Government authorities have been asked to investigate the environmental impact of the Wagait Beach rubbish tip.

The state of the dump has been linked to ongoing debate about the future of small councils such as the Wagait Shire and whether they can provide adequate services with a small rate base.

After visiting the tip last month, Belyuen Council manager Bill Stuchbery wrote to three Territory Government departments – Natural Resources and Environment, Local Government and Lands and Planning.

He described the dump as ‘a disgrace’.

Bill’s letter included photographs showing an amazing mix of material in the trench and the impact of wet season flooding.

“What are people thinking when they dump this shit in land fill dumps.”

“What are we doing to our environment?” he asked.

“We’ll be joining that wallaby if we don’t start looking after our environment.

“And if you think that is disgusting, look what happens in the wet season … we get our water from under the ground.”

His last comment accompanied another photo of the pit, this time with most of the rubbish floating on water trapped there during the wet season.

“We need local government reform on the Cox Peninsula if for no other reason than to stop the current waste management practices. Bill added.

He was a Territory local government department senior officer when the policy was developed to amalgamate dozens of small councils into eight “super-shires”.

Continued page 5.
Voters in the federal seat of Lingiari, which includes Mandorah, Belyuen and Wagait Beach, will have a choice of six candidates when they go to the polls this month.

Wagait Beach, Belyuen, Bynoe and Dundee voters will be part of the mobile polling program.

The mobile booth will be at Belyuen on Monday August 16 between 10.30 am and 2 pm, then at Wagait Beach between 4 and 7 pm.

Dundee and Bynoe electors get the opportunity to vote the next day.

Those who can’t make the mobile booths can vote early at the Austral- the mobile booths can vote the next day.

Electors get the opportu- nity to vote the next day.

Bynoe and Dundee voters to the polls this month.

Candidates when they go to the polls this month.

Sitting member Warren Snowdon (Labor) has held the seat since it was formed in 2001.

Since Labor won power in 2007, firstly Defence Science and Personnel and more recently Indigenous Health, Rural and Regional Health and Regional Services Delivery.

Leo Abbott (Country Liberal) is an Aranda traditional owner of Ilpurla, some 280 km south of Alice Springs, as well as Wallace Rockhole.

He has worked in the pastoral industry and as a ranger with the Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission.

Lea Finter.

For the past four years she worked as the chief executive officer at Iman- pa and Harts Range, and more recently as the shire service manager at Harts Range.

Ms Finton resigned at the end of last year because a shire employee she was unable to speak out about the many issues facing people in the Territory.

Alice Springs anti-intervention campaigner Barbara Shaw is the Greens candidate for Lingiari.

Ms Shaw, a Mt Nan- cy town camp resident, is a vocal critic of the federal government’s intervention campaign in Aboriginal communities.

She has worked in community development in the Territory for more than 20 years, starting out on Elcho Island producing books in Djum- barruyngu for the local school.

Barbara Shaw. She said she decided to run for the Greens because it is the only party listening to local people despite the fact that the Greens don’t have a Northern Territory represent- ative in Canberra.

Humpty Doo civil con- tractor Peter Flynn has nominated as a candidate for the Citizens Electoral Council.

The council’s policies include reforming the banking system, low in- terest loans for farmers and a massive infrastruc- ture program, support for nuclear power and an Australian republic.

Kenny Lechleitner is standing as an independent but his email address indicates he is a member of the newly formed First Nations Political Party.

The party’s logo says it is an Aboriginal party seeking “ecological and social justice” and wants to see Aboriginal people represented in state and federal parliaments.

What’s inside …

Council voting review ........................................... 5
Charles Point clean up ........................................... 6
Secret wedding business ........................................... 8
Farewell to Jack Davis ........................................... 10-11
Review of council voting system .............................. 12
Crossword and stars ............................................. 13
Trade and service directories ................................. 14-15
From the quarterdeck and tide chart ......................... 16

Weather watch

Rainfall and Temperature

Rain for July .......................................................... trace
Monthly average.................................................. 1 mm
Rain since October 1 (+ or - average)......................... 2140 (+400) mm
Annual average (Oct 1 – Sep 30) ......................... 1756 mm
Average rainfall for August .............................. 2 mm
Expect it to rain on .............................................. 2 days
Average min/max temp (Darwin) ......................... 20.6/31.3 ºC

The Wagaitear

Publisher: Jack Ellis
Published at: 22 (Sect 60) Mungalo Rd Wagait Beach
Phone: 8978 5111
mobile: 0417 089 528
email (editorial & ads) wagaitear@gmail.com
administration/finance 2mediaplus@gmail.com
Published: monthly (first Monday)
Deadline (advertising and editorial) – 27th
Postal address: CMB 1 Wagait Beach
via Darwin NT 0801

Sold at Wagait Beach Supermarket, Boatshed Cafe Cullen Bay, Mandorah Hotel and on board the Sea-Cat Ferry.

Subscriptions $1.50/editon (post paid), pdf available on-line through the NT Library web page www.nt.nt.gov.au/collections (select online newspapers) or public.me.com/chrisnjack
Big effort for harbour clean-up

Cox Peninsula more than pulled its weight during last month’s Darwin Harbour clean-up day organised by the Northern Territory Seafood Council and OceanWatch Australia.

Teams from Belyuen and Wagait Beach collected rubbish from Two-Fella Creek, the coastline between Imaluk Beach and West Point, West Point to the jetty and areas around the Mandoorah Hotel.

Belyuen council chief executive Cathy Winsley and her family tackled the Two-Fella Creek area.

“It was a good morning but there were not enough bags,” she said.

“We could have got 10 times the amount of stuff if we had more bags – it was really disgusting.

“It wasn’t all from people using the beaches, some of it was from boats.

“We need to do something about getting together to do it again every few months.”

Ironbark supervisor Steve Brown and his team who tackled the area near the pub told a similar story – recovering hundreds of cans but identifying other places that needed a clean-up.

“It was great to see the Belyuen and Wagait Beach communities working together on this,” West Point clean up site organiser Joe Kelly said.

Collectively, Wagait Beach and Belyuen volunteers and the Two-Fella Creek Conservation Group picked up 357 kg of rubbish from five sites.

Overall, more than two and a half tonnes of rubbish was collected from the harbour’s coastlines and waters.

“It was a disappointing reminder of how poorly some people treat our marine environment,” NT Seafood Council CEO, Katherine Sarneckis said.

“We were collecting items such as dirty nappies, food and drink containers, plastic bags and cigarette butts which are easily to dispose responsibly.”

OceanWatch NT’s Lyn Lambeth was delighted with the effort.

“There were 93 people picking up rubbish on land and from the water, 48 around Darwin and 43 on the Cox Peninsula,” she said.

Councillors at last month’s shire council meeting were disturbed to find that the council had warning letters from Power and Water because bills had not been paid.

Chief executive John Keenan hastily reassured them the money had been paid and the letters were a corporation stuff up.

Financial records showed this to be true but there was a couple of anxious moments when one of the lights flickered.

Power was not the only money problem for the council.

The tax office also was on the prowl for fine after the last quarter business activity statement was not submitted on time.

John had an explanation that seemed to involve problems getting the financial records up-to-date, although several councillors did not seem to follow his reasoning.

The probable end result was a plea to the tax office to waive the fine because of circumstances outside the present council administration’s control.

There were lots of compliments for the fireworks display at the Wagait Beach self-government day celebrations.

Councillors moved a formal vote of thanks to fireworks guru Mick Daly for a spectacular and extended show.

The great rubbish dump debate also raised its head during the meeting.

Shire president Peter Clee said there had been a lot of government interest in the issue after Belyuen council manager Bill Stuchbery sent photographs and a letter to several government departments.

Vera Lamont noted that although the tip was far from satisfactory, it was vastly improved on what it had been 12 months ago.

Peter agreed.

“They can’t stop it,” he said. “But it could mean we get a transfer station.”

A stellar sporting career and the council’s junior sports program appear to be at odds with each other.

Shire sports and recreation officer Josh Chaplin is a key member of the Territory Thunder senior football team that plays matches in Brisbane and Alice Springs as part of the Queensland AFL competition.

However, his training and match commitments mean that he’s unable to keep up with the comprehensive sporting program he’s introduced for the local children.

Although sympathetic to Josh’s football ambitions, councillors agreed it may be necessary to look at splitting the role so the junior program continues.

Former Mandorah Beach Hotel licensee Steve Brown has not left the peninsula but he has moved from his role with the Larrakia Development Corporation to a new post at Belyuen.

Steve is supervising employment and contracting activities for the Ironbark group that runs employment programs in Aboriginal communities as well as the Belyuen night patrol.
Big ‘around the bay’ bike tour is on again

There'll be an opportunity to get on your bike for the second annual Around the Bay, Darwin to Mandorah in a day road cycling event on Sunday August 8.

Conducted by the Darwin Cycling Club, the 146 km event starts at Cullen Bay at 6 am and ends at the Mandorah Pub.

Event organiser Steven Klose said he expected the more competitive riders to complete the course in four hours, although other riders could still be on the road at 1 pm.

Local riders who don’t want to tackle the whole trip can “escort” the visitors over the final stages.

“This cycling event is an opportunity to connect recreational riders with the Darwin Cycling Club’s model of recreational licensing.

“(It) represents a major step in public awareness about the benefits of recreational cycling.”

The club is expecting between 200 and 400 riders to tackle this year’s event.

The long course dog-legs through Humpty Doo and Noonamah before heading down Cox Peninsula Road.

There also is the opportunity to take a shorter course or form a team and ride the event as a relay.

“The Darwin Cycling Club is promoting the event as Darwin’s premier community road cycling event and an opportunity to increase participation in cycling at a recreational level.

Transfer station would blow the budget: Clee

From page 1.

This was reduced to seven after the Top End Shire, including Wagaitear, was abandoned due to widespread community opposition that followed when the government failed to provide proof that the scheme would have any financial, service or employment benefits.

Shire president Peter Clee agreed the tip was less than satisfactory.

“We need a transfer station,” he said.

“Our current budget is limited and we’re not able to supply (an improved) service without a huge increase in rates.”

The Territory Government subsidised a transfer station at Dundee after similar complaints.

No-one in the area pays rates. Environmental health officers from the Department of Health were expected to inspect the tip late last month or early this month.

The environment division of natural resources also has taken interest in the complaints although a spokesman said the high pollution levels in Darwin Harbour was a priority problem.

Under new guidelines, the environmental protection authority can monitor government department activities and alert the minister or the public where it considers these are unsatisfactory.

Mungalo Nursery for all your tough as nails plants 8978 5111

Belyuen Community Government Council Declaration of Rates and Charges 2010-2011

Declared on 6th July 2010

Rates
Belyuen Community Government Council (‘the Council’) makes the following declaration of rates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Local Government Act (‘the Act’).

1. Pursuant to section 148 of the Act the Council adopts a fixed charge method for each allotment, for different purposes, with the council area.

2. The Council intends to raise, for general purposes by way of rates, the amount $29,100 which will be raised by the application of:

   (a) $650 per residential allotment;
   (b) $750 per duplex allotment; and
   (c) $800 per commercial allotment and $500 per second or more units on the same allotment.

Charges

3. Pursuant to section 157 of the Act, the Council declares charges in respect of works and services it provides for the benefit of occupiers of land within the council area.

4. The Council intends to raise $34,900 by these charges by application of:

   4.1 Waste Management

   (a) $500 per residential allotment;
   (b) $500 per unit per duplex allotment;
   (c) $600 per unit per community services allotment
   (d) $300 per second or more units on the same allotment; and
   (e) $900 per commercial allotment and $300 per second or more units on the same allotment.

   4.2 Environmental Services

   (a) A charge of $100 per allotment for environmental services

Relevant interest rate

5. The Council fixes the relevant interest rate for the late payment of rates and charges in accordance with section 162 of the Act at a rate of 18% per annum which is to be calculated on a daily basis.

Payment

6. Pursuant to section 159 of the Act, rates and charges are due and payable annually on the expiration of 28 days from the date on which a notice in relation to the rates and charges is served on the principal ratepayer liable to pay the rates.

7. A ratepayer who fails to pay the rates and charges notified under the rates notice under section 159 of the Act may be sued for recovery of the principal amount of the rates and charges, late payment penalties and costs reasonably incurred by the Council in recovering or attempting to recover the rates and charges.

Cathy Winsley
Chief Executive Officer
A major cleanup and site rehabilitation is taking place at the former Radio Australia transmitting station at Charles Point.

The station, more recently operated by Voice International, was closed after doubts about the status of the land once the Kenbi land claims is concluded.

Contractors have been called in to clean up the site and remove the accumulated rubbish and pollution from the 40 years of operation plus the big cleanup after Cyclone Tracy in 1974.

Much of the debris from the cyclone was pushed into pits not far from the station buildings.

Evan Carroll from the Canberra-based United Group said a major part of the contract was to “remediate” the old tip sites and remove such dangerous items as asbestos.

“Our job is to clean it up and hand it back to the traditional owners,” he said.

“It includes taking away any hazardous materials (and) cleaning up and recycling what we can. It also means determining the level of contamination in the soils.”

Hundreds of testing holes will be drilled as part of the soil contamination check.

Evan said he expected the job to take between six to eight months.

Howard Springs-based contractor G & K Akers is the head contractor for the rehabilitation works at the former transmitting station.

Akers project manager Gary Hill said the scope of works included deep excavations, hazardous materials removal, demolition of existing infrastructure and environmental monitoring.

“There will be heavy machinery operating in this vicinity and therefore only inducted personnel are permitted to be on site,” he said.

“The work also covers remediation works in other areas of Section 34 and this includes excavations, environmental monitoring and borehole drilling.

“Personnel will be on foot in isolated areas of Charles Point performing the environmental monitoring, plus we will have personnel working in all areas performing specialised tasks as required.

“Access to the site for hunting activities is strictly prohibited until the work is completed because of the danger to our contractors.

“We ask the community of Wagait Beach for patience during the remediation works and remind them that the site is closed for their safety and the safety of on-site personnel.”
If you can’t get to a polling place on election day, vote early.

If you can’t make it to a polling place in the Northern Territory for the federal election on Saturday 21 August 2010, you may be entitled to vote early.

The easiest way is to vote in person by visiting one of the early voting centres listed below or any Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) Divisional Office. For locations of Divisional Offices check the White Pages or call 13 23 26.

Alternatively, you can vote before election day by post. You’ll need to obtain a postal vote application form from any post office, the AEC website or AEC office. After your application is processed, you’ll be sent ballot papers. Remember to leave enough time for your ballot papers to be posted to you, completed and then returned to the AEC before 6pm on election day. Post your voting envelope as early as possible before election day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASUARINA, 0810</th>
<th>MARRARA, 0812</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>½ Casuarina Village Shopping Centre</td>
<td>½ Darwin Airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop 9, Casuarina Village, 54</td>
<td>Henry Wrigley Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradshaw Tce</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 19 August 2010 8:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>16 August 2010 10:00am - 2:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 August 2010 8:00am - 6:00pm</td>
<td>17 August 2010 12:00am - 2:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARWIN, 0800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ Shop 4, Australia Post Building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 Cavenagh St</td>
<td>16 August 2010 10:00pm - 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - 14 August 2010 8:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>17 August 2010 10:00am - 2:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 19 August 2010 9:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>17 August 2010 10:00pm - 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 August 2010 8:00am - 6:00pm</td>
<td>18 August 2010 12:00am - 2:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ AEC Divisional Office (NT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 7, TCG Centre, 80 Mitchell St</td>
<td>19 August 2010 10:00am - 2:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 6 August 2010 8:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>19 August 2010 10:00pm - 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - 14 August 2010 8:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>20 August 2010 12:00am - 2:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 19 August 2010 8:00am - 5:00pm</td>
<td>20 August 2010 10:00am - 6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 August 2010 8:00am - 6:00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These polling places have wheelchair access. These polling places are suitable for wheelchair access with assistance.

Federal election, Saturday 21 August 2010
www.aec.gov.au | ☎️ 13 23 26
Max and Anthony marry in secret wedding

There were a few surprises for friends and family when Erickson Crescent couple Max Bowden and Anthony Kerr were married in a simple but delightful ceremony in their front yard last month.

Only near neighbours and close friends Stuart and Zerlina, and the newlyweds’ recalcitrant hound Demon – better known as Dimsum – were in on the secret.

“Thankfully our families didn’t kill us over the secret occasion,” Max said after they had confessed to their parents.

Marriage celebrant Bilawara Lee, an elder from the Larrakia, performed the ceremony.

“Wagait Beach and this spot in particular will forever be a part of us,” Anthony said.

Left: Dimsum the dog was best “man” with the rings in his sporran during the ceremony.

Harney Beach was transformed into a rubbish dump and a giant dunny last month after some 300 people turned up for a weekend beach party.

With no facilities, no water and no bins – but a $10 “cover charge”, parts of the dunes and foreshore looked more like the Wagait tip by the time the stragglers left on Sunday.

Police checked the party but a spokesman said there were no arrests.

Several of the party-goers were asked to leave the Mandorah pub on Sunday after becoming abusive when staff refused to sell them alcohol.

Others abused the Mandorah minibus drivers who refused to take them over rough dirt tracks to and from the venue.

Attempts to find the organisers to help clean up the mess were unsuccessful.

Harney Beach was transformed into a rubbish dump and a giant dunny last month after some 300 people turned up for a weekend beach party.

With no facilities, no water and no bins – but a $10 “cover charge”, parts of the dunes and foreshore looked more like the Wagait tip by the time the stragglers left on Sunday.

Police checked the party but a spokesman said there were no arrests.

Several of the party-goers were asked to leave the Mandorah pub on Sunday after becoming abusive when staff refused to sell them alcohol.

Others abused the Mandorah minibus drivers who refused to take them over rough dirt tracks to and from the venue.

Attempts to find the organisers to help clean up the mess were unsuccessful.

Internet sites associated with the Happy Yess music venue in Darwin promoted the party but no-one responded to telephone calls and emails.

What the $3000 collected in “cover charges” actually covered remains a mystery with several disgruntled party-goers reporting only canned music and a small video screen provided as the entertainment.

The matter has been reported by both local councils to crown land administration and environmental health in an effort to prevent a repeat performance.

Happy Yess is described on its web site as “the best music venue in Darwin. It only hosts original bands (cover bands, get back to mitchell st where you belong), is run by artists, and runs on love from the dedicated Happy Yess crew of volunteers.”

The Wagait Beach Seniors’ Ball & Dinner Dance is on again!
Saturday August 21st at the sports ground shelter
Hawaiian theme so dress up for the night
Prizes for the best dressed plus door and other prizes
Great supper available:
• Finger food
• Cold buffet
• Soft drinks, tea & coffee
BYO other refreshments
Please call the council on 8978 5185 for any further queries

Harney Beach as it should look.
Harbour cleanup nets rubbish of all sorts

Last month’s huge harbour cleanup found just how carelessly so many people treat what should be a pristine waterway. Everything from cigarette butts and drink containers in their thousands to fishing gear (right) and shopping trolleys. Organisers weighed the huge amount of garbage taken from Cox Peninsula beaches (below) while the Wagait shire’s new recycling bins proved handy.

Club meeting is important

This month’s Cox country club annual general meeting is one of the most important in its history.

The committee is up for re-election and several members say they may not stand again.

Although financially on the right side of the ledger, numbers have not improved substantially, leading to debate about the club’s future direction.

A key issue is how to attract newcomers, with a new food service one recent initiative.

Most locals agree it would be a great pity to lose such a valuable community asset.

The meeting is at the club on Sunday August 29 at 3 pm.

A big roll up will vastly improve the chances of the club surviving and going forward.
Farewell to a real peninsula pioneer

One of the true pioneers at Wagait Beach is no more.
Jack Davis was 84 when he passed away in hospital.
A former RAAF serviceman, Jack was the bloke who built Golden Sands, the former resort in Cox Drive. He was one of the founders of the Cox Country Club and a member of several committees that fought so hard to bring power to the estate.

A big, no-nonsense sort of bloke with a sharp tongue for those who upset him, he loved fishing, crabbing, Bynoe Harbour, hard work, a cold beer and a glass of red wine on the beach.

Despite some evidence to the contrary, he also loved his wife Linda.
The pair had a colourful and sometimes eventful relationship for more than 30 years.
“Watch what I miss most is sitting outside the house in the afternoon,” Linda said. “It’s something we did every day.

“We had some memorable arguments – people said we’d kill each other. I’d threaten to leave but he always said he would come after me.

“But at the end he said to me ‘You stood by me through thick and thin. Thank you.’ It was so nice.”

Jack was the first person to have a telephone at Wagait Beach, installing the lines in true bush fashion with the help of some of his mates from Belyuen.

Parts of the line remain visible today in the bush opposite the supermarket where old insulators and bits of wire still poke out from the sides of gum trees that mark the old track he used to truck guests between the ferry and Golden Sands.

The resort was one of the casualties of the break-up of an earlier marriage and Jack moved to Bynoe Harbour with his great mate and colourful character Burge Brown.

It was about this time that he met Linda who was running the shop at Belyuen.

“I remember him showing me how to dig out a mud crab,” she said.

“He got one out and cooked it up and I made a potato salad – just in case.

“Well, we got it out of the pot and there was not even a little piece of meat in it.

“We had a fish trap and we’d have to go down there in the middle of the night even when it was raining.

“I remember there was a croc in the trap. and Jack got it out and tied it up.

“He rang fisheries and agreed to put it on the ferry, but he got them to send over a roll of wire to make sure the crocodile couldn’t get loose.

“He was definitely a pioneer of the peninsula.”

Jack’s old mate Sted Edwards tells a tale of about a fishing inspector nabbing him on the beach just as Jack was about to recover his net.

“Gotcha!” the inspector gloated as Jack picked a fish out of the net.

“Who are you?” Jack responded as quick as a flash.

“I’m the fishing inspector,” the fellow shot back.

“Thank Christ,” Jack replied, “I thought you were the bloke who owned this net.”

And with that, he handed the fish to the bemused official and retired to Ron Gatley’s house nearby for a beer.

Life wasn’t all fishing and crabbing and there were some rough times both financially and emotionally.
The bank balance was down to about $20 when Linda got a job cooking at the pearl farm on the shores of Bynoe Harbour – a move that took them back to their favourite place in the world.

“If I was younger I go there today,” Linda said.

“The fishing, the crabbing, Burge’s company – and when the sun went down over Indian island we always stopped and watched.

“Bynoe Harbour is just different.”

Life got tougher for Jack and Linda when Jack lost a leg and became frustrated with his inability to lead his former active lifestyle.

His old Suzuki four-wheel-drive with a wheel-chair strapped to the front became a familiar sight heading slowly to the shop or the Cox Club.

Those long stays at the club gave Linda some headaches, having to regularly call the club at closing time for somebody to give her a hand to get him to bed.

But those last years also brought some good times.

“Just sitting here, looking out over the sea, it was good,” Linda said.

A fitting epitaph for a bloke who worked hard, played hard, lived hard and loved hard.
Mungalo Native Plant Nursery
Acacia, grevillea, palms, shade trees and a great range of local natives
Cycads up to 60 cm now available
Phone 8978 5111 or call into 22 Mungalo Road

Right: Family and friends gather on the beach in front of his home for the scattering of Jack’s ashes. Bottom right: Jack’s daughters Wendy (left) and Sarah scattered Jack’s ashes in the sea. Below: Jack as he’d no doubt like to be remembered.
Opportunity to comment on council voting

Chance to end the confusion

NT electors are being asked to comment on the voting system used for council elections.

Introduced with the new Local Government Act in 2008, the exhaustive preferential system left many Wagait Beach voters confused and angry after two of the candidates with the most number of primary votes were eliminated during the distribution of preferences.

There were calls at the time for the system to be changed – not just from the Wagait Shire but from several of the new shires.

A discussion paper released by the Local Government Department attempts to explain the process used for each vacancy:

Voters must fill out their ballot papers listing preferences for all candidates (eg if there are 5 candidates the voter must place a number from 1 to 5 against all of those candidates).

After the first count the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded and their second preferences are distributed to other candidates. This process continues until a candidate has an absolute majority and the first vacancy is filled.

(When more than one candidate is eliminated to get a result, say four eliminated, the first person out will have their second, third, fourth and fifth preferences counted in addition to their original number 1 votes.)

Benefits, according to the department, are:

Exhaustive preferential presents a familiar style of voting because full preferential systems are used in NT Legislative Assembly and Australian House of Representatives elections.

The system can be used in both single and multi member electorates, and this means that one system can be used across the different ward structures of different councils.

Majority voting systems, such as exhaustive preferential, are more easily understood than proportional representation systems, and have the ability to produce quick results.

NT electors are being asked to comment on the voting system used for council elections.

Opportunity to comment on council voting

Chance to end the confusion

NT electors are being asked to comment on the voting system used for council elections.

Available at Wagait Beach Supermarket or delivered to your Darwin office

MEAT DIRECT
Quality Meat Real Savings

Phone Matt or Lil
8985 5233 Fax: 8948 0634

Mandorah Minibus service
See the rest of the peninsula
Tours can include the ant hills, bomber wreck, Wagait Beach area
Phone 0407 325 957

THANK YOU
To all those people who sympathised, provided help, sent cards and attended Jack’s funeral and the scattering of the ashes, thank you so much.

Special thanks to Jeff at the clinic, everyone at the Wagait Beach Supermarket, RAAF squadron personnel, the family in France, Doctors Flavell, Chin and staff, and Bob McKechnie.

- Linda Davis.
Across
1 Lively dance of Scottish Highlanders (4)
3 Capital of the state south of Finke (8)
9 Mollusk enclosed within two shells hinged together (7)
10 Appear briefly (5)
11 Half-wit (5)
12 Violent and needless disturbance (6)
14 Capital of the south island of Australia (6)
16 Cartilaginous structure at the top of the trachea (6)
19 Type of spiny tree or shrub (6)
21 Zest (5)
24 Capital of a western state (5)
25 French verse form of 10 or 13 lines (7)
26 Polish with wax (8)
27 Small island (4)

Down
1 Cheap and inferior; (8)
2 A brief stanza concluding certain forms of poetry (5)
4 Lacking spirit or liveliness (6)
5 Southpaw (5)
6 Vacuously and unconsciously foolish (7)
7 A reply that repeats what has just been said (4)
8 Loose long overcoat of heavy fabric (6)
13 Disclosure of something secret (8)
15 A coarse cotton fabric stiffened with glue (7)
17 A heart condition marked by paroxysms of chest pain (6)
18 A north Queensland town (6)
20 A common Jewish surname (5)
22 Detailed description of design criteria for a piece of work (short form) (5)
23 A musical work (4)

Answers to last puzzle

Across
RACQUET
U T B A N
L U N A T I C FRINGE
E X C E K E R
R Y E R E LOCATES
N M E R I T E
O P T I O N L A N C E R
V R S R B E
S H O R T T E M P E R E D
E G R S L O S
E N S U E N B Y E B Y E S

Down
1 TIF WORDS
44 Virgo: August 24 – September 23
The stars are in perfect alignment for a little romance and other good stuff. Suggesting going down the pub for a game of pool does not qualify as foreplay. Lucky No 2
Libra: September 24 – October 23
Look out for relles calling from the jetty because they forgot to tell you they’re coming. Take the phone off the hook and pretend you’ve gone south to see them. Lucky No 5.
Scorpio: October 24 – November 22
Your stars are showing good fortune at the races. Back no 4 in the third … or should that be no 3 in the fourth. Bugger it, back both. Lucky Nos 3 and 4.
Sagittarius: November 23 – December 22
You were warned about Uranus last month. Keep a much closer watch on it this month if you want to avoid trouble. Lucky No 7.
Capricorn: December 23 – January 20
This is the month you’ve been waiting for. Don’t miss a chance to buy a lottery ticket, take a punt or buy a ticket in a raffle. It’s looking good. Lucky No 44.
Aquarius: January 21 – February 19
Time for a bit – make that a lot – of exercise. Why? Just take a butcher’s hook in the mirror then stop asking bloody silly questions. Lucky No 67.
Pisces: February 20 – March 19
A trip to the chip factory is in your future. Play your money carefully and you could wind up rich beyond your dreams – well at least $5 better off. Lucky No 00.
Aries: March 20 – April 20
Time for a veg out. Just stop for a week and gaze at the stars, muse about the future and check your lifeline. It could do wonders for you. Lucky No 89.
Taurus April 21 – May 21
The morning star is your planet this month. There is a meaningful message in that twinkling light but don’t scare the dog next door on your way to the beach. Lucky No 6.
Gemini May 22 – June 21
Both of you are in for a bad month. Social activities look especially bad so don’t even think about going out. Lucky No -13.
Cancer: June 22 – July 22
A grand month for investing. Check the beers on special at the supermarket or you could always see if Nic at the pub has something special hidden away. Lucky No ‘97
Leo: July 23 – August 23
Your birthday month is looking good. Make sure you appreciate all the good things that are coming your way. Lucky No 13

In an emergency …
Medical – ask for duty District Medical Officer 000 or 8922 8888
Wagait Beach Clinic Tuesday and Thursday 5 pm to 8 pm
NT HealthDirect (medical advice) 1800 022 222
Police 000, 131 444, 8988 0200 (Humpty Doo)
Fire 89 785 176
Power and Water 1800 245 090
NT Emergency Services Cox Peninsula via 000

The Wagaitear, August 2010 – 13
Who does what locally

Accommodation
- Lure Inn Bed and Breakfast ................................................. 89 785 484
- Mandorah Beachside Hotel .............................................. 89 785 044
- Wagait Beach Bush Retreat .............................................. 89 785 123

Builder
- Peninsula Building (Paul) ................................................. 0428 890 106 or 89 785 488

Boilermaker
- Mark (Anything Steel) ........................................................ 0411 230 918 or 89785466

Commissioners for Oaths
- Linda King ........................................................................ 89 785 064
- Rhonda Solien ................................................................... 89 785 241

Concrete plant
- Dave ............................................................................... 89 785 066

Earthworks & installations:
- Mick & Donna ................................................................... 419 822 320 or 8978 5034

Electrical appliance testing
- Gary ................................................................................. 0418 673 536 or 89 785 234

Electrical contractor
- Michael Vaughan .............................................................. 0427 180 379

Fresh fruit & vegetables home delivery
- Becky & Mark ..................................................................... 0437 322 755 or 89 785 466

Flying lessons (gyrocopter)
- Max .................................................................................... 0418 856 143

Garden and home maintenance
- Matelot (Phil) .................................................................... 0412 506 999 or 89 785 372
- Warren ............................................................................... 0407 546 275 or 89 785 175

Jewellery
- Kat ...................................................................................... 89 785 232
- Michelle .............................................................................. 0428 852 082

Meat supplies (Meat Direct)
- Matt & Lil. .......................................................................... 0416 942 519

Minibus (Mandorah Transport)
- Mobile ................................................................................ 0407 325 957

Native plant nursery
- Chris and Jack .................................................................... 89 785 111

Plastering
- Michael Milton ................................................................... 89 785 126

Printing and publishing
- Wagaitear .......................................................................... 0417 089 528 or 89 785 111

Property conveyancing
- Trish McIntyre .................................................................... 8981 6733 or 89 785 237

Real estate
- Steve Cannizzaro ................................................................ 0407 587 046 or 89 785 5003

Supermarket & hardware
- Chris, Sue and the ladies ..................................................... 89 785 008

Vision planning and time management
- Kiara Garrard ...................................................................... 0438 610 563 or 89 785 5003

Water
- Mick & Donna ..................................................................... 0419 822 320 or 89 785 034

Welding
- Rick Gosper ......................................................................... 0404 656 270

Who does what is a free service to Cox Peninsula businesses.
To be included call 8978 5111 or email wagaitear@gmail.com

Trades and services

Rob Knight
Member for Daly

Electorate Office: WA Coolabahs Shopping Centre
Stuart Highway NT 0833
Postal address: PO Box 372
Virginia NT 0835
Phone: (08) 8983 3911
Fax: (08) 8983 3922
Email: electorate.daly@nt.gov.au

Fresh Ideas, Real Results

Hair On Cullen

Just a quick stroll from the ferry at 3/57 Marina Blvd

See Helen for all your hair care needs
8942 2272

We will be holding clinics at Wagait Beach in:
March; June; September; December.
Bookings are essential
Ph: 8981 9767

The Importer

Importers of Balinese and Javanese Teak and Mahogany furniture, artifacts, potz pedestals & homewares

Cherie J. Cooper

39 Stuart Highway Stuart Park NT, Australia 0800
Tel: (08) 8981 6266 Fax: (08) 8981 6266 Mobile: 0436 662 632
Email: cherie.theimporter@gmail.com GPO Box 22 Darwin NT 0801

Bed and Breakfast

Lure Inn

58 Cox Drive, Wagait Beach
Bookings essential Ph: 89785484
Email – bookings@lureinn.com.au
MANDORAH
TRANSPORT

Forget the fuss – catch the bus!
Available for all ‘peak-hour’ daylight ferries or by booking the bus on:
0407 325 957

DARWIN CARPETS & VINYLS
Now at 91 Coonawarra Road Winnellie
For all your floor covering needs
Carpet, vinyl, planks, marine carpet, artificial grass
Local installation and quotes now available
Trevor and Sally Edwards
Ph 8947 2077 Fax 8947 2311
Mob 0412 484 976

MANDORAH
TRANSPORT
Forget the fuss – catch the bus!
Available for all ‘peak-hour’ daylight ferries or by booking the bus on:
0407 325 957
Most of the 300 feral folk who headed for the big party at Harvey Beach can forget about coming back. See page 8.

At least half a dozen idiots arrived back at the jetty riding on the roof of a four-wheel-drive.

Others annoyed the hell out of pub staff and the ferry crew with their language and behaviour.

Some of the smart alecs were left on the jetty after deciding to go to town rather than take their time boarding the boat.

Shire president Peter Clee unwittingly added a lighter moment to the proceedings when he reached for his pen to start writing notes once the meeting got under way.

He whipped his pen from his pocket only to find he had bought a screwdriver by mistake.

Who were the two new cops (NOT from Humpty Doo, the Admiral is assured) who came the raw prawn with a bloke driving his ute slowly down the jetty.

They none-too politely told the bloke he had no right to be there and to bugger off.

Max Cormick was taking his wife Rene, who has been pretty crook, to the end of the wharf so she had the energy to make it on to the boat.

He told the cops to mind their manners or words to that effect.

The new smaller local directories phone books (with the yellow pages at the back) have been home delivered.

Chris at the shop also has plenty of the Sensis (Telstra) books available.

They might be big and bulky and stupidly have the white pages at the back, but they are free.

Labor supporters who bristle about the one-sided advertising in this edition, your mob decided that everyone “over there” had already made up their minds!

It isn’t often that Wagaitear Council meetings provide a most pleasant surprise.

Vera Lamont wanted a change from the standard sandwich platter and cooked up a storm.

Prawns, salad, fish satays, egg slice, dips and sauces provided a great start to the evening.

The three absent councillors missed out on a top feed, although the debate that followed didn’t quite match the the food.

Shire president Peter Clee unwittingly added a lighter moment to the proceedings when he reached for his pen to start writing notes once the meeting got under way.

He whipped his pen from his pocket only to find he had bought a screwdriver by mistake.

Who were the two new cops (NOT from Humpty Doo, the Admiral is assured) who came the raw prawn with a bloke driving his ute slowly down the jetty.

They none-too politely told the bloke he had no right to be there and to bugger off.

Max Cormick was taking his wife Rene, who has been pretty crook, to the end of the wharf so she had the energy to make it on to the boat.

He told the cops to mind their manners or words to that effect.

The new smaller local directories phone books (with the yellow pages at the back) have been home delivered.

Chris at the shop also has plenty of the Sensis (Telstra) books available.

They might be big and bulky and stupidly have the white pages at the back, but they are free.