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Grinch storms off

By Phil Williams

THE Christmas Grinch attempted to ruin this year's Alice Springs Christmas Street Party and Christmas Tree lighting.

A wild late afternoon storm on Friday afternoon, December 12 almost put paid to the favourite annual Christmas event.

Eventually, Alice Springs spirit held fast and the Grinch didn't get his way and the Christmas Tree lighting went ahead complete with a spectacular fireworks finale.

PHOTOS PAGE 2

STARBURST: Fireworks burst over the Alice Springs Christmas tree after it was lit up. (Phil Williams)

Sick of the violence

By Phil Williams

THE physicality of domestic violence in Alice Springs is brutal, according to hospital emergency doctor Warren Adie.

Speaking at the march against domestic violence organised by the Ingkintja Men's Service on 10 December, Dr Adie shared his story of what he and colleagues at the hospital saw

and had to try and fix daily.

With the domestic violence rate in the NT four times higher than the national average and domestic and family homicide seven times higher than the national average, Dr Adie says it's not just a personal tragedy, it's a societal crisis.

"I've worked at about 20 hospitals across Australia," Dr Adie said.

"Violence against women has been a tragic constant in all these departments, but, here, (in Alice Springs) there is something different.

"The violence here is utterly devastating. Devastating for the victims, devastating for the victim's families, devastating for the children that witness this trauma at such a young age."

Relaying stories of what he had seen and been tasked to do, the crowd fell silent at the

horror of what Dr Adie had to say, with audible gasps heard as the surgeon spoke.

"I've sutured women's faces back together - multiple women in a single night," he said.

"I've helped women drink through straws because their jaws have been broken."

STORY PAGES 10-11



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OH WHAT A FEELING



DOWNED: A large tree in the heart of Alice Springs which was split after a violent wind storm blew through the town. (524503)



SPLIT: A large tree on the corner of Todd St and Stott Tce was split by a violent storm that ripped through Alice Springs during the annual Christmas Street Party. (524503)



CLOSE CALL: No one was sitting in these chairs when when branches fell on them as a wind storm tore through Alice Springs during the Christmas Street Party. (Phil Williams: 524503)

Christmas Grinch failed

By Phil Williams

THE Christmas Grinch attempted to ruin this year's Alice Springs Christmas Street Party and Christmas Tree lighting.

INSIDE

THE PULSE.....	page 6
GETTING GOOD STUFF DONE.....	page 7
MY TERRITORY.....	starts page 17
TV GUIDE	pages 21-28
SOCIALS	pages 32-40
WEATHER	page 47
SPORT	pages 43-48

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A wild late afternoon storm on Friday, December 12 almost put paid to the favourite annual event.

Around 4.30 as stallholders were setting up, a rainstorm that had been brewing for much of the afternoon dropped a torrential downpour on the CBD.

Several people reported large hail in the Ciccone industrial area, while other parts of town remained dry.

The rain brought with it strong winds and some stallholders opted to make an early call and abandon the evening, while others chose a 'wait and see' approach.

Around an hour later as the crowd built and people began to flock into Todd Mall and further rain appeared to be holding off, a violent storm with even stronger winds, lasting about 20 minutes, ripped through the town.

In the mall, havoc ensued as people sought shelter and debris flew through the air.

Stall holders were forced to use anything they could to keep their marquees and stock from being blown away.

Several traders engaged family, friends or members of the public to help in a bid to hold things in place.

With tents acting like sails by catching the gale-force winds, many vendors struggled as some tents began to lift.

Some opted to simply take down their structures to eliminate the possibility of them becoming missiles.

At the height of the winds, several trees, one in the heart of the mall by the Flynn Church



CUT UP: A council worker cutting up a section of a large tree brought down in a violent storm that ripped through the CBD. (524503)

lawns, had several branches torn off.

The limbs landed on a number of deck chairs set up on the mall's lawns. Fortunately no-one was occupying them at the time.

Several council rangers kept visitors safe by forming a human cordon as they directed people away from the area.

Nearby, a large tree between the church and former Uniting Church Op Shop was toppled after it snapped near its base.

A sheet of iron was also reported to have landed near the Council lawns after it was torn from a neighbouring roof,

On the Council lawns at the corner of Todd Street and Stott Terrace, a larger tree split and toppled onto the Todd Street roadway, narrowly missing pedestrians.

Several SES volunteers and council workers were called into action and, using chainsaws, quickly had most of the tree removed.



CLOSE: A branch landed centimetres from a coffee cart in Todd Mall after the violent windstorm blew through Alice Springs. (524503)

Outside the council office, another large eucalypt that had been making cracking noises during the wind was cordoned off as a precaution.

Earlier, cars that were part of the Arunga Park Speedway display were removed due to fears the tree may fall.

There were no reports of injuries, with a St John volunteer on duty who requested not to be named saying they hadn't had to treat anyone for injuries because of the storm.

A smaller tree in the mall, near Epilogue, was cordoned due to fears it also might fall.

Eventually, Alice Springs spirit held fast.

The Grinch didn't get his way, and the Christmas Tree lighting went ahead complete with a spectacular fireworks finale.

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Morris spared jail on assault

By Phil Williams

A FORMER independent school principal and NRL referee will get to spend Christmas with his family after receiving a suspended sentence for assaulting four students at the school he was in charge of.

On Thursday, December 11, Gavin Morris, 47, was given an 18-month sentence for the aggravated assault of four Indigenous students while he was principal of the Yipirinya School in Alice Springs.

He was spared a period of incarceration by having the sentence suspended.

The court's decision comes at a time of tur-

moil for Yipirinya School as it faces dwindling student enrolments, staff cutbacks and redundancies and a financial black hole.

Morris' offending first came to light in 2023 while he was employed at the school dedicated to educating indigenous children.

He was investigated by police and charged in 2024.

At the time, he was stood down on full pay then later had his contract terminated.

During his trial in the Alice Springs Local Court, in October, Morris was found to have meted out corporal punishment on different male students, which included putting one student in a chokehold and twisting the ears of

others, which caused pain and instilled a sense of fear.

Following a two-week trial, Morris, who was employed at the school in 2021, was found guilty of four counts of aggravated assault on the students.

He was found not guilty of a fifth charge.

The sentence was suspended for two years on the condition that he be of good behaviour and not commit any further offences for two years.

A well credentialed educator, Morris holds a PhD from Charles Darwin University, Bachelor of Education from James Cook University, and a Master of Education from the University

of Sydney.

Morris is also a former councillor on the Alice Springs Town Council.

He won the position in a by-election in 2022 but resigned from the role in March this year, with his resignation taking effect immediately.

He was not replaced due to his departure being within six months of a council election.

He cited 'personal and professional' reasons for stepping down from the position.

Between 2010 and 2015, Morris officiated in almost 100 senior matches as an NRL referee, including two finals.

Morris has indicated he will appeal the verdicts.

NT Government cash splash for free Alice pool activities

By Phil Williams

CENTRAL Australian families and visitors will again be able to enjoy free use of the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre (ASALC) and the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool this summer.

Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development and Member for Barkly Steve Edgington said as part of the Territory Government's Summer in Central Australia (SICA) plan, families in the region would be able to enjoy free pool access and healthy snacks across school holidays.

The Government has provided the Alice Springs Town Council with a one-off \$450,000 grant for free access to the town's Aquatic and Leisure Centre over the holidays and all school and public holidays into the new year.

"The Aquatic Centre is one of the hubs of the Council's school holiday program, and I'm sure the Centre will be an even bigger and better source of holiday fun than last year," Mr Edgington said.

The free pool access is part of the Government's strategy to prevent crime and keep youth engaged across the NT.

All three tiers of government are committed to ensuring that the summer holiday period is one of fun and activity for the younger generation.

"The National Indigenous Australians Agency is onboard from the Australian Government, and with a coordinated approach with the Territory Government and the Town Council, we have been working closely on planning for the summer holidays," Mr Edgington said.

Treasurer and Member for Namatjira Bill Yan said the free public pool access was hugely popular last year, with more than 27,000 visits over December and January.

"Parents will still need to supervise their children at the Aquatic Centre, and staff will be on hand to keep rowdy behaviour in check,"



SLASH: Ministers Josh Burgoyne and Bill Yan watch on as Matilda Liddle and Violet Moults splash in celebration after learning the pool will have free entry during summer. (Phil Williams: 524505)

he said.

"The message to parents is this: it's not just a matter of dropping kids at the pool and hoping for the best.

"Particularly if your kids are young, you really need to be there keeping an eye on them," Mr Yan said.

Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment and Member for Braitling Joshua Burgoyne said along with free access to the pool, there would be plenty to keep kids entertained and engaged at the ASALC over summer, including 3x3 basketball, Waterslide Wednesdays and art and craft sessions as part of the

Alice Springs Town Council's free School Holidays Program.

"Our Government knows how important it is to keep our young people engaged over the summer break — that's why our School Attendance Officers and Public Housing Safety Officers will be encouraging kids to head to the pool or connect with the range of school holiday program activities on offer.

"We are ready for these school holidays. Everyone has been working together — across three levels of government, local groups and stakeholders — to ensure Alice Springs has a safe and uneventful summer holiday period," Mr Burgoyne said.

Alice Springs Town Council Mayor Asta Hill said the pool was important to life in the Centre during the hotter months.

"This support from the Northern Territory Government means everyone can step into ASALC this summer without cost being a barrier," Cr Hill said.

"ASALC will be a beautiful place for families to gather this season — a cool, welcoming space with the splash pad, indoor and outdoor pools, and shaded areas where people of all ages can rest, play and connect.

"Free entry to the Adventure Park means even more ways to move, climb, have a game of basketball or beach volleyball, or just enjoy being outdoors together.

"Our facility is run with real care and professionalism, and our ASALC team works hard through our busiest months to maintain a safe, inclusive and enjoyable space for everyone who walks through the doors."

Responding to questions by the Centralian Today, Mr Burgoyne said the people of Tennant Creek could also expect to have free pool access during summer.

Mr Burgoyne said Mr Edgington was working with Barkly Regional Council to ensure recent issues with the pool pump could be rectified.

"We'll continue to support the Barkly Regional Council so that they can continue to operate that great facility for people in the Barkly," Mr Burgoyne said.

"There's absolutely going to be supports in place for the BRC and we'll continue to work throughout these programs right across the Territory to ensure it doesn't matter where you are - you have access to services throughout the summer period."

Free entry to the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre is available now, on Weekdays from 6am to 7pm, Saturdays between 8am and 7pm and on Sundays from 9am until 7pm.

The Centre is closed Christmas and Boxing Day, 25-26 December.



NTCET TOP 20

Congratulations

The Department of Education and Training congratulates all students in the Northern Territory who completed their Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training this year.

New owners McLovin’ Alice

By Phil Williams

IT’S been just over a couple of months since new McDonald’s licensees, Charissa and Aaron Sharp, and their toddler son Harry arrived in Central Australia, and already they are embracing the Alice Springs community.

Having experienced their first McHappy Day, the biggest fundraiser on the chain’s calendar and now heading into the Christmas period, they are gearing up for the holiday season.

“We’re super excited to be part of the community here,” Ms Sharp said

“I think the community is really special, you can tell,” Mr Sharp added.

The couple has been part of the McDonald’s family since they were both in their teens and met in the kitchen of a McDonald’s in Perth when they were both 14-year-old crew people.

“It’s been a Macca’s romance,” Ms Sharp said with a chuckle.

“We’ve wanted to be licensees for what seems like forever,” she said, and they jumped at the opportunity when it came up.

“Macca’s gave us a call and said” ‘We’ve got an opportunity for you.’

“We’ve been working over the last couple of years to become licensees, and here we are.”

Mr Sharp added: “It’s been a long time coming. We’ve both been working for McDonald’s for 20 years each”.

The couple has been working at running their own store for around seven years and finally got the call they’d been waiting for earlier this year.

Prior to coming to Alice Springs, they had been coordinating a group of eight sites across Perth’s southern suburbs, Mr Sharp as General Manager and Ms Sharp as Operations Manager.

Mr Sharp said the experience had been



CREW: New Alice Springs McDonald’s licensees, Aaron and Charissa Sharp, with their son Harry and some of the Alice crew. (519977)

good training and got the pair to where they are now.

After being approved to become licensees, which is a rigorous process of interviews and presentations, it can take up to a year to be offered a restaurant.

Ms Sharp said they were fortunate they

didn’t have to wait that long and within a month were offered the site in Alice Springs.

“We got the phone call a month after, and we jumped at it.”

Mr Sharp said once they arrived in Alice Springs on their familiarisation trip the couple fell in love with the town straight away.

“Once we checked out the area, we loved it and said ‘Yes’ straight away - and here we are.”

“We’re excited to have Alice to be a part of our everyday lives,” Ms Sharp said.

“We want to stay here as long as we can and immerse ourselves in the community, and we’re just really loving it here so far.”



Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

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Artwork by Worimi Artist, Krystal Hurst



GOLDEN ARCHES: New McDonald’s licensees, Aaron and Charissa Sharp and son Harry in front of the iconic logo. (Phil William: 517818)

Heritage site plans

By Phil Williams

AFTER 18 months of 'listening and learning', the site for the new Ronald McDonald House (RMH) in Alice Springs was announced on December 9, by Melissa Monkhouse, CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities South and Central Australia.

Ms Monkhouse said the location was perfectly situated, being within walking distance of the hospital.

Speaking at a community event attended by about 30 people including business leaders and stake holders in Alice Springs, Ms Monkhouse said the facility, to be built on Alice Springs Hospital grounds, currently the site of buildings used by NT Health, would provide culturally safe accommodation for Aboriginal women and families travelling from remote communities for pregnancy, birth and early parenting.

The site, adjacent to the hospital on the corner of Gap Road and Stuart Terrace, includes some heritage-listed buildings which will be sympathetically included in the redevelopment.

"It will be a 15-room house supporting 15 pregnant or birthing mums at a time and providing accommodation and support for pregnant women from remote communities and their chosen support network."

Ms Monkhouse said that when the organisation was looking at where they could provide support, Central Australia had the biggest need, adding that about one third of the people using the Adelaide RMH were from the Northern Territory.

"We looked at the data which was really shocking to see some of the outcomes..." Ms Monkhouse said.

"What became really prevalent in the data we were looking at was really around that neo



HERITAGE: Heritage buildings on the RMH site currently used by NT Health will be sympathetically incorporated into the design. (Phil Williams: 523718)

natal and ante natal support.

The model of care for the Alice Springs Ronald McDonald House will differ from other similar sites and will mainly revolve around ante natal and post natal 'wrap-around' services.

Alice Springs RMH Board Member, and Alice Springs Town Councillor, Cherisse Buzzacott, who has been a midwife and worked with communities welcomed the announcement.

"I've worked with a lot of remote communities and one of the things we always dreamed about and talked about was having a facility or space for women and babies.

"When I was approached about being involved in this project, everything I had in my head about what the house could be had already been defined in the project scope.

"It was my dream unfolding in the brief I received (about the project)," Cr Buzzacott said.

"This is a project that is going to change the beginning of lives for babies in the Central Australian region."

Regional Executive Director for NT Health,

Rebecca Schultz said that the house was on Arrernte Country it was about, and for, everyone.

"It's about supporting families that come from a very far or distant place from Alice Springs," Ms Schultz said.

"This really all started in a tiny little room in a poky place in the middle of Alice Springs Hospital, Ms Schultz recalled, adding the conversation began with a discussion about a small cart that could be wheeled through the hospital's corridors.

"Why can't we have a house? How do these other hospitals get houses? Why do they need them? Why can't our people have a house?" Ms Schultz said of her thoughts at the time.

"Here we are. We put this little vision out there, a little dream and hoped we might be treated the same way as Adelaide or Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane.

"For plenty of Central Australian and Barkly families, Alice Springs is the 'Big smoke', and it is where you go to get treatment.

"The vision we have is both practical and profoundly human," Ms Schultz said.

"It's about keeping families together."

The facility has been shaped through discussions and consultation with more than 60 organisations, taking into account cultural complexities," Ms Monkhouse said.

She said there would be room to expand the facility in future, but they were starting small to 'get things right'.

"This isn't the final model. We haven't finished consultation. We won't ever finish consultation because this will be an iterative process that we just go through," she said.

Ms Monkhouse wouldn't be drawn on a timeline for beginning construction or when it was likely to be completed, although she indicated it would be as soon as practically possible.

Call for information on intruders

NORTHERN Territory Police are seeking information in relation to an armed person incident that occurred in Alice Springs last week.

Around 7.50pm on Monday December 8, the Joint Emergency Services Communication Centre received a report that two male youths had visited a residence on Bokhara Street and threatened the female occupant.

It is alleged one of the offenders was armed with an edged weapon and demanded the victim hand over her car keys.

The victim quickly retreated inside the house and called police, with both youths fleeing on foot.

The offenders were around 14 or 15 years old.

No injuries were reported to police.

Investigations are ongoing.

Police urge anyone with information, including with dash cam or CCTV footage of the area, to phone 131 444, quoting reference number P25332043.

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ON SALE WED 17 DEC
TO TUE 23 DEC 2025

The Pulse

Dr Glenn Morrison



Refitting our wobbly rules

GIVING a lift home to a mate, a senior Aboriginal bloke, we cross the river onto Wills Terrace and past Todd Tavern. It's just gone 5pm and he's annoyed.

"Same faces every day," he says, pointing out the window to a group of Aboriginal drinkers crowding the pub's entry doors.

"Every day they go there early to drink ... saw them this morning.

"Why don't they get a job and go to work?"

My friend drinks in moderation once a week. He has a solid work ethic and holds down a good job.

All are things he's had to work at.

In his job each day he sees the cost of alcohol to fellow countrymen and others.

The men and women hanging round the pub might be a problem for the town, he worries, for their families, themselves.

Or maybe not, I suggest.

Go to licensed venues round Alice as I have done, and ask staff or security 'who are your biggest problem drinkers?'

Chances are you'll get the same answer I did: 'Drunken whitefellas'.

While many are voicing support for a recent NT Licensing Commission proposal to vary licenses in Alice Springs, others are not, including, the Pulse understands, some hotels, police and lawyers.

Over the past fortnight the Pulse has explored reasons to bolster existing regulation.

This week we ask: Is there another way?

Alice Springs' relationship with alcohol is complex.

The equation of 'less alcohol equals fewer crimes' seems to help us imagine a better future for the town.

It suggests domestic violence, poor parenting and youth crime are potentially eased by such simple mathematics.

Boiled down, however, it also says our troubles are Aboriginal in origin.

That Aboriginal people can't be trusted with grog.

Don't get me wrong, heavy drinking by Indigenous people causes many issues - as it does for whites.

And there is research. But Alice's grog story is also endlessly layered, like my friend's above.

Data from 2022/23 reveals the Northern Territory has the highest per capita alcohol consumption in Australia, with about 40 per cent of adults consuming alcohol in ways that



pose health risks, compared with 31 per cent nationally.

Nonetheless, consumption of alcohol in the NT has declined since COVID, from 12.3 litres pure alcohol per person in 2021 to 10.11 in 2024.

Over the same period, and refuting our equation, crime rates have risen.

Meanwhile alcohol regulation and restrictions wax and wane.

What persists most consistently are the stories we tell ourselves about alcohol.

Many such stories conjure stereotypes ranging from knockabout Aussie settler types to the "Drunken Aborigine", a sorry figure described by prominent Indigenous academic Marcia Langton in her 1993 article *Rum, Seduction and Death*.

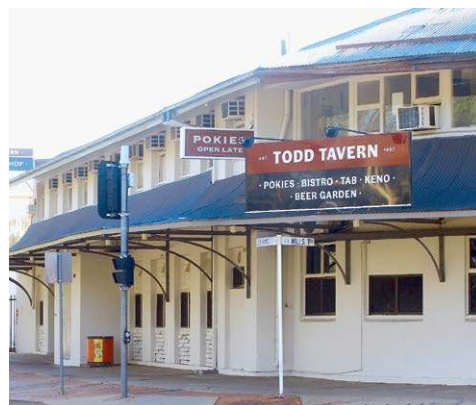
Contrary to widespread belief, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data reveals Indigenous Australians as more likely NOT to drink alcohol than non-Indigenous.

Estimates from 2018-19 suggest 30 per cent of Indigenous people versus 22 per cent of non-Indigenous people choose not to drink (recorded as 'over the previous 12 months').

Last year, published as (part) title 'Countering stereotypes', research suggests "abstinence among Indigenous people is not random: it is more common among older people, those unemployed, or those speaking Aboriginal languages at home — suggesting cultural, social and historical factors influence decisions to abstain."

Of Australians who do drink, however, more Indigenous partake in heavy or risky drinking than non-Indigenous, though AIHW notes a decline in Aboriginal risky drinking from 48 per cent in 2010 to 33 per cent in 2022-23. Enter the NT Licensing Commission, with a mandate to regulate sale of alcohol in the Territory through licensing: where it's sold, to whom, for how much, and when.

The problem is the Commission ONLY controls liquor licenses and is confined to altering how we sell and distribute alcohol, illustrated by November's proposed variation.



Patrons at 20 venues across Alice Springs could be banned from consuming full-strength alcohol unless it's served with a meal under new conditions proposed by the Northern Territory Liquor Commission. (Phil Williams: 492451)

Licenses govern the operation and viability of pubs, clubs, big hotels and resorts, bottlos and some restaurants, days and hours of operation, price, and punishment for transgressions such as failing to observe rules for Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA).

The Commission cannot, source funding for better mental health facilities, shelter the homeless, provide sanctuary for victims of domestic violence, or ease the trauma after a break in by armed youths looking for grog.

Licensing inspectors visit venues sometimes two to three times a day to check compliance with Commission rulings.

While RSA is challenging, Licensing Commissioner Russel Goldflam says the Commission has no issue with how RSA is performed in Alice Springs.

Still, licensees rightfully protest that Alice and the NT are the most severely regulated jurisdictions in Australia.

For them, therefore, it's reasonable to know if new regulations might solve Alice's crime and social woes by tweaking license conditions - yet again.

Industry sources confirm 15 per cent of alcohol sold in the Territory is served over the bar, the remaining 85 per cent as take away.

Yet the Commissioner's proposals restrict licensed premises, including dispensing full-strength beers unless served with meals at certain times, and ask venues to check the bona fides of patrons.

The industry already works closely with Licensing Inspectors to safeguard patrons and observe the rules.

Nonetheless, by year's end two inspectors will be cut by Government owing to inadequate funding.

Reform group The People's Alcohol Action Coalition helped introduce a minimum floor price for alcohol in a bid to minimise "anti-social behaviour and liquor-related harm", its aim to limit supply and drive down hospital presentations from alcohol-fuelled violence.

Take away outlets are closed Monday and Tuesday and opening hours restricted other days toward the same hoped-for end.

It seems unlikely the NT Government will be receptive to the Licensing Commission's November call for greater restrictions, given it earlier vowed not to hear proposals requiring changes to the Liquor Act, and this year scrapped the minimum floor price for alcohol.

As a result of that decision, Coles-owned Liquorland and Endeavour Group's BWS are again selling cheap wine.

It's worth noting also that already beyond the Commission's reach, there is a "secondary" trade in alcohol.

Sly grog is sold at inflated prices alongside a trade in black market cigarettes bringing up to \$4.50 a smoke.

Who's to say if we turn off 'approved' grog taps, a black market will not emerge to replace them?

And what of the plus-side of alcohol? Its role in tourism, business, social groups and families, as well as the widely noted deleterious impacts?

Moreover, is there no upside of alcohol for Aboriginal people?

At least one licensee invites Aboriginal groups in to sit in the venue's cool and socialise with family "without an alcoholic drink in sight".

The hotel provides "plentiful amounts of cold water, greatly appreciated in the summer months."

Perhaps building relationships that may enable resolving conflict when it occurs offers a reasonable way forward?

In Alice, one in five residents is Aboriginal.

Soon the number of semi-traditional and bush people coming to town will grow.

And like other Alice residents, they'll want respect and autonomy.

Maybe it's time to change the narrative about how Aboriginal people drink and why?

Public comment on the proposed laws closes on December 18. Email liquor.commission@nt.gov.au to have your say.

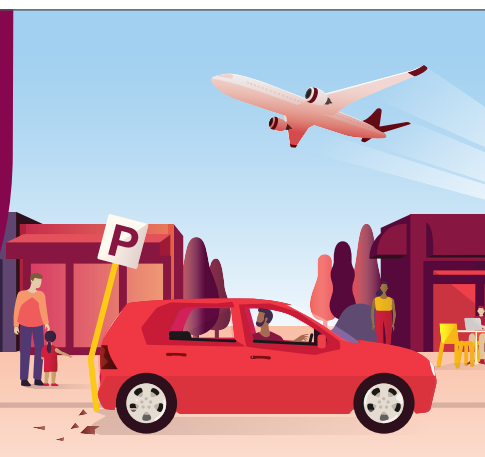
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Getting Good Stuff Done



Donations helping more see

DONATIONS from the Barkly region are helping restore the sight of people around the world, with local contributions over the past 12 months seeing 59 locals donate more than \$22,000 to The Fred Hollows Foundation, including seven new donors.

The donations place the region as the third most generous in the Northern Territory, behind Darwin and Litchfield.

Alice Springs came in at number four, with contributions over the past 12 months seeing 60 locals donate a total of \$20,000 to foundation.

The donations have come at a crucial moment at a time when many foreign governments have cut aid budgets, placing some of the world's most vulnerable people at risk.

Across the Northern Territory, donors have shown incredible generosity, contributing more than \$255,000 to The Fred Hollows Foundation in the past year alone.

Founding Director Gabi Hollows said she was buoyed by the generosity shown by the Barkly and Alice Springs communities and grateful for their support of the Foundation's work.

"Fred used to say that the major problem with the world is the disparity between nations but that it could be changed," Ms Hollows said.

"Nine out of 10 cases of blindness and vision impairment are preventable or treatable.

"Together, we can do something about it, and Australians are proving that even in challenging times, community spirit can change lives.

"Thank you, Barkly and Alice Springs, for helping keep Fred's vision of ending avoidable blindness alive."

In 2025, The Fred Hollows Foundation conducted 8.1 million eye screenings, performed 560 eye surgeries and treatments, and treated 16.5 million people for trachoma, which is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.

One of the patients who received life-changing surgery last year was Lien, a mother of two who had been waiting for treatment in Laos.

For three years, Lien lived with the frustration and heartbreak of blindness.

The 38-year-old from Oudomxay Province in northwest Laos was unable to work or even recognise the faces of those she loves.

Thanks to supporters, Lien was able to attend an outreach eye camp run by The Fred Hollows Foundation, where she underwent cataract surgery on both eyes. When the bandages were removed, she could see her children's faces for the first time in years.



SIGHT: One of the patients who received life-changing surgery in 2024. Lien, a mother of two who had been waiting for treatment in Laos. (The Fred Hollows Foundation)

dren's faces for the first time in years.

The impact of restoring sight goes far beyond treating blindness.

Eye health is a cornerstone of economic growth, education and quality of life.

A new study released this year, co-authored by The Fred Hollows Foundation, found that every dollar invested in eye health could return up to \$28 in economic benefit, making it one of the most cost-effective health interventions available.

tions available.

The Fred Hollows Foundation Chief Executive Officer Ross Piper said the findings positioned eye health at the centre of efforts to transform lives.

"We know that restoring sight unlocks people's potential to succeed at school, generate income, participate in the community and live longer, more independent lives," Mr Piper said.

For more information about The Fred Hollows Foundation or to help restore sight, visit www.hollows.org or call 1800 352 352.

Watch Lien's story here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWXOR5pCSKU>

The Getting Good Stuff Done #ggsd page promotes those encouraging, supporting and amplifying positive initiatives to foster a stronger community.

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Youth grants help educate

ALMOST \$300,000 will be spent on community projects and initiatives providing support and education for young people about Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) across the Northern Territory, including in Alice Springs and the Barkly region.

Through the grants, young people will take part in a raft of programs that aim to spread positive messages and tackle AOD harm head-on.

Health Minister and Member for Barkly Steve Edgington said \$299,000 had been allocated under the Northern Territory Government's Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Youth Grants Program.

"The Government is supporting these programs to help young Territorians make healthy choices around the use of alcohol and drugs.

"We want to keep our young people on track, get them a

good education, and help them grow into productive members and future leaders of their communities," Mr Edgington said.

Mr Edgington said Life Education NT would deliver a health education and prevention program across the Barkly region, focusing on protective behaviours and AOD education.

"Tennant Creek Primary School Council has received funding of \$19,000 for the Right Choices Strong Voices project that will help our young people think about healthy choices and reduce the risks of alcohol and other drugs," he said.

"Students will design a slogan and artwork during education sessions that will print on T-shirts and hats.

"The project will finish with a community launch event where students will share their work and the messages they have created."

Treasurer and Member for Namatjira Bill Yan said Nourish Nation Foundation, which is focused on enhancing health and well-being by addressing nutritional and lifestyle challenges, had received \$20,000 to run the Deadset Legends: Making Smart Choices program in Alice Springs.

"Their program involves young people participating in workshops on vaping and drug use as well as accredited training in Mental Health First Aid and crisis response for alcohol or drugs related incidents," Mr Yan said.

"Youth will also script, film, and edit a series of 'Myth-Buster' short films with help from a digital content creator that's then presented at a Festival they'll also help plan.

"This festival will have youth-moderated panels and Q & A sessions with health professionals and includes interactive sports clinics, service provider stalls and live music."



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Welcome in early years

EARLY education will be more accessible for local First Nations children in Alice Springs thanks to a new community-led early childhood education and care service.

The Todd Street Child Care Centre, led by the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Aboriginal Corporation (Congress), will provide high-quality, culturally responsive early childhood education and care for up to 37 additional local children.

The site is an expansion of the services provided by the Congress Ampe Kenhe Apmere Gap Road Childcare Centre and focuses on embedding local languages, delivering enriched caregiving, and giving families confidence that their children will be cared for in a safe environment that supports children's development and learning in readiness for preschool.

The centre was established as part of a nearly \$30 million expansion of the Australian Government's Community Childcare Fund Restricted (CCCFR) Program, which funds the establishment of early childhood education and care services run mainly by First Nations-led organisations.

The national peak body for Indigenous children, SNAICC - National Voice for our Children, is supporting sites under the CCCFR Expansion Program to help establish community-led services.

Minister for Early Childhood Education and Minister for Youth, Senator Dr Jess Walsh, said early education gives children the best start in life, and that every child in the Northern Territory should benefit from access to quality and culturally safe early education and its transformative effects.

"The opening of the Todd Street Child Care Centre is an important day for First Nations children and families in Alice Springs, providing greater access for First Nations children in the community who need it most," Dr Walsh said.

General Manager Child, Youth & Families, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Dawn Ross, said Congress was pleased to increase access to excellent quality, culturally responsive care for even more children in Alice Springs.

"Extending this service means more children will benefit from a holistic approach to their development, enabling any needs for intervention to be identified and accessed easily, and at the service," she said.

"The centre provides local families with confidence that their children will be cared for in a safe, nurturing environment that supports their development and learning needs."

Media ban: Let kids be kids

By Gladys Barreta

THE controversial social media ban for young people under 16 has come into effect across the country, with the Northern Territory Government describing the reform as a move to letting “kids be kids again”.

The national reforms restrict access to social media for children under 16, aiming to reduce online harm and strengthen digital safety.

The changes, implemented under the Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024, were agreed to through National Cabinet and came into force on December 10.

The reforms shift responsibility onto social media companies to enforce age restrictions and reduce young people’s exposure to harmful content, online exploitation, bullying, harassment and other risks that can escalate quickly on social media platforms.

Alice Springs Headspace senior clinical psychologist Anabelle Moody said unregulated or

excessive use of social media could exacerbate mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression, self-esteem and body image concerns. However, she also acknowledged that social media played an important role for young people by providing spaces to connect, seek support, learn and express their identities - all of which were crucial to development.

“The ban comes at a difficult time of year for young people and families, just as we enter the summer school holidays,” she said.

“This means young people aren’t seeing each other regularly, and teachers and schools aren’t able to support families and young people to adjust in the ways they normally might.

“It also puts young people at risk of feeling socially isolated if their primary way of contacting friends and seeking support was through social media.”

She said this concern was particularly relevant for young people living in rural and remote areas of Central Australia, who may already face

increased isolation and reduced access to support networks.

Ms Buckland warned there was also a risk that young people may find ways to access social media that were harder for parents and educators to monitor.

“For meaningful long-term impact, we need to support families and schools to have thorough, meaningful conversations about consent, bodily autonomy and online safety,” she said.

“Monitoring and regulation of online spaces must be ongoing and continually adapted.

“This includes ensuring young people are not exposed to harmful material through public accounts, and that robust systems are in place to detect and prevent grooming behaviours and extremist activity.”

Education and Training Minister Jo Hersey confirmed the Territory would continue to enforce its no-phones-in-schools policy.

“This change does not affect how education

is delivered in our schools, and I will be making sure our no phones in school policy continues to apply in all NT government schools,” Ms Hersey said.

“Kids need to be kids again. Hopefully the social media ban will get more young Territorians moving whether that’s seeing their friends face-to-face at the shops, going fishing or swimming together, and staying connected with their families, just like when I grew up in Australia.”

Minister for Youth, Seniors and Equality Jinson Charls said while social media could be an important way for young people to connect, it also carried risks if they were exposed too early or without the right supports.

“These new laws help protect Territory kids while they grow, learn and enjoy being young,” he said.

For more information visit esafety.gov.au/about-us/industry-regulation/social-media-age-restrictions.

Boost to digital inclusion through \$20m wi-fi program

By Gladys Barreta

THE digital divide affecting First Nations Australians will be narrowed thanks to a significant national investment aimed at boosting digital inclusion and literacy across the country.

Through the Federal Government’s \$68 million commitment, First Nations Australians will gain improved digital access, supporting better opportunities in education, healthcare and essential services particularly for people living in remote communities.

As part of the package, up to 52 remote

communities in the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland and Tasmania will receive free, publicly accessible Wi-Fi through the \$20 million First Nations Community Wi-Fi Program.

According to Australian Policy Online (APO), First Nations Australians are highly digitally engaged.

However, the engagement is uneven: 41 per cent of First Nations Australians are considered digitally excluded - more than double the rate of non-First Nations people.

Minister for Communications Anika Wells

said many Australians took for granted their ability to access online essentials such as healthcare, education and banking.

“Our investment will ensure more remote First Nations communities can access these same supports,” she said.

First Nations Digital Inclusion Advisory Group co-chair Dr Dot West said the new data offered vital insights into how digital inclusion affects communities nationwide.

“The digital divide remains significant, particularly in remote and very remote areas, and affordability continues to be a challenge

regardless of where people live.”

RMIT University Associate Professor Daniel Featherstone said the study, involving more than 3000 First Nations participants, provides robust evidence to guide practical, community-led solutions and national policies to close the digital gap.

A new national data collection report and public dashboard from the Measuring Digital Inclusion for First Nations Australians project can be accessed at apo.org.au/node/332818 and <https://dashboard.digitalinclusionindex.org.au/firstnations/home/>





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Australia's Northern Territory



MARCHERS: A large group of men march in solidarity against male perpetrated domestic violence. (Phil Williams: 524569)



TRAGIC: Emergency Doctor Warren Adie addresses the crowd, telling of the horrors he and other Emergency Department doctors face due to domestic violence. (524569)

Sick and tired of the violence

By Phil Williams

CENTRAL Australian men marched through the centre of Alice Springs on December 10 calling for an end to domestic violence.

With the domestic violence rate in the NT four times higher than the national average and worse still, domestic and family homicide seven times higher than the national average, an Alice Springs Emergency doctor says it's not just a personal tragedy, it's a societal crisis.

Further to the horrifying statistic is that Aboriginal women are 70 times more likely to be hospitalised due to assault than non-Indigenous females.

The march, organised by the Inqintja Men's Service, saw men of all ages meet at the courthouse lawns, where Indigenous leader Michael Little spoke about the need to march

on the day.

Led by boys and young men from the Clontarf Academy holding a banner which read 'End the silence! Stop the violence!', the group paraded through the CBD and along Todd Mall to a rally on the Alice Springs Town Council Lawns with cries of 'End the silence! Stop the Violence.'

Once the marchers reached the Flynn Church, their numbers swelled as they were joined by a large group of women in support.

Speaking at the Council lawns, Mr Little said the message was around what we can't see.

"We can't be what we can't see," Mr Little said.

"If we can't see it, how can we be it?"

"The scary part is pulling someone up

when they've 'flipped over' and starting to hit that pointy end of the triangle," Mr Little said when talking about calling someone out about their violence.

St John Paramedic, Craig, an NT paramedic for more than 35 years, told horror stories about what paramedics and ambulance staff saw constantly and how it impacted on their mental health.

"Unfortunately, I've seen a lot of domestic violence. Unfortunately, domestic violence happens every day," he said.

"It impacts on our paramedics in the NT and all the frontline workers.

"They go to it every day, every night and they see the worst side of life.

Craig said often when ambulance staff attend incidents they too ended up being attacked and bashed by violent offenders, with their vehicles sometimes damaged.

"We're the ones getting bashed. We're the ones getting abused, our vehicles are getting smashed up.

"We need people to stand up and stop this violence to allow our people to actually do their job and help your family members.

"Domestic violence has an impact on us all personally, because we're living it every day like you guys are."

Mr Little said it wasn't good enough that people stood back and allowed ambulance workers to be assaulted.

"We stand back and watch it play out and these are the things we have to turn around and change," he said.

Alice Springs emergency doctor Warren Adie had his own horror story of what he and others at the hospital saw and have to try and fix daily.

"I've worked at about 20 hospitals across Australia," Dr Adie said.

"Violence against women has been a tragic

constant in all these departments, but, here, (in Alice Springs) there is something different.

"The violence I've witnessed here is intense," he said as his voice wavered.

"The physicality of the violence here is brutal.

"The violence here is utterly devastating. Devastating for the victims, devastating for the victim's families, devastating for the children that witness this trauma at such a young age."

Relaying stories of what he had seen and been tasked to do, the crowd fell silent at the horror of what Dr Adie had to say, with audible gasps heard occasionally as the surgeon spoke.

"I've sutured women's faces back together - multiple women in a single night," he said.

"I've helped women drink through straws because their jaws have been broken."

He added that those women needed to be treated in Darwin, away from family and loved ones.

"I've put women's arms into plaster casts. When you do that, this reduces their ability to care for themselves and to care for their loved ones.

"This usually happens because of a defensive injury when they are trying to protect themselves.

"I've seen a woman bashed so badly, that they lost their vision. I attempted to save that vision with an eyesight saving procedure, but unfortunately it was too late," a heartbroken Dr Adie said, his voice almost breaking.

"She's now legally blind in that eye."

Dr Adie said the violence against women is not just against a person's safety.

"The violence here is intense, but it's not just a violation of a person's safety, it's a violation of dignity, a violation of humanity, and it's happening here. Here in Alice Springs."

Dr Adie said domestic violence was not a woman's issue, it's a men's issue.

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NT Mental Health Line 1800 682 288

Alice Springs Hospital
Emergency Department
08 8951 7777

Suicide Call Back Service
1300 659 467

MensLine
1300 78 99 78

Q Life 1800 184 527
(for LGTBQIA+ community)

Kids Helpline
1800 55 1800

If someone's life is in danger, call 000

www.mhaca.org.au 08 8950 4600



STOP: Young men from the Clontarf Academy lead the the march along Todd Mall. (524569)



HORROR: Emergency Doctor Warren Adie drew audible gasps as he spoke about the horrors he and other Emergency Department doctors face due to domestic violence. (Phil Williams: 524569)

“So men, I’m calling on you to act. It’s our responsibility.”

Marchers also heard from several other

speakers who emphasised the need for their fellow men to take action.

Mr Liddle said a whole-of-community ap-

proach was needed to stamp out domestic violence.

Dr Adie said “Every time a woman walks

into our emergency department battered, bruised or broken, it’s a reminder that domestic violence is not just a personal tragedy, it’s a societal crisis.”



PARAMEDIC: St John Paramedic, Craig speaks about the impact of domestic violence has on ambulance crews and first responders. (524569)



END: Marchers call for an end to the violence as they make their way to a rally on the Council lawn. (524569)



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Barkly gas to power homes

A DEAL between the NT Government and Beetaloo Energy Australia allows the sale of appraisal gas in a move that will keep the lights on across the Territory.

The Beneficial Use of Gas (BUG) agreement, which follows a similar deal with Taboran, will allow gas from the Barkly's reserve to flow into the NT energy market by mid next year.

The agreement allows gas companies to sell gas produced during exploration and appraisal stages to the NT Government as an alternative to flaring.

Minister for Mining and Energy Gerard Maley said bringing gas supplies online would secure supply for Territory households, businesses and industry.

"This is a major milestone in the development of the Beetaloo," he said.

"Gas that would previously have been



Beetaloo Energy Managing Director Alex Underwood and NT Minister for Mining and Energy Gerard Maley.

flared will instead flow directly into the local market from next year."

Mr Maley said the BUG agreements would

generate the first Beetaloo gas royalties and enable Beetaloo Energy to commence construction of its Carpentaria Gas Plant to pro-

cess gas and transmit it into the McArthur River Pipeline for use in the NT.

Meanwhile, the Environment Centre NT has called out Santos over its plans to drill a dozen fracking wells in the Beetaloo Basin at the Barkly's Tanumbirini Station.

Executive Director Kirsty Howie says contamination of groundwater with chemicals used as part of the fracking process could adversely impact some of Australia's iconic water reserves.

"Overextraction from the Cambrian Limestone Aquifer in recent years has resulted in 'significant depletion' of water levels," she said.

"Santos' fracking proposal will require an undisclosed volume of water extraction and create risks of contamination of water supplies in one of Australia's most arid regions."

Tender for new library concept designs launched

By Phil Williams

JUST days after releasing the tender documents for the new Alice Springs library, Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC) and the Northern Territory Government opened the tender for concept designs.

The move is the next major milestone in the development of the new Alice Springs Public Library, with the Council officially going out to tender for concept designs.

ASTC is inviting the community to help shape a modern, accessible, and vibrant library for generations to come, with this phase marking the beginning of a collabora-

tive journey with stakeholders, not only in Alice Springs, but across the region.

The concept design process will set the foundation for a purpose-built facility that meets the evolving needs of Alice Springs.

Council wants to ensure every voice is heard, and extensive community consultation will be central to the design process.

"Our library is one of the beating hearts of Alice Springs, and this tender is the first step in creating a space that truly reflects our community's aspirations, Mayor Asta Hill said.

"We want everyone, children and young people, families and older people, to have their say in what the new library should offer.

"This is your library, and together we'll design a place where everyone belongs and thrives," she said.

Minister for Logistics and Infrastructure and Member for Namatjira, Bill Yan said the NT Government supported the ASTC as the project moves forward into the next phase.

"A new library is an investment in the future of Alice Springs strengthening education, connection and opportunity for the whole community," Mr Yan said.

"We look forward to seeing local ideas take shape as the project progresses."

Member for Braitling, and Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment, Joshua

Burgoyne said the government wanted to deliver long term benefits for Central Australia by supporting projects such as the new library.

"This tender marks an important milestone for the new Alice Springs Public Library, a project we are proud to support with a \$14.96 million investment."

Community members will be invited to share their ideas and feedback through upcoming consultation sessions.

For updates on the project, consultation opportunities, and next steps, visit alicesprings.nt.gov.au/residents/facilities/library/new-alice-springs-library-project.aspx

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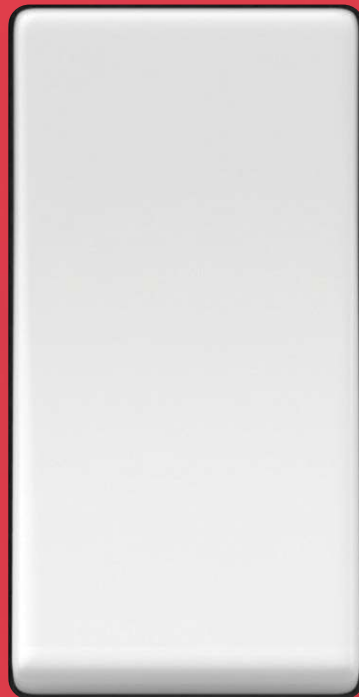


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WINGS: Quin Mashford creates a set of water wings at the ASTC pool. (Phil Williams: 385717)



AIM: Harry Morton plays in the aquatic centre waterpark. (385717)

No excuse for being bored

By Phil Williams

THE Northern Territory Government has revealed the latest Christmas School Holiday program for young people, with more than 1500 activities taking place across the Territory.

Young Territorians will have more opportunities than ever to stay active these summer holidays with the services provided by more than 50 organisations.

To deliver the school holiday and after-school programs across the Territory, the government is tipping in more than \$2 million in funding for the 2025-26 season.

In Alice Springs, there will be plenty to dive

into, with activities ranging from mountain biking to bowling and free access to the pool, while across the Barkly there are movie mornings, basketball and tennis clinics and disco nights.

Across remote communities such as Nyirripi, Ali Curung and Laramba, kids and teens can enjoy activities like BMX, golf, cooking, craft and Christmas-themed activities, as well as arts, storytelling and cultural programs.

Minister for Youth Jinson Charls said this was one of the biggest and most exciting holiday programs for Territory kids.

“...there are hundreds of new activities these school holidays alongside the much-loved fa-

vorites for all Territorians.

“These programs give young Territorians great opportunities to stay active, try new things, connect with their peers and strengthen their place in the community.

“No matter where you live in the Territory, you’ll find a full calendar of activities this summer.

“Check out what’s on in your region, plan ahead and get involved,” Mr Charls said.

Free pool access will be available at the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre and Tennant Creek Pool from mid-December to 28 January 2026.

In addition to Territory Government-backed activities, the Alice Springs ice rink will return from January 6 as part of a free school holiday program in Central Australia.

The Federal Government has teamed up with Alice Springs Town Council with funding through the ‘A Better, Safer Future for Central Australia (Central Australia Plan)’ to provide the ice skating and a range of other activities throughout the holidays.

To see what’s happening in Alice Springs, Central Australia and the Barkly, visit nt.gov.au/school-holiday-events and alicesprings.nt.gov.au/residents/community/youth/school-holidays.aspx



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Grants building confidence

By Gladys Barreta

THE Pioneer Football Club is celebrating a fresh wave of support after receiving funding from Aboriginal Investment NT's Community Quick Response Grants program, enabling the club to upgrade essential training equipment and unveil new uniforms.

The Pioneers have been around for 70 years and are one of Central Australia's oldest football organisations where families, young people and Elders have long gathered to celebrate not just sport, but culture and community.

The club received funding for new uniforms and training equipment, helping build confidence among players when they take to the field.

Built on volunteer effort, the investment has provided far more than financial relief.

Jawoyn Cole-Manolis of Pioneer Football Club said the funding had allowed them to supply players with new team guernseys and support staff with team shirts, bringing a real sense of pride to the club.

"For many young players, particularly those travelling from remote communities, receiving a high-quality uniform is a moment of pride and a reminder that they are part of something bigger than themselves.

"Equally significant was the investment in training equipment. Footballs, cones, protective gear and fitness resources have increased the quality of training sessions and given coaches the tools to develop skills more effectively. The club is now feeling more optimistic about the future."

Aboriginal Investment NT Chief Executive Officer Nigel Browne said grants like these played an integral role in the Territory.

"We're sport-mad in the Territory. Helping people especially those in remote areas join teams, feel a sense of belonging and learn



FOOTY: Pioneer Football Club celebrating after a game.

commitment is really important and that's what this grant helps to do," he said.

"Community pride shows how sport can motivate kids to do well. Things like new uniforms and equipment purchased through the grant matter - if you look good, you feel good."

Mr Browne said the grants had a quick two-week turnaround for approval and had recently increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per organisation.

"They can support a variety of initiatives, including cultural events, community events and activities that help get communities mov-

ing and involved," he said.

"Next year we hope to branch out further into Central Australian communities, expanding our footprint in 2026."

For more information or to apply for a grant visit aboriginalinvestment.org.au/

CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL CLOSING DATES

LOCATION	CLOSING DOWN	REOPENING
Alice Springs	Tues 23 Dec 2025	Mon 5 Jan 2026
Tennant Creek	Tues 23 Dec 2025	Mon 12 Jan 2026
Regional offices	Fri 19 Dec 2025	Mon 5 Jan 2026
Ranger groups	Fri 19 Dec 2025	Mon 19 Jan 2026



CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

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Operation Ludlow II patrols

By Phil Williams

NORTHERN Territory Police have launched a 70-day summer policing operation to further protect vulnerable and high-risk centres across the Territory.

Operation Ludlow II, a 10-week planned police operation to address likely increased activity in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine started last week.

With demand expected to peak during the school holiday period, Operation Ludlow II will extend into the new year, ending in early February 2026.

NT Police say the community will see increased police engagement and high-visibility patrols, including at community events, across the summer.

Operation Ludlow II resources will be supported by Road Policing, the Dog Operations Unit, Mounted Unit, Fugitive Task Force, Strike Force Viper and a dedicated drone capability.

Additional patrol capability will be delivered through ATVs, bicycles, motorbikes, foot and vehicle patrols.



MOUNTED POLICE: Operation Ludlow II mounted police Mack on PH Jacko and Erin on PH Louie make a sweep of Todd Mall. (Phil Williams: 524220)

The high visibility Operation Ludlow II will target antisocial behaviour and alcohol-related offending, youth offending and property crime.

The operation will be resourced with local police, including recently graduated officers from ARP Squad 4 and Recruit Squad 160.

The Safer Streets Patrols in Tennant Creek

will deliver proactive, highly visible patrols supporting frontline general duties response activities as part of the operation.

Local Tennant Creek police will be able to call upon specialist support to deploy to the region to enhance their capacity if required.

A key component of the operation is collabo-

ration with partner agencies, including DCF Engagement Officers, Public Housing Safety Officers, Lhere Artepe Traditional Owner Patrol Groups and Tangentyere Council Night Patrol in Alice Springs.

In Tennant Creek and the Barkly, the police-led Interagency Tasking Coordination Group will continue to meet regularly to share information to address local community safety and antisocial behaviour issues in a collaborative approach.

Acting Superintendent Terry Simpson said: "We are building upon the success of last year's Operation Ludlow and have been planning for months to improve for the sequel.

"The public can expect to see high-visibility patrols, officers engaging with the community, visiting businesses, and patrolling the CBD and surrounding suburbs," he said.

"We encourage our community members and visitors to stop our police officers for a chat, as the officers are there to serve and protect the community.

"Lastly, I hope that residents and visitors to the Territory enjoy the break and stay safe during the festive season."

Christmas road blitz: Don't get caught by the mighty Quinn

By Phil Williams

NT Police have rolled out their major Christmas road blitz and are urging drivers to think twice before putting their keys in the ignition and driving after they've been drinking this holiday season.

As the current year draws to a close and the new one begins, police will be out in force across NT roads this festive season and warn

that officers will be deployed to all areas of the Territory, on rural, suburban and regional roads and highways while they strive to keep holiday makers safe, and the road toll down.

Launching Operation Quinn, Superintendent Kirsten Engels said: "You'll see us with increased roadside breath testing sites, mobile drug detection sites, targeted patrols and we will patrol the entire Northern Territory to

ensure we are trying to prevent any further crashes this year."

So far this year, 36 people have died in the Territory - six of those across Central Australia and the Barkly.

That compares with a total of 58 at the same time last year and 60 for the entirety of 2024.

Police said drivers could expect to see

more random breath testing and drug testing stations, speed enforcement and highway patrols during the holidays.

Police urged all drivers to do their part by being aware of the 'Fatal Five' preventable causes of serious road crashes and fatalities by buckling up, not speeding, driving sober, putting the phone away and by taking breaks on long trips.

Alice Springs Town Council

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

Summer 2025/2026

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Free Transport available with Lhere Artepe.

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FREE ENTRY TO THE POOL!

Free entry to Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre (ASALC) all summer holidays thanks to Northern Territory Government.

Open hours:

Weekdays: 6am-7pm
Saturdays: 8am-7pm
Sundays: 9am-7pm

*Closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day, 25-26 December.

Australian Government National Indigenous Australians Agency

NIAA

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Alice Springs Town Council

HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

Kerbside Rubbish Collection

All collections scheduled for Thursday 25 December 2025 will instead take place on Friday 26 December 2025. All collections for Thursday 1 January 2026 will instead take place on Friday 2 January 2026.

Civic Centre

Closed from 12:00pm Wednesday 24 December 2025. Resuming normal hours on Friday 2 January 2026.

Alice Springs Public Library

Closed from Sun 21 December 2025-Thursday 1 January 2026. Resuming normal hours Friday 2 January 2026.

Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre

Closed Thursday 25 & Friday 26 December 2025. Resuming normal hours on Saturday 27 December 2025.

Regional Waste Management Facility

Closed from Thursday 25 December 2025. Resuming normal hours on Saturday 27 December 2025.

ReDiscovery Centre

Closed from Thursday 25 December 2025. Resuming normal hours on Wednesday 7 January 2026.

Alice Springs Animal Shelter

Closed Thursday 25 & Friday 26 December 2025 & Thursday 1 January 2026. Open Saturday 27 December 2025. (Normal hours resume Friday 2 January 2026.)

Works Depot

Closed from Thursday 25 December 2025. Resuming normal hours on Friday 2 January 2026.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

MyTerritory

THE CentralianToday



Desert talent shows off

By Gladys Barreta

FROM the red desert to a national arena, an Alice Springs woman and her nine-year-old mare have completed an extraordinary comeback to win the 2025 Equestrian Jumping title.

After surviving a serious accident that left them both injured, they fought their way back through recovery, retraining and thousands of kilometres of travel to achieve the biggest win of their career.

STORY PAGE 19

JUMPING: Alice Springs rider Brooke Morley and Oaks Karla have snagged the 2025 National Equestrian Championships in Victoria. (Equisoulphotography)

Entertainment



Father Mother Sister Brother stars Cate Blanchett and Charlotte Rampling. (Vague Notion 2024 Yorick Le Saux.)

Travelling Film Festival returns

TICKETS are now on sale for the Travelling Film Festival, which returns to the Red Centre on February 27.

Established by the late David Stratton AM, the festival returns with an unmissable lineup of award winners from around the world.

When Stratton passed away in August, he left behind an indelible legacy of a rich cinema culture across Australia.

Not only did he advocate for and support the careers of now legendary filmmakers, but he also played an active role in shaping the one thing great cinema can't live without – the audience.

This included his founding of the Travelling Film Festival in 1974, ensuring great cinema on the big screen was available to audiences wherever they were in the country.

“The TFF is all about ensuring that everyone has a chance to see and celebrate the very best of world cinema—no matter your postcode,” TFF manager Beatrix Brady said.

“I know my relationship with cinema was impacted by David Stratton, and it’s a huge honour to continue what he started.

“We’re excited to return in February with such a bumper lineup to the Northern Territory which truly has some of the most passionate



Blue Moon is screening as part of the Travelling Film Festival.

film fans in the country.”

Fortunately, the TFF no longer needs to load up the combi van with heavy 35mm prints like David Stratton used to do 50 years ago, but his legacy, and the celebration of cinema as a transporting experience to feel together travels on.

Highlights of the program coming to the Northern Territory include Richard Linklater’s witty and sparkling Golden Globe-nominated

Blue Moon, starring Ethan Hawke, set at the after party of the opening night of Oklahoma, which, appropriately, will open the Festival across the NT.

Other major award recipients include three-time Golden Globe nominee No Other Choice from Korean master Park Chan-wook (Oldboy), the Cannes winner It Was Just An Accident, Berlin winner Dreams (Sex, Love), and Venice winner Father Mother Sister Brother starring Cate Blanchett.

There will also be exclusive screenings of films from the world over, including Spain, Palestine, Brazil, China, Nigeria, Macedonia and Norway.

One of the biggest Aussie hits of the year will also screen at all centres – The Golden Spurtle, an unmissable, charming and hilarious Australian-made documentary about the world porridge championships.

Director Constantine Costi will be in attendance in Alice Springs to present his hit film and answer audience questions – porridge making advice included!

TFF Alice Springs is on 27 February-March 2 at Alice Springs Cinema.

Tickets are on sale at sff.org.au/tff/program/alice-springs.

Uplifting

THE First Hymn is the story of an ancient scrap of papyrus uncovered in the deserts of Egypt that contains the remnants of the oldest known Christian hymn.

In it, Lyrics Professor John Dickson discovers evidence of beliefs some say Christians never held this early in history.

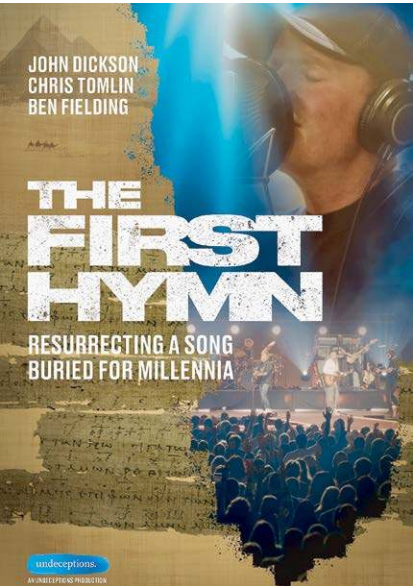
However, uncovering this ancient treasure is only the first step.

With the help of world-renowned Christian composers, Chris Tomlin and Ben Fielding, Professor Dickson sets out on an epic journey to record the First Hymn as a modern worship song for the new millennium.

“I have never seen anything like this. The earliest Christian hymn found with musical notation is translated and expertly reproduced for today’s generation. Very well presented and very moving. As a musician I loved seeing the creative process of the worship leaders and also the producer harmonising all the beautiful tracks. Even the expert historians are obviously so excited, it never gets dry or boring. Quite profound.” - stevecurtis-263-269581

87 minutes | Documentary | Rated G | Directed by Mark Hadley | John Dickson, Chris Tomlin, Ben Fielding | Opens 20 December

Visit alicespringscinema.com.au for screening times



Uncovering an ancient treasure.



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CLOSED:

EVERY Wednesday Thursday 25th (Christmas Day)

Our equestrian champions

By Gladys Barreta

AGAINST all odds, challenging conditions, an unfamiliar climate and thousands of kilometres of travel, a local woman from Alice Springs and her mare have been named the 2025 Equestrian Jumping Champions.

A title earned through years of hard work and dedication, the award came as a huge surprise for Brooke Morley - especially because she's someone from this little desert town.

Born and raised in Alice Springs, Brooke has been riding since she was a tiny tot growing up on a cattle station.

She claimed the championship with her horse, Oaks Karla, at an impressive time of 44.94 seconds, beating second place by almost five seconds.

Brooke was the only rider from Alice Springs and the Northern Territory who competed at the Australian Jumping Championships in November held at the Boneo Park Equestrian Centre in Victoria.

"It's a little bit surreal especially with the backstory and the challenges we've faced," Brooke said.

"It really is a comeback story. I'm incredibly grateful. Not many people get this honour.

"It feels surreal considering the difficulties, the distance, and everything we've had to overcome."

Brooke only returned to training a few months before this year's Alice Springs Show after a significant fall that left both her and her horse out of action for the better part of 12 months.

The accident saw Oaks Karla impale herself and suffer a severe chest wound, while Brooke broke her collarbone, punctured a lung and sustained extensive bruising.

When they finally returned to training, it wasn't just about recovering physically.

Brooke also had to help her horse rebuild trust and confidence after the traumatic incident.

Their comeback was extraordinary.

Brooke won the Open Championship at the Alice Springs Show, then went on to win the Senior Championship in Katherine, followed by the Open Championship in Darwin.

She travelled more than 3500km one way for the Australian Jumping Championships, an enormous effort for both rider and horse.

Brooke, who has always been self-coached, found herself competing against riders who had trained at elite levels for most of their lives, which was very different from her reality in the Central Desert.

"The day of the competition was freezing. My horse had never competed in anything like that before," she said.

Her mare, Oaks Karla, is a nine-year-old Dutch Warmblood sport horse was bought by Brooke at just 10 months old.

She raised her, broke her in, and trained her entirely in Alice Springs.

Brooke said she felt a connection with her from the beginning.

"She's very charismatic, a real quality horse all round. But the biggest thing about her is how bold she is.

"Not every horse can jump and not every horse has the confidence to do it.

"She's incredibly brave, and because of the partnership we've built, she would do anything for me."

The championship title is not the result of overnight success, but rather of a long-term investment, strategy, and a plan that was more than 10years in the making.

"When you sit back and see what you've achieved, it's amazing especially knowing we didn't have the smoothest start," Brooke said.

"To turn it around so dramatically, against all the odds, feels incredible.

"You're not supposed to come from the Territory and do this well.

"The distances, the climate, the challenge of acclimatising a horse in a short timeframe... opportunities are few and far between because of where we live."



JUMPING: Brooke Morley and Oaks Karla at the 2025 National Equestrian Championships in Victoria. (Equisoulphotography)



Minister Bill Yan, Ayla Stevens on Ash Grey, Sean Heenan, Brooke Morely and Oaks Karla with Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro. (NT Chief Minister)



CLEAR: Brooke Morely and Oaks Karla clear the wall jump. (Phil Williams: 488299)



RAILS: Brooke Morely and Oaks Karla clear the rails. (488299)

Christmas Gift Ideas





M-F: 9:30am to 5pm
Sat: 9:30am to 2pm
Sun: Closed
Christmas closure:
 Closed from Sunday
 21st December and
 reopening on Monday
 5th January 2026

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Christmas in Central Australia

QUIZ

1. Which Australian dessert is a Christmas classic, often enjoyed in Alice Springs despite the heat?

2. Which native Australian animal is most likely to appear in Christmas decorations or crafts around Alice Springs?

3. Which flowering native plant often blooms around Christmas in Alice Springs?

Answers: 1. Pavlova 2. Kangaroo
3. Sturt's Desert Rose



DID YOU KNOW?

Australia's first official Christmas was in 1788. The celebrations took place in Sydney Cove with Captain Arthur Phillip and the First Fleet.

Tinsel was once made from real silver. It originated in Germany in the 1600s. Modern plastics made it affordable.

The first Christmas card was made by Sir Henry Cole and artist John Horsley in London. Cole, who founded individual greetings to be time-consuming, commissioned Horsley to design them to make it easier to send seasonal messages.



What do you call an elf that makes music?
A wrapper!

ha ha ha



SIMPLE CHRISTMAS SHORTBREAD

Ingredients

- 250 g softened butter
- 1/2 cup caster sugar
- 2 1/4 cups plain flour

Directions

- Cream the butter and sugar until smooth.
- Add the flour and mix until a soft dough forms.
- Roll the dough into a log or press it out flat and cut into shapes.
- Bake in a moderate oven until the edges turn pale golden.
- Cool on a rack - then you can decorate with icing and dried fruits 🍌 Get creative!



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TV Today

MOVIE
GUIDE
INSIDE

Bronze age

Will Forte and D'Arcy Carden
start a spray tan business in
Aussie comedy **Sunny Nights**

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Cover Story



Fun in the sun:
D'Arcy Carden and Will Forte shake up the Aussie spray tan industry in crime comedy *Sunny Nights*.

Skin in the game

Will Forte might tackle criminals and crocodiles in new Aussie comedy *Sunny Nights*, but while filming in Sydney, the actor faced his fears off-screen, too. He tells **Siobhan Duck** about his "terrifying" wildlife encounter

BEFORE arriving in Australia to shoot his new comedy *Sunny Nights*, Will Forte was a bundle of nerves, wringing his hands and worrying: "How am I going to deal with all the spiders?"

Having heard many tales about Australia's scary wildlife, the *Saturday Night Live* alum arrived in Sydney anxious that his house would be teeming with creepy crawlies.

He was pleasantly surprised to instead find his digs were relatively arachnid-free. And, in fact, he encountered just one eight-legged creature during his stay.

"I saw one huntsman in the front yard," he says with the nervous excitement of an Irwin clan member after a brush with a crocodile or snake.

"And I thought, this is the biggest spider I've ever seen. Jackie, who worked with me, came over to help deal with it and she said, 'Oh, that's a baby huntsman'.

"I was terrified of this small version of the spider. I mean, it was crazy big though."

Despite his "terrifying" brush with the juvenile spider, Forte says his time *Down Under* was a career highlight, not to mention an item ticked off his to-do list.

Forte has been promising to visit Australia for years, because his brother-in-law hails from Brisbane.

"They all go down to visit his mum, who still lives there," he says.

"Every summer they invite me, and I would just be working on something. I just could never get it together. So, I was so excited to finally get to come down and was just the best version of everything."

Making the experience all the more special, the Hollywood comic brought his wife Olivia Modling and young daughters Zoe, four, and Cecilia, three. Forte says his elder daughter even attended school in Sydney, where she made lots of friends.

Forte also formed a tight-knit bond with *The Good Place*'s D'Arcy Carden, who plays his sister in *Sunny Nights*.

"D'Arcy was so easy to get to know, and we quickly became best buds, and we're like brother sister now," he enthuses.

"All the people that we worked with, the amazing, talented pool of Australian actors were so fun to work with.

"Every level of it was thrilling. It was sad to have to leave. We think about Sydney all the time. D'Arcy and I talk about where we would live [in Sydney]. We will say: 'Could we get houses right next to each other?'"

Sunny Nights was something of a gamble for Forte, who explains that only the first two episodes had been written when he agreed to play the show's uptight hero, Martin.

But the seasoned comic saw enough potential in those first scripts to take the plunge.

In the comedy, cash-strapped and eager to win back his ex-wife, Martin teams up with his fast-talking sister Vicki to launch a spray-tanning company in Australia, where they quickly get mixed up with the wrong people.

Despite being born and raised in California, Forte has never had a spray tan for a role or a red-carpet appearance.

"I probably should have [tanned up]," he laughs.

"Who knows where my career would have gone if I had."

Even on *Sunny Nights*, his sun-kissed glow was achieved with some artfully applied make-up rather than an all-over spritz in a tanning booth.

"Even that was very problematic for the collars of all my shirts at the end of the day," he recalls.

"I quickly learned it was better to be wearing a black T-shirt or there was going to be stuff all over it."

There's no bronzing required on his current project, the follow-up to the hit comedy *The Four Seasons*.

Once again reuniting with Tina Fey, who plays his wife and adapted the series from the 1981 movie starring Alan Alda, Forte is excited for viewers to see where the show goes now that it's moved beyond the blueprint of the original film.

The Four Seasons unfolds over a series of vacations, where the dynamics of a friendship group are irreversibly changed by one's decision to leave his wife.

Season one culminated with the death of Steve Carrell's character and the revelation that his much younger girlfriend was pregnant, setting the stage for more upheaval for the group moving forward.

"Tina, all the time feels bad, she's always saying: 'Oh my god, why did we kill Steve Carrell?'" he chuckles.

"And he is such a delight and he is certainly missed. But, man, there are so many great actors on this. Tina is a legend, and just the rest of group, Colman Domingo, Marco Calvani, Erika Henningsen and Kerri Kenney-Silver, along with some new people added to the mix.

"I think you'll find that the storytelling is just so good, that while you don't forget that they killed Steve Carrell, you will forgive her for that."

The Four Seasons isn't the first time that Forte and Fey have worked together or even played a couple. The pair were both cast members and writers on *SNL*, where they played look-alike characters whose closeness left the audience uncomfortably wondering if they were siblings or spouses.

Both Forte and Fey were in attendance to celebrate the live show's 50th anniversary earlier this year. The star-studded event featured Meryl Streep and Kate McKinnon playing hillbilly alien

abductees, Bill Murray reading the news with Colin Hanks, and Adam Sandler performing a bittersweet tribute song to past cast, including his pal Chris Farley, who died from an overdose in 1997.

"It was one of the coolest things I've ever gotten to be a part of," Forte says of the milestone event, which also featured the returns of Eddie Murphy, Mike Myers and Kristen Wiig.

"Everywhere you turned there was a different legend, hero, or new person who you were excited to meet.

"That weekend was special. When you're at *Saturday Night Live*, you are just working so hard that you kind of forget what a special part of history you are in."

When Forte left *SNL* in 2010 after eight years in the cast, he wasn't sure what the future held for him.

"What a lucky person I am to get to have had these experiences," he says humbly.

"Back in the day, my dream was to be on *Saturday Night Live*. So once it was the end of that, it was like, 'All right, I'm satisfied that I did it'.

"Who would have ever thought that 15 years later, I'd have gotten to be a part of so many other things that I'm so excited about and proud of doing."

Including, of course, fighting spiders and shirt collar stains on *Sunny Nights*.

■ *Sunny Nights*, streaming from Boxing Day, Stan

Movie Guide

PICK OF THE WEEK

Friday
ELF
Imparja, 8.10pm, G (2003)

"I just like to smile! Smiling's my favourite," chimes the wide-eyed, sublimely hilarious, instantly endearing Will Ferrell (pictured) in this joyous Christmas treat. He plays a supposed "elf" (in reality he is a human orphan raised as one of Santa's helpers) who jets off to New York to seek out his biological dad (James Caan). There, the awkward, ungainly elf finds employment at a department store, where he befriends a sweet co-worker (Zoey Deschanel). Wonderfully directed by Jon Favreau (*Iron Man*), this little charmer proves good things come in small packages. ★★★★★



JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
10, Friday, 6pm, M (2016)

Based on Lee Child's novels, the first instalment of this franchise provided Tom Cruise (pictured) a solid script and a combination of thrills and mystery to satisfy fans. Directed by Edward Zwick (*The Last Samurai*), this follow-up doesn't quite reach the original's level of distinction, instead sticking to a tried-and-true formula. Jack Reacher (Cruise) comes to the aid of a US Army officer (Cobie Smulders), who he suspects is the victim of a conspiracy, and also finds himself framed for murder. ★★★



NUGGET IS DEAD: A CHRISTMAS STORY
Imparja, Saturday, 7pm, M (2024)

This festive Aussie offering from Vic Zerbst (pictured) and Jenna Owen is a comedy that promises to pull on the heartstrings. When her beloved family dog Nugget falls sick, Steph Stool (Zerbst) returns home to her coastal town and chaotic, oddball family, leaving her well-to-do boyfriend behind. Steph reconnects with her eccentric clan as they all come to terms with Nugget's ailing health. Mandy McElhinney, Gia Carides and Tara Morice round out the hilarious ensemble. ★★★



THE ROYAL HOTEL
SBS World Movies, Saturday, 8.30pm, MA15+ (2023)

Inspired by 2016 documentary *Hotel Coolgardie*, Australian writer/director Kitty Green has produced this outback thriller, a successor to the unique brand of terror previously seen in *Wake in Fright* and *Long Weekend*. When international backpackers Liv and Hanna (Jessica Henwick and Julia Garner, both pictured) run out of money on their Australian adventure, they agree to a stint living and bartending at a pub in a remote mining town. But no one makes it out unscathed. ★★★



FREUD'S LAST SESSION
SBS World Movies, Sunday, 8.50pm, M (2023)

An intellectual somersault of a film that would have perhaps been best left on the stage, this hypothetical encounter between famed psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud (Anthony Hopkins, pictured) and *The Chronicles of Narnia* author C.S. Lewis (Matthew Goode) is adapted from the play by Mark St. Germain. The meeting of the minds is imagined to have taken place in 1939, at the end of Freud's life and when Lewis was merely a professor whom *Narnia* fame had not yet found. ★★★



RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
Imparja, Monday, 8.30pm, M (1981)

The man with the hat made a rollicking debut in this breakneck World War II-era adventure yarn from the minds of genius storytellers George Lucas and Steven Spielberg. Harrison Ford (pictured) cemented a second screen icon with his unflappable, whip-cracking archaeologist, ordered by the government to track down the lost ark of the covenant, which is being sought by the Nazis. Buoyed by one of composer John Williams' most memorable scores, *Ark* is the complete package. ★★★★★



THE FIRST WIVES CLUB
10, Tuesday, 7pm, PG (1996)

Diane Keaton, Goldie Hawn and Bette Midler (pictured from left) headline this sisters-doin'-it-for-themselves comedy in the tradition of *9 to 5*. After the untimely death of their university friend, three very different women decide to seek revenge on the ex-husbands who did them wrong. Maggie Smith and Sarah Jessica Parker nearly steal the show in their supporting roles as a wealthy socialite and ditzzy social climber, respectively, but it's the leading ladies who shine. ★★★★★

The Guide



PICK OF THE WEEK

A (VERY) MUSICAL CHRISTMAS
ABC TV, Friday, 7.30pm

Returning for a much-anticipated encore after last year's enchanting special, Australia's musical theatre community comes together in support of Beyond Blue for this delightful Christmas concert. At a time of year that can be difficult for many, it's an important reminder of the charity's free mental health and wellbeing support. Filmed on the festively decorated set of *MJ the Musical* at Melbourne's Her Majesty's Theatre, the special sparkles with homegrown talent as Zan Rowe welcomes Casey Donovan, Rob Mills (pictured) and Caroline O'Connor to the stage. The casts of *MJ* and *Beetlejuice* also join in, making for an unforgettable evening of song that's fast becoming a treasured tradition.

NEVER MIND THE BUZZCOCKS CHRISTMAS

SBS, Monday, 8.30pm

Whether your interests lie in gardening, cooking, sewing or even spelling, there's almost certainly a themed Christmas special on the box to keep you entertained over the holidays. This one's for the music lovers, with host Greg Davies (pictured) putting a timely twist on the cheeky quiz's signature rock'n'roll trivia. Tom Jones' merry misdemeanours, The Pogues singer Shane MacGowan's festive faux pas and identifying music icons of yesteryear are all on the agenda for panellists Daisy May Cooper, Noel Fielding, Jamali Maddix, Chris Ramsey, Jordan North and Ella Henderson. Disco legends Boney M close out the festivities with a memorable rendition of a classic carol.



CHRISTMAS WITH DELTA

Imparja, Sunday, 6.30pm

After filming her 2024 special in Hollywood, Delta Goodrem (pictured) returns to home soil for this sparkling evening of holiday entertainment. Taking over Channel Nine's Sydney studio and transforming it into a retro winter wonderland, the newlywed singer invites Cody Simpson, Jon Bon Jovi, Jordin Sparks and a bevy of talented Aussies to perform their festive favourites. There's delightful duets, joyful surprises and moving moments in store as Goodrem shares the stage with her famous friends – and, of course, Santa Claus himself. A toe-tapping Christmas tradition that began in 2020, Goodrem's annual special is the perfect way to celebrate the season in style.



GUY MONTGOMERY'S GUY MONT SPELLING BEE: CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

ABC TV, Wednesday, 8.10pm

Mirthfully putting the "silly" into its appropriate season, New Zealand comedian Guy Montgomery (pictured) has written a list of frustrating yuletide words and checked it twice for this special edition of his wildly popular spelling show. Packing in more puns than there are presents on Santa's sleigh, Montgomery and his merry offsider Aaron Chen make the most of Christmas' unique cultural quirks as they pepper Kitty Flanagan, Senator Briggs, Bronwyn Kuss and Joel Creasey with chaotic challenges. Complete with a choir of carolling Carols, it's a marvellously mischievous way to spend the night before Christmas.



Thursday, December 18

Please note: channel numbers and programming times may vary based on the broadcast signal received.

ABC TV (2)

6.00 News Breakfast. **9.00** ABC News Mornings. **10.00** When The War Is Over. (Final, PGa, R) **10.30** The Piano UK. (Final, PG, R) **11.25** QI. (PG, R) **12.00** ABC News At Noon. **1.00** Silent Witness. (Malv, R) **2.00** Death In Paradise. (PGv, R) **3.00** QI. (PG, R) **3.30** Nigella Bites. (R) **3.55** Grand Designs New Zealand. (R) **4.40** Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PG, R) **5.25** Antiques Roadshow. (R)

6.30 Hard Quiz. (PG, R) **7.00** ABC News. **7.30** 7.30. (Final) **8.00** Grand Designs Australia: Yarraville Pigeon. (Final, PG) A man converts the old Yarraville Pigeon club. **8.55** Long Lost Family. (Final, PG) Hosted by Davina McCall and Nicky Campbell. **9.45** Portrait Artist Of The Year. (PG, R) Seven artists return for the semi-final. **10.35** The Art Of. (Mln, R) **11.05** Grand Designs New Zealand. (R) **11.50** Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PG, R) **12.40** Rage. (MA15+adhlmsv) **3.40** Parkinson In Australia. (PG, R) **4.30** Gardening Australia: Family Easter Special. (R) **5.30** 7.30. (Final, R)

ABC FAMILY (22) **6.05am** Fizzy And Suds. **6.25** Wiggle. **6.45** Paddington. **7.20** Knee High Spies. **8.10** Kangaroo Beach. **9.00** Play School. **10.10** Daniel Tiger's. **10.35** Mini Kids. **11.10** Mister Maker Around The World. **11.30** Wiggle. **1.10pm** Octonauts. **2.45** The Makery. **3.00** Play School. **3.40** Fizzy And Suds. **4.10** Andy's Safari Adventures. **4.25** Mojo Swoptops. **5.30** Peter Rabbit. **6.05** PJ Masks. **6.25** Paddington. **6.45** Ben And Holly. **7.05** Batwheels. **7.35** Ninjago: Dragons Rising. **8.00** Operation Ouch! **8.30** Secrets Of The Zoo. **9.15** Secret Life Of The Kangaroo. **10.00** Late Programs.

NITV (34) **6am** Morning Programs. **8.40** The Magic Canoe. **9.10** Spartakus. **10.00** Tales From Zambia. **11.00** Ocean Warriors: Mission Ready. **Noon** Songrites. **1.20** Turn Up Respect. **1.40** Big Sky Girls. **2.00** On Country Kitchen. **2.30** The Cook Up. **3.00** Jarjums. **5.00** Harlem Globetrotters. **5.30** Going Places. **6.00** Bamay. **6.40** Wildlife Rescue New Zealand. **7.30** Going Places. **8.30** Reservation Dogs. **9.30** **MOVIE:** The Last Boy Scout. (1991, MA15+) **11.20** Karla Grant Presents. **Midnight** Soh Presents: Generations And Dynasties. **1.30** Yarrabah! **2.00** Garma Bunggul 2023. **3.00** On The Road. **4.00** Barunga Festival. **5.00** Bamay.

SBS (3)

6am Morning Programs. **9.55** The Secret Life Of Lighthouses. (PGav, R) **10.50** Who Do You Think You Are? (PGa, R) **12.00** BBC News At Ten. **12.30** France 24. **1.00** PBS News. **2.00** Amazon: The Lost World. (PG, R) **2.55** Nick Knowles Into The Grand Canyon. (PG, R) **3.45** The Cook Up. (PGl, R) **4.15** Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **5.05** Jeopardy! **5.30** Letters And Numbers. (R)

6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) **6.30** SBS World News. **7.30** ABBA And Elvis In The Outback. (Ml) **8.35** The Untold Story Of The Vatican. Chronicles the history of the Vatican. **9.35** Vigil. (MA15+av) Kirsten begs Amy to come home. **10.40** SBS World News Late. **11.10** Vienna Blood. (Return, MA15+av) **12.10** Outlander. (MA15+asv, R) **1.35** House Of Promises. (Ms, R) **4.15** Growing A Greener World. (R) **4.45** Destination Flavour Down Under Bitesize. (R) **4.55** Destination Flavour: Singapore Bitesize. (R) **5.00** NHK World English News Morning. **5.30** ANC Philippines The World Tonight.

SBS VICELAND (31) **6am** TRT World News. **6.50** DW English News. **7.20** FBC News. **7.55** France 24 Feature. **8.10** NHK Newsline. **8.40** CBC The National. **9.30** BBC News At Six. **10.00** Mastermind Aust. **Noon** DW The Day. **12.30** Australia's Sleep Revolution. **1.30** Appetite. **2.45** Insight. **3.45** WorldWatch. **5.45** Travel Man: 96 Hours In Rio. **6.40** Jeopardy! **7.35** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown. **8.30** The Count Of Monte Cristo. **9.30** History's Greatest Mysteries. **10.20** The UnXplained. **11.10** Homicide. **12.55am** Normal People. **2.45** The Bloody Decade. **3.40** NHK World English News. **5.00** Al Jazeera.

SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) **6am** Mary Shelley. (2017, PGals) **8.15** The Bookshop. (2017, PGal) **10.20** Million Dollar Baby. (2004, Malv) **12.50** Too Cool To Kill. (2022, Mav, R, Mandarin) **2.50** The Movie Show. (PGa, R) **3.25** The Three Musketeers. (1973, PGsv, R) **5.20** A Room With A View. (1985, PGnv, R) **7.30** Up In The Air. (2009, Mlms, R) **9.30** An Unfinished Life. (2005, Mal, R) Robert Redford. **11.30** Ben Is Back. (2018, Madl) **1.30am** A Good Person. (2023, MA15+ad) **3.50** The Nugget. (2002, Ml) **5.40** The Three Musketeers. (1973, PGsv)

SEVEN (7, 71)

6am Morning Programs. **9.00** Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 2. Morning session. **11.00** The Ashes: The Lunch Break. **11.40** Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 2. Afternoon session. **1.40** The Ashes: Tea Break. **2.00** Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 2. Evening session. **4.30** News. **5.30** Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 5. Melbourne Stars v Hobart Hurricanes.

9.00 Seven's Cricket: The Spin. An expert panel examines all the big news and issues with a deep dive into the world of cricket. **9.45** The Amazing Race. (PGl) The final four teams race through the Moulin Rouge, the Eiffel Tower and other iconic Paris locations to earn a spot in the final three. Hosted by Phil Keoghan. **11.15** Life. (Malsv, R) Crews and his new temporary partner Jane Seever investigate the murder of a court reporter. **12.30** Home Shopping. (R) **2.30** NBC Today. News and current affairs. **3.30** Sunrise Early News. The latest news, sport and weather. **4.00** Sunrise. News, sport and weather.

7MATE (70) **6am** Creek To Coast. **6.30** A Football Life. **7.30** America's Game. **8.30** Blokesworld. **9.00** American Resto. **9.30** Storage Wars. **10.00** American Pickers. **11.00** Pawn Stars. **Noon** Highway Patrol. **1.00** The Force: BTL. **2.00** Billy The Exterminator. **3.00** American Resto. **3.30** Storage Wars. **4.00** American Pickers. **5.00** Pawn Stars. **6.00** American Pickers. **7.00** **MOVIE:** Skyscraper. (2018, M) **9.05** **MOVIE:** Zombieland. (2009, MA15+h, R) **11.05** Storage Wars. **11.30** American Pickers. **1.30am** NFL. NFL. Week 15. Replay. **4.30** Hook, Line And Sinker. **5.30** My Fishing Place.

7TWO (72) **6am** Morning Programs. **11.30** Escape To The Country. **12.30pm** The Zoo. **1.00** The Duke And I. **2.00** Harry's Practice. **2.30** Medical Emergency. **3.00** Better Homes. **4.00** Escape To The Country. **5.00** Bargain Hunt. **6.00** Father Brown. **7.00** The Inspector Lynley Mysteries. **9.00** Murdoch Mysteries. **10.00** Father Brown. **11.00** Bargain Hunt. **Midnight** The Great Australian Doorstep. **12.30** Harry's Practice. **1.00** Medical Emergency. **1.30** Better Homes. **2.30** Million Dollar Minute. **3.30** Our Town. **4.00** The Great Australian Doorstep. **4.30** Australia's Deadliest. **5.00** Escape To The Country.

IMPARJA (9)

6.00 Today. **8.30** Today Extra Summer. (PG) **11.00** 9News Morning. **11.30** **MOVIE:** Merry And Bright. (2019, G, R) **1.30** Pointless. (PG, R) **2.30** Tipping Point. (PG, R) **3.30** 9News Afternoon. **4.30** Tipping Point Australia. (PG, R) **5.30** 9News.

6.30 A Current Affair. **7.00** Great Getaways. (PG) **8.00** Topknotz: Wild On Water. The team challenges Noemie Fox. **9.00** Limitless With Chris Hemsworth: Strength. (PGa, R) Chris Hemsworth discovers how his muscles can help him live longer with an epic rope climb. **10.00** Chicago Med. (MA15+am) Asher makes a tough call to save a life. **10.50** Next Stop. **11.20** Tipping Point. (PG, R) **12.10** Pointless. (PG, R) **1.00** TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) **2.00** Global Shop. (R) **2.30** TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) **3.30** Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) **4.00** A Current Affair. (R) **4.30** Today Early News. **5.00** Today.

9GEM (90) **6am** Skippy. **6.30** TV Shop. **9.00** Pointless. **10.00** My Favorite Martian. **10.30** Shakespeare And Hathaway. **11.30** **MOVIE:** The Young Ones. (1961) **1.50pm** Antiques Roadshow. **2.20** **MOVIE:** A Rose For Christmas. (2017, PG) **4.00** Yorkshire Auction House. **5.00** Antiques Roadshow. **6.00** Clarkson's Farm. **7.00** **MOVIE:** Octopussy. (1983, PG) **9.40** Major Crimes. (MA15+v, R) **10.40** Shakespeare And Hathaway. **11.40** Creflo. **12.10am** **MOVIE:** The Young Ones. (1961) **2.30** Gideon's Way. **3.30** Yorkshire Auction House. **4.30** Gideon's Way. **5.30** Creflo.

9GO! (99) **6am** Morning Programs. **8.30** Bewitched. **9.00** Jeannie. **9.30** The West Wing. **10.30** Survivor 49. **1.30pm** Nanny. **2.00** Seinfeld. **3.00** Addams Family. **3.30** Bewitched. **4.00** Jeannie. **4.30** Golden Girls. **5.00** Nanny. **6.00** Survivor 49. **9.00** **MOVIE:** Within The Pines. (2024, M) **10.30** Seinfeld. **11.00** The Vampire Diaries. **12.45am** Pretty Little Liars. **2.30** Barbie: Dreamhouse Adventures. **3.00** Cry Babies Magic Tears. **3.20** Booba. **3.40** Teen Titans Go! **4.00** Pokémon: BW Rival Destinies. **4.30** Pokémon Horizons: The Series. **5.00** Lego Dreamzzz. **5.30** Barbie: Dreamhouse Adventures.

TEN (10)

6.00 Farm To Fork. (R) **6.30** Bold. (PG, R) **7.00** Deal Or No Deal. (R) **7.30** Lingo. (R) **8.30** Ent. Tonight. (R) **9.00** Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. (R) **10.00** My Market Kitchen. (R) **10.30** Farm To Fork. **11.00** Family Feud. (PG, R) **11.30** News. **12.30** Deal Or No Deal. (R) **1.00** Lingo. (R) **2.00** 10 News: Afternoon. **2.30** Bondi Rescue. (PG, R) **3.00** The Bold And The Beautiful. (PG) **3.30** 10 News. **4.30** 10 News+. **5.30** Deal Or No Deal. (R)

6.00 The Graham Norton Show. (Mls) Guests include Bruce Springsteen. **7.10** **MOVIE:** Jack Reacher. (2012, Mlv, R) A former military police officer investigates a shooting. Tom Cruise, Rosamund Pike. **9.45** 10's Late News. Coverage of news, sport and weather. **10.10** 10 News+. (R) Hosted by Denham Hitchcock and Amelia Brace. **11.05** The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) **12.00** Home Shopping. (R) **3.00** CBS Mornings. **4.30** Entertainment Tonight. (R) **5.00** Good Chef Bad Chef. (R) **5.30** Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. (R)

10 DRAMA (1) **6am** Shopping. **6.30** Escape Fishing. **7.30** Living Room. **8.30** JAG. **10.30** Days Of Our Lives. **11.15** The Young And The Restless. **Noon** Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. **1.00** JAG. **3.00** The Living Room. **4.00** JAG. **6.00** NCIS. (M, R) **7.00** Law & Order: SVU. (Mav, R) **8.50** The Hunt For The Family Court Killer. (Mav, R) **9.50** Blue Bloods. (Mv, R) **10.45** 48 Hours. (Ma) **12.45am** Home Shopping.

10 COMEDY (11) **6am** The Neighborhood. **7.00** Ent. Tonight. **7.30** My Market Kitchen. **8.00** Bold. **8.30** Family Feud. **9.00** Ridiculousness. **9.30** The Neighborhood. **10.30** Taskmaster Australia. **11.30** Ridiculousness. **12.30pm** Stephen Colbert. **1.30** Becker. **2.00** Frasier. **2.30** Farm To Fork. **3.00** Frasier. **3.30** Becker. **4.00** Frasier. **5.00** Friends. **6.30** Big Bang. **8.00** Becker. **8.30** Frasier. (PGa, R) **9.30** Ridiculousness. **11.00** Shopping. **1am** Bold. **2.00** Stephen Colbert. **3.00** Shopping. **4.30** GCBC. **5.00** Everyday Gourmet. **5.30** Ridiculousness.

Friday, December 19

Please note: channel numbers and programming times may vary based on the broadcast signal received.

ABC TV (2) 6.00 News Breakfast. 9.00 ABC News Mornings. 10.00 Portrait Artist Of The Year. (PG, R) 11.00 The Forsytes. (R) 12.00 ABC News At Noon. 1.00 Royal Carols. (R) 2.05 Grand Designs Australia. (Final, PG, R) 3.00 QI. (PG, R) 3.30 Nigella Bites. (R) 3.55 Grand Designs New Zealand. (R) 4.45 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PG, R) 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. (R)	SBS (3) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 Inside Oxford Street. (PGa, R) 10.50 Who Do You Think You Are? (PGa, R) 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Amazon: The Lost World. (PG, R) 2.55 Nick Knowles Into The Grand Canyon. (PGaw, R) 3.45 The Cook Up. (PG, R) 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. (PG, R) 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. (R)	SEVEN (7) 6am Morning Programs. 9.00 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 3. Morning session. 11.00 The Ashes: The Lunch Break. 11.40 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 3. Afternoon session. 1.40 The Ashes: Tea Break. 2.00 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 3. Evening session. 4.30 News. 5.30 Victorian State Schools Spectacular. (PG)	IMPACT (9) 6.00 Today. 8.30 Today Extra Summer. (PG) 11.00 9News Morning. 11.30 MOVIE: Unforgettable Christmas. (2023, G, R) 1.30 Pointless. (PG, R) 2.30 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 3.30 9News Afternoon. 4.30 Tipping Point Australia. (PG, R) 5.30 9News.	TEN (10) 6.00 Farm To Fork. (R) 6.30 Bold. (PG, R) 7.00 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 7.30 Lingo. (R) 8.30 Ent. Tonight. (R) 9.00 Jamie's Cook Ahead Christmas. (R) 10.00 My Market Kitchen. (R) 10.30 Farm To Fork. 11.00 Family Feud. (PG, R) 11.30 News. 12.30 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 1.00 Lingo. (R) 2.00 News. 2.30 Bondi Rescue. (PG, R) 3.00 Bold. (PG) 3.30 10 News. 4.30 10 News+. 5.30 Deal Or No Deal. (R)
6.30 Hard Quiz. (PG, R) Presented by Tom Gleeson. 7.00 ABC News. A look at the top stories of the day. 7.30 A (Very) Musical Christmas. Musical talents grace the stage with the sounds of the festive season in a special event supporting Beyond Blue. 9.00 The Yearly With Charlie Pickering. (PGa, R) Charlie Pickering is joined by celebrities to take a look back at the highs and lows of 2025. 10.20 Spicks And Specks. (PG, R) Hosted by comedian Adam Hills. 10.50 Silent Witness. (Mal, R) Nikki and Jack investigate a murder. 12.35 Race Best New Music Videos Of 2025. (MA15+adhlnsv) 5.00 Rage. (PG)	6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) Presented by Marc Fennell. 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Indiana Jones: In Pursuit Of An Icon. Charts the enduring legacy of Indiana Jones. 8.30 Starring Dick Van Dyke. Celebrates the life and career of screen legend Dick Van Dyke as he celebrates his 100th birthday. 10.30 SBS World News Late. 11.00 Sisi. (Mav, R) Sisi is kidnapped by rebels. 11.55 Culprits. (Malv, R) 2.05 Soldiers. (Malsv, R) 3.50 Growing A Greener World. (R) 4.20 Rediscover Victoria. (R) 4.45 Destination Flavour Down Under Bitesize. (R) 4.55 Destination Flavour: Singapore Bitesize. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	8.00 NSW Schools Spectacular. (PG) Featuring dance and musical performances. 10.30 Dr Harry's Animal Encounters. (PG, R) Dr Harry Cooper shares an Aussie legend, <i>The Man from Snowy River</i> , in all its glory. 11.30 Miniseries: Any Human Heart. (Mals) After the deaths of Freya and Stella, Logan moves to New York in 1955. 12.30 Home Shopping. (R) 2.30 Million Dollar Minute. (R) Three contestants go head-to-head in a test of brain power for the chance to win \$1 million. 3.30 NBC Today. International news including interviews with people from the world of business, politics, media and sports. 5.30 Weekend Sunrise. The latest news, sport and weather.	6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 Space Invaders. (PGa) Experts help people declutter their lives. 8.10 MOVIE: Elf. (2003, G, R) A man raised as an elf at Santa's North Pole home embarks on a journey to find his biological father. Will Ferrell, James Caan. 10.10 MOVIE: Four Holidays. (2008, Mls, R) A couple spend the festive season with relatives. Reese Witherspoon, Vince Vaughn. 11.50 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 12.40 Hello SA. (PG, R) 1.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 3.30 Skippy The Bush Kangaroo. (R) 4.00 Global Shop. (R) 4.30 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 5.00 Postcards Summer. (PG, R) 5.30 Nine Perth Presents: Christmas In WA. (PG)	6.00 MOVIE: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back. (2016, Mlv, R) Jack Reacher helps an army officer. Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders. 8.25 10's Late News. Comprehensive coverage of local, national and international news, as well as the latest sport and weather. 8.50 10 News+. (R) Comprehensive coverage of the day's top stories, investigative reports and stories that haven't been heard. Hosted by Denham Hitchcock and Amelia Brace. 9.50 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) Stephen Colbert interviews a variety of guests from the worlds of film, politics, business and music. 11.00 Home Shopping. (R) 4.30 What's Up Down Under. (PGa, R) 5.00 Camper Deals. (R) 5.30 Reel Action. (R)
ABC FAMILY (22) 6am Children's Programs. 3.40pm Fizzy And Suds. 4.10 Andy's Safari Adventures. 4.25 Mojo Swoptops. 5.30 Peter Rabbit. 6.05 PJ Masks. 6.25 Paddington. 6.45 Ben And Holly. 7.05 Gardening Australia Junior. 7.35 Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures. 8.00 Scooby-Doo And Guess Who? 8.25 My Adventures With Superman. (Premiere) 8.45 Robot Wars: Battle Of The Stars. 9.45 Merlin. 10.30 Late Programs.	SBS VICELAND (31) 6am Morning Programs. Noon DW The Day. 12.30 Dark Side Of Comedy. 1.20 WWE Legends. 2.55 Bamay. 3.25 Fashionista. 3.40 WorldWatch. 5.40 If You Are The One. 6.40 Jeopardy! 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 The Count Of Monte Cristo. (Final) 9.35 Secrets Of The Female Orgasm. 10.30 Homeland. 12.40am Letterkenny. 1.40 The Bloody Decade. 2.35 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera.	7MATE (70) 6am Morning Programs. 2pm Billy The Exterminator. 3.00 American Resto. 3.30 Storage Wars. 4.00 American Pickers. 5.00 Pawn Stars. 6.00 Road Wars. 7.00 MOVIE: Monty Python's The Meaning Of Life. (1983, M) 9.20 MOVIE: Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo. (2005, MA15+) 11.05 Storage Wars. 11.30 American Pickers. 12.30am Road Wars. 1.30 NFL. NFL. Week 15. Replay. 4.30 Late Programs.	9GEM (90) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 MOVIE: Summer Holiday. (1963) 1.50pm Antiques Roadshow. 2.20 MOVIE: A Shoe Addict's Christmas. (2019) 4.00 Yorkshire Auction House. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Antiques Downunder. 7.00 MOVIE: A View To A Kill. (1985, M) 9.40 The Equalizer. 10.40 Shakespeare And Hathaway. 11.40 Creflo. 12.10am MOVIE: Summer Holiday. (1963) 2.25 Late Programs.	10 DRAMA (1) 6am Shopping. 6.30 Escape Fishing. 7.30 Living Room. 8.30 JAG. 10.30 Days Of Our Lives. 11.15 The Young And The Restless. Noon Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 1.00 JAG. 3.00 All 4 Adventure. 4.00 JAG. 6.00 NCIS. 8.50 The Hunt For The Family Court Killer. 9.50 Blue Bloods. 10.45 48 Hours. 12.45am Shopping.
NITV (34) 6am Morning Programs. Noon MOVIE: The Endangered Generation? (2022, PG) 1.35 Anthem Sessions. 2.00 On Country Kitchen. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Jarjums. 5.00 Harlem Globetrotters. 5.30 Living Black. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Wildlife Rescue New Zealand. 7.30 MOVIE: Crackers. (1998, M) 9.20 MOVIE: This Christmas. (2007, PG) 11.20 Proud Histories: Past, Present & Future. Midnight Late Programs.	SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) 6am Morning Programs. 11.00 The Nugget. (2002, MI) 12.50pm Up In The Air. (2009, Mlns) 2.55 The Movie Show. 3.30 The Bookshop. (2017, PGal) 5.35 Moonlighting. (1982, PG) 7.30 The Last Castle. (2001, Malsv) 9.55 Driving Miss Daisy. (1989) 11.45 Reservoir Dogs. (1992, MA15+alv) 1.35am An Unfinished Life. (2005, Mal) 3.35 Unruly. (2022, Masv, Danish, Swedish)	7TWO (72) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Australia's Deadliest. 1.00 Weekender. 1.30 The Great Australian Doorstep. 2.00 Harry's Practice. 2.30 Better Homes. 3.30 Escape To The Country. 4.30 Bargain Hunt. 5.30 Better Homes And Gardens Summer. 7.00 Escape To The Country. 10.00 Wildlife ER. 11.00 Escape To The Country. Midnight The Great Australian Doorstep. 12.30 Late Programs.	9GO! (99) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Golden Girls. 1.00 Nanny. 2.00 Seinfeld. 3.00 Addams Family. 3.30 Bewitched. 4.00 Jeannie. 4.30 Golden Girls. 5.00 Nanny. 6.00 MOVIE: The Flash. (2023, M) 8.50 MOVIE: Snatchers. (2025, MA15+) 10.30 Ghost Hunters. 11.25 The Vampire Diaries. 1.10am Pretty Little Liars. 3.00 Cry Babies Magic Tears. 3.20 Booba. 3.40 Late Programs.	10 COMEDY (11) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 Ridiculousness. 12.30pm Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Becker. 2.00 Frasier. 2.30 Farm To Fork. 3.00 Frasier. 3.30 Becker. 4.00 Frasier. 5.00 Friends. 6.00 MOVIE: Dungeons & Dragons: Honour Among Thieves. (2023, M) 8.40 Becker. 9.05 Frasier. 10.00 Ridiculousness. 11.30 Shopping. 1am Bold. 2.00 Stephen Colbert. 3.00 Shopping. 4.00 Joseph Prince. 4.30 Late Programs.

Saturday, December 20

(ABC 51) (22) 6am Morning Programs. 12.00 News. 12.30 Return To Paradise. (PGdv, R) 1.25 Royal Carols: Together At Christmas. (R) 2.30 All Creatures Great And Small Christmas Special. (PG, R) 3.25 A (Very) Musical Christmas. (PG, R) 5.00 Spicks And Specks. (PG, R) 5.30 Master Dogs: Where Are They Now. (R) 5.55 Hard Quiz Battle Of The Networks. (PG, R)	SBS (3) 6am Morning Programs. 9.00 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. (R) 9.05 Destination Flavour China Bitesize. (PGaw, R) 9.15 Matched. (PG, R) 10.10 Inside The Steam Train Museum. (R) 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 When The World Watched. 3.25 Ethnic Business Awards. (R) 5.30 Bettany Hughes: History Of Mother Earth.	SEVEN (7) (71) 6am Morning Programs. 11.00 The Ashes: The Lunch Break. 1.140 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Afternoon session. 1.40 The Ashes: Tea Break. 2.00 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 4. Evening session. 4.30 News. 5.30 Animals Aboard With Dr Harry. (PG)	IMPARJA (9) 6.00 ACA. (R) 6.30 Weekend Today. 9.30 Today Extra Summer. (PG) 11.30 Surfing Aust. (PGI) 12.00 Find My Beach House Australia. (R) 12.30 Drive Safer. 1.00 My Way. (R) 1.30 Ready Vet Go: The Vet Paramedics. (PGm, R) 2.00 MOVIE: Christmas In Scotland. (2023, G) 4.00 The Garden Gurus. 4.30 9News First At Five. 5.00 Find My Country House Australia. (R) 5.30 9News Saturday.	TEN (10) 6am Morning Programs. 8.30 My Market Kitchen. (R) 9.00 GCBC. (R) 9.30 Airport 24/7. (PGA, R) 10.30 Everyday Gourmet. (R) 11.00 Farm To Fork. (R) 11.30 Silvia's Italian Masterclass. (R) 12.00 The Yes Experiment. (PG) 12.30 4x4 Adventures. 1.30 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. (PGI, R) 2.30 All 4 Adventure. 3.30 News. 4.30 MOVIE: Dear Santa. (2024, PGalv)
6.30 When The War Is Over: Changi. (PGa, R) Rachel Griffiths visits the Burma-Thailand Railway. 7.00 ABC News. A look at the top stories of the day. 7.30 Return To Paradise. (Final, PGdv) Glenn and Daisy's wedding is interrupted. 8.30 Vera. (Ma, R) The body of a sickly young girl is discovered at the side of an isolated railway crossing. 10.00 The Forsytes. (Final, PG, R) Jolyon decides his future. 10.55 Bergerac. (Final, Mlv, R) Bergerac must save his daughter. 11.45 Rage Best Of The Guests 2025. (MA15+adhlnsv) 4.55 Rage. (PGadhlmsv)	6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Building The Vatican. (PGa, R) Explores The Vatican. 8.30 A Warwick Castle Christmas: Christmas At The Castle. Follows the team at Warwick Castle as they prepare for their busiest time of the year. 9.30 Harrods: The Rise And Fall Of A British Institution. (Ma, R) Charts the story of a national icon. 10.25 MOVIE: Robin's Wish. (2020, Ma, R) Susan Schneider Williams. 11.45 Homicide: Life On The Street. (Mav, R) 3.10 Growing A Greener World. (R) 4.10 Rediscover Victoria. (PG, R) 4.40 Bamay. (R) 5.15 France 24 Feature. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	6.30 Carols In The Domain. (PG) Coverage of Carols In The Domain from Sydney. Featuring The Wiggles, Marcia Hines and Hugh Sheridan. 9.00 NSW Schools Spectacular. (PG, R) Featuring dance and musical performances. 11.30 Miniseries: Any Human Heart. (Malns) Forced to leave America, Logan adjusts to a modest life in 1970s England. 1.00 Home Shopping. (R) 2.30 It's Academic. (R) Hosted by Simon Reeve. 3.30 Million Dollar Minute. (R) Hosted by Simon Reeve. 4.30 NBC Today. News and current affairs. 5.30 Weekend Sunrise. The latest news, sport and weather.	6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 MOVIE: Nugget Is Dead: A Christmas Story. (2024, Mln) A woman returns to her hometown for Christmas. Vic Zerbst. 9.00 MOVIE: Bad Moms 2. (2017, MA15+als, R) Three unappreciated mothers rebel against the expectations of organising the "perfect" Christmas. Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell. 11.05 MOVIE: Christmess. (2023, Madl, R) Darren Gilshenan. 1.00 Surfing Australia TV. (PGI, R) 1.30 The Incredible Journey Presents. (PG) 2.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 4.00 Global Shop. (R) 4.30 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 5.00 Helping Hands. (PG, R) 5.30 Hello SA. (PG, R)	6.50 Love It Or List It Australia. (Return) A couple can't agree over their home. 8.00 The Dog House. (PGa, R) The Griffiths family hopes Givi the labrador cross will help dad Dave get into the festive spirit. 9.00 Jamie Oliver: Christmas. (R) Jamie Oliver hosts a Christmas party for his family and friends, serving hearty dishes made with seasonal produce. 10.00 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. (R) Jamie Oliver shows how to make one-pot meals. 11.00 Home Shopping. (R) 3.30 Hour Of Power. 4.30 Mass For You At Home. 5.00 Key Of David. (PGa) 5.30 Joseph Prince: New Creation Church.
ABC FAMILY (22) 6am Children's Programs. 2.50pm Wiggle And Learn. 3.05 Play School. 3.30 Paddington. 4.00 Knee High Spies. 4.20 Millie Magnificent. 4.45 Gardening Australia Junior. 5.10 PJ Masks Power Heroes. 6.50 Andy And The Band. 7.05 Phippenquins. 7.30 Merry Madagascar. 8.00 Kung Fu Panda Holiday. 8.25 Chopped Jnr. 9.10 Fresh Off The Boat. 9.50 Abbott Elementary. 10.10 Late Programs.	SBS VICELAND (31) 6am Morning Programs. Noon Tiny Beautiful Things. 12.35 Bamay. 1.00 Curse Of Oak Island. 3.35 WorldWatch. 5.35 Mastermind Aust. 6.35 Inside Legoland: A World Of Wonder. 7.35 Impossible Engineering. 8.30 Icons Unearthed: Fast & Furious. (Premiere) 10.20 Snowpiercer. 12.10am Letterkenny. 1.50 The Bloody Decade. 2.45 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera.	7MATE (70) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 Blokesworld. Noon Cool Cars & Bikes. 12.30 Rides Down Under: Workshop Wars. 1.30 Motor Racing. National Drag Racing C'ship. Top Fuel C'ship. 2.30 Desert Collectors. 3.30 Counting Cars. 4.30 Pawn Stars. 5.30 Storage Wars. 6.00 MOVIE: 47 Ronin. (2013, M) 8.20 MOVIE: Dante's Peak. (1997, PG) 10.40 Storage Wars. 11.30 Pawn Stars. 12.30am Desert Collectors. 1.30 Late Programs.	9GEM (90) 6am Morning Programs. 1.20pm MOVIE: The Hallelujah Trail. (1965) 4.20 MOVIE: A Perfect Christmas. (2016, PG) 6.00 Death In Paradise. 7.00 MOVIE: The Living Daylights. (1987, PG) 9.40 The Equalizer. 10.40 MOVIE: Blood From The Mummy's Tomb. (1971, M) 12.40am MOVIE: Mutiny On The Buses. (1972, PG) 2.30 Gideon's Way. 3.30 Avengers. 4.30 Skippy. 5.00 Late Programs.	10 DRAMA (1) 6am Shopping. 7.30 I Fish. 8.00 On The Fly. 8.30 JAG. 1.30pm Camper Deals. 2.00 Tough Tested. 3.00 Soccer. A-League Men. Newcastle Jets v Sydney FC. 5.30 Football Tonight. 6.05 Soccer. A-League Men. Round 9. Melbourne City v Melbourne Victory. 8.30 NCIS. (Mav, R) 11.20 NCIS: Hawai'i. 12.15am 48 Hours. 2.15 Shopping.
NITV (34) 6am Morning Programs. Noon MOVIE: Mee Shee: The Water Giant. (2005, PG) 1.40 Wildlife Rescue New Zealand. 2.30 MOVIE: Mama Africa. (2011, PG) 4.10 Precious Leader Woman. 5.00 Faboriginal. 6.00 The Barber. 6.40 The Other Side. 7.30 Alone Australia. 8.30 MOVIE: Seeds. (2024, MA15+) 10.00 Australian Music Vault: Kutcha Edwards. 11.20 Mary Two-Axe Earley: I Am Indian Again. Midnight Late Programs.	SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) 6am Morning Programs. 12.25pm Say It Loud. (2020, Mls, Italian) 2.10 A Room With A View. (1985, PGnv) 4.20 Driving Miss Daisy. (1989) 6.10 The Family Man. (2000, PGals) 8.30 The Royal Hotel. (2023, MA15+) 10.10 Stars At Noon. (2022, MA15+ls) 12.40am The Worst Person In The World. (2021, MA15+dns, Norwegian) 3.05 Reservoir Dogs. (1992, MA15+alv) 4.50 Late Programs.	7TWO (72) 6am Morning Programs. 4.30pm Dog Patrol. 5.00 Bondi Vet. 6.00 The Yorkshire Vet. 7.00 Escape To The Country. 10.00 Heathrow. 11.00 The Yorkshire Vet. Midnight The Great Australian Doorstep. 12.30 Medical Emergency. 1.00 Creek To Coast. 1.30 Weekender. 2.00 Weekender. 2.30 Harry's Practice. 3.00 Better Homes. 4.00 Shopping. 4.30 Our Town. 5.00 Late Programs.	9GO! (99) 6am Morning Programs. 12.10pm Soccer. English Premier League. Crystal Palace v Manchester City. Replay. 2.10 MOVIE: Radio Christmas. (2019, PG) 4.00 MOVIE: Santa Hunters. (2024, PG) 6.00 MOVIE: The Hunger Games: Catching Fire. (2013, M) 8.55 The Winter King. 10.05 Top 20 Funniest. 11.05 Love After Lockup. 12.35am MOVIE: Blaze. (2022, MA15+) 2.30 Surfing Aust. 3.00 Late Programs.	10 COMEDY (11) 6am Bold. 7.00 The Neighborhood. 8.30 Ridiculousness. 9.30 Farm To Fork. 10.00 Deal Or No Deal. 10.30 Stephen Colbert. 12.30pm Ridiculousness. 1.30 Frasier. 2.30 Friends. 5.00 Big Bang. 8.30 Frasier. (PGa, R) 9.30 Ridiculousness. (PGa, R) 10.30 South Park. 11.30 Shopping. Midnight South Park. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 Deal Or No Deal.

Sunday, December 21

Please note: channel numbers and programming times may vary based on the broadcast signal received.

ABC (22) 6am Morning Programs. 10.30 New Leash On Life. (R) 11.00 Compass. (PG, R) 11.30 Praise. (R) 12.00 News. 12.30 A Dog's World With Tony Armstrong. (Final, R) 1.25 Gardening Australia: Christmas Special. (R) 2.25 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat: Christmas Special. (R) 3.25 Long Lost Family. (Final, PG, R) 4.15 Extraordinary Escapes: Christmas Special. (R) 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. (R)	SBS (3) 6am Morning Programs. 9.05 Destination Flavour China Bitesize. (R) 9.25 Matched. (PG, R) 10.15 Inside The Steam Train Museum. (PG, R) 12.00 APAC Weekly. 12.30 PBS Washington Week. 12.55 The Point: Road To Referendum History Bites. (R) 1.00 Speedweek. 3.00 Figure Skating. ISU Grand Prix 4. Highlights. 5.30 Hotel Chocolat At Christmas. (R)	SEVEN (7) 6am Morning Programs. 11.00 The Ashes: The Lunch Break. 11.40 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Afternoon session. 1.40 The Ashes: Tea Break. 2.00 Cricket. The Ashes. Third Test. Australia v England. Day 5. Evening session. 4.30 News. 5.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 8. Melbourne Renegades v Hobart Hurricanes.	IMP (9) 6.00 ACA. (R) 6.30 Weekend Today. 9.30 Cross Court. 10.00 GolfBarons. (PG, R) 10.30 Fishing Australia. 11.00 Explore TV. (R) 11.30 Find My Beach House Australia. (R) 12.00 MOVIE : The Most Colorful Time Of The Year. (2022, G) 1.40 MOVIE : Destination Christmas. (2022, PGa, R) 3.30 Great Getaways. (PG, R) 4.30 9News First At Five. 5.00 RBT. (PGd, R) 5.30 9News Sunday.	TEN (10) 6am Morning Programs. 8.00 Key Ingredient. 8.30 Farm To Fork. (R) 9.00 The Dog Hospital With Graeme Hall. (PGm, R) 10.00 Pooches At Play. (R) 10.30 The Dog Academy. (PGa) 11.30 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 12.00 Lingo. (R) 1.00 Basketball. NBL. Round 13. Tasmania JackJumpers v Perth Wildcats. 3.00 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 3.30 News. 4.30 Dog House Aust. (PGa, R) 5.30 Selling Houses Aust. (R)
6.00 Grand Designs Australia. (Final, PG, R) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Spicks And Specks. (Final, PG) 8.00 Portrait Artist Of The Year. (Final) Three artists compete in the final. 8.50 Return To Paradise. (Final, PGdv, R) Glenn and Daisy's wedding is interrupted. 9.50 When The War Is Over: Australian Wars. (Final, PGa, R) 10.20 War Stories. 10.30 Anh's Brush With Fame. (Ml, R) 11.00 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat: Christmas Special. (R) 12.00 Rage Vault Guest Programmer. (MA15+adhlnsf) 3.10 Dream Gardens. (R) 3.40 The Art Of. (PG, R) 4.10 Gardening Australia. (R) 5.10 Annabel Crabb's Civic Duty. (PG, R)	6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Cleopatra: Cracking The Enigma. (PG) Looks at the secrets of Cleopatra's temple. 8.30 Ken Burns' The American Revolution. (PG) The Revolution faces its toughest challenge yet as General Washington tries to defend New York City. 10.35 Mayhem: Secret Lives Of Georgian Kings: George III Mad Or Misunderstood? (Ma, R) 11.30 Australian Fashion Past, Present, Future. (PGln, R) 12.35 Empires Of New York. (MA15+ad, R) 3.05 Growing A Greener World. (R) 4.05 Rediscover Victoria. (PG, R) 4.30 Bamay. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.15 France 24 Feature. 5.30 APAC Weekly.	9.00 Unfiltered: Cricket. (PG) Jackson Warne shares memories of his late father, cricketing legend Shane Warne, with stories about their life together and a discussion of his legacy left beyond the boundary. 9.30 7NEWS Spotlight. Bruce McAvaney meets Gout Gout, the young sprinting sensation who has captured the attention of Australia and the world. 10.30 MacGruber. (Premiere, MA15+lsv) MacGruber goes on one last mission. 11.45 Travel Oz. (R) Hosted by Greg Grainger. 12.30 Home Shopping. (R) 2.00 Million Dollar Minute. (R) Hosted by Simon Reeve. 2.30 NBC Today. News and current affairs. 3.30 Sunrise Early News. 4.00 Sunrise.	6.30 Christmas With Delta. A Christmas concert with Delta Goodrem. 8.00 MOVIE : Vacation. (2015, MA15+ln, R) A man embarks on a cross-country trip to an amusement park with his family. Ed Helms, Christina Applegate, Chris Hemsworth. 10.00 Red Eye. (Mav) Nolan recounts the events in Beijing. Hana continues to investigate the events on-board. 11.00 World's Most Dangerous Prisoners: Pike. (MA15+av, R) Takes a look at people behind bars. 11.50 Wild Cards. (Mav, R) Max quizzes Ellis on his personal life. 12.40 Explore TV: Uluru. (R) 1.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 3.30 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) 4.00 The Garden Gurus. (R) 4.30 Today Early News. 5.00 Today.	6.30 The Imposter. (Premiere, Mals) A beachfront hotel sparks family conflict when the matriarch won't sell, despite her children's wishes. 8.30 FBI. (Mv, R) When an undercover FBI agent is killed in the field, the team makes the unnerving discovery that the identities of multiple undercover agents have been compromised, including Maggie. 10.30 Home Shopping. (R) 3.00 CBS Mornings. Morning news and talk show. 4.30 Entertainment Tonight. (R) Hollywood's hottest stories. 5.00 Good Chef Bad Chef. (R) Daily cooking series. 5.30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. (R) Tips for getting more out of home cooking.
ABC FAMILY (22) 6am Children's Programs. 1.10pm Octonauts. 2.25 Mister Maker Around The World. 3.00 A Very Play School Christmas. 3.45 Thomas. 4.45 Gardening Australia Junior. 5.10 Piney: The Lonesome Pine. 5.35 Peter Rabbit. 6.10 PJ Masks. 6.30 Paddington. 6.50 Andy And The Band. 7.05 Piri-penguins. 7.30 MOVIE : Paddington. (2014) 9.00 A (Very) Musical Christmas. 10.30 Late Programs.	SBS VICELAND (31) 6am Morning Programs. 9.30 Small Business Secrets. 10.00 Mastermind Aust. Noon Dark Side Of The '90s. 1.50 WWE Rivals. 2.40 Jeopardy! 4.45 WorldWatch. 5.45 Icons Unearthed: The Lord Of The Rings. 6.40 Abandoned Engineering. 8.30 Miracles. 9.50 Liaison. 10.50 Myths: The Greatest Mysteries Of Humanity. 12.50am Am I Being Unreasonable? 2.50 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera.	7MATE (70) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 Fishing Addiction. 12.30pm Tackling Australia. 1.00 Merv Hughes Fishing. 1.30 Duck Dynasty. 2.30 Mt Hutt Rescue. 3.30 Counting Cars. 4.30 Border Security: Int. 5.00 Border Security: America's Front Line. 5.30 Border Security. 7.00 MOVIE : 1917. (2019, MA15+) 9.15 MOVIE : 71. (2014, MA15+) 11.25 Blokesworld. Midnight Counting Cars. 1.00 Border Security: Int. 1.30 Late Programs.	9GEM (90) 6am Morning Programs. 8.00 TV Shop. 8.30 My Favorite Martian. 9.00 Avengers. 10.10 MOVIE : Attack On The Iron Coast. (1968, PG) 12.05pm MOVIE : Sabata. (1969, PG) 2.15 MOVIE : The Train. (1964, PG) 5.00 M*A*S*H. 7.00 MOVIE : Licence To Kill. (1989, M) 9.45 Mrs Siddhu Investigates. 11.45 MOVIE : Sabata. (1969, PG) 1.55am MOVIE : Laxdale Hall. (1953) 3.30 Avengers. 4.30 Gideon's Way. 5.30 Creflo.	10 DRAMA (1) 6am Shopping. 6.30 Reel Action. 7.00 Pooches At Play. 8.00 Camper Deals. 8.30 4x4 Adventures. 9.30 JAG. 2.30pm IFISH. 3.00 Basketball. NBL. Sydney Kings v Cairns Taipans. 5.00 JAG. 6.00 NCIS. (Mv, R) 8.50 Blue Bloods. (Mv, R) 10.45 48 Hours. (Mav) 11.45 Home Shopping.
NITV (34) 6am Morning Programs. 1pm Rugby League. Koori Knockout. Walgett Aboriginal Connections v Sydney All Blacks. Replay. 2.10 Black And Dusty. 3.10 Ethnic Business Awards. 5.10 Australian Music Vault: Kutcha Edwards. 6.45 Wildlife Rescue New Zealand. 7.35 Aerial Australia. 8.30 Nat King Cole: Afraid Of The Dark. 10.10 MOVIE : Vacant Possession. (1994, M) 11.50 Late Programs.	SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) 6am Morning Programs. 12.35pm The Bridges Of Madison County. (1995, Ml) 3.00 Moonlighting. (1982) 4.55 Miyazaki, Spirit Of Nature. (2024, PGav) 6.30 The Boy And The Heron. (2023) 8.50 Freud's Last Session. (2023) 10.50 A Beautiful Mind. (2001, Ma) 1.10am The Boy And The Heron. (2023) 3.15 Solace. (2015, MA15+asv) 5.00 The Movie Show. 5.35 Late Programs.	7TWO (72) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 Harry's Practice. Noon Medical Emergency. 12.30 South Aussie With Cosi. 1.00 Christmas With The Salvos. 1.30 Hornby: A Model Empire. 2.30 Escape To The Country. 5.30 Greatest Escapes To The Country. 6.15 Mrs Brown's Boys. 7.00 Vera. 9.00 Murdoch Mysteries. 11.00 Harry's Practice. 11.30 Better Homes. 12.30am Vera. 2.30 Million Dollar Minute. 3.30 Late Programs.	9GO! (99) 6am Morning Programs. 1pm Soccer. English Premier League. Manchester United v Bournemouth. Replay. 3.00 Premier League Stories. 3.45 MOVIE : Scooby-Doo. (2002, PG) 5.30 MOVIE : The Polar Express. (2004) 7.30 MOVIE : The Dark Knight Rises. (2012, M) 10.45 Gotham. 11.40 Arrow. 1.30am Jeopardy! UK. 2.30 Surfing Aust. 3.00 I Love VIP Pets. 3.20 Wild Manes. 3.40 Late Programs.	10 COMEDY (11) 6am Deal Or No Deal. 6.30 Frasier. 8.30 Ridiculousness. 9.30 Stephen Colbert. 12.30pm Ridiculousness. 1.30 Frasier. 2.30 Friends. 5.00 Big Bang. 8.05 Frasier. (PGa, R) 9.00 Ridiculousness. (PGa, R) 10.00 South Park. 11.00 Home Shopping. Midnight South Park. 1.00 Shopping. 4.30 GCBC. 5.00 Everyday Gourmet. 5.30 Ridiculousness.

Monday, December 22

ABC TV (22) 6.00 Great Australian Stuff. (PG, R) 7.00 News Breakfast. 9.30 Nigella's Christmas Kitchen. (R) 10.00 Take 5. (Final, R) 10.30 Vera. (Ma, R) 12.00 News. 1.00 Ningaloo Nyinggulu. (Final, R) 2.00 Death In Paradise. (Mv, R) 3.00 QI. (PG, R) 3.30 Nigella Bites. (R) 3.55 Grand Designs New Zealand. (R) 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PG, R) 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. (R)	SBS (3) 6am Morning Programs. 12.10 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News Weekend. 1.30 Al Jazeera News Hour. 2.00 Amazon: The Lost World. (PG, R) 2.55 Such Was Life. (R) 3.05 Going Places. (R) 3.35 Plat Du Tour. (R) 3.45 The Cook Up. (R) 4.15 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. (R) 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. (R)	SEVEN (7) 6.00 Sunrise. 7.30 The Morning Show Summer Series. (Return, PG) 10.30 MOVIE: Christmas In Pine Valley. (2022, PGa, R) Kristina Cole, Andrew Biernat. 12.30 Bridge Of Lies. 1.30 The Chase. (R) 2.30 Seven News At 4. 3.30 The Chase Australia. 4.30 Seven News. 5.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 9. Sydney Thunder v Brisbane Heat. From Manuka Oval, Canberra.	IMPARZA (9) 6.00 Today. 8.30 Today Extra Summer. (PG) 11.00 9News Morning. 11.30 MOVIE: Just Like A Christmas Movie. (2023, PGa) 1.30 Pointless. (PG, R) 2.30 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 3.30 9News Afternoon. 4.30 Tipping Point Australia. (PG, R) 5.30 9News.	TEN (10) 6am Morning Programs. 7.30 Lingo. (R) 8.30 Ent. Tonight. (R) 9.00 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. (R) 10.00 My Market Kitchen. (R) 10.30 Farm To Fork. 11.00 Family Feud. (PG, R) 11.30 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 12.00 MOVIE: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie. (2004, G, R) 2.00 Lingo. (R) 3.00 Bold. (PG) 3.30 News. 4.30 Bondi Rescue. (PG, R) 5.00 Deal Or No Deal. (R)
6.30 Hard Quiz Kids. (PG) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 I Was Actually There: Boxing Day Tsunami. (Ma, R) Firsthand accounts of the Boxing Day Tsunami. 8.00 MOVIE: Songs Inside. (2024, M) Incarcerated women enter a songwriting program. Nancy Bates. 9.30 MOVIE: Girls Can't Surf. (2020, M, R) A group of surfers challenge professionals. Layne Beachley, Pam Burridge. 11.15 Creative Types With Virginia Trioli: Tony Albert. (MA15+, R) 11.45 Grand Designs New Zealand. (R) 12.35 Long Lost Family. (PG, R) 1.20 Rage. (MA15+dhlnsv) 3.30 Parkinson In Australia. (PG, R) 4.35 Gardening Australia. (R) 5.35 Nigella Bites. (R)	6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Secrets Of The Tasmanian Tiger. (PG, R) A look at the Tasmanian tiger. 8.30 Never Mind The Buzzcocks Christmas. Greg Davies is joined by celebrity guests Chris Ramsey, Jordan North, Ella Henderson and Jamali Maddix. 9.25 Jimmy Carr's I Literally Just Told You. (M) Jimmy Carr hosts a comedic game show where paying attention pays off. 10.20 The 2010s: Peak TV. (MA15+av, R) 11.50 The Man Who Died. (Mav) 12.40 Culprits. (Malv, R) 2.45 Pagan Peak. (MA15+as, R) 4.30 Growing A Greener World. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	9.00 Big Bash League Post-Match. Post-match coverage of the game between the Sydney Thunder and Brisbane Heat. 9.30 Chicago Fire. (Mav) Boden returns on Grissom's orders to run a post-incident analysis after a house collapsed during a fire with a firefighter inside. 10.30 Girlfriends' Guide To Divorce. (MA15+) Jo's ex-husband comes to Los Angeles to spend time with his daughter. 12.30 Home Shopping. (R) 2.30 NBC Today. International news including interviews with people from the world of business, politics, media and sports. 3.30 Sunrise Early News. The latest news, sport and weather. 4.00 Sunrise. News, sport and weather.	6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 Travel Guides. (PGI, R) Ordinary Australians become travel critics. 8.30 MOVIE: Raiders Of The Lost Ark. (1981, Mv, R) An archaeologist and adventurer sets out on a quest to recover the fabled Ark of the Covenant. Harrison Ford, Karen Allen, John Rhys-Davies. 10.50 Sight Unseen. (Mv) A victim from a past case wakes from a coma. 11.40 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 12.35 Hello SA. (PG) 1.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 2.00 Global Shop. (R) 2.30 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 3.30 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) 4.00 A Current Affair. (R) 4.30 Today Early News. 5.00 Today.	6.00 Love It Or List It Australia. Andrew Winter helps a couple. 7.10 The Imposter. (Final, Madls) A beachfront hotel sparks family conflict when the matriarch won't sell, despite her children's wishes. 9.10 NCIS. (Mv, R) After discovering a navy pilot's body riddled with unusual wounds, the investigation draws the NCIS team into the rabbit hole of UFO conspiracy theories. 11.00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) Hosted by Stephen Colbert. 12.00 Home Shopping. (R) 3.00 CBS Mornings. 4.30 Entertainment Tonight. (R) 5.00 Good Chef Bad Chef. (R) 5.30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. (R)
ABC FAMILY (22) 6am Children's Programs. 11.10 Mister Maker Around The World. 11.30 Wiggle. 1.10pm Octonauts. 2.45 The Makery. 3.00 Play School. 3.40 Fizzy And Suds. 4.10 Andy's Safari Adventures. 4.25 Mojo Swopshops. 5.30 Peter Rabbit. 6.05 PJ Masks. 6.25 Paddington. 6.55 Tiddler. 7.35 Ninjago: Dragons Rising. 8.00 Operation Ouch! 8.30 TKO: Total Knock Out. 9.15 The Crystal Maze. 10.00 Late Programs.	SBS VICELAND (31) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 Mastermind Aust. Noon France 24 English News. 12.30 Rex In Rome. 3.50 WorldWatch. 5.45 Travel Man: 96 Hours In Iceland. 6.40 Jeopardy! 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 I Am Luke Perry. 10.05 The Billionaires Who Made Our World. 11.05 Question Team. 11.55 Django. 12.55am Love Around The World. 2.20 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera.	7MATE (70) 6am Morning Programs. Noon Rides Down Under: Workshop Wars. 1.00 Motor Racing. National Drag Racing C'ship. Top Fuel C'ship. Replay. 2.00 Billy The Exterminator. 3.00 American Resto. 3.30 Storage Wars. 4.00 American Pickers. 5.00 Pawn Stars. 6.00 Outback Opal Hunters. 8.00 Aussie Salvage Squad. 9.00 The Mightiest. 10.00 Engineering Disasters. 11.00 Storage Wars. 11.30 Late Programs.	9GEM (90) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 MOVIE: Shalako. (1968, PG) 1.50pm Antiques Roadshow. 2.20 MOVIE: Double Holiday. (2019) 4.00 Yorkshire Auction House. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 Death In Paradise. 7.10 MOVIE: GoldenEye. (1995, PG) 9.50 Shakespeare And Hathaway. 10.50 Antiques Roadshow. 11.20 Creflo. 11.50 MOVIE: Shalako. (1968, PG) 2.10am Innovation Nation. 2.30 Late Programs.	10 DRAMA (1) 6am Shopping. 6.30 Reel Action. 7.00 Everyday Gourmet. 7.30 Living Room. 8.30 JAG. 10.30 Days Of Our Lives. 11.15 The Young And The Restless. Noon Dog House. 1.00 JAG. 3.00 Living Room. 4.00 JAG. 6.00 NCIS. (M, R) 7.00 Blue Bloods. (Mv, R) 8.50 Fire Country. (Mmv, R) 10.45 48 Hours. 11.45 Shopping.
NITV (34) 6am Morning Programs. Noon Nat King Cole: Afraid Of The Dark. 2.00 Strait To The Plate. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Jarjums. 5.00 Harlem Globetrotters. 5.30 The 77 Percent. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Wildlife Rescue New Zealand. 7.30 Who Do You Think You Are? 8.30 Karla Grant Presents. 9.05 Diana Ross: Supreme Sensation. 9.55 MOVIE: Saturday Night Fever. (1977, MA15+) Midnight Supreme Team. 1.30 Late Programs.	SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 A Beautiful Mind. (2001, Ma) 12.25pm The Hummingbird. (2022, Mal, French, Italian) 2.45 The Boy And The Heron. (2023) 5.00 The Red Turtle. (2016, PGa, No dialogue) 6.30 Ponyo. (2008) 8.30 Hachi: A Dog's Tale. (2009, PGa) 10.15 Year Of The Dog. (2007, Ma) Midnight Ponyo. (2008) 1.55 La La Land. (2016, MI) 4.05 Freud's Last Session. (2023)	7TWO (72) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Weekender. 1.00 Horny: A Model Empire. 2.00 Harry's Practice. 2.30 Medical Emergency. 3.00 Better Homes. 4.00 Escape To The Country. 5.00 Bargain Hunt. 6.00 Doc Martin. 7.00 Endeavour. 9.00 Air Crash Inv: Accident Files. 10.00 Doc Martin. 11.00 Bargain Hunt. Midnight The Great Australian Doorstep. 12.30 Late Programs.	9GO! (99) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Golden Girls. 1.00 Nanny. 2.00 Seinfeld. 3.00 Addams Family. 3.30 Bewitched. 4.00 Jeannie. 4.30 Golden Girls. 5.00 Nanny. 6.00 Seinfeld. 7.00 MOVIE: Ghosts Of Girlfriends Past. (2009, M) 9.05 Seinfeld. 10.05 The 100. 11.05 The Vampire Diaries. 12.45am Pretty Little Liars. 2.30 Barbie: Dreamhouse Adventures. 3.00 Cry Babies Magic Tears. 3.20 Booba. 3.40 Late Programs.	10 COMEDY (11) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 Deal Or No Deal. 10.30 Taskmaster Australia. 11.30 Ridiculousness. 12.30pm Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Becker. 2.00 Frasier. 2.30 Farm To Fork. 3.00 Frasier. 3.30 Becker. 4.00 Frasier. 5.00 Friends. 6.30 Big Bang. 8.30 Becker. 9.00 Frasier. 10.00 Ridiculousness. 11.30 Shopping. 1am Bold. 2.00 Stephen Colbert. 3.00 Shopping. 4.00 GBCB. 5.00 Everyday Gourmet. 5.30 Ridiculousness.

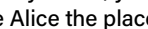
Tuesday, December 23

Please note: channel numbers and programming times may vary based on the broadcast signal received.

ABC (22) 6am Morning Programs. 9.30 Nigella's Christmas Kitchen. (R) 10.00 The Art Of... (PG, R) 10.30 Death In Paradise. (PG, R) 12.00 News. 1.00 Killer Whale: Australia's Megapod. (PG, R) 2.00 Death In Paradise. (Mv, R) 3.00 QI. (PG, R) 3.35 Nigella Bites. (R) 4.00 Grand Designs NZ. (PG, R) 4.45 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PGa, R) 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 6.30 Hard Quiz Kids. (R) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 The Piano UK. (PG, R) Hosted by Claudia Winkleman. 8.25 The Piano UK: The Incredibly Talented Lucy. (PG, R) The extraordinary story of blind pianist Lucy, following her as she is propelled into the limelight. 9.25 The Assembly: Ray Martin. (PG, R) A collective of Autistic journalism students interviews Australian journalist and entertainer Ray Martin. 10.55 Escaping Utopia. (Ma, R) 11.55 A Country Road: The Nationals. (Final, R) 12.55 Grand Designs New Zealand. (PG, R) 1.40 Long Lost Family. (PG, R) 2.30 Rage. (MA15+adhlinsv) 3.30 Parkinson In Australia. (PG, R) 4.35 Gardening Australia. (R) 5.35 Nigella Bites. (R)	SBS (3) 6am Morning Programs. 10.50 Who Do You Think You Are? (PGa, R) 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Darcey Bussell's Royal Road Trip. (R) 2.55 Such Was Life. (PG, R) 3.05 Going Places. (R) 3.35 Plat Du Tour. (R) 3.40 The Cook Up. (R) 4.10 Westminster Abbey: Behind Closed Doors. (R) 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. (R) 6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) Presented by Marc Fennell. 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Great British Railway Journeys: Edinburgh To Queensferry. (R) Presented by Michael Portillo. 8.30 Who Do You Think You Are? Olly Murs. (PG) Olly Murs, while exploring his grandfather's Latvian roots, discovers his great-grandparents were circus performers. 9.40 Australia In Colour: Crime And Punishment. (Md, R) A collection of coloured archival footage. 10.40 The 2010s: Music On Demand. (Malv, R) 11.30 Families Like Ours. (MA15+v) 12.30 De Gaulle. (Ma, R) 2.30 Nordland 99. (Mal, R) 4.30 Bamay. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	SEVEN (7) 6.00 Sunrise. 7.30 The Morning Show Summer Series. (PG) 10.30 MOVIE: Candy Cane Candidate. (2021, PGa, R) Jacky Lai, Jake Epstein. 12.30 Bridge Of Lies. 1.30 The Chase. (R) 2.30 Seven News At 4. 3.30 The Chase Australia. 4.30 Seven News. 5.30 Cricket. Big Bash League. Match 10. Adelaide Strikers v Melbourne Stars. 9.00 Seven's Cricket: The Spin. An expert panel examines all the big news and issues with a deep dive into the world of cricket. 9.45 Lopez Vs. Lopez. (PGal) When Mayan realises her only friend is her mother, she attempts to pick up where she left off with an old classmate. George is fed up with the family treating Churro like a baby. 10.45 Miniseries: London Spy. (MA15+ds) In a brutal interrogation, the police accuse Danny of being responsible for his lover's death. 12.00 Travel Oz. (R) Presented by Greg Grainger. 12.30 Home Shopping. (R) 2.30 NBC Today. News and current affairs. 3.30 Sunrise Early News. The latest news, sport and weather. 4.00 Sunrise. News, sport and weather.	IMPARZA (9) 6.00 Today. 8.30 Today Extra Summer. (PG) 11.00 9News Morning. 11.30 MOVIE: 12 Dares Of Christmas. (2023, G) 1.30 Pointless. (PG, R) 2.30 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 3.30 9News Afternoon. 4.30 Tipping Point Australia. (PG, R) 5.30 9News. 6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 Taronga: Who's Who In The Zoo: Emu Rescue. (PG) Taronga vets lead a koala rescue mission. 8.00 Jamie Durie's Future House. Jamie Durie races to complete his 3D-printed home. 9.05 Beyond The Build. Jimmy and Tam have settled in and thrived on family life on the Sunshine Coast. 10.05 Wild Cards. (Mv) Max poses as a singer. 11.00 La Brea. (Mav, R) 11.45 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 12.35 Cross Court. (R) 1.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 2.00 Skippy The Bush Kangaroo. (R) 2.30 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 3.30 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) 4.00 A Current Affair. (R) 4.30 Today Early News. 5.00 Today.	TEN (10) 6am Morning Programs. 7.30 Lingo. (R) 8.30 Ent. Tonight. 9.00 Jamie's Christmas Shortcuts. (R) 10.00 My Market Kitchen. (R) 10.30 Farm To Fork. 11.00 Family Feud. (PG, R) 11.30 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. (PGas, R) 12.30 Taskmaster Australia. (PGL, R) 1.30 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 2.00 Lingo. (R) 3.00 Bold. (PG) 3.30 News. 4.30 Bondi Rescue. (PG, R) 5.00 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 6.00 The Dog House Australia. (PGa, R) Narrated by Mark Coles Smith. 7.00 MOVIE: The First Wives Club. (1996, PGal, R) Three spurned women plot revenge. Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler. 9.05 Mariah Carey: Merry Christmas To All. (R) Mariah Carey performs a repertoire of her festive holiday hits, including <i>All I Want for Christmas Is You</i> , from the world-renowned Madison Square Garden in New York City. 11.00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) Hosted by Stephen Colbert. 12.00 Home Shopping. (R) 3.00 CBS Mornings. 4.30 Entertainment Tonight. (R) 5.00 Good Chef Bad Chef. (R) 5.30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. (R)
ABC FAMILY (22) 6am Children's Programs. 1.10pm Octonauts. 2.45 The Makery. 3.00 Play School. 4.40 Fizzy And Suds. 4.10 Andy's Safari Adventures. 4.25 Mojo Swoptops. 4.50 Bluey. 5.30 Peter Rabbit. 6.05 PJ Masks Power Heroes. 6.30 Ben And Holly. 6.50 Stick Man. 7.35 Ninjago: Dragons Rising. 8.00 Operation Ouch! 8.30 Animals Up Close With Bertie Gregory. 9.10 Super Shark Highway. 10.00 Late Programs.	SBS VICELAND (31) 6am Morning Programs. 8.40 CBC The National. 9.30 BBC News At Six. 10.00 Mastermind Aust. Noon DW The Day. 12.30 Homicide. 2.15 Heroines. 3.45 WorldWatch. 5.45 Travel Man: 96 Hours In Jordan. 6.40 Jeopardy! 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 Our Guy In Vietnam. 10.20 Hoarders. 11.15 Dark Side Of The Ring. 12.00am Bad Education. 1.20 Count Abudulla. 2.10 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera.	7MATE (70) 6am Morning Programs. Noon Outback Opal Hunters. 2.00 Billy The Exterminator. 2.30 American Resto. 3.30 Storage Wars. 4.00 American Pickers. 5.00 Pawn Stars. 6.00 Outback Truckers. 8.00 Railroad Australia. 9.00 Ice Road Truckers. 11.00 Storage Wars. 11.30 American Pickers. 12.30am Pawn Stars. 1.30 Outback Truckers. 2.30 Ice Road Truckers. 3.30 Swamp People. 4.30 Late Programs.	9GEM (90) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 MOVIE: My Brother Jonathan. (1948) 1.50pm Antiques Roadshow. 2.20 MOVIE: Welcome To Christmas. (2018) 4.00 Yorkshire Auction House. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 New Tricks. 7.10 MOVIE: Tomorrow Never Dies. (1997, M) 9.35 Major Crimes. 10.35 Shakespeare And Hathaway. 11.35 Crefilo. 12.05am MOVIE: My Brother Jonathan. (1948) 2.20 Late Programs.	10 DRAMA (1) 6am Shopping. 6.30 Escape Fishing. 7.30 Living Room. 8.30 JAG. 10.30 Days Of Our Lives. 11.15 The Young And The Restless. Noon Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 1.00 JAG. 3.00 Living Room. 4.00 JAG. 6.00 NCIS. (Mv, R) 7.00 Law & Order: SVU. (Ma, R) 8.50 Fire Country. (Mmv, R) 10.45 48 Hours. 11.45 Shopping.
NITV (34) 6am Morning Programs. 12.35pm Diana Ross: Supreme Sensation. 1.30 Our Law. 2.00 Strait To The Plate. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Jarjums. 5.00 Harlem Globetrotters. 5.30 Indian Country Today News. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Wildlife Rescue New Zealand. 7.30 Water Worlds. 8.30 Unleash The Beast. 9.30 Hunting Aotearoa. 10.30 MOVIE: Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale. (2010, M) Midnight Late Programs.	SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) 6am Morning Programs. 10.40 La La Land. (2016, M) 1pm Freud's Last Session. (2023) 3.00 Ponyo. (2008) 5.00 The Snow Foxes. (2023, PGv) 6.30 Kiki's Delivery Service. (1989) 8.30 Starring Dick Van Dyke. 10.25 Divorce American Style. (1967, Ma) 12.25am Kiki's Delivery Service. (1989) 2.30 Year Of The Dog. (2007, Ma) 4.20 Under The Cover Of Cloud. (2018, PGals)	7TWO (72) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Creek To Coast. 1.00 Air Crash Inv: Accident Files. 2.00 Harry's Practice. 2.30 Medical Emergency. 3.00 Better Homes. 4.00 Escape To The Country. 5.00 Bargain Hunt. 6.00 Call The Midwife. 7.15 Judge John Deed. 9.15 Miniseries: Without Sin. 10.15 Bargain Hunt. 11.15 Room For Improvement. Midnight The Great Australian Doorstep. 12.30 Late Programs.	9GO! (99) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Golden Girls. 1.00 Nanny. 2.00 Seinfeld. 3.00 Addams Family. 3.30 Bewitched. 4.00 Jeannie. 4.30 Golden Girls. 5.00 Nanny. 6.00 Seinfeld. 7.00 MOVIE: Elf. (2003) 9.00 Seinfeld. 10.00 The 100. 11.00 The Vampire Diaries. 12.40am Pretty Little Liars. 2.30 Barbie: Dreamhouse Adventures. 3.00 Cry Babies Magic Tears. 3.20 Booba. 3.40 Late Programs.	10 COMEDY (11) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 Deal Or No Deal. 10.30 Taskmaster Australia. 11.30 Ridiculousness. 12.30pm Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Becker. 2.00 Frasier. 2.30 Farm To Fork. 3.00 Frasier. 3.30 Becker. 4.00 Frasier. 5.00 Friends. 6.30 Big Bang. 8.30 Becker. 9.00 Frasier. 10.00 Ridiculousness. 11.30 Shopping. 1am Bold. 2.00 Stephen Colbert. 3.00 Shopping. 4.30 GCBC. 5.00 Everyday Gourmet. 5.30 Ridiculousness.

GIVE2GIVE 2025

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Be Change.
For Alice.



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Wednesday, December 24

ABC TV (22) 6am Morning Programs. 9.30 Nigella's Christmas Kitchen. (Final, R) 10.00 MOVIE: Songs Inside. (2024, M), R) 11.30 Maggie Beer's Christmas Feast. (R) 12.00 News. 1.00 The Piano UK. (PG, R) 1.55 Death In Paradise. (Mv, R) 2.55 Would I Lie To You? (PG, R) 3.30 Nigella Bites. (R) 3.55 Grand Designs NZ. (R) 4.40 Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PG, R) 5.30 Antiques Roadshow. (R)	SBS (3) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 Inside Oxford Street. (PG, R) 10.50 Who Do You Think You Are? (PGa, R) 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 France 24. 1.00 PBS News. 2.00 Darcey Bussell's Royal Road Trip. (R) 2.55 Such Was Life. (R) 3.05 Going Places. (R) 3.35 Plat Du Tour. (R) 3.40 The Cook Up. (R) 4.10 London Zoo At Christmas. (PG, R) 5.05 Jeopardy! 5.30 Letters And Numbers. (R)	SEVEN (7, 71) 6.00 Sunrise. 7.30 The Morning Show Summer Series. (PG) 10.30 MOVIE: Murder, She Baked: A Plum Pudding Mystery. (2015, PGav, R) Alison Sweeney, Cameron Mathison. 12.30 Bridge Of Lies. 1.30 The Chase. (R) 2.30 Seven News At 4. 3.30 The Chase Australia. 4.30 Seven News. 5.30 The 1% Club UK. (PG, R)	IMPARJA (9) 6.00 Today. 8.30 Today Extra Summer. (PG) 11.00 9News Morning. 11.30 MOVIE: Under The Christmas Sky. (2023, G) 1.30 Pointless. (PG, R) 2.30 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 3.30 9News Afternoon. 4.30 Tipping Point Australia. (PG, R) 5.30 9News.	TEN (10) 6am Morning Programs. 7.30 Lingo. (R) 8.30 Ent. Tonight. 9.00 Jamie's Cook Ahead Christmas. (R) 10.00 My Market Kitchen. (R) 10.30 Farm To Fork. 11.00 Family Feud. (PG, R) 11.30 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. (PGas, R) 12.30 Taskmaster Australia. (PGal, R) 1.30 Deal Or No Deal. (R) 2.00 Lingo. (R) 3.00 Bold. (PG) 3.30 News. 4.30 Bondi Rescue. (PG, R) 5.00 Deal Or No Deal. (R)
6.30 Hard Quiz Kids. (PG, R) 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 Shaun Micallef's Eve Of Destruction. (PG) 8.10 Guy Montgomery's Guy Mont Spelling Bee. (PG) Presented by Guy Montgomery. 9.00 QI. (Mls) Hosted by Sandi Toksvig. 9.30 Would I Lie To You? (PG, R) Hosted by Rob Brydon. 10.00 Spicks And Specks. (Final, PG, R) 10.35 Utopia. (PG, R) 11.25 You Can't Ask That. (Mals, R) 12.35 Grand Designs New Zealand. (R) 1.20 Long Lost Family. (PG, R) 2.10 Rage. (MA15+adhlinsv) 3.30 Parkinson In Australia. (PG, R) 4.35 Gardening Australia. (R) 5.35 Nigella Bites. (R)	6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Big Fat Quiz Of Everything. (Mls, R) Presented by Jimmy Carr. 9.05 Rock Legends: Elton John. (PGd, R) Documents the career of Elton John, from his days as a budding songwriter to his peak in the '70s. 9.35 Crime. (MA15+) Lennox must save an attacker's third victim. 10.30 The 2010s: Obama - Legacy On The Line. (Ma, R) 11.20 Mirusia: Live In Concert. 12.50 Daddy Issues. (Mls, R) 4.00 Growing A Greener World. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	6.30 MOVIE: The Holiday. (2006, Mls, R) Two women switch homes for Christmas. Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet. 9.10 Chicago Fire. (Ma) Severide investigates an old house fire from 10 years ago in which Kidd had responded. 10.10 Border Security: Australia's Front Line. (PG, R) Officers stop two newlyweds at the border. 10.35 MOVIE: The Other Me. (2021, Mav, R) A woman searches for her missing daughter. Sheena Peña, Jim Klock. 12.30 Home Shopping. (R) 2.30 Larry The Wonder Pup. (R) 4.00 NBC Today. 5.30 Carols In The Domain. (PG, R)	6.30 A Current Affair. 7.00 Christmas With Delta. (R) A Christmas concert with Delta Goodrem. 7.30 Carols By Candlelight. (PG) Coverage of the Vision Australia Carols by Candlelight from Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Melbourne. 10.30 MOVIE: Noel Next Door. (2022, PGa) A single mum gets into a war of words with a neighbour. Natalie Hall. 12.10 Tipping Point. (PG, R) 1.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 2.00 Global Shop. (R) 2.30 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 3.30 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) 4.00 Nine Perth Presents: Christmas In WA. (PG, R) 5.00 Thunderbirds. (R)	6.00 Gordon Ramsay's Secret Service. (PGal) Presented by Gordon Ramsay. 7.00 The Cheap Seats. (MA15+I, R) Presented by Melanie Bracewell and Tim McDonald. 8.00 MOVIE: Patriot Games. (1992, Mv, R) A former CIA agent becomes a target for assassination after shooting an IRA terrorist. Harrison Ford, Anne Archer. 10.20 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) Hosted by Stephen Colbert. 11.30 Hour Of Power Christmas Eve Special. Religious program. 12.30 Home Shopping. (R) 3.00 CBS Mornings. 4.30 Jamie Oliver: Christmas. (R) 5.30 Jamie's One-Pan Christmas. (R)
ABC FAMILY (22) 6am Children's Programs. 1.30pm PJ Masks. 1.50 Kangaroo Beach. 2.45 The Makery. 3.00 Play School. 3.40 Fizzy And Suds. 4.10 Andy's Safari Adventures. 4.25 Mojo Swoptops. 5.30 Peter Rabbit. 6.05 PJ Masks Power Heroes. 6.55 Tabby McTat. 7.35 Ninjago: Dragons Rising. 8.00 Merry Madagascar. 8.25 MOVIE: The Night Before Christmas In Wonderland. (2024) 9.45 A (Very) Musical Christmas. 11.20 Late Programs.	SBS VICELAND (31) 6am Morning Programs. 12.15pm DW The Day. 12.45 Stone Cold Takes On America. 1.35 If You Are The One. 3.45 WorldWatch. 5.45 Travel Man: Jon Hamm In Hong Kong. 6.40 Jeopardy! 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats. 8.30 Adam Hills: The Last Leg. 9.20 MOVIE: Gremlins. (1984, M) 11.20 Tis The Season: The Holidays On Screen. 12.55am Show Me The Father. 2.35 NHK World English News. 5.00 Late Programs.	7MATE (70) 6am Morning Programs. Noon Outback Truckers. 2.00 Billy The Exterminator. 3.00 American Resto. 3.30 Storage Wars. 4.00 American Pickers. 5.00 Pawn Stars. 6.00 Highway Patrol. 7.00 The Force: BTL. 8.00 Caught On Dashcam Holiday Specials. 9.00 World's Wildest Police Videos. 10.00 Live PD Presents: PD Cam. 10.30 American Resto. 11.00 Storage Wars. 11.30 American Pickers. 12.30am Late Programs.	9GEM (90) 6am Morning Programs. 11.30 MOVIE: Wonderful Life. (1964) 1.50pm Antiques Roadshow. 2.20 MOVIE: It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas. (2019) 4.00 Yorkshire Auction House. 5.00 Antiques Roadshow. 6.00 TBA. 7.10 MOVIE: The World Is Not Enough. (1999, M) 9.45 How We Celebrate. 10.45 Shakespeare And Hathaway. 11.45 Creflo. 12.15am MOVIE: Wonderful Life. (1964) 2.30 Late Programs.	10 DRAMA (1) 6am Shopping. 6.30 Escape Fishing. 7.30 Living Room. 8.30 JAG. 10.30 Days Of Our Lives. 11.15 The Young And The Restless. Noon Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Australia. 1.00 JAG. 3.00 Living Room. 4.00 JAG. 6.00 NCIS. (Mv, R) 7.00 Law & Order: SVU. (Mav, R) 8.50 Fire Country. (Mav, R) 10.45 48 Hours. 11.45 Shopping.
NITV (34) 6am Morning Programs. Noon Big Boss. 12.30 Unleash The Beast. 1.30 Off Country. 2.00 Strait To The Plate. 2.30 The Cook Up. 3.00 Jarjums. 5.00 Harlem Globetrotters. 5.30 News. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 Arctic Secrets. 7.30 Ocean Warriors: Mission Ready. 8.30 MOVIE: Scrooged. (1988, M) 10.15 Uncharted With Alicia Keys. Midnight Supreme Team. 1.00 The Rap Game UK. 3.00 Late Programs.	SBS WORLD MOVIES (32) 6am Morning Programs. 11.00 Year Of The Dog. (2007, Ma) 12.55pm Starring Dick Van Dyke. 2.55 Kiki's Delivery Service. (1989) 4.55 Mosley. (2019, PGav) 6.50 My Neighbour Totoro. (1988, PG) 8.30 Bye Bye Birdie. (1963, PGa) 10.35 The Comic. (1969, PGansv) 12.25am My Neighbour Totoro. (1988) 2.05 Divorce American Style. (1967, Ma) 4.05 Mosley. (2019, PGav)	7TWO (72) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm The Zoo. 1.00 The Master. 2.00 Harry's Practice. 2.30 Medical Emergency. 3.00 Better Homes. 4.00 Escape To The Country. 5.00 Bargain Hunt. 6.00 Heartbeat. 7.15 Inspector George Gently. 9.15 Charles: The Monarch And The Man. 10.15 Bargain Hunt. 11.15 Room For Improvement. Midnight The Great Australian Doorstep. 12.30 Late Programs.	9GO! (99) 6am Morning Programs. 12.30pm Golden Girls. 1.00 Nanny. 2.00 Seinfeld. 3.00 Addams Family. 3.30 Bewitched. 4.00 Jeannie. 4.30 Golden Girls. 5.00 Nanny. 6.00 Seinfeld. 7.00 MOVIE: Unseen Enemy. (2025, MA15+) 9.10 MOVIE: A Savage Christmas. (2023, M) 11.00 The Vampire Diaries. 12.40am Pretty Little Liars. 2.30 Barbie: Dreamhouse Adventures. 3.00 Late Programs.	10 COMEDY (11) 6am Morning Programs. 10.00 Deal Or No Deal. 10.30 Taskmaster Australia. 11.30 Ridiculousness. 12.30pm Stephen Colbert. 1.30 Becker. 2.00 Frasier. 2.30 Farm To Fork. 3.00 Frasier. 3.30 Becker. 4.00 Frasier. 5.00 Friends. 6.30 Big Bang. 8.30 Becker. 9.00 Frasier. 10.00 Ridiculousness. 11.00 Shopping. 1am Bold. 2.00 Stephen Colbert. 3.00 Shopping. 4.30 GCBC. 5.00 Everyday Gourmet. 5.30 Ridiculousness.

On Demand

FACING THE MUSIC

AMADEUS
Streaming from Sunday, **Binge**

When it comes to famous fights, the modern music industry is spoiled for choice. But Kendrick Lamar's Super Bowl diss, Kanye West and Taylor Swift's public disputes, the Gallagher brothers' beef and even the Lennon-McCartney rivalry all look like child's play when compared to one of history's greatest clashes: composer Antonio Salieri's 30-year feud with Wolfgang "Amadeus" Mozart.

Based on Peter Shaffer's award-winning 1979 stage play (previously brought to life in Miloš Forman's 1984 Best Picture-winning film), this bold limited series takes its fair share of liberties in reimagining the rise of Mozart (Will Sharpe, *The White Lotus*, *Too Much*) in 18th-century Vienna.

Aged 25 when he arrives in the city, the former child prodigy craves creative freedom as he escapes his domineering father's control. Mozart's charm and undeniable talent soon grab the attention of fiery singer Constanze (Gabrielle Creevy) and pious court composer Salieri (Paul Bettany, *A Very British Scandal*).

A friendship forms between the two men and despite the devoutly religious Salieri's reservations about Mozart's more salacious behaviour, he introduces him to Emperor Joseph II (Rory Kinnear). As time goes on, Salieri's quiet disapproval fuels an envy that leads to a deadly, decades-long obsession.

Though not entirely faithful to the history books, Sharpe's paradoxical performance as a mischievous yet moody Mozart and Bettany's slowly unravelling Salieri are the high notes of this symphonic saga. - **Lauren Mitchell**



Stroke of genius: *Amadeus* charts the rivalry between Wolfgang Mozart (Will Sharpe) and Antonio Salieri (Paul Bettany, inset).



EMILY IN PARIS
Streaming, **Netflix**

Emily (Lily Collins, pictured) might be living la dolce vita in Rome with Marcello (Eugenio Franceschini) now, but the American marketing maven hasn't quite said "arrivederci" to the city of lights – or Parisian flame Gabriel (Lucas Bravo) – just yet. The fifth season of this romantic comedy spans France and Italy as Emily strives to find where she belongs.



THE PHONECIAN SCHEME
Streaming from Saturday, **Binge**

Why it took so long for kooky filmmaker Wes Anderson and indie darling Michael Cera to collaborate is anyone's guess, but the results speak for themselves. Cera excels as Norwegian entomologist Bjorn in this out-there black comedy about arms dealer Zsa-Zsa (Benicio del Toro) and his estranged daughter Liesl (Mia Threapleton, pictured with Cera).



BORN TO BE WILD
Streaming from Friday, **Apple TV**

As the narrator of this nature doco, *Downton Abbey* star Hugh Bonneville makes a strong case for being the next David Attenborough. The heartwarming series charts the efforts to raise endangered animals and reintroduce them to the wild. From an elephant calf to rescued African penguins and Iberian lynx kittens (pictured), there's cuteness galore.



FALLOUT
Streaming, **Prime Video**

Macaulay Culkin, Kumail Nanjiani and Justin Theroux join the survivors list for season two of this big-budget post-apocalyptic video game adaptation. Thrilling mysteries and revealing flashbacks are on the horizon as Lucy (Ella Purnell, pictured) and The Ghoul (Walton Goggins) make their way through the wasteland of the Mojave Desert to the city of New Vegas, in pursuit of her villainous father Hank (Kyle MacLachlan).



THE MADAME BLANC MYSTERIES
Streaming, **Acorn TV**

Christmas is twice as nice for *Madame Blanc* enthusiasts this year, with not one but two festive specials set in the fictional French village of Sainte Victoire. Jean (Sally Lindsay, pictured) is invited to authenticate a rare box once owned by Marie Antoinette, but her delight turns to horror when she discovers a ticking bomb inside. Locked in the local museum with a killer, Jean has just 90 minutes to solve a riddle and avert disaster.



Jessie May @ 8CCC One Frequency Festival. Photo by Martina Capurso.



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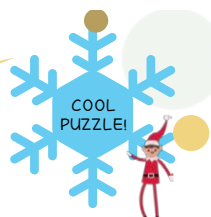


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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



1. Middle-right window colour. 2. Red present on roof. 3. Xmas tree bauble colour.
4. Door decoration. 5. Snowman's nose direction. 6. Present next to snowman.
7. Berries on the left side of Santa's sleigh. 8. Red bead hanging from the roof.
9. The owl's scarf. 10. Yellow bauble shape.

HOW MANY ELVES CAN YOU FIND ON THE PAGE?

COLOUR ME



Why did the gingerbread man go to school?
Because he wanted to be a smart cookie!

What do you call Santa when he takes a break?
Santa Pause.

IN FOR DS TO MAKE!



CHERRY RIPE BALLS

Ingredients

- Crushed biscuits
- Condensed milk
- Shaved coconut
- Finely chopped cherries



Directions

- Add all ingredients to a mixing bowl and mix until combined.
- Form into even sized balls.
- Chill for 1 hour.
- Drizzle melted chocolate and enjoy!

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a haven for the senses

...unwind with us

4.30 - 8pm

Music courtesy of Jackson

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PROUD: It was a proud moment for Charlie and Paul Rumpff as he was invested as a Group Leader of the Alice Springs Scout Group. (519980)



JOEYS: Twin sisters, Isla and Leona McLain, are invested by NT Commissioner, Adrian Williams and Australian Scouting's Chief Commander, Brendan Watson. (519980)

Scout chiefs do the honours

By Phil Williams

THE Alice Springs Scouts recently celebrated an important night in the group's history with a visit from two of the country's highest Scouts.

At one of the group's regular meetings, Chief Commander of Scouts in Australia Brendan Watson and the NT Chief Commissioner of Scouts Adrian Williams invested two joeys, four new scouts and a new leader, bolstering the ranks of the local group.

Paul Rumpff, who has been volunteering with the group during the past 12 months, was invested as a Group Leader.

In a poignant moment one of the group's senior scouts, Charlie Rumpff, Mr Rumpff's daughter, placed his scarf around his neck as he was invested by the Chief Commissioner.

"I was honoured to be invested into the role with both the Chief Commissioner of Australia and the Northern Territory Commissioner present," Mr Rumpff said.

"It is a great honour to carry on the work of the previous Group Leaders, playing just a small part in offering opportunity for the youth of Alice Springs to develop, to experience the great things that Scouting has to offer and to keep scouting relevant in these changing times

and demonstrate that scouting is still a key part of the community.

"The experience of Scouts is meant to be fun and educational and I know the youth involved will take skills forward that they will use in the future."

Earlier in the night, twins Isla and Leona McLain became the newest members of group, invested as Joeys.

The Chief Commander also invested Sofia McLain, Elvis du Venge, Oakley Venables and Mandela Quilliam as scouts.

One of the group's other leaders, Nichola Rumpff, was also announced as the Northern Territory's Deputy Contingent Leader for the next Australian Scout Jamboree, AJ2028, which will be held in Victoria from December 28, 2027, to January 6, 2028

The following day, the Chief Commander and and NT Chief Commissioner travelled to Yulara to open Australia's newest scout group, investing 10 scouts as its first members.

Chief Commander Watson said it was an exciting time for Scouting, not only in Australia, but across the Northern Territory.

Commissioner Williams said: "The most important thing is, scouting in the Territory is growing."



SCOUTS: Australian Scouting's Chief Commander Brendan Watson and NT Commissioner Adrian Williams invest Sofia McLain, Elvis du Venge, Oakley Venables and Mandela Quilliam as Scouts. (Phil Williams: 519980)

Stepping up for respect and reducing risk in relationships

By Gladys Barreta

A NEW program helping engage young people and their families about healthy relationships and risky sexual behaviours was launched in Alice Springs last month.

The program, called Step Up! Respect, is a family, domestic and sexual violence prevention program designed to empower young people with the knowledge and skills to recognise and respond to harmful and risky behaviours.

The program aims to equip influential adults to normalise these conversations and uplift young people so they are supported to have the healthy relationships everyone deserves.

Co-designed by Tangentyere Council in partnership with young people and youth services in Central Australia, the program is based on feedback and evidence about experiences related to risky and harmful behaviours and consent.

Tangentyere Family Violence Prevention Program Manager Chay Brown said through using a trauma-informed and strengths-based approach, Step Up! Respect gave young people and significant adults the tools to normalise conversations about these issues.

"It reinforces that consent is their right in a healthy relationship and that it is something



STEP UP!: Katana and Connie Shaw at the Step Up! Respect campaign launch. (Phil Williams: 522053)

they can give or withdraw at any time," Ms Brown said.

"It also equips the adults in their lives with the confidence and tools to initiate and normalise these conversations, which can be tricky to start and navigate."

The program is the first of its kind in Central Australia.

"There are massive gaps. Most education on these topics comes through school pathways, and for many young people, they are disengaged from school or the content is not accessible or relevant which is why this program is so important," Ms Brown said.

"Other programs may not cover topics such as the impacts of pornography, sexual strangulation, and other risky behaviours.

"A lot of the time, young people are getting their education from pornography and it's not that pornography itself is always harmful, but it can be harmful without appropriate sex education.

"We want to have those tricky conversations and turn them into transformative conversations, not about shaming or blaming, but about giving young people the information they need to make healthy choices and build healthy relationships."

The program aims to provide young people with activity-based learning grounded in sports, games, and guided conversations.

For adults, the program offers training sessions and workshops to empower them with the information and confidence they need to start conversations with young people.

"For young people who aren't engaged in school, where can they access this information? We go to sporting clubs and community centres, places where young people already are," Ms Brown said.

"Under the program we will deliver free and flexible sessions to interested young people and their significant adults such as coaches, community workers, carers and families."

EVENTS

ALICE SPRINGS

Todd Mall Markets

Todd Mall | Sundays (check ASTC website for dates)
Local crafts, produce, food stalls and live entertainment.

Central Craft – Digital Textile Design Program

47 Elder St | Every Tuesday
Hands-on textile workshops exploring digital design with Central Craft and Bindi Enterprises.

Pickleball Sessions for Seniors

The Marian Centre | Sundays 9-11AM
Weekly social pickleball games for seniors and community members.

Children’s Art Literacy Program

6 Memorial Avenue, Gillen (Araluen Cultural Precinct) | Wednesdays to Sundays 11AM-3PM
Free food, jumping castle and everyone gets a certificate for participating. More info: centralaustralianaviationmuseum.org.au

Free Qigong Class

10 Speed Street | Thursdays 5:30pm
Qigong is an ancient Chinese practice combining gentle movements, controlled breathing, and meditation improving body movement.

TENNANT CREEK

Soccer Games

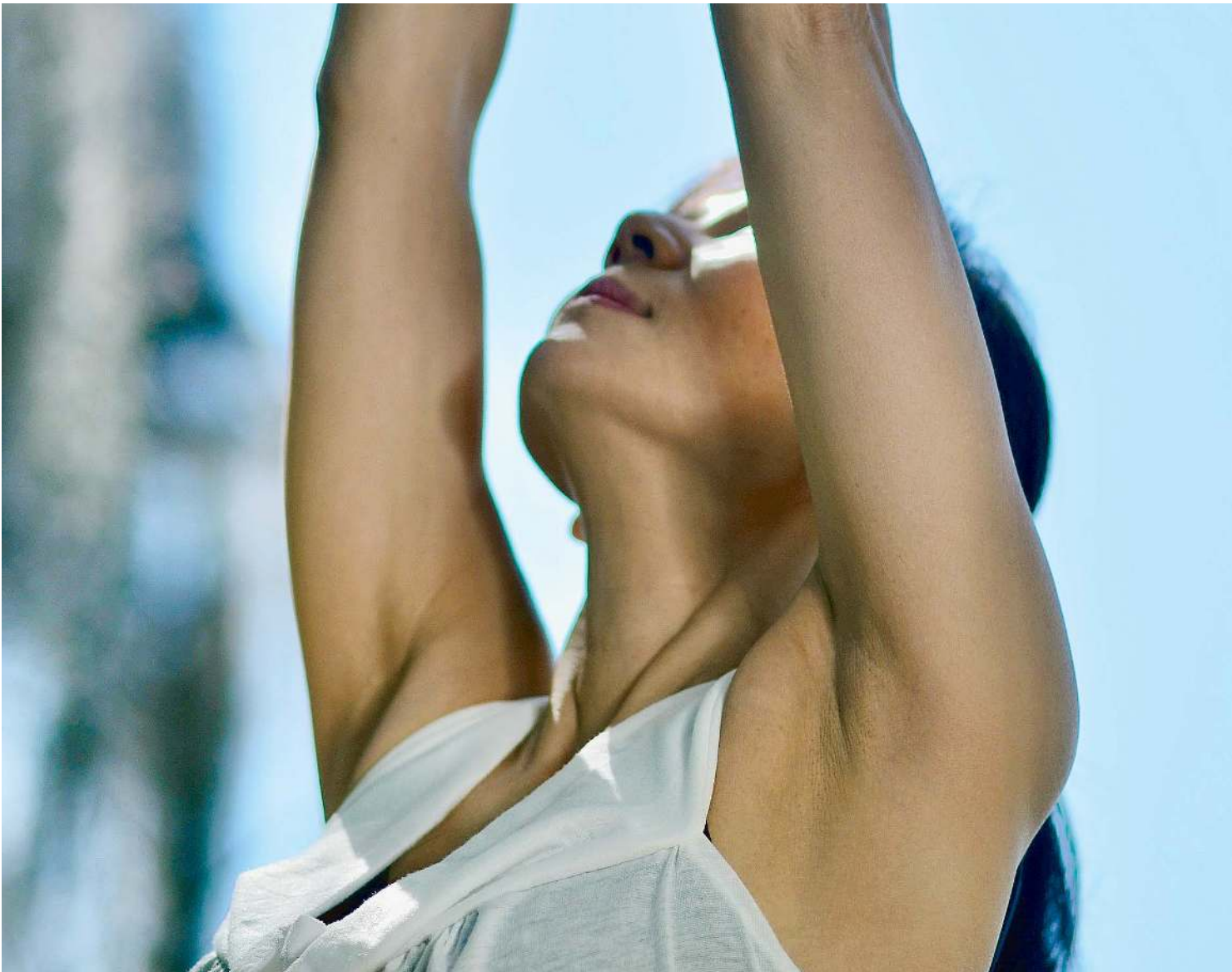
Basketball Court | Every Wednesday and Friday from 5:30PM
Tennant Creek Football Club contacts: Gaurab (Gary): 0426 664 865, Shanav: 0466 579 997

Sunday Craft

CWA Hall, Noble Street | Sundays 10AM-noon
Bring along your craft project. Enjoy a cuppa and a chat with our members.

Community Support Group

58 Paterson Street | Wednesdays 5-6PM



MOVEMENT: Free Qigong classes on Thursdays, 5.30pm. (Unsplash)

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EXTENDED TRADING HOURS

DECEMBER	
Saturday 20th	7am to 9pm
Sunday 21st	7am to 9pm
Monday 22nd	7am to 9pm
Tuesday 23rd	7am to 9pm
Wednesday 24th	7am to 7pm
Thursday 25th	CLOSED
Friday 26th	8am to 7pm
Saturday 27th	7am to 7pm
Sunday 28th	7am to 7pm
Monday 29th	7am to 7pm
Tuesday 30th	7am to 7pm
Wednesday 31st	7am to 7pm

JANUARY	
Thursday 1st	8am to 7pm
Friday 2nd	7am to 7pm

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Darren and Marion Burton with some of the homewares in their new Bale Indoor-Outdoor store. (524382)



COSY: Marion and Darren Burton with Bale manager Kate Ryan. (524382)

First Christmas an occasion

By Phil Williams

TO celebrate the first Christmas of the new Bale Indoor-Outdoor homeware and decor store, Marion and Darren Burton hosted a celebration at the shop earlier this month.

Around 60 people attended the occasion with several winning themselves a lucky door prize, chosen at random from a selection of wrapped gift boxes.

The guest list included members of the Alice Springs Town Council and prominent locals and businesspeople of Alice Springs.



Alison and Jemima Bitar looking bright and cheery at the Bale Christmas event. (524382)



Franciose Builder and Mags Zwart sharing Christmas cheer at the Bale event. (Phil Williams: 524382)



SMILES: Jenny and John Tooche with Sean Heenan at the Bale Christmas event. (524382)



IDEAS: Marty Taylor and Simon Ingram sharing ideas at the Bale event. (524382)



CATCH UP: Stephanie Taylor and Alex Skipsey Williams catching up at the Bale event. (524382)

Celebrating efforts in ability

By Phil Williams

MEMBERS of the Alice Springs disability community gathered at the Double Tree in early December to celebrate the efforts of those in the industry.

The Alice Springs Mayoral Awards are celebrated annually in line with the International Day of People with a Disability on December 3 and highlight the contributions made by individuals with disability and by individuals for disability communities.

The Alice Springs Mayoral Awards highlight, acknowledge and give thanks to the people in the community who 'make a difference'.

This can be demonstrated either in their own lives or through their actions and commitment to others.

Amanda Knight was recognised with the Noteworthy Award while Raylene Kunoth received the Champion Award.

The prestigious Michele Castagna Medal, given to an individual who displays tenacity, was awarded to Sammy Butcher.



COLOUR: Cassie Rowan with Charlotte and Lona Sadrev looking colourful with their leis at the Mayor's NDIS Awards. (Phil Williams: 524545)



JOYFUL SOULS: Rohan Rowling, Scot Berry and Deb Tidey at the NDIS Awards on the Day of Disability. (524545)



COMPANY: Kelly Ryan, Jules Ray, Brooke O'Connor and Alice Di Giacomo get together at the NDIS Awards. (524545)



GREETERS: Eva Tainamu, Cecile Ryan and Ola Rzczowska welcomed attendees to the Mayor's NDIS Awards. (524545_01)



SISTERS: Deb Tidey and Donna Digby at the Day of Disability event. (524545)



**Mparntwe
Urgent Care
Clinic**

Urgent care, if you need it at Christmas

We hope you don't need us, but just in case, the Mparntwe Urgent Care Clinic is open every day of the year including Christmas Day, New Years Day and other public holidays.

Monday - Friday: 10am - 6pm | Weekends & Public Holidays: 1pm - 5pm

Mparntwe Urgent Care Clinic provides walk-in, bulk-billed* urgent medical attention for all people in Alice Springs with an illness or injury that can be managed without a trip to the emergency department, but cannot wait for a regular appointment with a GP.

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The Mparntwe Urgent Care Clinic is delivered by Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (Congress) on behalf of the Australian Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

Social

Icy Pole run takes cool turn

Phil Williams

THE ringing bells of the annual Apex Icy Pole Run sounded out through the streets of Alice on Sunday, December 7.

The event has been a staple on the town's Christmas calendar for almost 50 years

Almost 100 volunteers dressed for Christmas riding on the back of tinsel covered and decorated utes.

Starting as a convoy before splitting up, they drove through every part of town, including all the town camps, handing out icy poles to kids as they came outside to line the streets.

About 4500 of the frozen treats, all donated by food wholesaler Smimac Food Services, were given out during the four-hour run through the town's suburbs. Smimac also provided access to their premises for the volunteers to muster before and after the event.

A host of other businesses also provided corporate support along with the Council and various government institutions who coordinated permits for the event.

- 1: ICY POLES: The Icy Pole Run volunteers give a big cheer before they start the run. (Phil Williams: 524470)
- 2: READY: Georgina Kay, Lachlan Jackson, Arwen Frederick, Alexandra Shine and Jack McCarthy preparing for the Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 3: MERRY CHRISTMAS: Cubbies members in fine form at the start of the Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 4: DECORATED: The decorated Icy Pole convoy sets out. (524470)
- 5: FUN: Amelia Moar and Juniper Ship get into the fun of the Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 6: FIRIES: The Alice Springs Motorsport Fire and Rescue Team give a wave as they start the Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 7: CONVOY: The convoy of Icy Pole Runners sets off. (524470)
- 8: ANGELIQUE and Michael Stiller get ready to take Teddy on her first Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 9: PIXIES: Christmas pixies give a wave during the Apex Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 10: SANTA: Wyatt Martin enjoying himself as Santa at the start of the Icy Pole Run. (524470)
- 11: CHEER: Volunteers on the Icy Pole Run on the way to handing out Christmas cheer. (524470)





12: DRESSED: Susan Murray, Emma Murray, Olivia Bonora, Raelene Sidebottom and Darren Moar dressed all Christmassy for the Apex Icy Pole Run. (PHIL WILLIAMS: 524470)



15: ELVES: Emma Bell and Kendall Pearson ready to hand out some Christmas cheer. (524470)

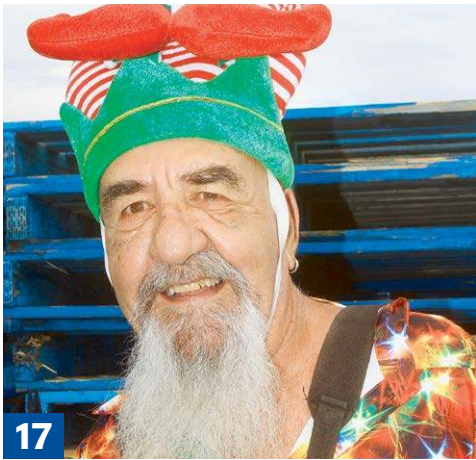
13: SMILES: Renee Ohlmus with Sarah, Delaney and Ben Crawford as they get ready for the Icy Pole Run. (524470)

16: SANTA: Santa looks over the Lasseters crew as they get ready for the Icy Pole Run. (524470)

17: BRIGHT: Peter Mifsud was hard to miss as he dressed for the occasion. (524470)

14: CUBBIES: Members of the Dingo Cubs Ruby Union Club before the Icy Pole Run. (524470)

18: Laura Grote, Lin Phan, Marijke Maith and Ayu Devi at the Icy Pole Run breakfast. (524470)





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CHAT: Tom Falzon, Reg Ramsden and Bradley Kerkman share some ideas at the TCA AGM. (521939)



NETWORKING: Wyat Martin and Ian Solomon catch up for some networking at the TCA event. (521939)



CONNECTING: Deb Moyle and Gayle Shearer at the Tourism Central Australia event. (521939)

Tourism industry celebrates

By Phil Williams

TOURISM operators and other stakeholders from across Central Australia came together last month for the Tourism Central Australia AGM.

During the meeting, Alice Springs Reptile Centre Founder, Rex Neindorf along with tourism visionary and long-time TCA member, Grant Whan were bestowed with life membership.

The memory of one of TCA's original members was also honoured with an annual award and perpetual trophy named in her honour.

Grant Whan was also named the recipient of one of the TCA's highest honours, the Barry Bucholtz Award for Excellence.

Following the meeting, the group came together in a casual setting to celebrate the end of the year and to welcome the new board of directors for 2026.



CHEERS: Kylie Payne, Glen Nelson, Sienna McGregor and Emma Ahmed toasting 2025 at the TCA Christmas event. (Phil Williams: 521939)



FUN: Mick and Jane and Ticehurst were getting into the fun of the TCA Christmas event. (521939)



WE ALL SCREAM: TCA's Tash Furrows and Ian Bowhay share a crazy moment on the ice cream cart at the TCA AGM and Christmas event. (521939)



CATCH UP: TCA staff from across the region took the chance for a rare catch up. (521939)



CELEBRATION: Katrina and Grant Whan with Rex Neindorf, Andrea Jewell and Jill Catchlove celebrating at the TCA AGM. (521939)



PARTY TIME: Tourism Central Australia get ready to kick up their heels. (521939)

Down Every Street

Proudly bringing
Jose Petrick's
writings back to print

Name honours mechanic

By Phil Williams

WHITTAKER Street was originally gazetted as a court in April 1989 and takes its name from Lionel Whittaker, a mechanic with the Department of the Interior.

In 1992 it was partially closed and extended through to Smith Street as the area was redeveloped.

On March 31 1999, the original name was revoked and re-gazetted as Whittaker Street.

Whittaker spent his early years in SA where he worked as a mechanic in Maitland, SA repairing tractors and farm equipment.

At the outbreak of World War II, he applied to join the RAAF but was rejected on medical grounds.

He came to Alice Springs and was appointed a motor mechanic with the Department of the Interior.

The Government Workshops were on the corner of Bath and Parsons streets, now the site of the Greatorex Complex and car park.

The block was surrounded by a high corrugated iron fence with pedestrians able to hear the continual noise of engines being overhauled and tested.

Whittaker's first job was to reassemble the original AEC road train which had broken down.

Years later, it was found abandoned and



FIREWOOD: Lionel Whittaker collects firewood during an Alice Springs Camera Club trip in 1971. (Whittaker Collection/Astc Library)

was rescued, restored and in 1995 was retired to the Road Transport Hall of Fame.

His wife, Doreen, and their two children, arrived in Alice Springs six months after Whittaker, but tragically his wife died during the birth of their third child and the children had to go south to be cared for by relatives.

During World War II, Lionel Whittaker's work was of national importance as Foreman Mechanic in Allied Works Council (AWC) Workshops in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek

and other NT centres.

Whittaker had a mobile workshop on the back of a truck and maintained equipment during the building of the bitumen road on the Stuart Highway from Alice Springs to Darwin.

He and other volunteers attended fire outbreaks until the Fire Brigade was established after World War II.

During the mid 1940s, he bought a small plane with fabric wings and learnt to fly at

Connellan's Airport, practicing at the Bond Springs Airstrip.

When he retired from flying, he donated the plane to Hartley Street School, where it was raffled for one shilling a ticket.

The lucky winner was a local woman who kept the aircraft in the family's yard with the wings folded up in winter.

During the summer months, the wings were extended to protect tomato plants.

Eventually, the family took the little aircraft to the rubbish dump where it ingloriously ended its days.

Whittaker played football for Rovers, was a member of the Alice Springs Tennis and Camera Clubs and was associated with motor sports, touring, racing and motorcycle trail riding.

In 1969, Whittaker was awarded a BEM, for Public Service and after 39 years, he retired in November 1977.

Following a short illness, Lionel died in Alice Springs in February 1981.

He was survived by his second wife, Heather, and his children, Bonnie, Bevan and Raylene.

- Source: The History of Alice Springs through Landmarks & Street Names by Jose Petrick OAM, Third Edition updated to 1996.
- Additional information: NT Place Names Register

Merry

CHRISTMAS

& Happy New Year

THE

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From all of us at The Centralian Today and Tennant Creek Today - Jodie, Phil, Gladys, Natalie, Cathy and James, we extend our warmest thanks to the community for your support throughout 2025.

As your local newspapers, we're proud to be part of the fabric of Central Australia, sharing the stories that matter, celebrating local achievements and providing a trusted source of news each week. We look forward to building even stronger connections with you in 2026.

Wishing everyone a safe, happy and joyful Christmas and New Year.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PUBLISHING DATES

Christmas Edition: Wednesday, December 24

New Year Edition: Thursday, January 1 (available from Friday, January 2)

Social

Ribbon cut to open op shop

By Phil Williams

A new era for the Uniting Church Op Shop in Todd Mall began on December 6.

After many years in the much loved ‘teeny’ shop adjacent the Flynn Church, the shop re-located to a new bright new premises next to Epilogue.

After a speech by Mayor Asta Hill, the op shop’s longest serving volunteer, Miemie Dry, cut the ribbon to open the new store.

The ‘Shavings’ choir provided some live entertainment with a set of songs including an original score, ‘Christmas in Alice’ which took a lighthearted view of the festive season in the town.

Once the doors slid open, people streamed in to see the store in all its new glory and to enjoy a light morning tea.

- 1: OPEN: The Uniting Church Op Shop’ longest volunteer, Mieme Dry, was given the honour of cutting the ribbon to open the store. (Phil Williams: 524553)
- 2: SMILES: Alpha Mangohig, Robyn Carey and Pastor Emily Hayes in the newly opened op shop. (524553)

- 3: SHAVINGS: The Shavings men’s Choir provided some light entertainment at the new op shop opening. (524553)
- 4: BARGAINS: Wendy Marr, Jen Willioughby, Joanne Walpole and Ava Walpole checking out the bargains in the new op shop. (524553)
- 5: FIRST: The first customers stream through the doors of the new op shop. (524553)
- 6: OPEN: The Uniting Church Op Shop’ longest volunteer, Mieme Dry, was given the honour of cutting the ribbon to open the store. (Phil Williams: 524553)
- 7: FIND: Shay Cornell with a good find in the new op shop. (524553)
- 8: LOOKING: Hamish Morrison, Meredith Lake and Sam Kendal seeking a bargain in the new op shop. (524553)
- 9: TOYS, TOYS, TOYS: Milly, Ash and George found some treasures to have a bit of fun with. (524553)



BRAIN BUSTERS

1.

How many times has Lisa McCune won a Gold Logie?
2.

Which song took the top spot in Triple J's 2025 Hottest 100 of Australian Songs countdown?
3.

Which sport is Australian Sarah Gigante known for?
4.

In which 2014 series did Tracee Ellis Ross play the character Rainbow Johnson?
5.

Superfine: Tailoring Black Style and Sleeping Beauties: Reawakening Fashion were the 2025 and 2024 themes for which annual event in New York?
6.

Elgin Lumpkin is the real name of which American R&B singer?
7.

In Judaism, what is the name of the day of rest which is observed from Friday evening to Saturday evening?
8.

Which of the Brontë sisters wrote the novel *Wuthering Heights*?
9.

What is the name of the Australian national netball team?
10.

Which Australian prime minister held office between William McMahon and Malcolm Fraser?
11.

Which movie character says the iconic quote 'Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it'?
12.

What is the Lunar New Year known as in Vietnam?
13.

To become successful through hard work and early experience is often described as 'cutting your...' what?
14.

Kim Gordon is best known as a founding member of which alternative rock band?
15.

What internet idiom is often used to tell someone to go outside and engage with the real world instead of online?
16.

What was Priscilla Presley's maiden name?
17.

Rosé, Jisoo, Lisa and Jennie are members of which K-pop group?
18.

In Scotland, what word is used for the traditional New Year's Eve celebration?
19.

Which bird is larger: the emu or the ostrich?
20.

Which long-running Broadway musical follows a group of dancers auditioning for a Broadway show?

ANSWERS: 1. Four 2. *Never Tear Us Apart* by INXS 3. Cycling 4. *Black-ish* 5. Met Gala 6. Guinness 7. Shabbat or Sabbath 8. Emily Brontë 9. Australian Diamonds 10. Gough Whitlam 11. Ferris Bueller 12. Tei 13. Teeth 14. Sonic Youth 15. Touch grass 17. Wagner 20. A Chorus Line 18. Hogmanay 19. Ostrich

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1

Burn (4)
- 5

Calf-length (skirt) (4)
- 9

Supervising (11)
- 11

West Indian republic (5)
- 12

Move on ice (5)
- 13

Type (3)
- 14

Video game console released in 1983 (1,1,1)
- 16

Formerly (3)
- 17

Stopper (4)
- 19

Public garden (4)
- 20

Mosey (5)
- 21

Cut (4)
- 23

Encourage in crime (4)
- 26

Fuzzy boot (3)
- 27

Bulletins (3)
- 29

Algerian music (3)
- 30

Vestige of the past (5)
- 32

Innocent (5)
- 34

Leader of the race (11)
- 35

British folk band, Mumford & - (4)
- 36

Farewells, for short (4)

- DOWN**
- 1

Competitors (11)
- 2

Japanese verse form (5)
- 3

Fitting (3)
- 4

Guide (a horse) (4)
- 5

Parasitic plant (4)
- 6

Pen fluid (3)
- 7

Goddess of hunting (5)
- 8

Mixes together (11)
- 9

Potato crisp (4)
- 10

Nerd (4)
- 15

Receded (5)
- 18

Space (3)
- 19

Green vegetable (3)
- 21

Browse (the web) (4)
- 22

Snow hut (5)
- 24

Salt water (5)
- 25

Row (4)
- 27

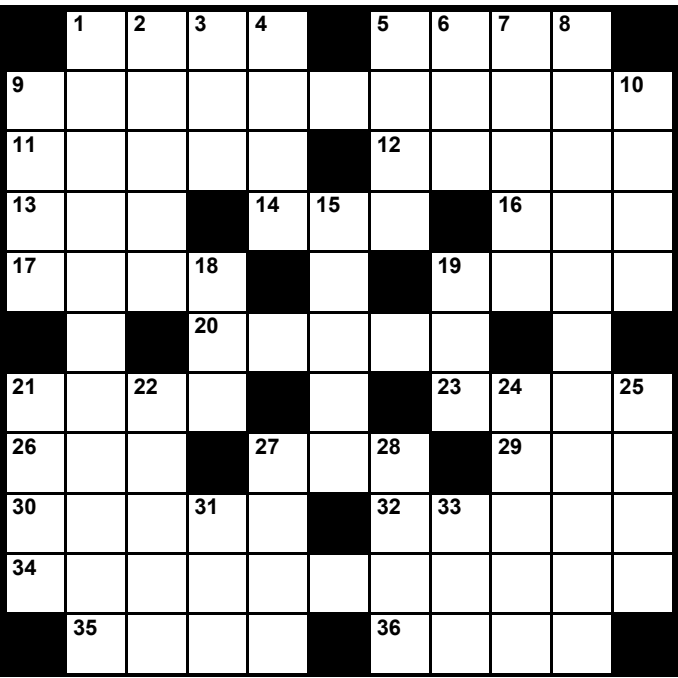
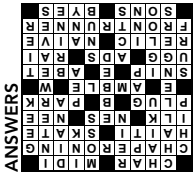
Performs a role (4)
- 28

Ignore (4)
- 31

Tavern (3)
- 33

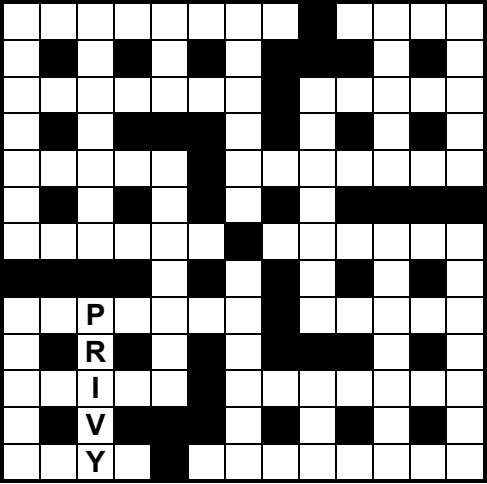
Whichever (3)

No. 1183



WORD FILL

No. 1056



- 3 LETTERS

BOO

URN
- 4 LETTERS

BOUT

KEYS
- 5 LETTERS

CREAK

EXITS

HEADS

LILAC

OPALS

PRIVY

SLEET

TUSKS
- 6 LETTERS

DETEST

GEYSER

SIDLES

TENURE
- 7 LETTERS

CAPTIVE

CREDITS

EMERGED

HARPOON

HOSTESS

HURTLED

INHALES
- 8 LETTERS

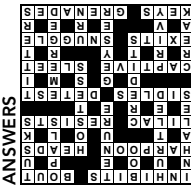
RESISTS

SNUGGLE

TITTERS

GRENADES

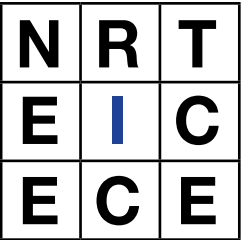
INHIBITS



9-LETTER WORD

No. 1058

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.



12 words: **Good**; _____
18 words: **Very good**; _____
24 words: **Excellent** _____

centric, cite, cretin, eerie, entice, entire, inert, inter, nice, nicer, niece, nitre, rectie, rein, RETICENCE, retie, rice, rite, teenier, tier, tierce, time, trice, trine

WORDFIND

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message

- ALI

AMADEUS

CAPOTE

CHAPLIN

CHE

ELVIS

FRIDA
- GANDHI

JOBS

JUDY

LA BAMBA

LINCOLN

MAESTRO

MALCOLM X
- MILK

NIXON

RAY

ROCKETMAN

SELENA

TRIPLE

No. 016

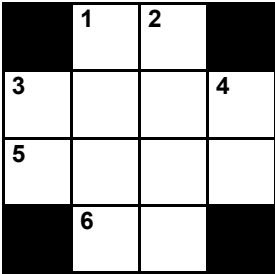
What three-letter sequence completes these words?

M A N _ _ _
_ _ _ **N T**
W _ _ _
I M _ _ _

ANSWERS: AGE (MANAGE), AGENT, WAGE, IMAGE)

TINY X

No. 1051



ACROSS

- 1

Narnia creator, - Lewis (1,1)
- 3

'Beat it!' (4)
- 5

Wheedle (4)
- 6

Favourable image, good - (1,1)

DOWN

- 1

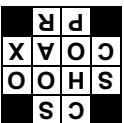
Hack (4)
- 2

Fly high (4)
- 3

Supreme Court (1,1)
- 4

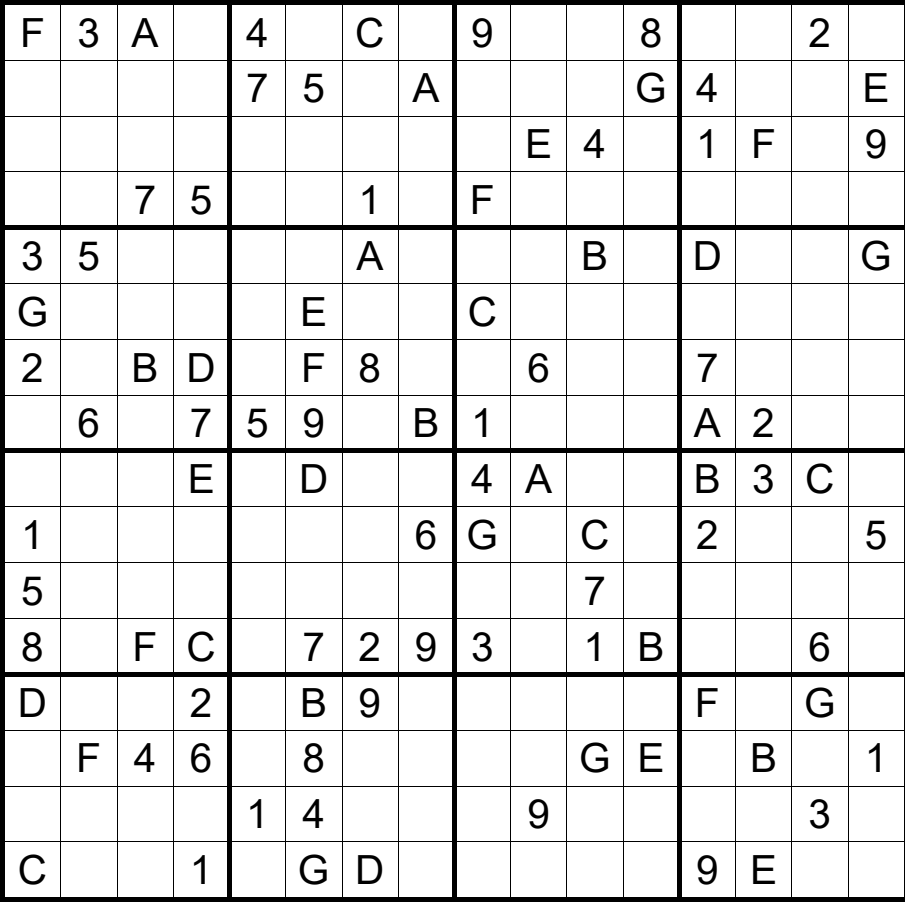
Bull (2)

ANSWERS



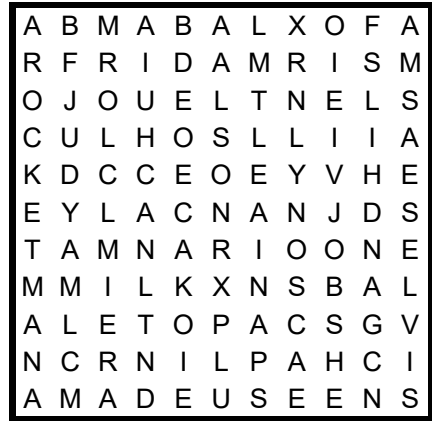
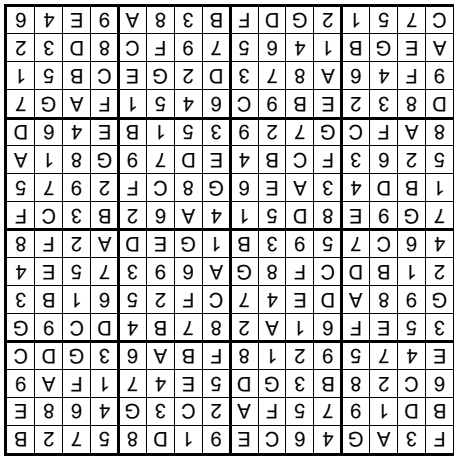
SUPER SUDOKU

No. 115



Every number from one to nine and every letter from A to G must appear in each of the 16 rows and each of the 16 columns. In the end, every four-by-four should contain all the digits and all the letters.

ANSWERS





COMPLETED: MPH Director, Luke Neck receives a plaque of appreciation from the RTHoF's Frank Bilato to commemorate the successful completion of the new amenities block. (Phil Williams: 524103)

A quality job

By Phil Williams

WITH financial assistance from the Northern Territory Government (NTG) new amenities block for visitors was completed earlier this year at the National Road Transport Museum

On Wednesday, December 10, Luke Neck, director of Alice Springs building firm, MPH Projects, was acknowledged by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Museum, Frank Bilato for the company's exceptional work during the construction phase.

Mr Bilato said MPH not only built the ablation block to the highest standard, on time and on budget, but they facilitated considerate trading terms.

"Overall, we are very thankful to MPH Projects for the support they have given to us," Mr Bilato said.

"They got this project done in a timely manner which allowed us to provide excellent facilities for the many people who visited and stayed with us during the Festival of Transport and the Red Centre NATS"

Mr Neck said his company was delighted to support the Transport Museum.

"This was a good project for us, and we were very pleased to see the new block put to such good use, especially during the Festival of

Transport.

"We were afforded easy access to the site and the team here looked after us well," he said.

"This museum is a great asset to this town and the region and we were happy to support this project come to fruition"

The new facility was funded through the Northern Territory Government's Community Benefit Fund, which provides grants to major community projects that provide services, leisure activities and opportunities to Territorians.

Mr Bilato thanked the NT Government for its ongoing support.

He said this year had seen an influx of visitors to the museum and 2025 had been the best year for visitors since prior to Covid in 2019.

"Facilities like these do not come cheaply and we are very grateful for the NTG assistance.

"This ablation block will help us provide great facilities to our visitors.

"Our goal is to continue to improve our facilities, displays and services across the museum," he said.

"We have a plan in place and will keep progressing things to make this place an even better experience for everyone"



POLICE: A NT Police vehicle. (Phil Williams: 385059)

Charges laid over assault

THE Northern Territory Police Force has charged a 48-year-old male in relation to a domestic violence assault that occurred in Alice Springs on Sunday.

He has been charged with Aggravated recklessly endangering serious harm, Aggravated assault and Armed with an offen-

sive weapon. He is due to appear in Alice Springs Local Court today.

If you, or someone you know, are experiencing difficulties due to domestic violence, support services are available, including, but not limited to, 1800RESPECT (1800737732) or Lifeline 131 114.



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General Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES AND EVENT

Christmas Early Deadlines

The Classified Deadline for the edition of
25th December will be

Friday 19th December at 9am

The Classified Deadline for the edition of
1st January 2026 will be

Monday 29th December at 9am

Please note: The classifieds department
will be closing on
Tuesday 23rd December 2025.

We will be open on
Monday 29th December and closed on
the 30th, 31st December and 1st January.

Normal business hours resume from
Friday 2nd January 2026.

**Network Classifieds would like to wish
everyone a Merry Christmas and
a safe New Year.**

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EXECUTIVE LIVING IN PRESTIGIOUS LOCATION

SET within the prestigious Desert Springs locale, this executive residence delivers a superb blend of luxury, space, and low-maintenance living. From the moment you step inside, the home exudes quality, beginning with a generous living area that captures beautiful natural light and offers an immediate sense of openness. This welcoming space flows effortlessly into the equally expansive dining zone, creating a perfect environment for both relaxed family living and entertaining.

At the heart of the home is the well-appointed kitchen, designed with functionality and style in mind. It features a five-burner cooktop, dishwasher, double stainless-steel sink that overlooks the outdoor entertaining area, a dedicated pantry, and a breakfast bar ideal for casual meals or serving guests. The open layout ensures seamless engagement with family and friends while preparing meals.

The master suite is a standout, offering an indulgent private retreat. The spacious bedroom connects to a luxurious ensuite where a spa bath invites relaxation, complemented by an oversized shower, dual vanities, and quality finishes throughout. A well-designed dressing room provides exceptional storage with ample hanging space, built-in drawers, and room for personal organisation, enhancing the suite's sense of comfort and exclusivity.

The two additional bedrooms are well proportioned, each equipped with built-in robes and soft natural light. These rooms are serviced by a modern bathroom featuring a sleek shower and stylish twin sinks, while the WC is located separately for added convenience-well suited to family living



or guests. There is also a study/ home office that could be utilised as a fourth bedroom. Practicality continues with a well-designed laundry that offers abundant storage solutions and direct access to the outdoors, making daily tasks both efficient and convenient. Outside, the property shines for its ease of maintenance and thoughtful design. Lush plantings create a welcoming ambience, while undercover areas provide excellent options for alfresco dining or quiet relaxation. An in-ground spa adds a touch of resort-style comfort, perfect for unwinding after a round of golf or a busy day. Additional exterior features include roller access for a golf buggy, a garden shed for extra storage, and an oversized double garage fitted with three electronic



roller doors-providing secure parking and exceptional functionality. Offering refined living in a highly sought-after location, this property is perfect for those seeking quality, comfort, and practicality in equal measure. To view this exceptional home, contact Drew or Toni today on 0403 201 653. ●

HOME ESSENTIALS

Address: 8 Red Sands Court, DESERT SPRINGS **Description:** 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 garage **Price:** \$899,000 **Inspect:** By appointment **Contact:** Drew Hendriks 0458 739 469 or Toni Rowan 0403 201 653. ALICE SPRINGS REALTY

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To book an inspection phone Drew or Toni today 0458 739 469.



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M: 0458 739 469 E: drew@asreal.com.au
Toni Rowan
M: 0403 201 653 E: toni@asreal.com.au
w: alicespringsrealty.com.au





BEAT: Picasso Lali beats a pair of defenders as he goes to the basket. (524583)



LAY UP: Lincoln Davies attempts a lay up shot at goal. (524583)



BUMP: Luke Follayttar puts a defensive bump on Raiden Crichtonaita at the top of the circle. (524583)

Rockets fire up in extra time

By Phil Williams

THE Rockets have emerged victorious in a nail-biting under-16 boys basketball grand final at the Traeger Avenue stadium on December 6.

The hard-fought battle had spectators on the edge of their seats until the final buzzer.

The game was a closely contested affair from the opening tip-off, with neither side able to gain a significant advantage throughout the four quarters.

The last few minutes of regulation were particularly tense, as both teams fought to seize a match-winning lead.

When the buzzer sounded, the scores were locked at 43-43, sending the game into extra time.

Carissa Follayttar, a parent supporting the Wallabies, described the final moments of regulation as “a blur” as the tension mounted.

The extra time period was equally hard-fought, with the Rockets managing to eke out a narrow lead and hold on to win the game 56-53 ending in heartbreak for the Wallabies.

The top scorer for the Rockets was their standout player, who contributed 17 points to the team’s victory.

Meanwhile, the Wallabies’ top scorer was Dinai Hoth, who impressed with 26 points in a losing effort.



SPOIL: Rockets players attempt to spoil a Wallabies shot at the basket. (Phil Williams: 524583)



ASSIST: Cooper Murphy comes in to assist Lincoln Davies as he drives the ball down the court. (524583)



SHOT: Cooper Murphy under pressure from a mob of Wallabies opponents puts up a shot from outside the circle. (524583)



OPTION: Luke Follayttar looks for a doer court option. (524583)



DEFEND: Dinai Hoth defends as he tries to prevent a forward pass. (524583)



FORCE: Lincoln Davies forces his way past a Wallabies defender. (524583)

Feds guaranteed the win

By Phil Williams

NO matter the result, Federal was guaranteed to be celebrating and commiserating in the battle for bragging rights following the C Grade Grand Final when the club's Red and White teams matched up at Rhonda Diano Oval on December 6.

At the toss, the result went in favour of the Reds who elected to bat as the mercury soared into the 40's.

It was a short stay at the crease for opener Michael Gill who was back in the shed at the end of the second over after edging through to 'keeper Rick Duncum with the score on just six.

The Reds brushed of the setback with Michael Mullan and Shannan Ryan pushing the score to 72 before Mullan fell to the bowling of Thomas Owers in the 14th over

The Reds had set a solid foundation and with plenty of wickets in the shed set about upping the run rate.

When Gavin MaCargill fell with the score on 110 in in the 22nd over it set off a mini col-

lapse as the Reds lost four wickets in less than six overs for just 18 runs.

The Reds regrouped, and by the time they'd batted out their full compliment of 35 overs, finished with a competitive total of 7/173 with Ryan top scoring on 58.

The White's bowlers shared the wickets evenly with Jacob Parsons the best with 1/16.

After getting the score to 16, the White's innings fell apart in the searing heat.

They lost four wickets in 14 deliveries for just two runs and by the end of the sixth over were in more trouble than the first settlers.

Their innings had lost any momentum and the wickets continued to fall at regular intervals.

With only two batters reaching double figures, and four ducks, the White's staggered to a meagre total of 63 with their innings coming to an end inside of 22 overs.

Rick Duncum topped the batting with 14 while Michael Gill was the best of the Reds bowling attack with 3/15 from seven overs.



TAKE: Rick Duncum takes the ball as he 'keeps up at the stumps. (524581)



LOOSE: Peter Nicholls almost loses his bat after playing a loose shot down the leg side. (Phil Williams: 524581)



CLAIM: Rick Duncum dives as he claims the catch after a spectacular dive to dismiss Clayton Watson. (524581)



ROCK BACK: Peter Nicholls rocks back as he sends the ball to the outfield Rick Duncum dives as he completes the catch to dismiss Michael Gill. (524581)



DIVE: Rick Duncum dives as he completes the catch to dismiss Clayton Watson. (524581)



PADDLE: Graham Christmas paddles the ball down the leg side. (524581)

One day: Rovers thump Feds

By Phil Williams

ROVERS Works won the toss and elected to bat when they clashed with Feds for A Grade one day honours at Albrecht Oval on December 6.

Feds were cock-a-hoop when Rovers lost Nicholas White in the first over for a duck after he was caught on the crease by Michael Klein-Boonschate.

Feds were buoyed even further when, with the score on 36, a yes-wait-no-sorry, calling mix up and some good work from Oly Lee-Young and Oscar Jaques-Ball at the stumps Rovers resulted in the prize wicket of Lucas Nitschke being caught out of his ground.

Feds continued to lose regular wickets and looked to be in trouble with the score at 5/68.

Ben Ellis and Dillon Measures turned the tide with a 128 run unbroken stand.

Feds had no answers as the pair toyed with the bowling attack, sending the ball to all parts of the ground as they took the score to just short of 200 to finish with 5/196 from their 45 overs.

Ellis finished with a well compiled 71 with good support from Measures who remained 50 not out.

With 2/25, from nine overs, Brock Allie was best of the Feds bowlers.

After Feds lost opener, Jaques-Ball with the score on just nine, their innings never really got going.

A middle order collapse saw them lose six wickets for just 15 runs, as the imploded from 3/48 to 8/63.

The lower order attempted to add some hope and respectability to the score, but there was too much to do and too little left as Feds were bowled out for 118 with almost 10 overs to face.

Lucas Nitschke was the main destroyer for West taking 3/11 from six overs, while Navdeep Sharma at number 10 top scored for Feds with a knock of 32.



GONE: Oscar Jaques-Ball breaks the stumps to catch a diving Lucas Nitschke short of his ground. (Phil Williams: 524579)



DELIVERY: Michael Klein-Boonschate bends his back as he delivers the ball. (524579)



HARD WORK: Oscar Jaques-Ball makes hard work of receiving a return throw. (524579)



CLIP: Harry Weeks attempts to flick the ball down the leg side. (524579)



Harry Weeks pivots on one leg after taking a wild swing at a loose ball down the leg side. (524579)



OFF TO THE RACES: Feds players celebrate after running out Lucas Nitschke. (524579)



TURN: Harry Weeks taps in as he turns for another run. (524579)

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SET: Matt Groves sets himself up for a catch in the outfield to dismiss Imran Qamar. (524580)



STRAIGHT BAT: Shivam Singh plays a straight bat sending the ball to mid wicket. (524580)



TAKE: Feds keeper Deepinder Singh jumps to take a return throw. (524580)



HOW GOOD: Matt Groves asks his team mates 'How good am I' after taking the first of two catches. (524580)

Westies too good for Feds

By Phil Williams

ON a scorching day, West made a tactical move sending Federal into the field after winning the toss as they faced off in the B Grade One Day Grand Final at Flynn Reserve.

West's batters were off to a shocking start as their tactics seemed to backfire early and were 2/8 at the end of the fourth over.

Shivam Singh and Saad Riaz combined to launch a rescue mission.

The pair consolidated and with some intelligent batting advanced the score to 88 before top scorer, Riaz had his stumps knocked over by Aaron McVeigh for 43.

A middle order collapse looked to undo the earlier good work of Singh and Riaz when they lost 4/24 to be 6/118.

The tail wagged and some useful partnerships from the lower order West's finished to be all out for 195 with two balls left in the final over.

Toby Van Holsteyn proved to be best of the Feds attack claiming 2/22 from 4.4 overs.

Feds had a job to do in the baking heat if they were to overcome the total West had set.

The run chase was off to a poor start when Tom Kennewell trapped Stephen Bennet in front for just two in the first over.

Deepinder Singh and Jack Harding combined to take the score to 45 when Singh also was caught on the crease by Ibtiqat Haqani for 16.

West's kept the bowling tight and slowed the run rate and when McVeigh and Matthew Groves fell in quick succession the Feds were 4/115 and needed to push.

Harding and Darryl Groves combined to take the score to 144 when Groves departed falling to the third leg before decision of the innings to Shivam Singh for a run-a-ball 18.

He was followed quickly by Harding, who topped the run sheet with 71, Ash Jenkins and Dan Mejit in the chase for runs as the overs began to run out.

At 8/153, there was too much to do for the remaining two wickets and Feds fell short, all out for 169 with almost two overs to bat.

An economical Ibtiqat Haqani, with 3/17 from six overs was the best of the West bowling attack.



FORWARD: Shivam Singh plays forward to the ball. (Phil Williams: 524580)



DEEP: Shivam Singh sends the ball to the boundary on the way to making 37. (524580)



ADVANCE: Shivam Singh advances down the pitch to play an attacking shot. (524580)



GOT HIM: Matt Groves tosses the ball in the air after taking a catch to dismiss Imran Qamar. (524580)



POSITION: Deepinder Singh moves into position as Shivam Singh prepares to play his shot. (524580)



NO BALL: Umpire Paul Rumpff signals an infraction. (524580)



LEAN IN: David Gould and Jen Ashenden lean in as they watch a shot track down the green. (Phil Williams: 524574)



LOW: Jen Ashenden gets down low as she rolls her shot down the green. (524574)



SMOOTH: David Gould, smooth as always, plays his shot. (524574)

Just four brave souls

By Phil Williams

AS the Alice Springs bowls season came to an end, four passionate players braved the scorching desert heat on Saturday, December 6.

The four brave souls, Jenny Ashenden, Geoff Stace, Charlie Gamon, and David Gould took to the greens for three rounds of eight ends, as the temperature soared past 40 degrees.

Despite the challenging conditions, these diehards engaged in a social yet competitive friendly rivalry, and determination on the green in the stifling conditions.



CHECK: Charlie Gamon and Geoff Stace stretch the tape as they check for shot. (524574)



THAT CLOSE: Charlie Gamon indicates the proximity of the shot. (524574)

WEATHER FORECAST

Alice Springs: Mostly sunny. Slight chance of a shower. The chance of a thunderstorm in the evening. Light winds becoming southeasterly 15 to 20 km/h during the day then tending easterly during the evening.

Friday. Mostly sunny. Slight chance of a shower. Light winds becoming northerly 15 to 20 km/h during the morning.

Saturday. Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower. Winds northwest to northeasterly 15 to 20 km/h tending east to northeasterly during the day.

Sunday. Partly cloudy. Medium chance of showers. The chance of a thunderstorm. Winds north to northwesterly 15 to 20 km/h turning northeasterly during the day.

Tennant Creek: Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower, most likely in the afternoon and evening. The chance of a thunderstorm in the afternoon and evening. Light winds becoming east to northeasterly 15 to 20 km/h during the afternoon. 25/35

Friday. Possible shower. 23/35

Hermannsburg: Mostly sunny. 19/40

Friday. Mostly sunny. 20/40

Santa Teresa: Mostly sunny. 21/39

Friday. Mostly sunny. 21/39

Ross River: Mostly sunny. 20/39

Friday. Partly cloudy. 20/38

Uluru: Sunny. 22/41

Friday. Mostly sunny. 24/41

Darwin: Partly cloudy. High chance of showers. A thunderstorm likely. Light winds.

Friday. Partly cloudy. High chance of showers. The chance of a thunderstorm. Light winds.

Northern Territory: Sunny in the Lasseter district. A slight to medium chance of showers and storms elsewhere, increasing to a medium to high chance north of Renner Springs. Very hot in the Lasseter and southwest Tanami Districts. Light to moderate northeast to southeasterly winds.

ALICE SPRINGS FORECAST

THURSDAY
Mostly sunny.
39

FRIDAY
Mostly sunny.
38

SATURDAY
Partly cloudy.
39

SUNDAY
Shower or two.
37

Sunny

Mostly sunny

Partly cloudy

Cloudy

Chance shower

Shower or two

Showers

Light rain (drizzle)

Rain

Storm

Showers storm

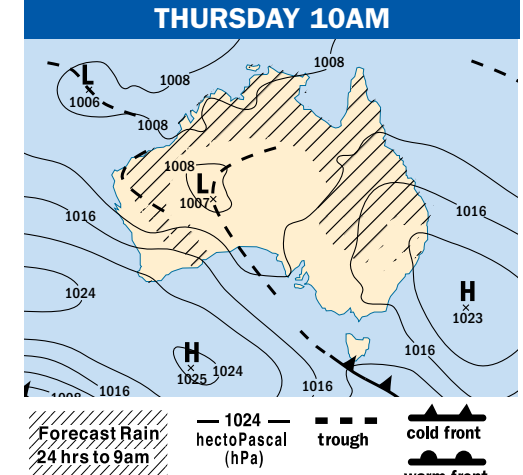
Windy

Dust

Fog

CAPITAL CITIES		
City	Condition	Max
Adelaide	Sunny.	38
Brisbane	Partly cloudy.	28
Canberra	Mostly sunny.	35
Darwin	Showers. Storm.	33
Hobart	Shower or two.	27
Melbourne	Sunny.	36
Perth	Sunny.	32
Sydney	Sunny.	29

SUN & MOON				
	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	5:43am	7:18pm	3:12am	5:02pm
Thursday	5:43am	7:19pm	3:51am	5:56pm
Friday	5:44am	7:19pm	4:36am	6:51pm
Saturday	5:44am	7:20pm	5:25am	7:43pm
Sunday	5:45am	7:20pm	6:19am	8:32pm
Monday	5:45am	7:21pm	7:16am	9:17pm
Tuesday	5:46am	7:21pm	8:13am	9:57pm



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Warnings:
Latest info at www.bom.gov.au/australia/warnings
Warnings 1300 659 210
State Service 1300 934 034
Coastal Waters 1300 978 023

Milingimbi 33

Darwin 33

Timber Creek 36

Borroloola 32

Tennant Creek 35

Alpururulam 36

Rabbit Flat 42

Alice Springs 39

Uluru 41

SUNSMART
ALICE SPRINGS
SUN PROTECTION
RECOMMENDED
BETWEEN
8:20am to 4:30pm
MAX UV Index
13 (extreme)

BOM Weather
Australia's
official
weather
app

Issued at 5pm Sunday for
December 18, 2025



THWART: Willabies players try to thwart a Rockets drive to the basket. (Phil Williams: 524583)

Rockets fire up

By Phil Williams

THE Rockets emerged victorious in a nail-biting under-16 boys basketball grand final at the Traeger Avenue stadium.

The hard-fought battle had spectators on the edge of their seats until the final buzzer.

The game was a closely contested affair from the opening tip-off, with neither side able to gain a significant advantage throughout the four quarters.

STORY PAGE 43

Alice Springs

Realty

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

Christmas & New Year Dates

Our office will be closed from
4pm on Monday, 22nd
December 2025, and will re-open
at **8:30am on Monday, 5th**
January 2026.



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