



Issue 48 – 28 March 2024

## In this issue:

Welcome Message

## Latest News

- Connecting our external territories
- Air services update
- International Women's Day in the IOT
- IOT News - hot off the press
- Play Our Way - A huge opportunity for our local girls and women
- Flying visit for Royal Australian Navy MRH90 helicopter
- Salama Odyssey - Creole Vibes from the Indian Ocean Islands

## Community Bulletins

- Christmas Island resort site

## Community Activities

- Registration now open - CI Robbers Rugby League Club
- Tour De' Rugby

## Job Opportunities

- Business Manager Health Service, and Business Manager Corporate Service
  - Purchasing and Stores Officer
  - Operations Manager (CKI)
  - Rehabilitation Field Officer
-



## Welcome Message

Wishing a blessed holy month of Ramadan to all those in our communities who are observing it – may it fill you with peace, harmony and joy.

The storm earlier this month has seen some significant damage to infrastructure across our region, but fortunately no major injuries or loss of life. As Chair of the Emergency Management Committees (EMC) on both Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands, I am committed to working with all the agencies and stakeholders of the EMC in continuously improving our preparedness, response and recovery efforts. I would like to thank the various agencies, businesses and volunteers who assisted with preparations prior to the storm, and the continuing recovery work to reinstate affected infrastructure and services.

While we are no strangers to wild weather here in the IOT, I urge everyone not to be complacent when it comes to storms.

Make sure you are taking all the necessary precautions and keeping yourselves and your families safe, which means preparing your properties, having a safety plan and being ready in the event of another tropical storm or cyclone.

One of the best things you can do, is to keep up to date with all the latest information. We have emergency management channels for such incidents, but also the new departmental Facebook page, IOT News - has the latest information and warnings about weather incidents and rockfalls.

If you're interested in following the page, there is more information in this newsletter, and I encourage everyone to make sure you are keeping as informed as possible as the unseasonal weather conditions continue to pose dangers to our community. Whilst the storm and its aftermath have been

challenging, there have been some real high points over the last weeks.

From International Women's Day celebrations at the beginning of the month, to upcoming agency visits and the brief landing of an Australian Navy Seahawk, March has proven to be a busy month, with April gearing up to be similar.

I was very pleased to host George Plant, Administrator of Norfolk Island, for his visit to the IOT earlier this month and the opportunity it provided for us to share our knowledge and experiences as local Administrators of Australia's external territories and how we can continue to work together for the benefit of our communities.

I would also like to wish all who celebrate a happy Easter and, to all the students who have been waiting for school holidays to commence, a safe and fun break.

If you would like to find out more about anything in the newsletter or you would like a hardcopy, please contact my office. Let us know if you want us to include your upcoming community event or activity in the newsletter. Stories (including photos) about recent IOT community events are very welcome and can be emailed to [IOTAdministrator@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IOTAdministrator@infrastructure.gov.au).

**Farzian Zainal**

*Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands*

## Latest News

### Connecting our external territories

Earlier this month, I was pleased to be able to host George Plant, Administrator of Norfolk Island, for his first visit to the Indian Ocean Territories.

As the Administrator of Australia's other external territory, having George visit helps to build on our commonalities and shared issues. It has enhanced our understanding of where we can work together, on similar challenges and priorities.

We will continue to meet regularly and lay the groundwork for a strong, enduring relationship between our communities.

While on-island, George toured infrastructure and held meetings with a broad range of stakeholders, including the Shires of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands, other agencies and departmental staff – both learning from the local context and imparting his own experiences in governance and management of small, remote island communities.

During his visit, George also got to see first hand the extraordinary natural environment of our region and was able to experience the best that the IOT have to offer.

We thank everyone who met with George and shared their knowledge and experience, making it an invaluable trip.



---

## Air services update

The Australian Government, in partnership with Virgin Australia, are scheduling an additional full circuit flight to the Indian Ocean Territories (IOT), in time for the mid-year school holidays.

The new passenger flight will operate on 29 June 2024, departing from Perth and stopping on Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, before returning to the mainland.

Flight timings will be released closer to the date and are subject to regulatory approval.

Virgin Australia will also be making additional changes to check-in, with a new 60-minute closure time before the scheduled time of departure out of Perth. This aligns Perth check-in closure with the existing

arrangements out of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands from 1 April 2024.

The new closure time for check-in will support more timely flight departures and allow additional time for baggage handling processes for checked luggage.

To help travellers adjust to the new check-in closure time for Perth, the 60-minute deadline will not be strictly enforced until 1 June 2024, however we encourage all passengers to check in as soon as possible to avoid delays.

The Government will continue to work with its service providers to support essential air services to the IOT, responding to demand and changing circumstances as needed.

---

## International Women's Day in the IOT



Earlier this month, the women of the Indian Ocean Territories celebrated International Women's Day with a number of different events.

On Thursday the 7th of March, I attended the Christmas Island Women's Night, hosted by the IOT Health Service. It was an informative evening of fun, with mocktail making, line dancing, boot camp and almost 20 stalls where myself and about 170 other women were able to find out about the services and groups available on island. The evening was rounded out with dinner, followed by an energetic Zumba

session where we all got out hearts pumping and bodies moving.

The following morning, I took part in a discussion panel for an IWD Networking Breakfast, hosted by PRL and presented by local counsellor Beth Rad. Also on the panel were Australian Federal Police Officer Braidee Bell and Community Development Officer Suzanne Chan, from the Shire of Christmas Island.

It was a great opportunity to hear from the other panelists and to share my own experiences as a woman growing up and working on Christmas Island. Many issues were discussed, including the importance of access to services and education for women in remote communities, the challenges of working in male dominated industries, and advice for young women starting out in their careers.

Later that day, on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, local women gathered on Home Island to celebrate a colourful Barbie themed night of games, dancing, and a dessert competition to celebrate International Women's Day. I would have loved to attend this event, but I was pleased to be able to send a video message to the women of Cocos, to wish them a wonderful night.

I would like to take a moment to thank and acknowledge the hard work of so many for putting these events together, including Zoey McMillan, Taisha Cusack, Amy Rossbach, Jacqui Fidler, Stephanie Sambell, Stevhnie Nel, Lea Pedersen, Amy McDonald and Nadya Adim. Thank you also to the team at the CI Recreation Centre for their professionalism and assistance during both events on Christmas Island, and thank you to our various on island businesses and individuals who provided in-kind contributions that made the events a success.

This year's events reminded me of how many talented and capable women we have in the Indian Ocean Territories. It was a wonderful way to celebrate and recognise the important role that women have and continue to play in our region's future.



---

## IOT News - hot off the press

Earlier this year, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts launched a new [Facebook Page](#) called IOT News – a one-stop-shop with the latest, most up-to-date information from the Australian Government for our community.

In the past three months, more than 350 community members have started following the page, and I encourage anyone who is interested to go on Facebook and search for 'IOT News' to see for yourself the type of information and content available. Alternatively, you can click on the link below:

[IOT News](#)



If you are interested in following IOT News, click on the three dots at the top of the page and select 'Follow', ensuring the latest updates appear in your Facebook timeline.

The Department will continue using its other channels, including community bulletins, to update the community as needed.

---

## Play Our Way - A huge opportunity for our local girls and women

The Australian Government is making a significant investment in women's sports by backing the talent, hard work and aspirations of women and girls across our communities through the \$200 million Play Our Way grant program.

With the success of the Matildas in last year's history-making and record-breaking FIFA Women's World Cup, women's sports have never been more popular nor the momentum so strong to see more equitable access and to break down the barriers for girls and women in sport.

The Play Our Way program is a significant stride forward, promoting equal access, more suitable facilities and grassroots initiatives to get women and girls engaged and participating in sport throughout their lives.

The grants will be available in 2 streams:

- **Facilities:** For projects that establish and improve sporting facilities for women and girls and further encourage them to take part in sport and physical activity by better meeting their needs.
- **Participation and equipment:** For programs that encourage women and girls to participate and remain involved in sport and physical activity for life, by tackling barriers such as disadvantage or lack of equipment, and for programs that will lead to sustained cultural change in sport.

I encourage anyone who is interested to read over the grant guidelines and make a submission. The Play Our Way program is an opportunity for our Shires, community organisations and sporting organisations to make real, local and long-lasting changes to women's sports here in the IOT, and give women and girls opportunities to showcase their passion, skills and dedication in the sporting arena.



The Play Our Way program Grant Opportunity is open for applications on [Play Our Way Grant Opportunity](#).

Applications close 2 pm AEST, 29 April 2024.

## **Flying visit for Royal Australian Navy MRH90 helicopter**

Chopper fans were thrilled on Sunday, 17 March, when an Australian Navy MRH90 Helicopter – or Seahawk – dropped into the Cocos Keeling Islands for a visit.

There was a large turn-out on both Home and West Islands to see the impressive helicopter and to meet the crew of the HMAS Warramunga.

A big thank you to HMAS Warramunga and the Royal Australian Navy for the opportunity to see a Seahawk up close and personal, and to the Cocos AFP and the staff of the Cocos airport for supporting such a fantastic community event.



---

## **Salama Odyssey - Creole Vibes from the Indian Ocean Islands**

Everyone on the Islands are invited to embark on a sunny musical journey with a Creole twist during Salama Odyssey's first visit to the Indian Ocean Territories in April 2024.

Known for their captivating rhythms, joyful chants and flamboyant dances, Salama describes itself as "a cosmopolitan collective of Indian Ocean natives and

other artists of diverse origins, all sharing a passion for Maloya, a traditional percussion-based music from Reunion Island.”

Their show Salama Odyssey promises “a suitcase full of colourful stories and songs” as the band takes audiences on a musical and visual journey through Indian Ocean stories and culture.

Come along and enjoy one of their performances on:

- Friday, 19 April, Christmas Island District High School
- Sunday, 21 April, Christmas Island Cricket and Sporting Club
- Wednesday, 24 April, Home Island Foreshore (Pondok Indah)
- Saturday, 27 April, West Island Basketball Quadrangle

Services provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries in the IOT are delivered in partnership with the Australian Government, through Commonwealth funding support. The Salama Odyssey tour is coordinated by CircuitWest.



*Photo: Muriel Hillion.*

**Community Bulletins**



Australian Government  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts



Community Bulletin

INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES

[Christmas Island resort site](#)

## Community Activities



Christmas Island Robbers Rugby League Club  
in partnership with



are proud to facilitate another year of  
Rugby League for our Juniors!

**REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN  
VIA MYSIDELINE**

**18 WEEK SEASON**



**FRIDAY SCHOOL OVAL**  
**19 APRIL 2024 4:30PM-5:30PM**

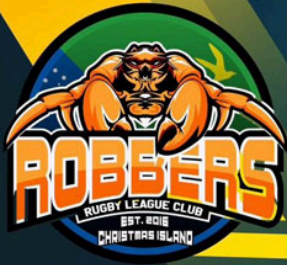


Ages: 5 to 16 (Must be turning 5 in 2024 to participate)

### WHAT TO EXPECT

- Dedicated coaches & support volunteers for age-appropriate groupings.
- Friendly & helpful volunteers at each training & gaming day.
- Occasional fresh fruits.
- Cheap memberships.
- Full competition day uniform (jersey, shorts & socks).
- Discounted training tee, headgear & mouthguard.
- Harmony Cup 2024 competition in Perth for eligible players.

Register via <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/register?source=rugby-league>



# TOUR DE RUGBY COME & TRY DAY

SCHOOL OVAL  
FRIDAY, 12TH APRIL 2024  
5:00PM-6:00PM

HALAL BBQ & DRINKS  
MEET OUR COMMITTEE & COACHES  
ALL WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE FUN!



## Job Opportunities



Australian Government  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts



### Business Manager Health Service, and Business Manager Corporate Service

Indian Ocean Territories Administration  
Territory Executive Level 1 - Christmas Island  
Full Time Ongoing Vacancies  
\$92,127 - \$122,129 per annum (a remote support  
package may be offered)

The Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA) is currently seeking two motivated, professional and suitably qualified persons to join our team as Business

Managers based on Christmas Island. The Business Managers are primarily responsible for delivering high quality administrative, financial and business management support to the Service Stream Managers and Service Stream more generally. In addition, the Business Managers are responsible for undertaking key project, procurement and contract management activities.

Our ideal candidates will have demonstrated experience and knowledge of financial processes and procurement policies and governance. They will manage simultaneous tasks, work under pressure to meet deadlines, and deliver quality business outcomes. Further, they will be highly motivated people who want to make a difference; and be effective networkers who will build strong partnerships across the IOTA, the wider department and external stakeholders and service providers.

The successful candidates will demonstrate high level communication skills; be experienced in analysing information and documentation, preparing complex correspondence, managing open tender procurement process and preparing financial related documentation. They will also have effective leadership skills with previous experience supervising, mentoring, training and supporting employees, managing performance, scheduling and delegating tasks, and ensuring activity compliance.

A demonstrated understanding of Australian Government procurement policies and governance and the IOTA governance arrangements and functions; the ability to work effectively in a remote and multicultural environment; experience using government financial management systems (SAP), and tertiary qualifications in Accounting and/or Finance will be well regarded.

To be considered, applicants must be eligible to obtain security clearance at baseline vetting level (must be an Australian citizen), obtain a satisfactory Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check and hold a driver's licence transferable to the Indian Ocean Territories. The successful candidate will also be subject to a pre-engagement health assessment.

For further information about this unique and exciting opportunity or for an application pack outlining how

you can apply, please contact the IOT Human Resources Team at [IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au) and quote position number 109152 and 109331.

Applications close 4.00pm (Christmas Island local time) (CXT) (UTC+7), Tuesday 9 April 2024.



**Australian Government**  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts



## **Purchasing and Stores Officer**

### **Territory Officer Level 4 - Christmas Island Full Time Ongoing vacancy**

#### **Package includes:**

- Base annual salary of between \$68,198 to \$79,330
- Employer contribution to superannuation at 16% of base salary
- District allowance payable in addition to base salary
- Generous leave entitlements
- Annual return airfares assistance to Perth

The Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA) is currently seeking a motivated, professional and suitably qualified person to join our team as a Purchasing and Stores Officer within the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service (IOTHS) based on Christmas Island.

The key responsibilities of the Purchasing and Stores Officer are to undertake business case and contract registration in the Administration's procurement system (currently SAP); raise purchase orders/work orders as requested, process claim for payments against an invoice upon receipt of goods, undertake regular stocktake of stores; ensuring adequate stores are maintained and assisting with asset register maintenance.

Our ideal applicant will have demonstrated skills and experience in an administration role, have excellent customer service skills, and have a high level of attention to detail with demonstrated experience in prioritising, organising and multi-tasking. Further the successful candidate will have the proven capability to

effectively communicate with a diverse range of stakeholders, utilising verbal and written communications skills.

Previous experience in accounts and finance, with MEX and SAP procurement systems, having language skills in the local community languages of Chinese and/or Malay and the ability to live and work in a small, remote and/or multi-cultural community; and within a small multi-skilled workforce will be well regarded.

To be considered, applicants must be eligible to obtain a security clearance at Baseline Vetting Level (must be an Australian Citizen), hold a current class C drivers licence and a valid Western Australian Working with Children Check. The successful applicant will also be subject to a pre-employment screening (Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check), medical and will need to provide proof of vaccination or immunity as required by the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service.

For an application pack outlining how you can apply for this opportunity, please contact the IOTA Human Resources Team at [IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au) and quote position number 109049.

Applications close 4pm (Christmas Island local time) (CXT) (UTC+7), Monday 15 April 2024.



**Australian Government**  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts



## **Operations Manager (CKI)**

**Territory Executive Level 1 – Cocos (Keeling) Islands  
(CKI)**

**Ongoing Vacancy - Full Time**

### **Employment package includes:**

- Base salary of \$92,127 to \$122,129 per annum
- Employer contribution to superannuation at 16% of base salary
- District allowance payable in addition to base salary
- Generous leave entitlements
- Annual return airfares assistance to Perth

The Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA) is currently seeking a motivated, experienced and suitably qualified person to join our team as the Operations Manager (CKI), within the Indian Ocean Territories Operations Service, on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

The key responsibilities of the Operations Manager (CKI) are to lead and manage the CKI office of the IOTA to deliver housing, community services, corporate, emergency management and land management services to the CKI community. The position plays a key role in local procurement, project and emergency management on the Island and is a vital source of information and advice about local community issues and concerns.

Our ideal applicant will have demonstrated experience in contemporary property and tenancy management in a remote and/or tropical environment, extensive experience operating within an Australian Federal, State or Local Government procurement and contractual framework and have the proven ability to identify emerging risks, and design and implement practical and innovative solutions to achieve strategic objectives.

Further the successful candidate will have demonstrated interpersonal, communication, relationship building and consultative skills, previous involvement in emergency management activities, and strong and effective leadership and management skills.

Applicants with the ability work effectively with people in small/remote and/or regional contexts in a multicultural environment will be well regarded.

To be considered, applicants must be eligible to obtain a security clearance at Baseline Vetting Level (must be an Australian citizen), satisfy a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check, hold a current class C drivers licence transferrable to the Indian Ocean Territories and be subject to a health assessment.

For an application pack outlining how you can apply, please contact IOT Human Resources Team at [IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au) and quote position number 109134.



Applications close 4.00PM (Christmas Island local time)  
(CXT) (UTC+7) Tuesday, 9 April 2024.

## Seeking Expressions of Interest

### Job Opportunity

<b>Position</b>	Rehabilitation Field Officer
<b>Location</b>	Christmas Island National Park

**Are you passionate about conservation and environmental stewardship? Do you thrive in unique and challenging wilderness environments? If so, we have an exciting opportunity for you!**

#### Responsibilities

- Undertake fieldwork for general park management, including weed control
- Contribute to the rehabilitation program, restoring disturbed areas to their natural state.
- Work effectively as part of a team in challenging terrain and hot, humid, often wet conditions.
- Live and work in a multi-cultural, socially diverse, isolated community and adhere to Departmental and WHS policies, guidelines and requirements

#### Why Work with Us?

- Make a tangible impact on the unique and highly fragile ecosystems of Christmas Island.
- Join a passionate team dedicated to conservation and environmental stewardship.
- Experience the beauty of this remote island paradise while contributing to its preservation.



#### Essential criteria:

- Have a suitable level of fitness
- Possess or be able to attain a current senior first aid certificate
- Possess a current manual car driver's license
- Be able to safely drive a 4WD vehicle
- Be an Australian citizen

**\*\* Please note accommodation and car are not provided with this position.**



Expressions of interests with resume to be submitted to  
to IOGTA at [info@iogta.wa.edu.au](mailto:info@iogta.wa.edu.au) by



**Friday 5th April 2024**



## Christmas Island Outdoor Cinema



Late changes will be posted on the Roundabout  
Blackboard and [Facebook](#).

**Adults \$ 5.00**

**School aged children 3 to 17 years old \$2.00**

BASED ON THE INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY

DIRECTED BY  
GEORGE CLOONEY

# THE BOYS IN THE BOAT



## The Boys in the Boat (PG)

SATURDAY - 6 April, 7.30pm

A 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

### Want to sponsor an upcoming movie?

You will receive 2 free passes, special seating, food platter with your favourite nibbles, drinks of your choice and a public announcement on the evening of the movie. We will advertise your company or individual message in the Islander, Facebook Page, on the world's most remote roundabout and one of the last remaining outdoor Cinema screens. (Your choice of movie and date will be dependent upon availability.)

Volunteers needed for projection, bucket collection and to assist on the Executive Committee.

To become part of this exciting club or enquire about sponsorship, please Email:

[cioutdoorcinema@gmail.com](mailto:cioutdoorcinema@gmail.com)

or [accounts@cinema.org.cx](mailto:accounts@cinema.org.cx)

Rating information provided by

<http://www.classification.gov.au>.

The Christmas Island Cinema Club is proudly supported by: CiFi, Freightshop, Shire of Christmas Island, Metro Solar and many local sponsors and volunteers.

**\* THE CHRISTMAS ISLAND CINEMA IS A SMOKE FREE AREA \***

Haven't subscribed yet?  
**Subscribe to the next edition here!**

**SUBSCRIBE** 

 **Share**

 **Tweet**

 **Share**

 **Forward**

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Office of the Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands

[Unsubscribe](#)