



From: Farzian Zainal
Subject: IOT Administrator Co...



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Welcome Message

Welcome to the July edition of my newsletter, which also marks my one-year anniversary of commencing in the role of Administrator.

I have reflected on the highlights and my priorities which you can read more about in this newsletter and I would also like to take a moment to thank all of you for making this first year of my term so fulfilling.

Something I am particularly proud of is welcoming the new members of the reinvigorated Community Advisory Committee for the Health Service, following the recent expression of interest process. As Chair, I am excited to work with the Committee over the months and years ahead to keep local voices front and center of health priorities and programs.

We have also put out a call for local residents to help shape the future of CI through the Christmas Island Economic Future Working Group – supporting practical solutions to the economic challenges facing our island.



If you are interested in nominating, or learning more about the group, you can visit: [A17/2024—Seeking community members to join Christmas Island Economic Future Working Group—12 July 2024 | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts](#) or see the bulletin at the end of this newsletter.

We recently said goodbye to Andrew Scott after 19 years of dedicated service to Christmas Island as Operations Manager of Water Corporation. I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude on behalf of the community, and wish Andrew and Audrey well in the next stage of their life in Perth.

Taking on the Operations Manager role is Luke Doherty who has relocated with his family from Cocos. Luke has a long history of providing water, wastewater and power services to the Islands and will bring his expertise to Christmas Island. The Operations Manager position that Luke vacated on Cocos is being filled by Adam Turner while a replacement is recruited.

This week I am looking forward to being a part of the Seniors Week activities on Christmas Island, honouring our older generations and the significant impact they have had and continue to make in our community.

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.

Farzian Zainal

Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Latest News

One year in the role



Just over a year ago, I stepped into the role of Administrator of Christmas and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Embarking on this new challenge, I was filled with determination to advocate for the communities I am representing. Growing up and subsequently raising a family on Christmas Island, I understand what makes these communities so extraordinary, and why we need local voices to inform how, where, and when services are delivered to best meet the needs of the Indian Ocean Territories.

The role of Administrator is an interesting and unique one, with many facets. Over the past twelve months I have engaged with community representatives and stakeholders to discuss and propose solutions to key issues. Air services and freight are two areas that I continue to focus on, and the introduction of a larger fortnightly freighter has been a win for the IOT. As the Chair of the IOT Regional Development Organisation, we collaborated with the Christmas Island Business Association to complete a Supply Chain Review for the IOT, which informed the air services tender process which is currently under way. The wharf crane on CI is also a critical piece of infrastructure that not only supports the supply of goods and services to the island, but also supports the economy of CI through the mine operations. I recently facilitated a roundtable discussion with various stakeholders and port users on the replacement of the crane to ensure it will be fit for purpose with minimal disruptions and more stakeholder engagements have been in progress. Infrastructure support for the region was also bolstered last year with the expansion of the Northern Australian Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) to include Christmas and Cocos Islands.

Hosting visitors and events is also part of my role and I was pleased to welcome the Administrator of Norfolk Island, Mr. George Plant, to Christmas and Cocos earlier this year. It provided an opportunity for us to share our knowledge and experiences and

year, it provided an opportunity for us to share our knowledge and experiences and discuss how we can continue to work together for the benefit of our communities. Attending the Act of Self Determination 40th anniversary celebrations on Cocos was a recent highlight and I was pleased to take part in the events marking this special occasion. Supporting other events such as International Women's Day, Anzac Day, and the graduation of high school students on both islands has been a welcome aspect of the job.



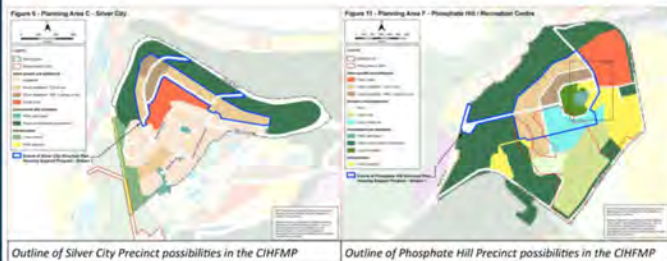
Community safety is my highest priority, and my role as the Chair of the Emergency Management Committee on both islands has allowed me to learn a great deal and adopt practices to assist the communities in preparing for, and responding to, emergency situations. I completed emergency management training during a trip to Perth, which equipped me with additional skills to better serve the IOT in my role on the EMC. Both Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Islands saw some significant storm damage in March, but fortunately there were no major injuries or loss of life. Various agencies, businesses, and volunteers worked to prepare the communities, and also assisted with the recovery efforts after the storm. Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery Plans for both islands were updated and endorsed last month, which was the culmination of a great deal of time and effort from the EMC teams on both Christmas and Cocos.

I am also excited to hold our first IOTHS Community Advisory Committee meeting in August following the recent Expression of Interest. This committee is an incredibly important voice for shaping our health service, and the delivery of the new Patient Assistance Travel Scheme policy in the beginning of my term is a testament to the CAC and is one of the highlights of my year.

I recently addressed some of the CIDHS students at an alumni dinner in Perth and I explained why I applied for the role of Administrator. Although it was incredible to be encouraged by various people to apply, the desire to represent my community was the main driver behind my decision. I truly believe that representation matters and is critical in forming perceptions about our identity, self-worth, and capabilities.

I am very grateful for the tremendous support I have received from the Christmas and Cocos Islands communities during my first year as Administrator. I am reminded every day of why I do this job, when I am able to elevate our local voices to best meet the needs of the IOT. In my second year in the role, I look forward to continuing working together to build a strong future for the islands and I am determined to make a positive and lasting contribution through my term.

Laying the groundwork for future housing development on CI



The Shire of Christmas Island has been successful under the Australian Government's \$1.5 billion Housing Support Program, winning close to \$740,000 in funding for the development and delivery of a Housing Futures Masterplan.

The Shire's successful grant application was announced by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on 5 July, along with 79 additional projects from across Australia as part of Stream 1 of the Program.

The Housing Support Program is part of the \$32 billion in new housing initiatives the Australian Government is delivering through the Homes for Australia plan, with

unding helping unlock the construction of accessible, affordable and sustainable new homes across the nation, and address the current housing crisis facing Australia.

With housing pressures impacting many communities across Australia, including Christmas Island, getting more affordable homes on the ground faster is vitally important, making sure that more people have access to a safe place to call home.

Thanks to the grant, the Shire of Christmas Island can progress the planning of new construction on island, helping alleviate some of the housing pressures, while supporting sustainable and future-proofed designs.

With Stream 1 of the Housing Support Program specifically supporting building planning capability, including master planning, – this grant will help lay the groundwork for future housing development.

Lights on for the Home Island Retail Centre

The refurbished and expanded retail centre on Home Island now has completed electrical works, with some retailers – including the pharmacy – opening up shop.

As a remote community, Cocos residents do not have the same access to goods and services as many people on the mainland. With these renovations to the retail precinct, locals now have the opportunity to take advantage of more stores close to home.



The renovation of the retail area was funded by the Australian Government, with contribution by the Shire, with the improved infrastructure not only enhancing the livability of the area, but also providing facilities for visitors.

The project also had the added benefit of supporting local jobs, with tradespeople and suppliers sourced from Cocos where possible.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this project possible, from the workers on the ground, to the retailers now moving into the shopfronts.



Replacement of the RJ Hawke progressing

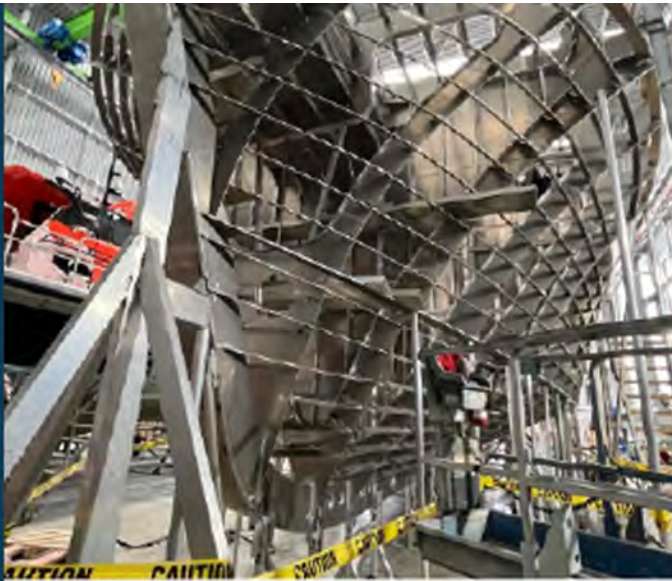
Following years of service as a search and rescue vessel for the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and back-up for the larger Cahaya Baru, the RJ Hawke is being replaced. This Australian Government project will ensure continuity of these important functions for the community.

The replacement vessel is currently under construction by Dongara Marine, with its build progressing well and to plan.

An inspection of the vessel earlier this month confirmed the frame of the hull and the deck panels are complete. The fit-out of the vessel will look similar to the current Cocos fleet, and include modern and efficient air-conditioning.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.





Celebrating our history

The children of the Cocos Islands are mesmerised by jukongs. These timber boats are significant, cultural artefacts that have historically been used to transport coconuts for the Cocos copra industry, but also coveted for racing – a practice which lives on today. Many jukongs can be seen around the Home Island Kampong, and they are prized items amongst those who are keen sailors.



Photo by Niamh Swingler.

Ryan Borbas, Arts and Music Teacher at Cocos Islands District High School (CIDHS), was inspired to get the children to look closely at this Cocos icon.

The Year 1+2 class from the Home Island Campus of CIDHS were tasked with completing a project-based learning activity to create a jukong model in their art class. The students researched real jukongs in the community as references and were eager to visit the Jukong Restoration Project to ask Nek Callum (Zaitu Feyrel) and Nek Suhanie (Ramnie Mokta) questions about boat building and their experiences as Shipwrights.

"It was great to have a resource that allows the children to connect curriculum to real world experience. It is awesome to see the jukongs being restored for future generations", said Mr Borbas after their excursion.

The Jukong Restoration Project is making great progress, with the first boat having been completed by Nek Callum. Lantar Pujeh (To worship the ground) is a small jukong, which would have been built for children's recreational activities such as sailing and fishing. It is said to have accommodated two small children under sail.

The project is a collaborative effort between the WA Museum through Australian Government funding and the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands.



Photo by Niamh Swingler.

Sporting visits from Golf WA and Football West

Over the past weeks, Christmas and Cocos Islands have played host to sports visits from the mainland, with Golf WA and Football West and Perth Glory making the trip to engage with local schoolchildren and adults on two of our region's favourite activities.



The Australian Government invited Football West and Perth Glory to visit the Indian Ocean Territories, with community coach Agha Shah and Perth Glory A-League and Junior Matildas representative Bella Wallhead spending a week on both Christmas Island and Cocos.

During the visit, Mr Shah and Ms Wallhead participated in school visits, youth programs and all-women's and senior sessions, with hundreds of children and adults across both communities turning out for activities.

With the amount of skill showcased throughout the visit, it would be no surprise if we have a future member of the Matildas or Socceroos living right here in the IOT.

We were also very fortunate to have a visit from Golf WA coach Megan Henry, who visited both communities throughout June.



"Golf is a truly wonderful sport, but not everyone gets the chance to try it. I love seeing the joy on a participant's face when they hit an amazing golf shot during a session and realise just how incredibly talented they are. In that moment they realise that golf is their sport!" Megan said.

Sessions were held at the schools and golf clubs on both islands, as well as a Christmas Island Seniors 'Stay on Your Feet' session. These were all well supported by participants, their families, schools, the communities and the clubs.

Thank you to Golf WA and Football West for taking the time to travel over to our region and for offering your knowledge and expertise with such good humour, patience and passion for your sports.

Thank you also to all members of the community who participated, and demonstrated why Christmas and Cocos Islands have so much to offer professional athletes who make the trip over from the mainland.

It is fantastic that the Australian and Western Australian Governments continue to make these visits possible.





Golf photos by Lisa Preston Photography.

Community Bulletins



Number: D16/24, Date: 10 July 2024.

YOUR IOTHS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I am pleased to welcome the new members of the Community Advisory Committee for the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service (IOTHS), following the recent expression of interest process.

With the IOTHS aiming to deliver patient-centred high quality care to the communities of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Committee ensures the community has a voice in the design, delivery, measurement and evaluation of our local health systems and services.

Your representatives on the committee are:

- Tanja Schonewald (CI)
- Swee Lin (Melissa) Tung (CI)
- Regine Andersen (CI)
- Paul Maberly (CI)
- Stephanie Lai (CI)
- Ibrahim Macrae (CKI)
- Jan Young (CKI)

They will serve a 24-month term. The first meeting of the reinvigorated Committee will take place in August and we will provide an update to the broader community following this.

The Committee members are a conduit of information between the Health Service and local residents, sharing community views on priority areas of focus, emerging needs and risks.

The Committee's Terms of Reference are available on the IOT Health Service web page at <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/territories/indian-ocean-territories/health-service>

Farzian Zainal
Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands



Number: D17/24, Date: 12 July 2024.

SEEKING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO JOIN CHRISTMAS ISLAND ECONOMIC FUTURE WORKING GROUP

I am calling for residents to express their interest in being part of the new Christmas

Island Economic Future Working Group (EFWG).

The EFWG will be responsible for identifying practical solutions to the economic challenges facing Christmas Island. The Group will bring industry, business, and community representatives together to discuss ideas, reach consensus positions and develop a shared voice on the community's vision for the future of Christmas Island.

As Chair of the Committee, I am seeking three community members to join the EFWG.

Its primary purpose is to seek opportunities for members to individually and collectively improve economic resilience and sustainability in consideration of the Island's shared aspirations. It will seek alignment of implementable actions through a comprehensive and collaborative approach.

EFWG members will be invited to provide their views on matters raised by the Administrator. They will also be able to raise ideas or matters of importance to the broader community in relation to the following:

- The economic transition and development of Christmas Island
- The use, allocation, and development of land on Christmas Island and future investment
- Infrastructure and community assets and amenities
- Investment opportunities and sectoral issues (eg tourism, small businesses & enterprise)
- Workforce development

It will not be a decision-making body, but the Group can provide advice to the Australian Government through myself as Administrator. The EFWG, while focused on Christmas Island, is encouraged to consider the potential impacts of its initiatives on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI). It should actively seek areas of common ground on which to collaborate with CKI businesses or groups.

The three community members will be appointed for a period of 12 months, with consideration given to the cultural and ethnic diversity of CI when selecting community members. The other members of the group will be representatives from key stakeholders on Christmas Island. The Group will meet every two months or otherwise as advised at the discretion of the Administrator.

I encourage anyone who has the ability to engage with the community and to provide informed and well-thought-out advice on the economic future of Christmas Island to apply.

If you are interested in representing your community as a member of the working group, please email me at IQTAdministrator@infrastructure.gov.au or call me on (+61) 8 9164 7959 for further information. Applications will close at 5pm Christmas Island time on 26 July 2024.

Farzian Zainal
Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Job Opportunities



PHOSPHATE RESOURCES
LIMITED

Electrical Supervisor

Christmas Island Phosphates is a part of the Phosphate Resources Limited Group of companies.

We have an exciting opening for an experienced Electrical Supervisor who shares our Values in how we work together and treat each other. This role leads our small electrical team in Maintenance Department.

What we are looking for:

A skilled professional to coordinate and manage the installation maintenance and testing of electrical equipment to company with legislative standards and safely achieve daily operations targets.

Someone who has outstanding attention to detail and takes pride in leading and coordinating a team of tradespeople toward the achievement of goals that satisfy the team and our stakeholders.

You will be responsible for promoting company's safety culture and implementing safe work practices, ensuring all electrical work is carried out in compliance with legislative standards, safety regulations, and electrical codes along with meeting the required levels of processing plant performance and integrity.

What we need from you:

- MEM30405 Certificate III Engineering- Electrical/Electronic Trade- or equivalent;
- Certificate IV in Instrumentation and Control- is advantages;
- Electrical Contractors ("in house nominees") License- or willing to obtain one;
- Registered in WA with Electrical Safety Board/Department;
- Current Senior First Aid certificate;
- WA "C" Class Driver's License or equivalent; and
- BSB40812- Certificate IV in Frontline Management- or equivalent.

What we can offer:

- Competitive remuneration package;
- Relocation assistance and subsidised accommodation if recruited from outside CI;
- Investment in you – leadership development and training opportunities;
- Employee discount at the Rec Centre, Golf Membership, Mountain Biking; and
- 24/7 access to a holistic employee assistance program to support your mental health and wellbeing

If you require further information about this position, please feel free to contact HR on 08 9164 8400 or email hr@cirp.com.

Applications may be submitted via Seek or to hr@cirp.com.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS – 06 August 2024

Suitable applicants may be contacted prior to closing date

Community Announcements

Sports Visits to the IOT – Upcoming Dates



Rugby League (NRLWA)

Coach: Gethin Thomas

- **Cocos Keeling Islands:** Tuesday 23 to Friday 26 July 2024



ATHLETICS WEST

Athletics West

Coach: Kylie Wheeler

- **Cocos Keeling Islands:** Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 August 2024
- **Christmas Island:** Friday 9 to Friday 16 August 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



Bad Boys: Ride or Die 2024 (MA15+)

SATURDAY - 27th July, 7.30pm

This Summer, the world's favorite Bad Boys are back with their iconic mix of edge-of-your seat action and outrageous comedy but this time with a twist: Miami's finest are now on the run.



A quiet place: Day One (M)

SATURDAY - 10th August, 7.30pm

A young woman named Sam finds herself trapped in New York City during the early stages of an invasion by alien creatures with ultra-sensitive hearing.



The Garfield Movie (PG)

SATURDAY - 17th August, 7.30pm

After Garfield's unexpected reunion with his long-lost father, ragged alley cat Vic, he and his canine friend Odie are forced from their perfectly pampered lives to join Vic on a risky heist.



Bikeriders (M)

SATURDAY - 24th August, 7.30pm

After a chance encounter, headstrong Kathy is drawn to Benny, member of Midwestern motorcycle club the Vandals. As the club transforms into a dangerous underworld of violence, Benny must choose between Kathy and his loyalty to the club.



Twisters (M)

SATURDAY - 31st August, 7.30pm

A retired tornado-chaser and meteorologist is persuaded to return to Oklahoma to work with a new team and new technologies.

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 or 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 *

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