

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Engawala

NAME[S] OF COMMUNITY:

ENGAWALA

This community has the alias names of Alcoota and Alkwerte
Engawala is 70 m north of Alice Springs on the Stuart Hwy, 90km along the Plenty Hwy and 48 further on a dirt road past Gem Tree

Outstations:

Name or number of clan/groups:

Languages spoken:

Anmatyerre and Eastern Arrernte are the main languages

Population:

Estimated population is 68

- Community
- Outstations

Permit required:

Name of the local governing body:

Engawala community is in the ATSI region of Aputula which is covered by the Papunya Regional Council. Engawala comes under the ANmatjere Community Government council, located in Ti Tree. It is responsible for general administration of a number of communities and is actively involved with the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP). Services provided include garbage disposal, essential services, parks and gardens, the community store and roads maintenance. The Anmatjere community government Council is funded by the Dept of Lands, Housing and Local Government. Engawala Community is also a separately incorporated body. Two representatives of Engawala are on the Anmatjere Council.

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY:

At the turn of the century pastoral settlements were developed at Hocketta, Ambalindum, Alcoota and Mt Riddock. At the same time prospectors found mica and

gems in the area. During the 1930's mica attained great significance and the district became one of the most important mica mining areas in Australia. As pastoral country was opened up for settlement, it ended the wholly traditional life of the Eastern Arrernte who had not until then been affected by white incursion. Alcoota cattle station was originally settled by a white pastoralist called Turner and by 1935 he had built a homestead comprising 2 stone buildings. The station changed hands several times and in 1980 was transferred to Tom Webb and family. The cattle station is now run by the Engawala community. The community employs a station manager and community members continue to work on the station as needed.

ACCESS TO COMMUNITY:

Road: 28 kms from Engawala the road turn from bitumen to gravel. The internal roads are however, both sealed and unsealed.

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

Boat/barge

Plane: There is a day/night airstrip at Alcoota station. It is approved for night use by the RFDS. The airstrip is 4 kms from Engawala and takes 5 minutes to drive there. The community maintains the airstrip.

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

TYPES OF FUEL AVAILABLE:

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

ALCOHOL:

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

SHOPS:

- Shop(s) available: The store is owned by the community.
- Hours of opening: Monday – Friday
09.00-11.30 & 16.00-18.00
Saturday
09.00-11.30
- What is for sale (general overview): Prepacked and some fresh food is available
- Fresh fruit/veg/milk/meat available:

WATER:

The main bore is solar powered and a diesel powered bore provided back up.

SEWERAGE:

The sewerage system consists of septic tanks

POWER:

There are 2 diesel powered generators.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Rubbish is collected regularly by CDEP workers. A rubbish tip is located on kilometre from the community. The community also burns rubbish in drums.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- Council office
- CDEP
- Health centre
- School Community centre
- Store

HOUSES:

There are 22 houses. Newer houses have air conditioners and solar hot water

COMMUNICATIONS: Clinic/Home

- Phone access?

- Is there Internet/e-mail access? Any constraints on use?
- Is there a satellite dish? If so, who can access it

LOCAL INDUSTRY/EMPLOYMENT:

- Is there a local industry?
 - Cattle Station
 - Store
 - Orchard
- List any employment options for spouses of GP's:

SCHOOL:

- What schooling options are available locally?
- Primary school
- Secondary and for what years of secondary school

There is a school which has one teacher, two teacher assistants and two tutors. Two staff are Aboriginal. The school provided a number of health related activities. Every morning, students have a routine of blowing noses, deep breathing, coughing and exercise. Morning snacks are provided, usually comprising of sandwiches. Every second Friday, lunch is cooked. Students are also provided with drinking water during the day to prevent dehydration and reliance on cordial or other sweet drinks.

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

RECREATION/SPORTING:

What recreation and sporting opportunities/facilities are there?

Basketball court

MEDICAL:

- Health Service operated by:

The Engawala community currently service by Atitjere Health Service which is run under Territory health service in Central Regional
Engawala
Via Alice Springs NT 0872
Phone 08 8956 9944
Fax 08 8956 9944

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

A DMO visits 1 day per month
 Clinic hours
 Thursday
 10.30-16.00
 RN at Atitjere is on call after hours for emergencies.
 The Health Centre is a new building and has 6 rooms. The facilities are adequate. At Engawala the Health Centre does not have separate female and male areas, but there are two consulting rooms

Staffing at the clinic:

- number of GP's:
- number of RN's:
- number of Health Workers:

An RN visits 2 day per fortnight
 2

Visiting health professionals:

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

HEALTH STAFF ACCOMMODATION

- Type of housing available:
- Furnished – yes, no, partially:
- Are whitegoods supplied, if yes, what:
- Other facilities supplied [eg. TV,radio]:

A 3 bedroom house for a nurse has recently been completed. There are no facilities provided for visiting health staff, although cabins and caravans are available for hire in the camp ground at Gemtree about 45 kilometres away

- Linen & bedding
- Electricity
- Water
- Laundry facilities
- Telephone/fax/ e-mail/internet
- Air-conditioning

RELIGION

Church services available in the community:

The Lutheran Church in Engawala is administered by the Finke River Mission in Alice Springs. The church has two ordained pastors as well as an Evangelist. There is no church building in Engawala

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].