**RATES REMINDER**

The second rate instalment is due

**Friday, 4 November 2011**

**Online Payments:** Log on to Council’s website www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au and follow the links to eServices. Minimum payment by this method $5.

**In Person:** Make your payment at the Civic Centre from 8am to 5pm weekdays by cheque, cash, Mastercard or Visa.

**By Mail:** Post a cheque or money order with the deposit slip with your Rates Notice to Council. Mail payments must be received on or before the due date to avoid a penalty for late payment.

**By Phone:** Phone 1300 437 967 with your MasterCard, or Visa details.

**By BPAY:** Contact your participating bank to pay directly from your cheque, savings or credit card account. Just quote the bill code and reference number as indicated by the BPAY logo on your Rates Notice. Minimum payment by this method $50.

**At Bank:** Pay at any bank by cash or cheque. The deposit slip attached to the Rate Notice must be used to ensure that your payment is correctly credited to your rate assessment number. Fees may apply.

**By Direct Debit:** Complete an application form which is available from the Council Offices. The Council can then draw on your cheque or savings account on the dates rates are due.

**By Payroll Deduction:** Employees of the NT Government and some other organisations can pay their rates through regular payroll deductions. Rates Officers must inform you of this means of paying if it is available to you.

**Please ensure correct reference details are used while making payments failure to do so may incur a charge.**

**Payment made by direct debit card – 49c charge per transaction.**

**Payment made by credit card – 0.5% of transaction value.**

If you believe you have difficulty making the required payment by the due date, please contact the Rates Officer on 8950 0500.

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**visa debate heats up**

From opposite page

The Minister for Tourism Martin Ferguson said, "The debate about tour guides has always been permitted to conduct tours at Uluru, subject to having the appropriate visa." The Parks Australia decision was a decision to extend the training courses, which already existed for Kakadu, to Uluru." Ms Meyer said, "The decision is really to go further to that waivered compulsory accreditation for interstate women, so that they translate off an accredited driver."

"There are many highly-skilled multilingual guides in the NT and have helped show tourists in Australia wanting to be trained in 2010 has increased interest from young women keen to be a part of the lucky 10 already coming from Perth, Darwin, Sydney, Adelaide and of course Alice Springs."

Race secretary Kelsey Rodda said, "I think the growing popularity of the Finke Desert Race and the inclusion of interstate entrants in 2010 has increased the interest from women all over Australia wanting to be a part of this great event."

"Emily Attard was one of the first four interstate women to compete in the 2012 Finke Desert Race. Emily, along with Corinna Careya, Careya, Tara Goodger, Verity Grundy and Chelsea St Clair in 2011 and have helped show interstate women they can do it too."

In 2012 the Finke Desert Race Grid Girls celebrate 10 years of involvement in Australia's greatest desert race. Of the first four Grid Girls, Corinna Careya, recalled the first time they were a part of the event.

"I've always loved the adrenaline-fueled atmosphere of the event, so when I was asked to participate, naturally I couldn't accept fast enough."

"The contagious enthusiasm and excitement that this atmosphere brings our town to life like no other event." Entry forms will be available from the NT Tourism office.

The 2012 Finke Desert Race is on the Queen's Birthday long weekend of June 8 to 11, 2012.

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**Early bird Grid Girls**

Steve Monzie

EARLY interest from interstate and Alice Springs in the Grid Girls for the 2012 Tatts Finke Desert Race has convinced race organisers to open entries sooner than originally planned.

Entries can now be made a month earlier, from December 1, instead of in the new year.

The 2012 Finke Desert Race Grid Quest has already reached the coast with interest from young women keen to be a part of the lucky 10 already coming from Perth, Darwin, Sydney, Adelaide and of course Alice Springs.

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