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Manyallaluk community gets its store back after five-year break

Media release

The residents of Manyallaluk are today celebrating the official reopening of their local store after it had been closed for more than five years.

The reopening became possible after Outback Stores formed a partnership with a local committee to manage the store on their behalf.

“The store committee in partnership with Outback Stores has opened the store with a good range of food and general merchandise items that will enable the store to meet the community’s needs and dramatically reduce the requirement to travel by taxi into Katherine at great cost,” Outback Stores’ chief executive officer, John Kop, said today.

“While today is the official opening, the store has been trading for three weeks and so far has exceeded expectations, showing solid community support for their new store.”

Mr Kop said the store would receive weekly deliveries of fresh food and create full-time employment and training opportunities for local community members.

“This is an exciting day for the Manyallaluk community,” Mr Kop said.

Manyallaluk is 100km north-east of Katherine.

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Outback Stores is a company that manages remote stores on behalf of remote Indigenous communities. It was set up in 2006 in response to a growing need for functional and viable shops that were able to meet the health and nutritional requirements of Indigenous populations. It has been successful because it builds strong relationships with the communities it works with, resulting in stores that people can take pride in and feel part of. Outback Stores is a non-government enterprise with an independent board. Profits from the stores are returned to the community. www.outbackstores.com.au

Creating healthier communities

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