

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Amunturrngu

NAME[S] OF COMMUNITY:

AMUNTURRNGU

Alias name – Mt Liebig or Amunurrngu, Amunturangu, Amuturrunga, Anturgunu or Yanunturrngu

Amunturrngu Community is located 325kms west from Alice Springs by road and it takes 3.5 hours to drive there. By road it takes 10 minutes to drive to the closest airstrip in Amunturrngu then 1.5 hours to fly to Alice Springs.

The Amunturrngu community is located 3.3 kms to the south of the Kintore road at the base of the Range, which is near to the western most end of the Western McDonnell Ranges

The closest Health Centre is located in Amunturrngu

Amunturrngu is in the ATSI region of Aputula, which is covered by the Papunya regional council.

Outstations:

- Lizard bore
- Warren Creek
- New Bore
- Inyilingi
- Amundurrngua Spring

Name or number of clan/groups:

Languages spoken:

Luritja, Warlpiri and Pintubi languages are spoken

Population:

- Community
- Outstations

Amunturrngu – 289
Lizard Bore – 6
Warren Creek – 20
New Bore – 15

Permit required:

Name of the local governing body:

The Watiyawanu Community Government Council is funded by the dept of Housing and Local Government and is responsible for the general administration of the

community. Twelve members are elected bi-annually and employees include a Council Clerk, Essential Services Officer and a variable number of community workers who do general maintenance work.

The council is constituted as a Community Government Council and has the objective of promoting the welfare and development of the community.

HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY:

In traditional times the people living in the vicinity of current day Mt Liebig were probably known as Luritja. Immediately to the north were Ngalia, Warlpiri, to the west Pintubi, to the northeast Anmatyerre, the east Arrernte and to the south and southwest Pitjantjatjara and Ngatajara.

Mt Liebig originated in 1978 as an outstation of Papunya. When Hermannsburg mission was established in the 1870's Aboriginal people from all directions were attracted there by the easy availability of white man's food and curiosity about the white man and his technology. Some people stayed while most merely visited and returned to their own country. Approximately sixty years ago Pintubi and Luritja people began to move east from their traditional lands in significant numbers in response to the establishment of missions and ration depots, first at Hermannsburg and later at Haast's Bluff.

Mt Liebig has been a traditional gathering site for people in this area. An outstation was established there in 1978. This remained a relatively small affair until 1985 when it began to grow and be developed to the point where it is now a "community" in its own rights. The majority of people now living in Mt. Liebig are former residents of Papunya or Haast's Bluff.

Today, the majority of Mt. Liebig people identify themselves as Luritja. It is likely that this term comes from the Arrarnta word used to refer to all the people who traditionally lived to the immediate west of their country. There are a number of other peoples represented in Mt. Liebig, Pintubi and Warlpiri mainly with some Arrarnta and a few Pitjantjatjara.

The people of Mt Liebig continue their traditional beliefs and cultural activities. Strong beliefs by the community including "sorry business" and the "pay back system" are still recognised.

Mt Liebig does not experience major seasonal movement of population between other communities. Its relationship with other communities is essentially on the basis of people visiting, rather than as seasonal movement.

The community is also a centre for ceremonial functions. To this end, it frequently accommodates, on a short-term basis, people visiting from surrounding outstations and communities

ACCESS TO COMMUNITY:

Road:

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

The road from Alice Springs to Amunturrngu is both sealed and unsealed. Access to Amunturrngu from Alice Springs is obtained from the North Stuart highway to the Tanami Road, then west along the Tanami Road to the Amunturrngu/Papunya turnoff. The road to this point is sealed. From the Amunturrngu turnoff to Amunturrngu (106km) the road is formed and partially gravelled and is impassable when wet. Amunturrngu is another 75 kms from Papunya along the road to Kintore. The road is also formed and partially gravelled and is impassable when wet.

Roads in the community are maintained by the council with funding from the Federal Government. There is a mixture of sealed and unsealed roads.

The internal road network consists of a main road running east to west through the community from the council office to the school. This road feeds several well defined bitumen minor roads as well as tracks service the existing community.

Boat/barge

Plane:

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

There is a day airstrip at Amunturrngu which can be used at night by RFDS for emergencies only. The dirt airstrip is situated 3.5 kilometres from Amunturrngu on a dirt road. This strip is fenced, in good condition and provided with white cone runway markers and flares. There are no fuel Supplies at the strip. It is provided with a windsock and is the access point for the Royal Flying doctor service to provided emergency medical assistance and evacuation for the community. The Mail Plan visits Amunturrngu twice a week on Wednesday and Friday.

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 community has 1 store, which is owned by the community, and is managed by the Amunturrngu Community Store Incorporated. There are 18 members who are elected annually. Profits made by the store are put back into the community: already the store has paid for the construction of a newer and larger store and the construction of drink vending machine.
- Hours of opening: Monday – Friday
10.00 – 12.00
14.00 – 16.00
Saturday
10.00 – 12.00
- What is for sale (general overview): Prepacked, cooked and fresh food is available. The store has a Takeaway food bar and sells fuel
- Fresh fruit/veg/milk/meat available:

WATER:

Water comes from 2 bores powered by electric motors which pump the water to 1 storage tank just east of the community. The third bore has a diesel pump as backup if the power is down. These facilities are maintained by the Essential Service Officer employed by the council

SEWERAGE:

The sewerage system is by way of septic tanks at each house throughout the Council.

POWER :

The community is provided with power via a diesel generator and solar power for hot water service. All houses have solar power for hot water with electric back up

WASTE MANAGEMENT :

The main method of waste disposal is the rubbish tip, which is 1.5kms from the Council. Household rubbish in the community is currently disposed of either by burning on site, or through the community's established rubbish collection system and is responsibility of the council. The community has a system of mini-skips, which are collected as required.

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

COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

There are community facilities

- Aged Care Centre, laundry attached, provides lunch of old people 5 days a week. Wash blankets and assist with shopping and collecting firewood. Extra meals are provided to elderly people who need them
- Health Centre
- Work shop
- Centre link sub branch
- Child Care Centre
- School
- Public Phones
- There is one community accessible transport used to take community members to the football

LOCAL INDUSTRY/EMPLOYMENT:

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

There is local enterprise in Amunturrngu.

- The community store which is run by Amunturrngu Store Incorp employs a store manager and 5 workers.
- Amunturrngu Outstations Incorporated, responsible for the maintenance of outstation facilities. It

has one full time employee who also does mechanical work and assists with maintaining essential services

- Waitiwanu Artists

SCHOOL:

- What schooling options are available locally?

There is one school that has two teachers and two assistant teachers. There is two indigenous staff. The school has also hosted basis education program for a women's group, which includes reading and a cultural program run by Ananagu people for children. A banana and orange are provided to each child each morning and a lunch program will be starting in which the older girls may make lunch and sell it to the school. Kids are able to help themselves to breakfast cereals in the morning provided they clean up after themselves.

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

Education is available in the community up to year 6 level.

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

The school is bilingual with lessons in English and Luritja

RECREATION/SPORTING:

What recreation and sporting opportunities/facilities are there?

Football oval

MEDICAL:

- Health Service operated by:

Amunturrngu community has a Health Service called Mt Liebig. It is Territory Health Service controlled. The Health service is in the Central Region. It is a permanent building and has 13 rooms. The facilities are adequate. The building has 3 consulting rooms and 2 waiting rooms with men's and women's consulting rooms available.

Contact details
Mt Liebig Health Centre
PMB 234

Via Alice Springs NT 0872

Phone : 8956 8595

Fax : 8956 8984

No GP

Clinic Hours:

Monday – Friday

08.00 – 17.00

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

RN and AHW's are on call locally after 5pm weekdays and on weekends

A DMO is on call at all hours in Alice Springs for phone consultations and evacuations

Staffing at the clinic:

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

No GP, 1 DMO scheduled visits

2

2

Visiting health professionals:

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

Health Programs

- Pippirriku program – community nutrition program for under 5 years old
- Health centre provides weekly health education sessions in the school
- Women working together – this program strengthens the community's capacity and in particular the women to identify and address health priorities and issues. This was achieved through the facilitation of regular health meetings and needs analysis of the community's health priorities, and then addressed through community solutions.

HEALTH STAFF ACCOMMODATION

- Type of housing available:

There is 1 house for Health Centre staff, which comprises of 3 bedrooms. There is 1 facility for visiting health staff, which comprises an ATCO (demountable) with bedrooms and 3 beds.

- Furnished – yes, no, partially:

- Are whitegoods supplied, if yes, what:
- Other facilities supplied [eg. TV,radio]:
- Linen & bedding
- Electricity
- Water
- Laundry facilities
- Telephone/fax/ e-mail/internet
- Air-conditioning

RELIGION

Church services available in the community:

There is a Lutheran Church in Amunturrngu, which is administered by the Finke River Mission in Alice Springs. The church has no ordained pastors living in the community. A pastor visits from Papunya each week.

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].