

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

## WATARRKA

NAME[S] OF COMMUNITY:

WATARRKA

Watarrka National Park contains the western end of the George Gill Range. This scenic landscape of rugged ranges, rockholes and gorges acts as a refuge for many plants and animals, making the Park an important conservation area and major attraction of central Australia. Kings Canyon features ancient sandstone walls, sculptured by the elements, rising up 100m to a plateau of rocky domes. The Park is located about 450km southwest of Alice Springs and can be reached by 2WD vehicle via Luritja Road from Yulara and Lasseters Highway (sealed road). It can also be reached: via Larapinta Drive, through the West MacDonnell National Park, linking into the new gravel Mereenie Loop Road (4WD recommended); or via Ernest Giles Road (4WD essential) and Luritja Road. Careful driving techniques should be applied at all times to accommodate changing road conditions.

Three Aboriginal communities live in the park. The original custodians are the Luritja people. They still have a presence and live, hunt and collect food there. Rockpools, gullies, flora and fauna have been most important to them for more than 20,000 years.

Outstations:

Name or number of clan/groups:

Languages spoken:

Population:

- Community
- Outstations

Permit required:

Name of the local governing body:

## **HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY:**

### **ACCESS TO COMMUNITY:**

#### **Road:**

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

#### **Boat/barge**

#### **Plane:**

- Name of airline(s)
- Cost per adult
- Frequency
- RFDS/Airmed 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:
- Hours of opening:
- What is for sale (general overview):
- Fresh fruit/veg/milk/meat available:

## **WATER:**

## **SEWERAGE:**

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

**RECREATION/SPORTING:**

What recreation and sporting opportunities/facilities are there?

**MEDICAL:**

- Health Service operated by:
- GP employed by:
- Hours of operation/on-call:

**Staffing at the clinic:**

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

**Visiting health professionals:**

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

## **GP ACCOMMODATION**

- Type of housing available:
- 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:

## **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].