

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

## PINTUBI HOMELANDS

NAME[S] OF COMMUNITY:

PINTUBI – KINTORE

Or Walungurru as it is sometime referred to.

It is located 530 km directly west of Alice Springs in the Eastern portion of the Gibson Desert, approximately 35 km from the WA border. The tropic of Capricorn lies approximately 20km to the South.

Outstations:

Name or number of clan/groups:

Languages spoken:

Traditional language is “Pintipi” and many speak the dialect of neighbouring peoples such as Warlpiri and Luritja. Pitjantjatjara dialects are also spoken by a few. English is considered a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> language for most. The majority of Kintore’s indigenous population speak and understand English well enough to converse at a basic level. Many are also able to read and write English

Population:

- Community
- Outstations

The population varies upon cultural requirements and numbers vary from 250 to 500 people, averaging a usual population of around 350. Numbers have been known to be as high as 700 at times. There is an average of about 20 non indigenous people.

Permit required:

Yes

Name of the local governing body:

Walungurru Community Council  
PMB 13 Kintore Via Alice Springs 0872  
Ph 0856 8328  
Fax 8956 8569  
Email : [walgungurra@bigpond.com](mailto:walgungurra@bigpond.com)  
Web : [www.walgungurra.nt.gov.au](http://www.walgungurra.nt.gov.au)

## **HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY:**

The area was first explored in 1889 by Tietkins, who named the ranges after the then Governor of South Australia. It is believed that Lasseter prospected in the area but there is no proof if this. No other exploration occurred in the area until the late 50's early 60's when Len Beadell made the roads of the Central Desert area in support of the activities at Woomera Rocket Range.

The community dates back to 1981 when the Pintubi moved back from Papunya.

## **ACCESS TO COMMUNITY:**

### **Road:**

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

The first 140km of the journey is on the sealed section of the Tanami highway. The remainder of the roads are unsealed and the conditions vary with the seasons. The road surface is mostly rocky with many clay capped sections. Some portions are quite sandy. The journey typically takes about 6 hours of driving time. A 4WD is recommended

### **Boat/barge**

### **Plane:**

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

Kintore is serviced twice weekly by the mail plane – Wednesdays and Fridays. It also has seats for passengers. Charter flights are also available although rather costly

## **TYPES OF FUEL AVAILABLE:**

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

Diesel and Avgas. A diesel vehicle is recommended if you intend to have one here

## **ALCOHOL:**

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

Kintore is a designated 'dry' community yet there is often a presence of alcohol. The effect that alcohol has upon the community depends upon the amount entering the community

## **SHOPS:**

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

Monday – Saturday  
Opening hours vary

Essential items, similar to a convenience store in suburbia although it does sell a range of goods from car parts to blankets and toys

## **WATER:**

The water supply comes from an aquifer that has been tested to hold about 10 years of water supply without replenishment. It is recharged from the run off from the ranges and has been carbon tested to be about 30 years old.

The water available from the taps is of drinking quality, although it has quite a strong mineral and calcium taste. Rain water tanks are situated outside the houses and flats. This is of good quality and is periodically sample tested by the Power and Water Authority.

It is advisable to use rain water in the electric jug to prevent the build up of calcium deposits on the element.

Each house/unit has a Solahart hot water service.

## **SEWERAGE:**

## **POWER:**

Kintore has a reliable 240 volt electricity supply that is generated locally

## **COMMUNICATIONS: Clinic/Home**

- Phone access?

Telephones are connected to houses and

flats. Telstra provides Kintore with a satellite service that is charged at land line rates. Facsimile is available

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

Email and internet are accessible but the service can at times be slow.

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

### **LOCAL INDUSTRY/EMPLOYMENT:**

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

Clinic, School, Store, Community Council or the Art Gallery (Papunya Tula)

### **SCHOOL:**

- What schooling options are available locally?
- Primary school
- Secondary and for what years of secondary school
- If the school is bilingual, can non-indigenous students attend?

A state school, non denominational  
Phone 89568580

### **RECREATION/SPORTING:**

What recreation and sporting opportunities/facilities are there?

### **MEDICAL:**

- Health Service operated by: The Pintubi Homelands Health Service

operates an independent Aboriginal medical service at Kintore. It was established in 1984 and provides health care for the population of Kintore. The clinic's focus is on preventative and primary health care, with specific emphasis on immunisation, infant nutrition, child health, antenatal care, healthy women's and healthy men's checks, aged care as well as chronic disease management.

Dialysis unit is also planned for Kintore.

Contact details

PMB 145, Kintore via Alice Springs 0872

Ph: 8956 8577

Fax: 8956 8582

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

#### **Staffing at the clinic:**

- number of GP's: 1
- number of RN's: 2
- number of Health Workers: 6 Aboriginal Health Workers  
3 Ngangkarri (Traditional Healers)
- other staff: 1 Administrator  
1 Aboriginal Assistant  
2-3 Ancillary support staff

#### **Visiting health professionals:**

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

## **GP ACCOMMODATION**

- Type of housing available: The Health accommodation at Kintore is of a good standard and quality, comfortably appointed. They are reputed to be the most comfortable in CA, if not the NT. It consists of 4 x 3 bedroom houses with ensuite and 4 self contained 1 bedroom flats.
- Furnished – yes, no, partially: Well furnished
- Are whitegoods supplied, if yes, what:
- Other facilities supplied [eg. TV, radio: Each house and flat has a television and a radio. Some also have VCR's. TV Channels received are Imparja, ABC, Seven and SBS.  
The TV programs are transmitted to Kintore via satellite and then re-transmitted locally in a vertically polarised signal by the BRAKS system Kintore receives two FM radio broadcasts. ABC radio (FM 1061) and CAAMA radio (FM 102.9)
- Linen & bedding Linen and bedding is supplied
- Electricity Kintore has a reliable 240 volt electricity supply that is generated locally
- Water Water supply comes from an aquifer that has been tested to hold about 10 years of water supply without replenishment. The water from the taps is of drinking quality, although it has quite a strong mineral and calcium taste. Rain water tanks are situated outside the houses and flats. Each house/flat has a Solahart hot water service. I am unsure of the capacity but there is ample hot water for showers and washing.
- Laundry facilities Each house has a laundry that is shared with a flat
- Telephone/fax/ e-mail/internet For your convenience telephones are connected to the houses and flats. Telstra provides Kintore with a satellite service that is charged at land line rates. Calls within CA, including Alice Springs are charged at timed local call rates applied

per minute.

Email and the net area accessible but the service can at times be a little slow. The 'rural connect plan' offers connection to these services at local call rates. Naturally facsimile is available

- Air-conditioning

The houses are equipped with reverse cycle unit, ducted air conditioning while the flats have a wall mounted reverse cycle unit

## RELIGION

Church services available in the community: Kintore is a Lutheran community and many attend church services on Sundays. The pastor is Pintubi. Gospel singing is a popular past time and sounds of singing and instrument playing can often be heard into the night.

## 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].

## FORBIDDEN PLACES:

There are many areas in the immediate vicinity of Kintore environment into which it is culturally unacceptable to go. In fact it is forbidden. Intentional or accidental straying into these areas will more than likely result in your immediate departure from the community (and Aboriginal Land) and possible physical retribution.

It is permissible to walk around as long as you remain within the confines of the Kintore community. Many areas outside of the community are also free to venture to for a walk or jog, but before venturing beyond the community bounds it is best to seek advise from a local indigenous/non indigenous person as to where it is permissible to go.

As you would do in any other places that you are unfamiliar with you would be careful as to where you go. The usual personal safety precautions need to be observed when walking about the community. Group walks (2 or more) are recommended, especially after dusk until you become known to the community.

Travel outside of Kintore is encouraged by the locals once they get to know you. There are many nice places to visit and the locals are often keen to show you their country or to take you hunting and food gathering.