



The Islander

The next edition of *The Islander* will be published on **Friday 7 August 2015**. All items/materials must be received by **4.00pm on Mon. 3 August 2015**.

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Christmas Island Community Newsletter



17th Anniversary of Seniors Week



The Shire of Christmas Island continues to organise the 2015 Seniors Week on the Island. Seniors Week has been observed for 17 years now, beginning in 1999 in the International Year of the Older Persons (IYOP). The Community Services Section of the Shire of Christmas is responsible for coordinating the week-long events which are widely supported by the community.

Senior members aged 65 and over are invited to experience the culinary delight of Christmas Island at the various functions held in their honour. Seniors Week is a time to raise our Island elders into the spotlight, a chance for the younger generations to say thank you for their past and ongoing contributions to the Island.

At the Opening Ceremony of the Seniors Week held at Poon Saan Community Hall on Monday 20 July 2015, Mr Chew Boon Beng, Manager of Community Services opened the ceremony with an introduction of the event. The Shire President Cr Gordon Thomson and the Christmas Island Administrator Mr Barry Haase each gave a brief speech to thank and pay tributes to seniors for their contributions to our society. The Shire President also thanked the Commonwealth for its significant funding assistance with the Shire's own financial contribution for the establishment of the Senior Citizens Centre. Concluding the speeches was Mr Ang Ah Him, President of the Christmas Island Seniors Association. He encouraged all seniors attending at the Morning Tea to actively enjoy all activities during the Week.

(continued on back page)



Clockwise from top: Seniors morning walk, Breakfast at Taman Sweetland Park, Chew Boong Beng opening ceremony speech, Seniors gather at Poon Saan Community Hall, Jimmy Yeow enjoying being fed, Morning Tea at the Community Hall.



(cont. from front) He also thanked the Shire of Christmas Island for organising this annual event on the Island.

This was followed by the cutting of the ribbon by Cr Gordon Thomson, Mr Barry Haase and Mr Ang Ah Him as they performed the Preliminary Opening of the new Senior Citizens Centre. The new Senior Citizens Centre is being constructed by Watson Island Carpentry and Excavation Services and the project is managed by Calmy Planning & Design Services on behalf of the Shire of Christmas Island.

The Seniors Week continues with a series of activities hosted by various organisations on the Island, including an outdoor Morning Walk and Breakfast at Taman Sweetland; Morning Teas at the IOT Health Service and the Island Pharmacy; "Stay On Your Feet" fitness program followed by a Brunch at Lucky Ho Restaurant; Dinners with Seniors to be hosted by the CI Phosphates and the Chinese Literary Association and Brunch with Seniors to be hosted by the CI Women's Association. The 2015 Seniors Week concludes on Sunday 26 July 2015 with a Grand Dinner with Sponsors and Seniors to be held at the Season Palace Restaurant.



The Shire of Christmas Island would like to thank those generous organisations and individuals for their continuing support of this important event since its inception in 1999.

Anti-Clockwise from top: Cutting of the ribbon to mark the opening of the Senior's Centre, Seniors take a look around, Seniors enjoying their new centre, welcoming seniors outside Community Hall, all smiles outside the community hall, breakfast at Taman Sweetland Park

