rent money the community receives every year from the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park towards a pool. She is a member of the Mutitjulu Working Group which has planned the Mutitjulu Tjurpinytjaku Centre with the CLC since 2006.

"We decided to make sure we could build the pool ourselves because there weren't really any options for our kids. Like at the resort - we'd go over and, really, the kids weren't welcome to swim there and they'd be sent away. That was why we decided to make it a priority to do it ourselves", she told SBS TV.

The working group contributed \$100,000 of their rent money to the construction of the pool and the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) invested \$3 million. The group also saved up \$1.5 million of their rent money to run the pool until at least 2017.

CLC Director David Ross applauded the community's dedication. "At a time when other remote community pools are closing because governments fail to fund them Mutitjulu has a professional organisation managing the pool in consultation with the working group."

CASA Leisure, a South Australian company with 22 years of experience, will operate the pool in consultation with the Mutitjulu Working Group. They are working with local schools to put in place a "yes school - yes pool" policy. But the pool is about more than just the kids.



Cover image; Justin Bob and Tristan Jackson were two of the first kids to enjoy a swim in their new pool.

"EMPLOYMENT HAS BEEN A PRIORITY FOR THE MUTITJULU WORKING GROUP", SAID JUDY TRIGGER. "LADIES AND WATI WILL WORK AS LIFE GUARDS. WE'LL BE WATCHING THE YOUNG ONES SO THEY DON'T DROWN. WE'VE BEEN LOOKING AT A RANGE OF ROLES: SECURITY AND A WHOLE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES WE'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT ALONG THE WAY."



Judy Trigger speaking at pool opening



Tjitji Ninja take a flying leap



Tjintu Band playing at the pool opening



Mutitjulu Pool Opening makes a Splash

continued...



The benefits don't stop here. Working group members like Judy also gathered valuable experience in planning and managing a complex and expensive project over many years.

On opening day the fountain in the shallow area was a special favourite with the little ones. There is also a chair lift to help frail people or those in wheelchairs to enjoy the water.

The pool doesn't just provide a welcome relief during the long hot summers and a chance for all to enjoy some safe, healthy fun. Regular pool use also helps prevent skin infections that can later lead to kidney disease.

David Ross called on governments to share the running costs with the community "for the health, education, employment and social benefits we know pools bring to remote communities. We hope that once they see how well the pool is working they will chuck in, too, so that Mutitjulu can get on with doing other great projects with their rent money in the future."

Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT) Projects project managed the design and construction of the pool using the latest energy and water efficient technologies. State Wide Pool Services built it.

The Uluru-Kata Tjuta Board of Joint Management and Parks Australia gave permission for the project once they were satisfied that there was enough power and water for the pool, it would not damage the delicate desert environment and would be well managed.

As working group members and their grandchildren cut the ribbon at the gate David Ross reminded visitors and media why the pool has taken so long:

"We've been meticulous in how we've worked with traditional owners, Parks Australia and governments to make sure they're all on board. That's going to be the key to the pool's future."

Drying off in the sun after an afternoon swim.



ULURU RENT MONEY

GMAAAC COMMITTEES BREAK PLANNING RECORD

GMAAAC committees in all nine communities affected by the Granites goldmine have finished their project planning for 2013 in record time. The committees worked hard to plan a total of 66 projects. Along the way they built their experience of managing money in a good and open way.

Committee members are getting involved in writing project plans and are asking important questions of partners when deciding whether to fund projects. They are taking their leadership positions very seriously, making sure community money brings benefits the whole community enjoys.

All committees know that GMAAAC money is going down a lot because the mine is making less profit. They are dealing with this in different ways. Some committees are saving money for the future so that they can keep good projects going for longer. One committee cancelled a project to purchase a community bus (in addition to the existing sports bus), when members realised they would not have enough money to keep it going. Other committees have started doing projects in stages.



Some male Yuendumu committee members; Francis Kelly, Brian Wilson, Michael Watson and Sherman Spencer



Some female Yuendumu committee members; Elizabeth Lechleitner, Elizabeth Katararinya, Erica Ross, Peggy Brown and Georgina Wilson

The Yuendumu GMAAAC Committee is particularly proud of their recently completed projects:

YUENDUMU STUDENTS READY TO GO BUSH

The Yuendumu School has been given almost \$16,000 from GMAAAC to buy a covered trailer for country visits. It will help to protect equipment from dust so it lasts longer.

The country visits support students to learn from elders, improve their Warlpiri language and keep culture and connection to country strong.

Thanks also to contributions from the school council and WETT, the school is set and ready to go bush.



GMAAAC Yuendumu school country visit trailer



YUENDUMU CEMETERY UPGRADE

A \$22,000 upgrade of the Yuendumu cemetery helps keep out curious cows, allowing local people to pay their respects to family members in peace. Part of the upgrade is a fence that helps make the cemetery easier to maintain.

The GMAAAC Committee approved funds in 2012 for Wallcon to re-fence the cemetery, repair the gates and plant shade trees. Local Yapa workers helped complete the first stage of the project earlier this year.

This year the committee approved another \$47,000 for the second stage of the cemetery upgrade. Local workers will now put in drinking water tanks for the summer time.

Committee member Valerie Martin says there is no funding to look after the cemetery:

“WHO ELSE IS GOING TO SUPPORT US - EXCEPT FOR SUPPORTING OURSELVES THROUGH GMAAAC? OUR LOVED ONES BEING OUT THERE.”

WE NEED TO CARE FOR THEM, THEY ARE ALONE OUT THERE. CATTLE ARE TRAMPLING THE GROUND AND WE NEEDED THAT HUGE FENCE AROUND IT.”

“It can be too hot out there, especially for little kids. When we are sad and crying we get thirsty, so we are glad the GMAAAC project will be putting up a shade structure and installing a tap for drinking”, she said.

With the shade shelter finished by local workers in September, this project will make the cemetery more comfortable and safe for all.



Wallcon building the shade structure at cemetery, (inset top) Cliffy Sampson (front) and Steven Kelly (behind), (inset bottom) Digging holes - Noel Hampton operating, Lahli Turner (blue shirt) and Aaron Williams (black shirt)

YAPA STAFF GIVE BAPTIST CHURCH A MAKEOVER

Crowds of up to 100 people are enjoying weekly sing-alongs on the new Yuendumu Baptist Church stage, using the new keyboard, guitars, mixer and amps bought with GMAAAC funding.

Built by Yapa staff employed by local contractor Wallcon, the sheltered open air stage has become a popular place for community activities. Church volunteers installed water pipes and taps in the church yard.

“We really like this, it’s good”, said church elder Tess Ross. “We have sing-along on Wednesday and weekends, with old people and young. We make sure it finishes early so that community

can sleep. In the warm weather we can also use it for funerals in the morning. When people come to visit from other communities, we can also be together outside where it is welcoming and support each other in this area.”

The Yuendumu GMAAAC Committee paid almost \$23,000 for the project, which aims to bring community members together in a safe area and strengthen community relationships.

Installing water pipe at the Yuendumu Baptist church



GMAAAC Code of Conduct

The GMAAAC directors have adopted a formal agreement on how to work together in a good way.

It was developed from ideas from all GMAAAC community committees and includes:

- Avoiding conflict of interest;
- Acceptable behaviour;
- Making fair decisions;
- Using power in a responsible and proper way; and
- Being a good leader (who listens, cares for the community and people,

speaks up for them and lets them know what GMAAAC is doing).

The Code of Conduct will support committees to keep their community projects going strong.





WETT PAINTING...

Three Warlpiri artists have painted the story of the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT).

Barbara Napanangka Martin, Nancy Napurrula Oldfield and Maisie Napaljarri Kitson spent three days and nights in Yuendumu talking, sharing and creating the detailed painting. Art development specialist Hannah Quinlivan who runs painting workshops in Warlpiri communities with Warlukurlangu Arts supported them.

"It was rainy and cold and I turned on some music to keep us happy while we were working," said Maisie.

"WE DID THAT PAINTING SO PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND AND SEE WHAT WETT IS, WHERE IT CAME FROM."

Lajamanu teacher and WETT Advisory Committee member Markkirdi Rose had the idea for the painting after meeting the head of the Aboriginal Affairs Department and the Australian Council for Indigenous Development in Canberra.

Markkirdi thought it would have been much easier to tell the WETT story with a painting rather than with just words, especially words of a second language. Other Warlpiri WETT Advisory committee members agreed. Markkirdi and Maisie took the

finished painting to this year's Native Title Conference in Alice Springs, where they presented the WETT story. They told the conference that the painting was important because it showed both Yapa and Kardiya ways of telling the story.

The conference was a great opportunity to talk about the work WETT is doing. It also gave Maisie and Markkirdi the chance to practice their presentation skills and get some excellent feedback from the national audience.

"It was good, I wasn't nervous. I was happy and proud sharing that story with Markkirdi," said Maisie.



Markkirdi Rose and Maisie Kitson tell the WETT Story at the Native Title conference 2013



Nancy Oldfield, Barbara Martin and Maisie Kitson working on the painting



The top half of this painting shows Yapa meeting together in different WETT committees to share ideas and make decisions. The bottom half of the painting shows the education projects WETT has set up and the organisations that help to run

them with WETT money. Running through the middle of the painting is the journey Warlpiri and the CLC have been on to make WETT happen. You can find out more about this painting by going to www.clc.org.au

WANINJAWARNU SOCIAL COMIC LAUNCH

The Waninjawarnu Social Comic has been a real team effort. The comic book launched in Willowra in September follows the stories of new mothers Paris, Lizzie, Sarah and Rose during pregnancy, child birth and after bringing baby home.

The four women have quite different experiences and challenges. Waninjawarnu also features Mary, the Indigenous Baby Care Officer who supports the four women on their journey into motherhood.

Waninjawarnu takes its name from the baby necklace Yapa make for their newborn babies.

The comic is a great way to spread important health and parenting messages through a story that comes from the community itself.

Willowra people wrote and created Waninjawarnu through a series of workshops. This helped them build their planning, story writing and problem solving skills. The comic draws on their knowledge of traditional parenting practice and current health and baby care issues.

Community members did this work in partnership with World Vision Australia (WVA), Willowra Health Clinic, Inception Strategies which facilitated the community workshops and produced the final Comic, and the Warlpiri Education Training Trust (WETT) Advisory Committee. WETT funded the comic through its Early Childhood program in partnership with WVA.

In Willowra the comic can be found at the Clinic, School, WYDAC, Learning Centre and Playgroup. It will be introduced to other communities soon. For copies please contact Lisa Rayner at the Alice Springs World Vision office on 8953 0782.



ALL ABOARD! WETT FUNDS THREE 4WD BUSES FOR THE YOUTH AND MEDIA PROGRAM

The Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC) is kitting out three 4WD buses with safety gear for the Youth and Media Program, ready to hit the dusty tracks to Lajamanu, Willowra and Nyirripi.

The 22 seater buses will take kids out bush and on excursions more often and more safely. Willowra and Nyirripi communities are keen to make regular trips to the Yuendumu pool during the hot summer months and the school holidays.

Lajamanu also has plans to get kids out of the community more often to learn about Yapa culture through visits to significant sites, camping and swimming at waterholes.

"I am glad we agreed to fund those buses", said Lajamanu Kurra Director Roger Jurrah. "It is really important for young people to get out bush and learn from their elders. Not just young kids. Also

younger adults who need to learn from the old people before they pass on so they can teach their own children, too. Troopies are not safe for lots of kids and people get fined. Without a bus not many people go on trips. This is a big community with lots of kids. We need that bus so kids don't miss out."

WYDAC CEO Susie Low said the buses will bring young people from Lajamanu, Willowra, Nyirripi and Yuendumu to a special event at Mt Theo outstation in October "so they can learn from each other and the old people."

Each bus will have 9 seats that can be fitted with booster seats and harnesses, in line with the new NT road safety laws for kids.

The Kurra WETT Directors decided in March to fund the three buses through the WETT program. WYDAC also bought a fourth bus for Yuendumu with federal Health Department funds.

WILLOWRA BEANIE MAKING AND iPad WORKSHOP

The Mukati Team ran one of the most successful programs in the Willowra Learning Centre yet.

Audrey Kitson Willowra beanie making

For two weeks in May 11 women and two men turned up every day to felt, crochet and knit beanies (mukati). Kids dropped in after school to take part in the CDEP-funded Batchelor project.

Participants enjoyed practising their new skills and getting better at beanie making every day. They also learned to use i-pads to film all the fun, collecting 30 minutes of footage.

Some of the beanie makers got to travel to Alice Springs for the Beanie Festival, where they saw Willowra's work displayed at the art gallery. Their mukati more than held their own with beanies from more experienced communities.

Three Willowra beanie makers received commendations and special mentions for their creations. Young Macharios Ah Kit was very proud of the prize for his bird beanie –the first beanie he ever made. Every beanie sold earned the artists money.

Back in Willowra the whole community gathered at the Learning Centre to watch the i-pad footage together. Word from the community is that the atmosphere was terrific – all about togetherness and fun.



iPad film night at the Learning Centre

Macharios Ah Kit and his winning bird beanie



Janelle Ross with her beanie



FIRST COMMUNITY LEASE MONEY PROJECT MAKES NTARIA PROUD

Ntaria traditional owners came to the rescue of their Healthy Living Sports Carnival at the very last minute, when lack of funds meant the event might have to be cancelled...

With \$16,000 of their community lease money they helped their community to pull off a fantastic carnival during the May long weekend.

The event attracted eight football teams and four softball teams. The Ntaria East Side Tigers made the home crowd proud by winning the softball competition, while the Yuendumu Magpies took home the football trophy. Footy match manager Lofty Katakarinja congratulated the Magpies for coming together after so many years of unrest in Yuendumu.

The carnival was the first project completed by the Ntaria Community Lease Money Working Group and featured kid's activities and two nights of live music showcasing local talent. Sports committee members had raised additional money for the cash prizes.

The group chose AFL NT to manage the project in partnership with the local sports carnival committee, which had already done a lot of good planning for the event. The working group was happy to sign off on the committee's plan and budget because they believe taking part in sports keeps people fit, healthy and out of trouble and that the carnival builds community pride.

The CLC's Community Development Unit helped make a project management agreement with AFL NT.

"IT WAS GOOD TO SEE ALL FAMILIES COMING TOGETHER FROM OTHER COMMUNITIES FOR OUR SPORTS CARNIVAL"



Barracking for the Bulldogs at the Ntaria Carnival

said carnival committee member and softball manager Cassandra Stuart.

"PLANNING FOR SPORTING EVENTS SUCH AS THIS CAN BE DONE. IF YOU HAVE THE WILLPOWER TO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN THEY WILL HAPPEN."

After the event the Ntaria Community Lease Money Working Group used their five year lease money to set up a funeral fund for Ntaria residents and planned a community bus project that the school will manage under an agreement with the CLC.

With the first three projects already happening, the group is now busy planning the next lot of projects to help the whole community, among them a school excursion and a cemetery project.



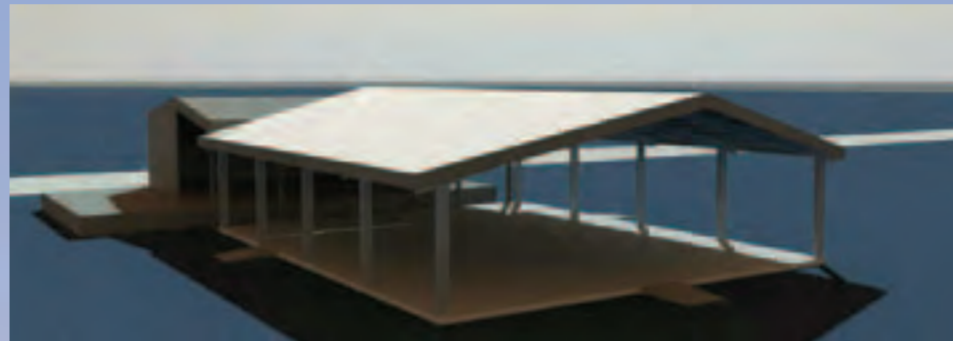
L-R Anthony Hargraves (Yuendumu Coach), Jamie Nelson and Zac Long (Yuendumu Co-Captains) and Lofty Katakarinja (Match Manager)



Norbert and Tracie Patrick and family at the Ntaria Carnival

WUTUNUGURRA CHURCH EXTENSION UNDERWAY

Work on the community's first lease money project kicked off in September, after the community decided to spend \$200,000 on improving their church.



Wutunugurra wanted more covered space at the church to fit in the local congregation as well as visitors. "The whole community decided to spend our money on a project that would benefit everyone", said local resident Julie Beasley.

The church will be finished by early next year and local man Craiglyn Glen has been working with builder Bill Farrand on the extension. It will have a concrete floor, a new roof and a fence to keep kids safe from dogs and cars.

Thea Nungala, another resident, believes there will be many benefits from the new church: "It's important to have a place for families to come together to worship and for children to learn from the elders".

When work has finished the community will decide how to use any leftover five year lease money. High on their wish list is some band equipment and a storage room at the church.

Alpurrurulam, Atitjere and Tara communities have also decided to use their lease money for church building or extension projects. All these communities are after a comfortable space where families can gather for sorry business and church activities and want local people to be involved in doing the work.



Workers on the Wutunugurra Church Project start pouring the concrete



Martin Jugadai, Francis Marshall, Walter Jugadai, Trevor Raggett, Serianne Butcher, Doreen Lane and Alison Multa after the community meeting.

HAASTS BLUFF SCHOOL EXCURSION

Haasts Bluff Community Lease Money Working Group and community members were pleased when a community meeting gave the thumbs up to the first community lease money project they had planned. Thanks to \$18,000 of Haasts Bluff's five year lease money 14 school kids will enjoy a week-long excursion to Melbourne and Victoria in October.

LAJAMANU DIALYSIS UNIT OPENS ITS DOORS

More than 150 locals poured through the gates of the new Lajamanu dialysis unit on a hot August afternoon to celebrate the opening of the new facility



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Kurra Director Daniel Rockman with Lajamanu Kidney Committee member Geoffrey Barnes



Welcoming Dance at Lajamanu Dialysis Opening



Kurra Directors Freda Jurrah and Daniel Rockman with renal committee chair and patient Helen Morris

The 2-chair unit and nurses' accommodation will help residents with kidney disease to spend more time with family in Lajamanu. They can now stay in the community between three and eight weeks at a time, thanks to regular nurse-assisted treatment.

Eleven renal patients made the special trip from Darwin or Katherine to celebrate the opening and experience their first dialysis session back home in Lajamanu with their loved ones. Gracie White who recently had to move to Darwin for treatment was grinning from ear to ear: "I am really happy to be here. I am looking forward to coming back for a longer holiday next time".

Great food, as well as music from the North Tanami band, kept the crowd happy

while senior women expressed their pride and ownership of the new centre with a traditional song and dance performance.

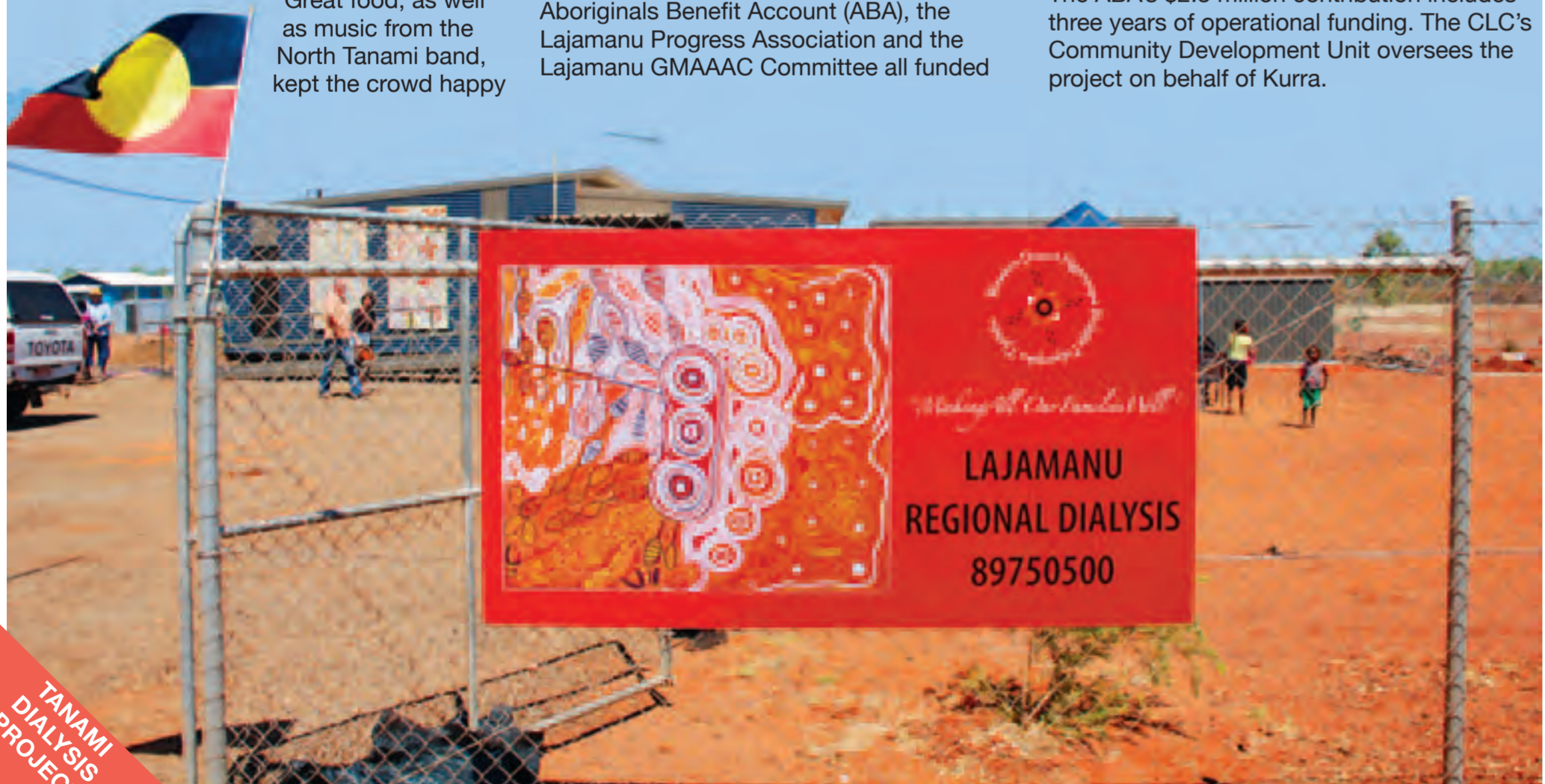
Two impressive local artworks from Warnayaka Arts brighten up the front of the centre, with more paintings inside the dialysis room.

Warlpiri hope the project will improve the health of renal patients because they will suffer less stress, get good care from family and be able to take part in community life again. Nurses will also spread the word about how to prevent kidney disease.

Kurra Aboriginal Corporation, the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA), the Lajamanu Progress Association and the Lajamanu GMAAAC Committee all funded

the Western Desert (WDNWP) Dialysis Team to build and run the centre and to support Lajamanu patients forced to live in Darwin and Katherine. The Northern Territory Government contributed the cost of machines and maintenance.

Since the first scoping study Kurra Aboriginal Corporation has contributed \$456,000, the Lajamanu Progress Association chucked in \$250,000 and GMAAAC gave \$64,832. The ABA's \$2.3 million contribution includes three years of operational funding. The CLC's Community Development Unit oversees the project on behalf of Kurra.



TANAMI DIALYSIS PROJECT

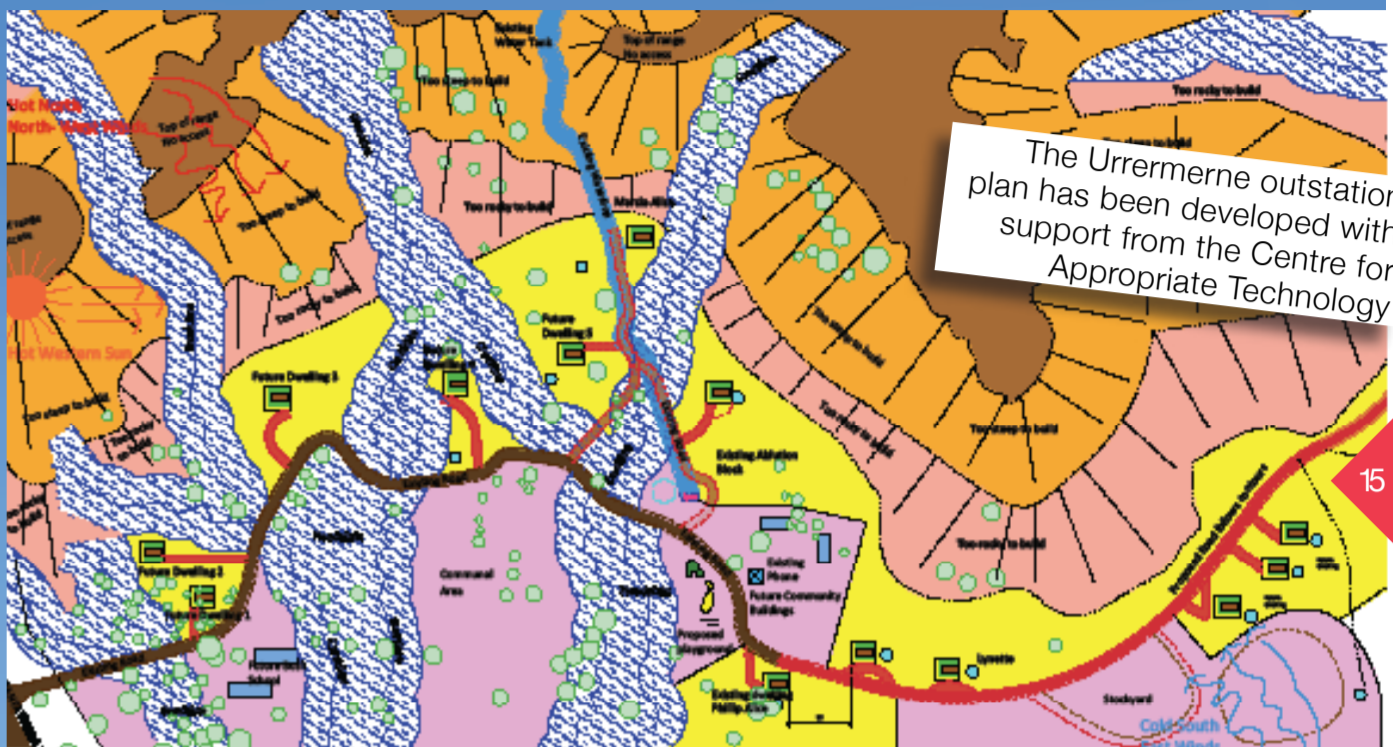
FIRST OF FIVE URREMERNE SHELTERS FINISHED

Marcia Alice proudly took possession of the keys of the first of five shelters built at Urremerne outstation with rent money from the Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation Reserve and exploration money from the Angela-Pamela Exploration Lease.

The \$92,000 shelter is the latest project the traditional owners funded with the rent money they get from developments and agreements on their country.

Traditional owners had used earlier mining money to sink a bore and install a 58,000L water tank at Urremerne. They also constructed a toilet and shower block in the southern camp.

Next they spent rent money from Ewaninga on four water tanks and completed a plan to guide future developments at the outstation. They used the plan to choose a good location for the first shelter.



The Urremerne outstation plan has been developed with support from the Centre for Appropriate Technology

"WE'RE PUTTING OUR MONEY BACK INTO OUR HOMELAND, SO WE CAN MOVE BACK," SAID TRADITIONAL OWNER MARK ALICE.



The completed Urremerne shelter

The plan also helped the traditional owners to choose a good route for a power line - compensation from the Power Water Corporation (PWC) for developments on their country. Instead of taking cash payments they negotiated an agreement with PWC to connect Urremerne to the electricity grid.

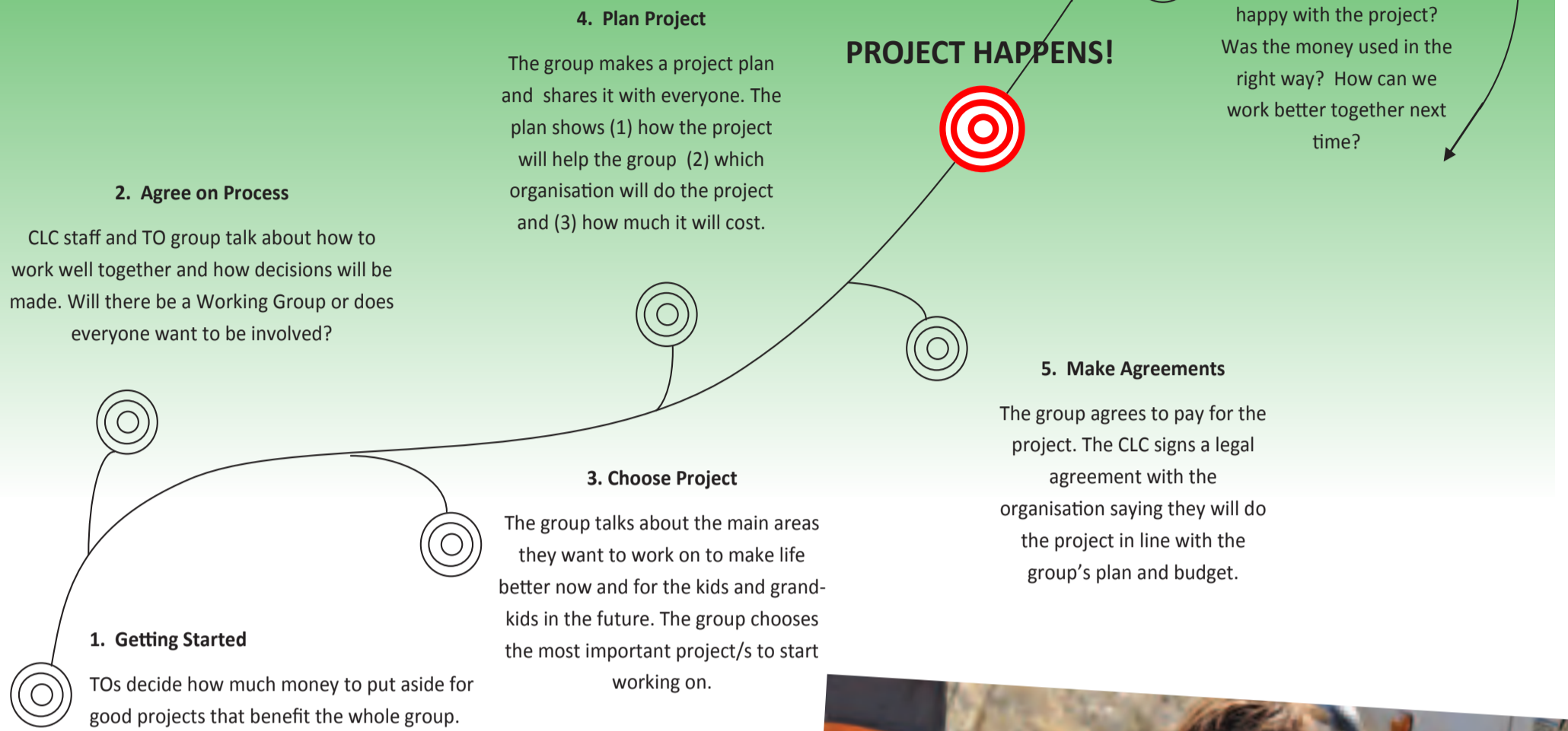
Slowly but surely the community are making their outstation the way they want it to be, using their own money to make it a better place to live.



The Urremerne shelter being built by Centre for Appropriate Technology

NT PARKS

CLC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DOING PROJECTS



Reading the previous edition of the CD News at the NT Parks Rent meeting at Hatches Creek



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

If you want to know more about the CLC's community development work please call 8951 6367