

COMMUNITY PROFILE

SANTA TERESA

(last updated 1/08)

NAME[S] OF COMMUNITY:

SANTA TERESA

The community name is Ltyentye Apurte with aliases of Santa Teresa and Ltyente Purte. Ltyente Apurte is located 80 km from Alice Springs.

Contact details

Ltyentye Apurte Health Centre,
CMB Santa Teresa, via Alice Springs,
NT 0872.

Ph 08 8956 0911, fax 08 8956 0910
health@ltyentyeapurte.com.au

Outstations:

1, but not serviced by the clinic

Name or number of clan/groups:

Ask when in the community

Languages spoken:

Eastern Arrernte

English is spoken well (as a second language) by all bar a few people.

Population:

- Community
- Outstations

600 (approx)

Only 1 outstation with 1 family

Permit required:

Yes. Speak to the clinic manager about permit protocol.

Name of the local governing body:

Ltyentye Apurte Community Government Council

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY:

Established as the Santa Teresa Catholic Mission in the 1952 to house Aboriginal people who mostly came from the Alice Springs region

The history of the community can be traced to the 1920's when a camp was set up in Alice Springs near Anzac Hill by local Arrernte people moving in from the bush. This movement from the north, east and west was in response to deprivation and other circumstances. In the early 1930's the camp was moved north to Charles Creek. The arrival in 1935 of Father P.J.Moloney, a Roman Catholic missionary and later Frank McGarry a lay missionary resulted in the establishment of a school for Aboriginal children in Charles Creek camp in 1937. The mission that grew out of this camp was originally known as the "Little Flour Mission", reflecting the system of "rewarding" Aboriginal workers with "a little bit of flour, sugar and tobacco". Under the Catholic Mission the name then evolved into the Little Flower Mission and finally became known as Santa Teresa. The population, consisting almost exclusively of Eastern Arrernte speakers from the north and east of Alice Springs, grew rapidly.

By 1942, with the European development of the Alice Springs Township, came growing ill-feeling towards the Aborigines. In addition the military took over the administration of the town and non-essential civilians were evacuated. Curfews were imposed on the Aboriginal population. The prejudice and the pressure experienced by the Aboriginal

people at this time, together with the Army's desire to remove them from the township, led the military authorities to help Frank McGarry to move the mission to Arltunga, an old gold mining town approximately 90km ENE of Alice Springs. The population was then about 150 people.

By 1952 it was necessary to move the mission again due to the lack of adequate water supply at Arltunga. In 1952 a lease of 124,000ha of crown land was granted by the Commonwealth to the mission and the next year the settlement was established at the present location approximately 85 km SE of Alice Springs. Known as the Santa Teresa Mission, (although named for the French St Therese, "La Bienheureuse") it was run by the church until 1976.

Under the Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976 the lease automatically converted to Aboriginal freehold land. Since then the church has handed over the infrastructure other than the school to the Ltyentye Apurte Council. In accordance with the Land Rights Act, the land at Ltyente Apurte is administered by a Land Trust comprised of Traditional Owners, while the Ltyentye Apurte Community Government Council is responsible for the running of the community, and the Health Service.

Ltyentye Apurte is a culturally homogeneous community. The traditional ownership of the land the community occupies is vested in both matrilineal and patrilineal descent groups resident within the community. The Community is separated into 4 separate areas. Eastside, New Houses, Old Village and Through-the-Fence.

The kinship network of the Eastern Arrernte language group is based on an eightfold subdivision creating subsections with each member belonging to a particular subsection. Marriage arrangements, ownership of land, ritual responsibilities and other social behaviour are regulated and defined through the subsection system.

ACCESS TO COMMUNITY:

Road:

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

80 km SE of A/Springs, 15 km sealed, 65-km of wide unsealed road. The road is passable for conventional vehicles at most times. The road is often quite rough with corrugations and sand and "bulldust" patches are not uncommon

The road will close with heavy rain and 4WD is recommended. Trip takes anything from 45 mins –1.5 hrs depending on road conditions.

Boat/barge

N/A

Plane:

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

No planes service Santa Teresa. A day only airstrip is maintained but usually a health car or ambulance are used for patient evacuation. A ½ way meet with St Johns is used occasionally, especially if a retrieval Dr is needed on the ambulance.

TYPES OF FUEL AVAILABLE:

- Diesel, leaded, unleaded, gas: All except LPG
- Conditions of availability: Purchased through store, 8-12 and 1-3 weekdays
- Any mechanics available locally: Council run workshop that will service private vehicles

ALCOHOL:

- Conditions/restrictions on sale of alcohol/bringing alcohol into community: Dry community with no permit system. There is an informal drinking camp with no facilities at the boundary gate 12km from the community.

SHOPS:

- Shop(s) available: 1. store which is owned by the community
2. Club house which sells power cards and pre-packaged take-away food open in the evenings.
- Hours of opening: The store is open 5 ½ days a week, closed on Sunday.
Hours:
Monday – Friday
08.00 – 12.00 & 13.00-16.00
Saturday
13.00-16.00
- What is for sale (general overview): Basic groceries, hardware (some furniture and white goods) and clothing
- Fresh fruit/veg/milk/meat available: Fresh milk, frozen bread and meat, limited range of fresh fruit and vegetables

WATER

Water for the Ltyentye Apurte supply system is obtained from 4 bores located approximately 9 km North East of the town.
Two tanks are situated in the hillside overlooking Ltyentye Apurte and water is conveyed from the bore field by electric pumps
Water analyses from the bores at the community indicate that the water quality is good.

SEWERAGE

There is a deep sewerage system which

covers all houses except a few on the edge of town, which remain on septic tanks

POWER

The community is provided with power via electricity from the Alice Springs town grid.

Power cards are needed for the meters. Available from the council office in business hours, or club in the evening.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

A small compactor truck collects and compacts rubbish weekly. Rubbish is burnt at the dump and buried with a bulldozer. The tip is 1 km from the community and located above the flood line, in an area that will not contaminate surface or ground water.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The community bus is used for sporting, recreation and cultural purposes. The Health Centre has a vehicle for patient transport, which runs three days per week.

COMMUNICATIONS: Clinic/Home

- Phone access?

There is 3G mobile coverage. Phones in clinic and staff housing, not in the Council units or the Lodge.

- Is there Internet/e-mail access? Any constraints on use?

Internet access from the clinic:
Satellite Broadband

- Is there a satellite dish? If so, who can access it

Yes

LOCAL INDUSTRY/EMPLOYMENT:

- Is there a local industry?

Keringke Art centre produces some of the finest Aboriginal art works in the region

- List any employment options for spouses of GP's:

Council, school

SCHOOL:

- What schooling options are available locally?

There is a K-Y10 school that caters for the Aboriginal children in the community, run by the NT Catholic Education Office. It offers a bilingual model of education with lessons in Arrernte and English and as such would not suit most mainstream educated children. The teachers, include several trained Aboriginal teachers, several tutors, a Literature Production Centre and a Community Library.

Children follow the NT curriculum. Post primary children are following courses in Foundation studies, which is a bridging course for those who wish to enter mainstream education. Many secondary students attend boarding schools in Alice springs Darwin or interstate.

No non-Aboriginal pupils attend full time at this stage, School of the Air with parental supervision is required although children doing this often come to the school for afternoon sessions of sport etc

NT Open Learning via correspondence

There is an Adult Education Centre which offers enrichment courses for the Community in areas such as art, craft, leather making, pottery and also in drink driving.

Can attend but tend not to

- Primary school
- Secondary and for what years of secondary school

- If the school is bilingual, can non-indigenous students attend?

RECREATION/SPORTING:

What recreation and sporting opportunities/facilities are there?

AFL, swimming pool , tennis courts, sports hall with pool tables, trampolines, juke box

MEDICAL:

- Health Service operated by:

Ltyentye Apurte Community Government Council, with 50% funding from grant-in-aid by NTDHCS, and 50% from OATSIH (Commonwealth .Health)

Phone : 08 8956 0911

Fax : 08 8956 0910

The Health centre is located centrally in the community, in a large building originally built in 1974 as a fully equipped

- GP employed by:
- Hours of operation/on-call:

hospital. Major renovations funded by OATSIH completed in late 2007, providing separate male and female entrances and treatment areas.

As above with funding from OATSIH

Clinic hours

08.00--12.00

13.00-16.30

On call service by AHWs with level4 AHW/RAN back-up.

The community GP is non-resident, but provides 24 hr telephone support to the clinic staff, apart from occasional W/E's off when the Alice Springs DMOs cover.

Staffing at the clinic:

- number of GP's: 1.0 (0.2 female GP position being recruited to)
- number of RAN's: 3.0
- number of Health Workers: 2 female AHW, 2 male AHW, (about 3 to 3.5 FTE)

Visiting health professionals:

- type of service (eg dental)
- frequency and duration of visits

Specialist visits are:

Paediatrician: 2X/yr, Gynae: 1-2X/yr, Eye team 2X/yr, ACAT/OT & physio 4 X/yr, to the community. Physician 1-2 X/yr. All other specialist referrals can be arranged with visit to Alice Springs.

STAFF ACCOMMODATION

- Type of housing available: No "GP House" in the community. Locums and students stay in "The Lodge" run by the Church, or flat owned by Council. 1 3 BR house, and 2 X 2 bedroom units, 1 x 1BR unit for Nurses and Manager
- Furnished – yes, no, partially: Yes
- Are whitegoods supplied, if yes, what: Fridge freezer, microwave
- Other facilities supplied [eg. TV, radio]: TV-
- Linen & bedding: Yes
- Electricity: User pays
- Water: Bore only
- Laundry facilities: Washing machine provided

- Telephone/fax/ e-mail/internet Available from clinic for locums/students. Home phone rental and first \$50 covered, then user pays, no PC provided, no fax provided
- Air-conditioning Yes

RELIGION

Church services available in the community: Catholic mass daily

OTHER THINGS FOR INCOMING STAFF AND FAMILY TO CONSIDER:

- Ask 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] when you go out walking..