

Media Release:

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Araluen Cultural Precinct Development Plan

Territorians are being invited to attend a community workshop to discuss the future direction of the Araluen Cultural Precinct in Alice Springs from 6-7pm Tuesday, 1 September 2009.

Araluen Cultural Precinct Director Tim Rollason said the draft *Araluen Cultural Precinct Development Plan* has been developed to guide program and infrastructure at the Precinct until 2015.

“The Plan links closely to the social and economic aspirations of many community groups, arts and tourism related businesses in the region, so we encourage them all to have their say,” Mr Rollason said.

“The draft Plan also aims to deliver key outcomes to support continued growth of the arts and cultural tourism industry in Alice Springs and Central Australia over the next seven years.

“Information on the new solar powered air-conditioning system, currently in development for the Araluen Art Centre, will also be discussed at the public meeting.

“Other topics will include proposed developments for the Museum of Central Australia, the provision of further community access space and a possible artist in residence program.

“We’re encouraging community feedback before embarking on any new developments because it is important that the Plan reflects the values and aspirations of the local community.”

The Araluen Cultural Precinct incorporates the following establishments:

- Araluen Arts Centre, including the Albert Namatjira Gallery
- Museum of Central Australia
- Strehlow Research Centre
- Central Australian Aviation Museum
- Alice Springs Memorial Cemetery
- Central Craft
- Yeperenye Sculpture

Mr Rollason said the Araluen Cultural Precinct is home to some of the most interesting cultural and historical experiences in Alice Springs, encompassing performing and visual arts, the natural history of the region, Aboriginal art and culture and the more recent European settlement.

“The Araluen Cultural Precinct strives to provide a balanced program of arts and cultural tourism for the benefit of the local community and audiences alike,” Mr Rollason said.

Copies of the draft Plan will be available at the community workshop, or can be obtained from the Araluen Arts Centre in advance by phoning 8951 1120. Copies are also available from the website www.araluen.nt.gov.au.

Comments and feedback are being sought by the end of October 2009, for more information go to www.nt.gov.au/consult.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Tim Rollason on 8951 1126

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