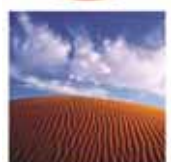




# MacNews

MacDonnell Regional Council Staff Newsletter SEPTEMBER 2015 volume 7 issue 3



MacDonnell Regional Council



Despite being a small community Wallace Rockhole has always shown great initiative to get things done

## Wallace Rockhole is open for business...

Following the completion of MacDonnell Regional Council's upgrade of the access road linking Wallace Rockhole to Larapinta Drive, tourists can now drive regular cars to experience the rock art and dot painting tours the community offers. Along with the road upgrade, a recent announcement by the Federal Government to install a mobile phone tower at this and three other communities, in the coming years will add to their accessibility. All this follows Wallace Rockhole being named the first ever community to be awarded a Tidy Town 4 Gold Star Tourism Award, after many years of community support for its cultural tourism infrastructure and services...

Find out the latest instalments at Wallace Rockhole and other communities of the MacDonnell Regional Council inside

*Ngkitja Ntjarra, Tnangkarra Nyinta Wangka Tjuta, Tjukurpa Kutju  
many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle*



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## Wallace Rockhole is open for business... (from front page) ...and with shade over their pumps they can now sell fuel on hot days.

Tourists can now drive regular vehicles to experience the rock art and dot painting tours offered in the Wallace Rockhole community. They can stay overnight in cabins or at the campgrounds and refuel before going on to discover the sights in the West Macs.

The first major project completed from Wallace Rockhole's Local Authority funding allocation has been used to address a long standing issue that had prevented fuel sales on hot days. Fuel is easier to pump in cold weather and on Wallace Rockhole's usually hot summer days it does not pump at all. This project is just the latest of many improvements and acknowledgements the hard working community has been attaining.



**Upgrade around visitor area:** Along with shade being installed at the fuel pumps, other civil works have been completed that upgrade the visitor area adjacent to the Wallace Rockhole Tourist Park and the community store. MacDonnell Regional Council's diligent Civil Works team in Wallace Rockhole have completed works that improve the visitor experience and make life better for the long term residents.

Traffic management and parking around the Wallace Rockhole Tourist Park have been improved following the installation of bollards. Improvements to the toilet facilities, parking, and shading of the fuel pump driveway will add to the visitor experience of the beautiful little community.

**Access road upgrade:** Wallace Rockhole has a long established history as a friendly community and has been running its own tourism operations for several decades. The recently completed road upgrade gives greater access for all residents, tourists and tourism operators.

The upgrade raised and reformed the road making it now safe for two-wheel-drive vehicles to access the cultural tourism opportunities provided by the community. MacDonnell Regional Council acknowledges the Federal Government's support of Council's road development program.

**Gold Star Tourism Award:** After being awarded the inaugural *Gold Star Tourism Award* rating at last year's Territory Tidy Town, Keep Australia Beautiful NT (KABNT) donated roadside signage to further identify the community as a great place to visit. Heimo Schober from KABNT also presented residents with personal accolades for their commitment to the presentation of their community and their tourism infrastructure and services.



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## Wallace Rockhole is open for business...continued



The Tidy Town *Gold Star Tourism Award* rating system offers a qualification for tourists looking to gain cultural experiences by visiting a community. Wallace Rockhole inspired the *Gold Star Tourism Award* rating concept after having received their highest award many times over its history. The community now leads the way for other Northern Territory communities by consistently finding ways to shine as an outstanding community to visit.



**Mobile phone towers:** The Federal Government announced that Wallace Rockhole would be one of five communities in the Northern Territory to have a mobile phone tower installed in the coming years.

The announcement included three other MacDonnell Regional Council communities of Finke, Imanpa and Mount Liebig. Following the rollout of the mobile phone towers, the number of communities in the MacDonnell Regional Council with mobile reception will double from four to eight (out of thirteen) communities.



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