



Issue 58 – 27 March 2025

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## Welcome Message

Ramadan Mubarak to all those in our communities who are marking this holy month – may it bring an abundance of peace, hope and joy.

These past few months have seen a number of challenges facing our communities, with extreme weather events causing damage and disruption, including to areas which are such an important part of the daily lives of residents.

Thankfully, there has been no loss of life or serious injuries in the face of these events, which are an ongoing reminder of the need to remain vigilant and prepared.

I urge you all to take necessary precautions in keeping yourselves and your families safe, including preparing your properties, having a safety plan in place and keeping up-to-date with all the latest information. I encourage you all to follow the IOT News Facebook page, which has the latest warnings and information straight from the Emergency Management Committees. I thank the Committees for their work in ensuring we are ready to respond to challenges as they arise.

Work is continuing on consultations around the draft CHRMAP, with the Australian Government's recent announcement that the engagement period is being extended until 30 June 2025 to give the Cocos community more time to provide feedback on the draft plan.

I will be joining the CHRMAP project team on island from 8 April as they provide technical information and answer questions – and look forward to hearing directly from you about your thoughts on the draft plan.

We have also marked – and continue to plan for – a number of important events, including International Women's Day and Harmony Week. I am also hoping

our health services see an increase in skin checks across our communities following Melanoma March.

Looking forward, planning is under way for ANZAC Day commemorations on Christmas and Cocos Islands, while I am sure many families are also already planning for Easter.

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'd like 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

### **Cocos (Keeling) Islands CHRMAP – Upcoming Administrator and Project Team Visits**

Community consultations on the final draft of the *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan* (the Draft CHRMAP) continue, with Cocos Islanders encouraged to have their say on this important document.

The project team is heading back to CKI between April 8-15 to provide more opportunities for question & answer sessions, and for you to provide feedback.

This visit comes following the Australian Government's extension of the engagement period to 30 June 2025, allowing more time for the community to provide feedback on the draft plan.

I will also be on Cocos from April 8-11 and look forward to hearing from you directly about the CHRMAP and consultations.

In response to early feedback, the project team will also be delivering a series of online webinars in the weeks prior to 8 April.

For more information on the webinars, you can visit the project website at <https://getinvolved.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/your-coastal-plan-cki>

The project team visit will include several sessions at different times to provide the greatest opportunity to ask questions and clarify CHRMAP recommendations, so that the community can properly formulate responses to the draft document.

Targeted small-group consultation sessions will be held to ensure all sectors of the community have the opportunity to have their say. Open public sessions will also be held for anyone who wishes to attend. Make sure you come along to find out more and ask questions:

#### Cocos (Keeling) Islands CHRMAP | Public Engagement Schedule April 2025

Date	Time	Activity / Meeting Location
Wed 9/4/25	3:30 – 5:00pm	Community Q&A (meet at intersection of Jln Pantai and Jln Raya <b>Home Island</b> )
Thur 10/4/25	11:00 – 12:30	Community Q&A and next steps workshop – <b>CRC West Island</b>
Thur 10/4/25	2:00-3:30pm	Community Q&A and Site Walk – meet at the southern end of the settlement, finish at Sydney Hwy and Emden Walk <b>West Island</b>
Thur 10/4/25	5:00 – 7:00pm	Community Q&A and next steps workshop – <b>CRC West Island</b>
Fri 11/04/25	9:30 -11:00am	Community Q&A (meet at intersection of Jln Pantai and Jln Raya <b>Home Island</b> )
Fri 11/04/25	1:00 – 3:00pm	Community Q&A and next steps workshop – Cyclone Shelter <b>Home Island</b>
Mon 14/04/25	9:00am – 3:30pm	One-on-one meetings - scheduled by arrangement on <b>Home Island</b> (please contact <a href="mailto:projects@shapeurban.place">projects@shapeurban.place</a> to request a one-on-one or small group meeting)
Tues 15/04/25	9:30am – 12pm	One-on-one meetings - scheduled by arrangement on <b>West Island</b> (please contact <a href="mailto:projects@shapeurban.place">projects@shapeurban.place</a> to request a one-on-one or small group meeting)



## **Celebrating the remarkable women of the Indian Ocean Territories**

March 8 marked a very important day in our calendars – International Women’s Day.

Every year, we use the day to celebrate the achievements of all women – whether social, political, economic and cultural, while acknowledging that more needs to be done to support equity for everyone, regardless of gender, faith, race, sexual identity or disability.

Here in the IOT we are blessed to be surrounded by remarkable women who make such a significant, and often unsung, contribution to our communities.

While we don’t need an annual day to celebrate and honour the extraordinary women in our lives, International Women’s Day reminds us to take the time to reflect on the women who came before us, who stand beside us, and who will come after us.

The day was marked early on Cocos, with a ladies’ night held on 21 February on Home Island, to celebrate and pay tribute to the incredible women of CKI.

The event focused on health, relaxation and community connection, with games, activities and food for all to enjoy.

Thank you to all involved in putting on this brilliant event, particularly organisers Amy McDonald and Nadya Adim.

Planning is also underway for a series of workshops on Christmas Island throughout the year, giving women a chance to discuss the issues impacting them, and to work together to find ways to address and overcome obstacles.

A women’s expo is also being planned for later this year on Christmas Island, with food, dancing and information stalls, so make sure to keep an eye out for more information in the coming weeks.

For more information about International Women’s Day, and how you can get involved in the important

work being done for gender parity, go to: [International Women's Day 2025](#)



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## Honouring ANZAC Day in the Indian Ocean Territories

Every year on 25 April, people across the nation recognise and pay tribute to the more than 1.5 million people who have served in our military at home and abroad, including the more than 100,000 Australians who sacrificed their lives as members of Australia's Armed Forces in conflicts, wars and peacekeeping operations.

ANZAC Day has a special meaning for us here in the Indian Ocean Territories.

During the Second World War in particular we played a vital strategic role for the Allies – serving as communication and transportation hubs – and becoming the target of attacks, before Allied forces occupied and established airfields in the region.

This year, ANZAC Day will once again be marked by dawn services on both Christmas and Cocos Islands.

Details will be released by the planning groups as the date draws closer, and we look forward to seeing many of you join us in paying our respects and honouring those who serve, both past and present.

In particularly exciting news for Christmas Island District High School, this year a group of students will attend the Dawn Service at Villers Bretonneux, a small village in Northern France and the site of extraordinary heroism from Australian armed forces during the First World War.

To this day, the extraordinary courage of the two Australian brigades sent to free the village from German forces is remembered and celebrated, and we can't think of a better place for our young Christmas Islanders to commemorate ANZAC Day and learn more about the rich history of our nation.

Congratulations to the students selected to take part in this tour – your 2-minute documentaries on Christmas Island residents who display ANZAC traits and qualities were remarkable, and the community feels great pride that you will be representing us on such an important occasion, in such a historic location.



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## **Support Melanoma March, and get your skin checked!**

Living in the IOT, when the sun is shining, many of us enjoy outdoor activities like boating, fishing, and playing golf. When spending time in the sun, it is important to remember to protect yourself, with Australia having the highest melanoma rates in the world.

When James Economides' 20-year old son Michael died in 2008 from melanoma, he decided to raise awareness and funds to fight this insidious, and all too common cancer.

The first Melanoma March event was held in New South Wales in 2012, with the aim of raising money for much needed clinical trials, and has since become a national fundraising campaign for the Melanoma Institute Australia, to support their goal of zero deaths from melanoma.

Thanks to the work of the Melanoma Institute Australia, life expectancy for advanced melanoma patients has tripled – however there is still a long way to go.

It's estimated 1300 Australians will die from melanoma this year, which is why it is so important to get checked regularly to ensure early detection and treatment.

To schedule a GP appointment to get your skin checked, call the IOTHS on 9164 8333 (Christmas Island), 9162 6655 (West Island) or 9162 7609 (Home Island).

Remember, when you are out and about:



Seek shade, especially in the hottest part of the day



Wear sun-protective clothing that covers your back, shoulders, arms and legs



Wear a broad-brimmed hat



Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 50+ every 2 hours and after swimming or exercise



Wear wrap-around sunglasses



**Disaster Ready Fund application period extended**



In welcome news, the date by which you can submit your application for a grant under the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) Round Three has been extended until 16 April 2025.

If you have already submitted a project proposal for the third round of the DRF, you can amend and resubmit up until the new closing date.

The DRF is the Australian Government's flagship initiative for disaster resilience and risk reduction, with the government providing up to one billion dollars over five years to this important program.

For the third round of funding, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has introduced changes summarised on the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) website.

DFES is the Lead Agency for DRF Applications from the IOT, with IOT applicants now having until 5pm (AWST) on 16 April 2025 to submit project proposals via the DFES online application portal: [Disaster Resilience Grants - Department of Fire and Emergency Services](#).

Please review the revised Round Three Guidelines before applying, as well as the Application How-to-Guide and various other resources available on the DFES website.

DRF is administered by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) on behalf of the Australian Government. For enquiries on DRF Round Three email [DisasterResilienceGrants@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:DisasterResilienceGrants@dfes.wa.gov.au).

To find out more on the process for IOT applicants, please read the attached factsheet. For general enquiries on the DFR contact NEMA on [Disaster.Ready@nema.gov.au](mailto:Disaster.Ready@nema.gov.au).

## **The world's game is coming to the IOT!**

In exciting news for future football stars across the Indian Ocean Territories – Football Futures Foundation, supported by Football West, is coming to Christmas and Cocos Islands this April!

Football Futures Australia (FFA) is an innovative and inspiring organisation based out of WA, that aims to engage and strengthen communities through the

world's game – bringing people together for the love of football.

FFA Community Coach Baxter Hutchinson will be on Cocos from 28 March – 2 April, and Christmas Island from 5-10 April, using his inspiring story as a survivor of two life-threatening brain tumours at age 17, to teach courage and resilience, and create a positive, supportive environment for all.

Baxter will be supported by Football West during his visits, and we encourage anyone who is interested to come along to the multiple workshops being held across Home, West and Christmas Islands – whether you want to ‘bend it like Beckham’, or just have fun with your mates.

Specific details about the visit have been posted to the IOT News Facebook page, so make sure you like and subscribe to keep an eye out for more information on this, and upcoming sports visits.



## Community Bulletins



Number: D03/25. Date: 27 March 2025.

## Release of the Service Delivery Arrangement Annual Report for 2023-24

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the department) is pleased to release the 2023-24 annual report on service delivery by Western Australian government agencies to the Indian Ocean Territories (IOT).

The Australian Government, through the department, provides funding to WA agencies to deliver services to Christmas Island (CI) and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI).

In 2023-24, the partnership between the Australian and WA governments saw the delivery of essential state-type services to the IOT, including health and education, as well as improvements to the accessibility of vital government services for the remote territories, reflecting the Australian Government's commitment to meeting the diverse needs of the IOT communities.

Some highlights from the 2023-24 reporting year include:

- Increased mammogram screenings for women aged between 50 and 74 years. 293 screenings were conducted by BreastScreen WA in September 2023.
- Increased take-up of WA Seniors Cards since a pilot visit in March 2024. There are now 102 WA Seniors Card members living on CI and 64 on CKI. The team administered physical Seniors Cards, using an on-the-spot mobile card printing machine.
- Planning and scheduling ongoing child protection and family support mandatory reporting education sessions on CKI and CI.
- Provision of the *Better Beginnings* family literacy program and delivery of 64 reading packs to parents and children by the IOT libraries.
- Football West and Perth Glory's MiniRoos program delivery and community game coordinated to complement the CKI 40th anniversary of the Act of Self Determination Day celebration event.
- Completion of the first stage of the CI Summit to Drumsite water main pipeline replacement project.
- Commencement of the Jukong Restoration project, with one boat already successfully restored.

A copy of the report, including a summary and full list of highlights of the services delivered by WA agencies during 2023-24, is available on the department's website at:

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/territories/indian-ocean-territories-christmas-island-and-cocos-keeling-islands/service-delivery-arrangements>

The Australian Government remains committed to delivering high quality, fit-for-purpose services to the IOT through service delivery agreements (SDA) with the WA Government.

Fact sheets on all SDA services are available at:

[https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/territories/indian\\_ocean/sda/sda-factsheets-wa](https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/territories/indian_ocean/sda/sda-factsheets-wa)

*Adam Stankevicius Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch*

## Community Activities



# 2025 ANZAC DAWN SERVICE

Join the Christmas Island community as we come together to honour the courage, sacrifice and legacy of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

Bus - 4:15am - 5:00am

Walkers - 5:00am - 5:25am

Please be at Tai Jin House at 5:30am or earlier.

Dawn Service begins at 5:35am

Breakfast to follow service

Please note a room at Tai Jin House will be available for prayer

**25 April at 5.30am  
Tai Jin House**

## Job Opportunities



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



### Director of Nursing and Community Health

Christmas Island  
Full Time Ongoing Vacancy

Package valued in excess of \$200,000 including:

- Base salary of \$150,714 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
- Relocation assistance may be provided if relocating to the Territories

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

The DONCH is responsible for leading and managing the Nursing and Community Health portfolios within the IOTHS to ensure the delivery of high quality health care services to the Indian Ocean Territories communities, using a multi-disciplinary and culturally appropriate approach. The DONCH plays a key role in the IOTHS leadership team and is responsible for ensuring the cost effective use of human and material resources within a robust safety and quality framework.

The successful candidate will have advanced clinical care skills and an understanding of Remote Area Nurse competencies specific to small hospitals. In addition, the successful candidate will have a demonstrated commitment to improving health outcomes and experience in the development and delivery of health care using primary health principles and primary health care programs. Further, strong management and leadership skills as well as a sound understanding of human resources and financial management are essential.

To be considered applicants must be Australian citizen and eligible to obtain a security clearance at Baseline Vetting Level, hold current registration as a Registered Nurse with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), hold a current class C Driver's Licence transferable to the Indian Ocean Territories and be eligible for a valid Western Australian Working with Children Check.

For an application pack outlining how you can apply, please contact the IOTA Human Resources Team at [IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au) and quote position number **114978**.

**Applications close 4.00pm (Christmas Island local time) (CXT) (UTC+7), Friday, 11 April 2025.**



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



## **Maintenance and Gardening Leading Hand – PN 109151**

### **Territory Officer Level 4, Christmas Island Full Time Ongoing Vacancy**

Package include:

- Base annual salary of between \$70,926 - \$82,503
- 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 the Maintenance and Gardening Leading Hand within the Indian Ocean Territories Operations Service (IOTOS) based on Christmas Island.

The IOTOS is responsible for managing a diverse portfolio of services and infrastructure across Christmas island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands in the interest of the Commonwealth including Commonwealth owned public buildings, public and staff housing. The IOTOS maintains parks and gardens, the Tea Garden (Police Padang), Taijin House, Christmas Island Recreation Centre, Community Oval, Kampong Playgrounds and South Point Heritage sites.

The key responsibilities of the Maintenance and Gardening Leading Hand is to provide field supervision of the maintenance and gardening team, delivering good quality property and grounds maintenance services whilst ensuring WHS compliance and standards are met.

Our ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate leadership or supervisory experience, as well as

demonstrated experience in carrying out small maintenance tasks. Sound interpersonal and English language communication skills (both written and verbal) will be evidenced, showing an ability to follow and execute task as required. Similarly, the preferred candidate will have proven computer literacy skills in basic applications such as creating and editing documents, spreadsheets and using E-mail). Applicants with a White Card, and/or Elevated Working Platform and Working-At-Heights ticket will be well regarded.

To be considered, applicants must hold a valid drivers licence transferable to the Indian Ocean Territories and be eligible to obtain a security clearance at Baseline Vetting level (must be an Australian Citizen). The successful candidate will also be subject to a health assessment and Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check. If the candidate does not already possess a White Card, they will be required to successfully obtain one within the first six months of engagement.

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 **109151**.

**Applications close 4.00pm (Christmas Island local time) (CXT) (UTC+7), Monday 14 April 2025**



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



## **Health Worker – Expression of Interest**

**Indian Ocean Territories Administration, Christmas Island**

**Casual Non-Ongoing Vacancies**

**Territory Officer Level 3**

**\$40.38 to \$47.25 per hour (inclusive of 25% casual loading)**

The Indian Ocean Territories Administration (IOTA) is seeking motivated, professional, suitably qualified persons to join our team as Health Workers in the Indian Ocean Territories Health Services on Christmas Island. *These are casual positions that will backfill during employee absences.*



The Health Workers will deliver quality health care to the community in consultation with Senior Health Service personnel and as part of a multi-disciplinary team using a primary health care approach.

Our ideal applicants will have demonstrated ability to provide high standard individualised care for persons with support needs with limited supervision and well-developed communication and interpersonal skills including the ability to work and communicate effectively with patients, their families, allied health staff and other professionals.

The successful candidate will have the ability to work unsupervised and as a part of a team; experience with maintaining confidentiality and working in sensitive environments; and demonstrated knowledge of Work, Health and Safety requirements specific to the work environment. Applicants with a Certificate in Aged Care or other relevant qualification, a First Aid certificate (or willingness to obtain) and the ability to communicate in the local Chinese or Malay language will be well regarded.

To be considered, applicants must hold a current 'C' class Drivers Licence transferable to the Indian Ocean Territories; a valid Western Australian Working with Children Check; proof of vaccination or immunity as required by the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service; and will be subject to pre-employment screening and health screening.

To be considered, please request for a Temporary Employment Register Form from [IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IOTHRTeam@infrastructure.gov.au) and submit the completed form together with your resume.

**Community Announcements**



## ARE YOU OUR NEXT ST JOHN VOLUNTEER SUPPORT OFFICER?

We have the exciting opportunity for members of the community to join our team in a **non-medical capacity!**

Roles may include:

- Membership on the committee
- Clean and maintain vehicles and equipment
- Administration support
- Re-stocking ambulance and stores
- Public relations and volunteer recruitment
- Assisting with events
- Supporting clinical volunteers
- Special projects determined by sub centre



For more information,  
[click here](#) or contact us on  
**0437 932 444**



## Christmas Island Outdoor Cinema



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

**Movie ticket \$5.00**

### **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.)

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 \***



Companion (MA15+)

SATURDAY - 29 March, 7.30pm

A weekend getaway with friends at a remote cabin turns into chaos after it's revealed that one of the guests is not what they seem.

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

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

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

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