

# The Berry News



## YOUTH WEEK 2025

### Amazing Youth Week at Berry Springs Recreation Reserve!

We truly appreciate Litchfield Council for including the Berry Springs Recreation Reserve as one of the hosts for Youth Week activities during the last school holidays. It was a wonderful opportunity for local young people to come together, connect, and try something new in a fun and supportive environment.

Throughout the week, the Reserve was buzzing with energy and enthusiasm. The First Aid and Self Defence sessions were very well attended, providing participants with important life skills and a boost in confidence. It was great to see so many young people actively engaging in hands-on learning that could prove invaluable in everyday situations.

The two Leather Craft Workshops were an absolute hit—selling out within minutes! These creative sessions gave participants the chance to work with their hands, explore a new craft, and walk away with something they made themselves. The excitement and pride on their faces said it all.

We love seeing our rural youth embracing opportunities like these—getting creative, learning practical skills, and having fun in the process. It's events like this that help build a stronger, more connected community.

We look forward to welcoming more events like this to the Berry Springs Recreation Reserve in the future!



# Game On, Berry Springs!



## HALF BASKETBALL COURT & 3 NEW SHADE UPGRADES ON THE WAY!

Berry Springs Recreation Reserve has been awarded a CBF Major Grant! We're so excited to be adding a basketball half-court and three new seating shade structures to create even more usable, welcoming spaces for our community! Huge congratulations to everyone involved, and a heartfelt thank you to the Community Benefit Fund, Hon. Marie-Claire Boothby MLA, and all our incredible supporters. A special shoutout to the amazing volunteers of the Berry Springs Recreation Reserve Inc. Management Committee—your hard work and dedication made this project possible.

Thank you!

We can't wait to get started—stay tuned!

## Territory Day Fireworks

# WE NEED YOUR HELP

### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS – OR THE EVENT CANNOT GO AHEAD!

Territory Day celebrations at Berry Springs Recreation Reserve are scheduled for Tuesday, 1st July — but we're facing a critical shortage of volunteers. Without enough support, this much-loved community event will NOT be able to run. We urgently need helping hands to ensure the fireworks and festivities go ahead safely and successfully.

🔧 Help Needed For:

- Set-Up Crew (during the day)
- Event Support (during the evening festivities and fireworks)

★ If you can assist, please:

✉ Email: [berryspringsrecreationreserve@outlook.com](mailto:berryspringsrecreationreserve@outlook.com)

OR

📄 Complete the Volunteer Registration Form (select "Territory Day Event") at:  
<https://form.jotform.com/250688797111870>

Thank you for helping to support your local reserve!



# The Berry News

## Management Committee NEWS BULLETIN

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent 2025 Berry Springs Recreation Reserve Community Strategic Plan Survey! We received fantastic feedback that reflects the community's vision for the future of the Reserve. Your input is helping guide the next steps, and we're committed to working together to bring these ideas to life.

Here is some of the snap shots of the Survey Results



Thanks for the Fantastic Feedback!

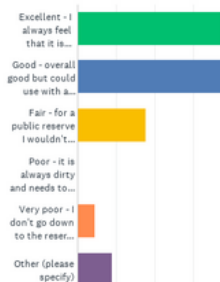
We already applied for the CBF Major Grant, which includes a half basketball court and three additional hard-roof shade structures—with space for more seating underneath. We're also in early talks with local artists to collaborate on a community mural project with local kids, and we're exploring options to create walking trails around the oval. Fitness equipment is a bit more complex, but it's definitely on our radar!

These were some of the top community requests, and we're excited to already be moving in the direction you've asked for!

We Hear You – And We Can Do Better!

Good... but not great. We will be reviewing all cleaning schedules to identify where we can improve. Thanks for helping us lift our game!

How would you rate the cleanliness of the reserve? Do you feel that the area is well-maintained, or are there areas that could benefit from improvement?



We're working on it!

More youth activities

Mahogany trees are beautiful but present safety concerns

Some seating at the skate park would be awesome, bins wouldn't go astray but otherwise it's got great potential

Be more inclusive!!!!

Additional bins would be fantastic along with more benches around the oval

More shade and fans

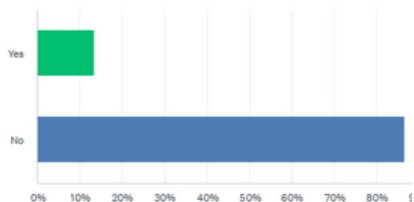
Aboriginal culture - cultural activities and art

Hitting wall at tennis court

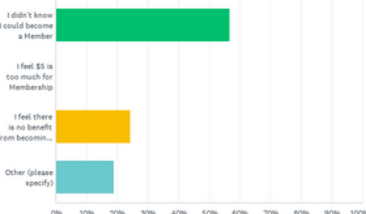
Good effective signage to public that there is a BSRR

New Signage being installed 13.05.25!  
Shade Structures scheduled to build & Additional seating is being looked at.  
BSRR First Aid Course Runs 14.06.25

Are you a member of the Berry Springs Recreation Reserve?



Q17 If not, why not?



We're hearing this a lot, and it tells us one thing: we need to communicate better and offer more reasons to join. We're actively working on improving how we connect with the community and adding more meaningful benefits for our members.

More members means more events, more funding opportunities, and more momentum to make great things happen at the Reserve!





WWW.BSRR.COM.AU

# FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING

NOW AT BERRY SPRINGS RECREATION RESERVE

SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 9AM - 3PM

MEMBER PRICE \$110 PP

NON MEMBER PRICE \$120 PP

PLACES ARE LIMITED. REGISTER AT  
[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/251118048070852](https://form.jotform.com/251118048070852)



HLTAID011 Provide First Aid is one of the most widely undertaken first aid courses across Australian workplaces and is nationally recognised. This course covers both the theoretical knowledge and hands-on skills needed to manage over 24 of the most frequently encountered first aid situations and medical conditions. By the end of this thorough training, participants will be equipped with nationally recognised first aid skills. The course includes learning how to spot signs and symptoms of various conditions and deliver appropriate first aid following the latest guidelines set by the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC), along with recommendations from other key health authorities such as Safe Work Australia, the National Asthma Council, the Epilepsy Foundation, and the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA). Training also includes how to correctly use an AED (automated external defibrillator) and administer asthma-related first aid. This unit was previously known under titles such as Apply First Aid, Senior First Aid, Level 2 Workplace First Aid, and HLTAID003. The course is delivered by First Aid Pro.



Cricket is back on at BSRR! The Season has begun - pop down & watch!

## DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER?

**\$5**

**BUY 1**

GET ONE

**FREE**

Become a member in April, May or June 2025 and receive membership in both 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 financial years.

SIGN UP @ bsrr.com.au

**2 for 1 for You.** As we are coming into the end of the financial year, our Management Committee has agreed that new members will receive membership for the remainder of this financial year and into the next! Get your application forms in now to take advantage of this offer.

Your membership signifies that you support our association and it's objectives, and gives us a stronger backing when advocating on your behalf for new infrastructure.

As a member you

- have member benefits with some organised events
  - have voting rights at our annual general meetings
  - receive a copy of our member's newsletter via email
- keeping you up to date with what's happening at the reserve
- receive 20% off casual hire rates



# ONLY 2 DAYS LEFT TO HAVE YOUR SAY!

In case you missed the local news... Litchfield Council has unveiled its draft 2025/2026 Municipal Plan, and we would like to take this opportunity to share how the plan impacts the Berry Springs Recreation Reserve.

While the Reserve continues to receive operational funding to maintain a Council-owned asset, the current draft plan fails to allocate funding for critical infrastructure upgrades or capital works necessary for the long-term development and safety of this vital community space. The only capital expenditure included—\$120,000 for “Roof Painting” of the community hall (a Council-owned building)—does not reflect the priorities identified by the Reserve’s Volunteer Management Committee or regular users of the site. Although ongoing maintenance is important, this specific project was neither requested nor ranked as a priority by those directly involved in the Reserve’s day-to-day use.

Furthermore, while we are led to believe the \$120,000 allocation is broken down into smaller sub-projects, none of these were requested by the 2024/2025 Management Committee of the Reserve. The draft budget also fails to detail any projects beyond the broadly stated “Roof Painting,” again highlighting a lack of transparency in both planning and public communication.

Prior to the release of the draft budget, the 2024–2025 Management Committee made active and genuine efforts to collaborate with Litchfield Council—clearly outlining the Reserve’s most urgent needs and development priorities. Despite this proactive engagement, Council has not responded meaningfully or sought further input, underscoring a broader disconnect between the planning process and the on-the-ground knowledge of those who manage and use the Reserve daily.

Whilst we value our ongoing relationship with Litchfield Council and have been advised against raising concerns publicly, we believe it is important to be transparent with our members. The community has a right to understand what is happening at the Reserve and to have a voice in shaping its future. Open communication is essential if we are to ensure this vital community space continues to meet the needs of current and future users.

Over this past term, our Committee has worked closely with the local community to identify the most pressing needs for the Reserve. We have provided Litchfield Council with valuable information, but it feels as though our community’s priorities have been overlooked in the current draft plan. We respectfully ask Litchfield Council to consider allocating Capital Expenditure to address the following critical needs:

- An additional water tank and expanded safety fencing, to ensure reliable water availability for the Reserve and surrounding area in the event of an emergency, while strengthening the site’s overall safety and resilience.
- A tree planting program and management plan, to safely phase out aging Mahogany trees that present safety concerns, and to improve shaded areas for the benefit of the community.
- Recreational facilities, such as outdoor fitness equipment, which are essential for promoting youth engagement and healthy lifestyles (we’re proud to have secured grant funding ourselves, following a letter of support from Litchfield Council, for the construction of a half basketball court—an encouraging step in the right direction).
- Additional BBQs and shaded seating, to support the growing number of events and social gatherings at the Reserve.

These initiatives reflect the community’s needs and would significantly enhance the Reserve’s safety, accessibility, and long-term functionality. We urge Litchfield Council to reconsider the draft plan and invest in the future of our community space.

The Council’s draft plan is now open for public feedback until this **Wednesday, 14 May 2025**.

This is an opportunity for all of us to have a voice in shaping the future of our community spaces.

You can provide your input by:

- Contacting your local representatives:
  - Mayor, Doug Barden or
  - Councillors, Mark Sidey and Emma Sharp
- Sending feedback by email:  
[feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au](mailto:feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au)
- Or calling: (08) 8981 6445

We encourage you to get involved, ask questions, and share your thoughts. Our community’s voice is stronger when we speak together.

Please feel free to pass this message on to neighbours, friends, and local groups who care about the future of the Berry Springs Recreation Reserve.

We also encourage you to review the full draft of the 2025/2026 Municipal Plan and look at the breakdowns for yourselves.

Together, we can help shape a space that reflects the values and needs of our growing community.

For more details, you can view the full draft Municipal Plan here:

<https://litchfield.nt.gov.au/your-council/news/2025/laws-and-municipal-plan-consultation026>

Major Capital Project	Actuals 2024-2025 (\$) (A)	Budget 2025-2026 (\$) (B)	Budget 2026-2027 (\$) (C)	Total Planned Budget (\$) (A+B+C)	Expected Project Completion Date
<b>Land and Buildings</b>					
Freds Pass Reserve - Netball Facility	4,000,000			4,000,000	June 2026
Council Administration Building - upgrade septic system		200,000		200,000	June 2026
Waste Asset Renewal - Gate House upgrades		280,000		280,000	June 2026
Berry Springs Reserve - Roof Painting		120,000		120,000	June 2026
Mira Square - SPA - Perimeter fencing		35,000		35,000	June 2026
Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve- New BBQ Shelter		120,000		120,000	June 2026
McMinns Lagoon Recreation Reserve - Painting		39,000		39,000	June 2026
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,794,139</b>	<b>6,017,492</b>		<b>21,811,631</b>	<b>June 2026</b>



# The Berry News

Berry Springs Recreation Reserve

## Thank You

**Thank You for Your Patience**

### **Berry Springs Community Markets Update**

We appreciate your continued patience as we work toward a sustainable future for the Berry Springs Community Markets.

We're currently collaborating with a dedicated group that is actively working to restart the markets in the coming months.

Their enthusiasm and commitment are promising, and we're hopeful to see the markets return as a vibrant part of our community life.

We'll keep you updated as plans progress and look forward to sharing more news with you soon.

**BERRY SPRINGS TENNIS**  
**PROGRAM TERM 2 2025**

**NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN IN WEEK 2!**



	Launch Pad 30mins (3-6yrs)	Red Court 60mins (6-9yrs)	Orange Court 60mins (9-13yrs)	Social Teens & Adults 60mins (14yrs+)
Friday	3:00-3:30pm	3:30-4:30pm	4:30-5:30pm	5:30-6:30pm

**Session Dates: 9th May, 16th May, 23rd May, 30th May, 6th Jun & 20th Jun.**

**Private Sessions Available Upon Request. Subject To Availability & Will Be Scheduled Around Group Classes.**

Alex Capill  0427 999 452  [tennis@tennispalmerston.com](mailto:tennis@tennispalmerston.com)

1130 Cox Peninsula Road, Berry Springs

The second annual NT Chilli Fest in conjunction with Darwin chilli champs ran by Chilli Phill and Burning bites Downunder is set to celebrate of all things spicy. Bringing together chilli enthusiasts, local vendors, and foodies from across the Northern Territory.

**JOIN US**  
**SUNDAY**  
**MAY 18TH**

## NT CHILLI FEST



**SPICE UP  
YOUR LIFE**

**RAFFLES PRIZES ON  
THE DAY**  
**FREE KIDS ACTIVITIES**  
**JUMPING CASTLE**  
**AWESOME LOCAL**  
**MUSIC TALENT**

**WHATS HAPPENING**  
CHILLI EATING COMPETITION  
HOME MADE CHILLI SAUCE COMPETITION  
HOME MADE BLUNCHAN COMPETITION

**This Weekend!**

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NTCHILLIFEST](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NTCHILLIFEST)

BERRY SPRINGS RECREATION RESERVE  
1130 COX PENINSULA RD, BERRY SPRINGS NT  
0838

The Berry News Newsletter