

COMMUNITY PROFILE

NHULUNBUY

NAME OF COMMUNITY:

NHULUNBUY

Outstations:

Nhulunbuy township does not have outstations as it is a service centre for Alcan Gove Bauxite mine and processing plant. It is also the administrative centre for the East Arnhem Regions. There are outstations in close proximity to the town; for information on them contact Laynhapuy Homelands service on 08- 8987 1922

Name or number of clan/groups:

Nhulunbuy does not technically have a clan/group as it is not an indigenous community. There are significant clans/groups in the area; for information on them contact the Yirrkala Dhanbul Community Association on 08- 8987 3433

Languages spoken:

English, Yolngu Matha

Population:

- Community -
- Outstations -

3800

Permit required:

Town: no
Outside town boundaries: yes. Most recreational locations are outside town boundaries

Name of the local governing body:

Nhulunbuy Town Corporation Ltd. Ph: 08 8987 1933

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY:

Nhulunbuy became a white settlement during the WWII era, when it was established as a military base. After the war the remaining military installations were developed as an ELDO tracking station. Once this ceased operations in the early 1960's the military buildings were utilised by Dhupma College prior to their relocation to Darwin as Kormilda College. In 1969 the first feasibility studies were conducted into the potential for bauxite mining (precursor to aluminium). A land lease

contract was established with the local Gumatj traditional owners. The mine began building infrastructure in 1972, bringing shopping centres etc to the town. Nhulunbuy is now a major mining town in the NT. Phase 3 expansion of the processing plant began at the end of 2002 and another 25-30 years of mining is anticipated.

ACCESS TO COMMUNITY:

650km east of Darwin

Road:

Yes

- All year access?
- Bitumen, dirt, 4WD or 2WD

Dry season only
4WD only

Boat/barge:

Yes

- Name of company
- Cost
- Frequency

Perkins Shipping; Gulf Freight
Varies; by cubic metre
Both companies visit once a week

Plane:

Yes

- Name of airline(s)
- Cost per adult
- Frequency
- RFDS/Airmed access

Air North, alternatively Qantas stops over in Nhulunbuy on its flights from Cairns to Darwin. \$390.00 return to Darwin
Daily flights, year round access on tar strip, night and day. Full Airmed Access

TYPES OF FUEL AVAILABLE:

- Diesel, leaded, unleaded, gas:
- Conditions of availability:
- Any mechanics available locally:

All types
No
Yes, light industrial area

ALCOHOL:

- Conditions/restrictions on sale of alcohol/bringing alcohol into community:

No restrictions, 1 pub + members only sailing club and sporting club which are both licensed.

SHOPS:

- Shop(s) available:
- Hours of opening:
- What is for sale (general overview):
- Fresh fruit/veg/milk/meat available:

Woolworths, Foodland, chemist, Mitre 10 hardware, specialty shops, bank, post office
7 days; supermarkets generally 8am-8pm
General groceries; limited specialty shops
Yes

COMMUNICATIONS: Clinic/Home Private

- Phone access? Yes
- Is there internet/email access? Any constraints on use? Yes. No constraints
- Is there a satellite dish? If so, who can access it? No

COMMUNICATIONS: Clinic/Home Miwatj

- Phone access? Yes
- Is there internet/email access? Any constraints on use? Yes. No constraints
- Is there a satellite dish? If so, who can access it? Yes. Generally, GPs only

LOCAL INDUSTRY/EMPLOYMENT:

- Is there a local industry? Yes – bauxite mining and processing
- List any employment options for spouses of GPs: mining industry, admin, schools, pubs and clubs, tourist resort, fishing charters, veterinary clinic, light industrial area

SCHOOL:

What schooling options are available locally?

- Primary Yes: 1 x govt.; 1 x Christian
- Secondary and for what years of secondary school Yes, up to Yr 12 [public only]
- If the school is bilingual, can non-indigenous students attend? N/a

RECREATION/SPORTING:

What recreation and sporting opportunities/facilities are there?

Most sporting activities are available; sport-focussed town. Recreational fishing industry.

MEDICAL: Private

- Health Service operated by: Private [Endevour Medical Centre]
- GP employed by: Private [Jo Ferris]

- Hours of operation/on-call: 7.30am-6.30pm Mon – Fri & Sat am. On-call for Alcan Gove emergency only

Staffing at the clinic:

- number of GPs: 2 [1 permanent fulltime; the other fulltime equivalent position filled by combination of part-time GPs and GP registrars]
- number of RNs: 1 [employed by GP, not employed by DHCS]
- number of Health Workers: Nil

Visiting health professionals:

- type of service (eg dental) Refer patients to local hospital for specialist services
- frequency and duration of visits Physiotherapist
Once a fortnight

MEDICAL: Miwatj

- Health Service operated by: Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation
- GP employed by: Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation
- Hours of operation/on-call: 8 – 4.30, Mon – Fri. No on-call

Staffing at the clinic:

- number of GP's: 2 [Miwatj also encompasses Numbulwar & Gapuwiyak; these figures are for Nhulunbuy only. See separate profiles for other communities]
- number of RN's: Nil
- number of Health Workers: 5 part-time staff = 1 Full Time equivalent position

Visiting health professionals:

- type of service (eg dental): Refer patients to local hospital for specialist services
Ophthamologist + optometrist
- frequency and duration of visits: Every 2 months

GP ACCOMMODATION: Private

- Type of housing available: 4 bedroom house, subsidised by Nhulunbuy Town Corporation
- Furnished – yes, no, partially: Yes;partially
- Are whitegoods supplied, if yes, what: No

- Other facilities supplied [eg. TV,radio]: No
- Linen & bedding No
- Electricity Subsidised
- Water Subsidised
- Laundry facilities Yes
- Telephone/fax/ email/internet Yes: access to internet/email
- Air-conditioning Yes

GP ACCOMMODATION: Miwatj

- Type of housing available: 3 bedroom house
- Furnished – yes, no, partially: Fully furnished
- Are whitegoods supplied, if yes, what: Fridge, freezer, washing machine...
- Other facilities supplied [eg. TV,radio]: TV
- Linen & bedding Yes
- Electricity Yes
- Water Yes
- Laundry facilities Yes
- Telephone/fax/ email/internet Phone lines access
- Air-conditioning Maybe – not all houses have airconditioning. All have ceiling fans

RELIGION

Church services available in the community: Catholic; Uniting; Assembly of God

OTHER THINGS FOR THE INCOMING GP AND FAMILY TO CONSIDER:

- Ask the GP & the clinic staff of any dominant local health & social issues to be aware of.
- On arrival in the community, ask an appropriate person to advise you of locations to avoid [eg sacred sites].