

Rain, rain wonderful rain! I do enjoy those thunderstorms. Yes, the mould and the weeds grow, but so do the plants you want. There are three main things to write about this month: the changes to NT concessions schemes for seniors; the Aged Care information and planning meeting; St Francis Op shop and Food for Life.

The 2017 review of the *NT Pensioner and Carers Concession Scheme* resulted in the creation of two new schemes: the *Northern Territory Concession Scheme* and the *Seniors Recognition Scheme*. These will come into effect on 1 July 2018.

The *Northern Territory Concession Scheme* (means tested) will operate much like the previous scheme but have capped amounts for electricity and water concessions. The *Seniors Recognition Scheme* is for all Territorians over the age 65. This will give \$500 concession per year on utilities or travel. For more information about the schemes visit ntconcessions.nt.gov.au.

The Aged Care Information & Planning Meeting for Senior Coomalie Residents held on the 6th Feb, was a great success with over 70 people attending. Thank you to the Clinic staff, Coomalie Council and others for organising this meeting. Representatives from the Commonwealth and Territory Health Departments discussed how to best access provision to enable older people to live at home. The main thing stressed was people over the age of 65 years must register on My Aged Care, so the needs of the people in the Coomalie region can be more accurately assessed. This can be done through their website, myagedcare.gov.au, by phone or the easiest way, through the Clinic.

The St Francis Op Shop has extended its opening hours. As well as Saturday mornings it will open when the Food for Life group is at the Church on every second Friday from 10.00 -12.00. This makes 16th Feb the date of the next visit. Food for Life provide pensioners and welfare recipients with \$10.00 bag of groceries. Seems like a good combination of services.

Prue King
editor

Regular Events

Bus to Darwin

Fourth Monday of the month
Monday 26th February 2018
Booking essential
Call Jan on 89760255

Morning Tea

Friday 23rd February 2018
from 9.30am
Rum Jungle Bowls Club

Quiz Nights

First Saturday of the Month
March 3rd & April 7th 2018
7.00 for 7.30 pm
Rum Jungle Bowls Club
Bring Food to Share
\$5 to play

Coomalie Community Shed

2 Cutler Place, Batchelor
Tuesdays 8.30-2.00
Call James Wright on 0488195410

Batchelor (B3) Exercise Group

Every Tuesday
5.00pm-6.15pm
Call Darryl on 89760160

Adelaide River Exercise Group

Every Wednesday,
3.30pm - 4.45pm
Library, Adelaide River School
Call Darryl on 89760160

Batchelor Markets

Sunday 8th April 2018
8.00am - 1.00 pm
Contact Denise Wright
89767117 or 0488 195 430