



# THE TIWI

NEWS for  
Traditional  
Owners



## CEO's Message

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Hello Everyone and welcome back to *The Tiwi News* Edition No 41. The official opening of the new Tiwi Land Council office on 10th of May in Darwin was a historical event for the Tiwi people. It has not been easy, we have had many challenges, however, with strong leadership and guidance from our elders together with our general manager Garry Cross, members and staff we've finally got there.



A. Tipungwuti, CEO

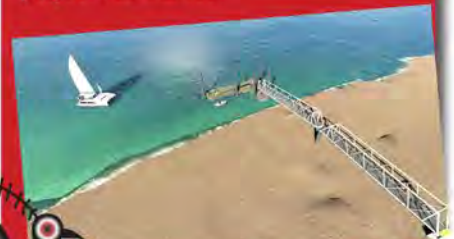
We all are very proud that we have achieved this big step and opened our new office building, which the Tiwi people own.

page 2

NEWS  
from your  
TIWI  
LAND  
Council

### Good to know

The Pontoon and Visitors Centre project has started.



Tiwi Ferry landing

See page 4

**MAY and JUNE 2019**  
Fuel Reduction Burning

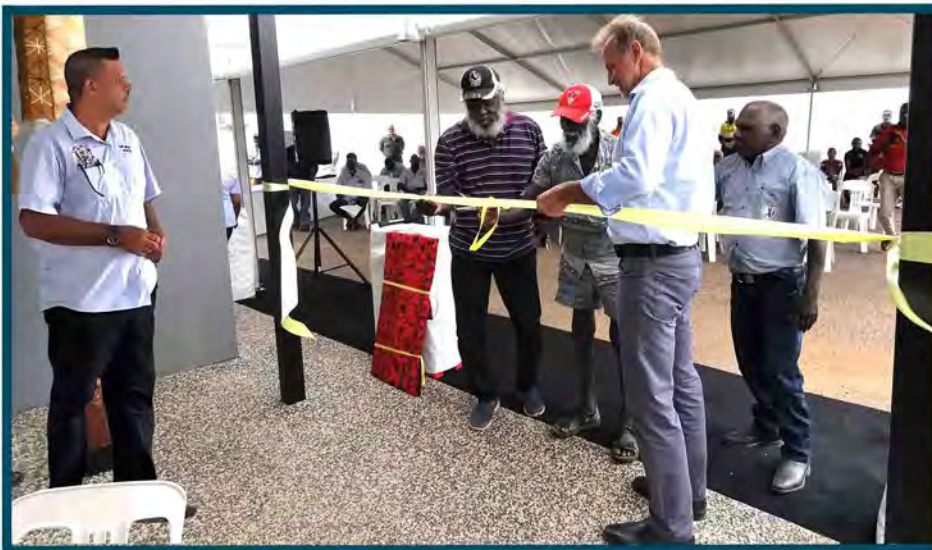


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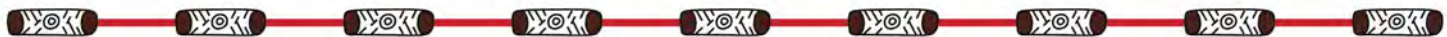
# CEO's Message



The ribbon cutting ceremony was a very proud moment for us as we had the honour to have our past Chairman Mr Robert Tipungwuti cutting the ribbon, which was held by Mr Bernard Tipiloura, Senior Leader of the Tiwi people and Senator Nigel Scullion. Robert declared the Tiwi Land Council office officially opened.



L to R: TLC CEO Andrew Tipungwuti, Bernard Tipiloura, Robert Tipungwuti, Nigel Scullion and TLC Chairman Gibson F. Illortaminni



# CEO's Message

## Minister's visit to Tiwi Islands



**We like to share** with you all that the Honourable Senator Nigel Scullion, Minister for Indigenous Affairs, attended and addressed our full Land Council meeting held at Wurrumiyanga on the 1st May 2019.

Minister Scullion acknowledged Tiwi traditional owner's past and present; announced Ms Jacinta Price for Lingiari; thanked Tiwi for support; explained programs he has supported during his terms and that Tiwi have led the way on many of them.

The Minister said that he is very pleased with the management and how the Land Council is run and the CEO working hard and is successful. With that the Minister made an announcement that he has appointed Andrew Tipungwuti as the Chair of ABAAC for 6 months. The Minister's words: "If you want a job done, give it to a busy man." The Minister then thanked Tiwi Land Council and management for their support rendered during his term.

**The Minister thanked** Jonathan Munkara the trustee for Tikilaru for his service of the last two years and wished him well for his retirement. Simon Munkara was nominated by the Land Council, and the Minister appointed Simon as Jonathon Munkara's replacement.



Jacinta Price, Leonie Melder, TLC and Bess Price



Simon Munkara, Leslie Tungatulum and Nigel Scullion

Nigel Scullion and Andrew Tipungwuti, CEO TLC

### New TLC staff members

New staff member:

**Thomasina Woody**  
Tiwi Land Council  
Receptionist



**If there is anything that TLC can assist you with, please contact our office and schedule an appointment.**  
**Ph: 8997 0797**

# Pontoon and Visitor Centre



Graphic: Tiwi Ferry landing



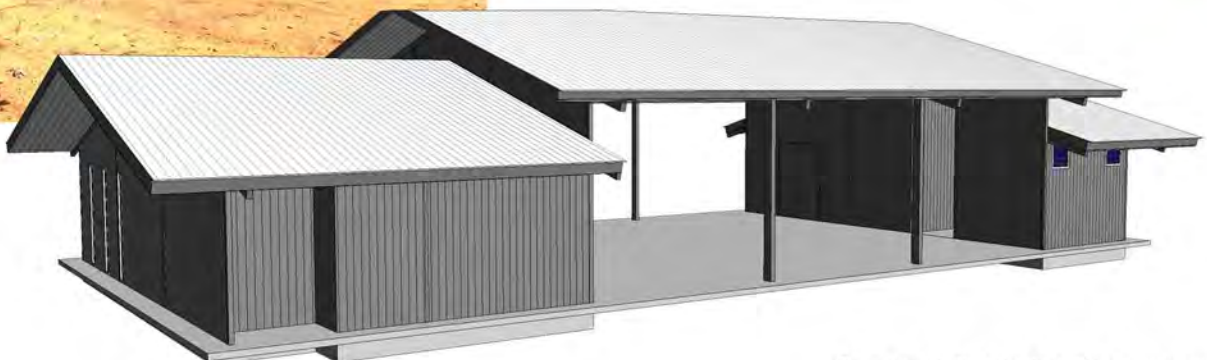
## The Pontoon and Visitors Centre project

has started, we have moved the Mary statue and the tragedy plaques, the old shade structures, a tree and a stump. The new transformer is being installed this week. We have started building up the site for the visitors centre, procurement for the piling and walkways has been commenced.



**The civil works have already** commenced, then the Visitors Centre first, followed by the Pontoons a few weeks later. The piling had a 20 week procurement time. It was order some time back. Its delivery is eagerly waited.

See page 5



Drawing: Visitor Centre at Wurrumiyanga

# Pontoon and Visitor Centre



**Tiwi Enterprises is delivering the project** on behalf of Mantiyupwi and Tiwi Land Council. Funding comes from ABA and BBRF (Building Better Regions Fund). Tiwi Enterprises has engaged Carey Marine Civil as the head contractor. They are a 100 % indigenous company, and have worked on the Islands before. All procurement for this project is from the Northern Territory.

*Mark Muller, Operations Manager  
Tiwi Enterprises, Tiwi Islands  
Mob: 0427 323 600*



Ferry landing site plan



Model drawings of ferry pontoons



# Yikwani amintiya waliwalinguwi: Fire and Ants



Photos Hmalan Hunter-Xénié

**My name is Hmalan** and I am writing this article to explain what I have been doing with Charles Darwin University, CSIRO and the Tiwi Land Rangers. My grandfather was a Tiwi/Iwaidja man. I am completing a Bachelor of Science (Resource and Environmental Management) at the Australian National University in Canberra. For my studies I am doing a small research project on fire and ants on the Tiwi carbon study plots. The research happening there is important as it gives us useful information to keep looking after Tiwi plants and animals, which I think is a big part of our Tiwi language and culture.

**The Tiwi carbon study** is about understanding how plants and animals react to fires while also earning carbon credits by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Fires are not all the same. So, knowing how different ways of burning impacts plants and animals gives people more knowledge to better plan how land is used and to manage Tiwi resources. I am checking how frequent low intensity fires impact native ants on the Tiwi Islands. I am looking at the CSIRO fire and ant data collected from the Tiwi fire plots in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015. I will see how three groups of ants responded to different fire frequencies for those six years: unburnt, burnt every year and burnt every three years.

**It is good to check** how fires impact different kinds of ants – those that are sun loving, those that move more in the shade and specialist ants that are a mix between the two. Did you know some types of ants are special to the Tiwi islands because they have not been found anywhere else in the world! Also, if ants can survive fires then bigger animals and plants should be able to stay in those places too. This is necessary for protecting Tiwi's many unique plants and animals.



Hmalan, Brian, Magen, Alan and Willie at the Fire Forum in April 2019, Maxwell Creek

# Yikwani amintiya waliwalinguwi: Fire and Ants



**I had a quick look** at the CSIRO ant data. The preliminary findings show that sun loving ants like meat ants do very well after fires are lit every year. Specialist ants like *Melophorus* seem to cope fine after annual fires. However, the forest associated ants, like the green tree ants, don't do that well and were nearly always lower in number. This happens because fire burns habitat which reduces vegetation cover. The meat ant can walk around easily with less litter on the ground. Otherwise, when there is a long break between fires the vegetation can grow thick and shady with lots of shrubs and trees. The green tree ant is better suited to live in areas like that. This means if the same areas of Tiwi get burnt all the time then those sun loving and specialist ants might survive better than the forest associated ants. If we want many different types of plants and animals, including ants, to stay on the Tiwi islands then we need some places burnt and keep some areas unburnt. To do this, Tiwi clans should keep talking to the rangers about Tiwi carbon farming to plan and monitor which places get burnt each year. It is vital that everyone talks and agrees which areas are burnt then we can properly look after Tiwi places, plants and animals.

**I would like** to acknowledge the following people for their contributions to this small ANU research project on fire and ant biodiversity on the Tiwi Islands: Professor Alan Andersen, Anita Hunter, Dr Ben Hoffmann, Brian Austral, Cassie Black, Associate Professor Geoff Cary, Henrietta Hunter, Kate Hadden, Louise Blessington, Magen Pettit, Willie Rioli and Willie Roberts. Funding and in-kind resourcing were provided by the Australian Government Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme, the Australian National University Nugget Coombs Indigenous Australian Scholarship, Associate Professor Geoff Cary, Dr Bruce Doran, Charles Darwin University, CSIRO - Darwin, North Australian Research Unit - ANU, Tiwi College and Tiwi Land Rangers - Tiwi Land Council.

*Hmalan Hunter-Xénié  
ANU Fenner School*



Photos Hmalan Hunter-Xénié

Photo Brian Austral

# Forest truck notice



**PMP is running large road trains** carrying logs from Pickertaramoor to Port Melville, Pirlangimpi.

Please always pass with care and only when you can see what's ahead.

PMP Wood-chip trucks have also got bigger which will allow us to reduce the amount of trucks trips required. These trucks take a lot longer to pass so please always slow down and take care around large trucks.

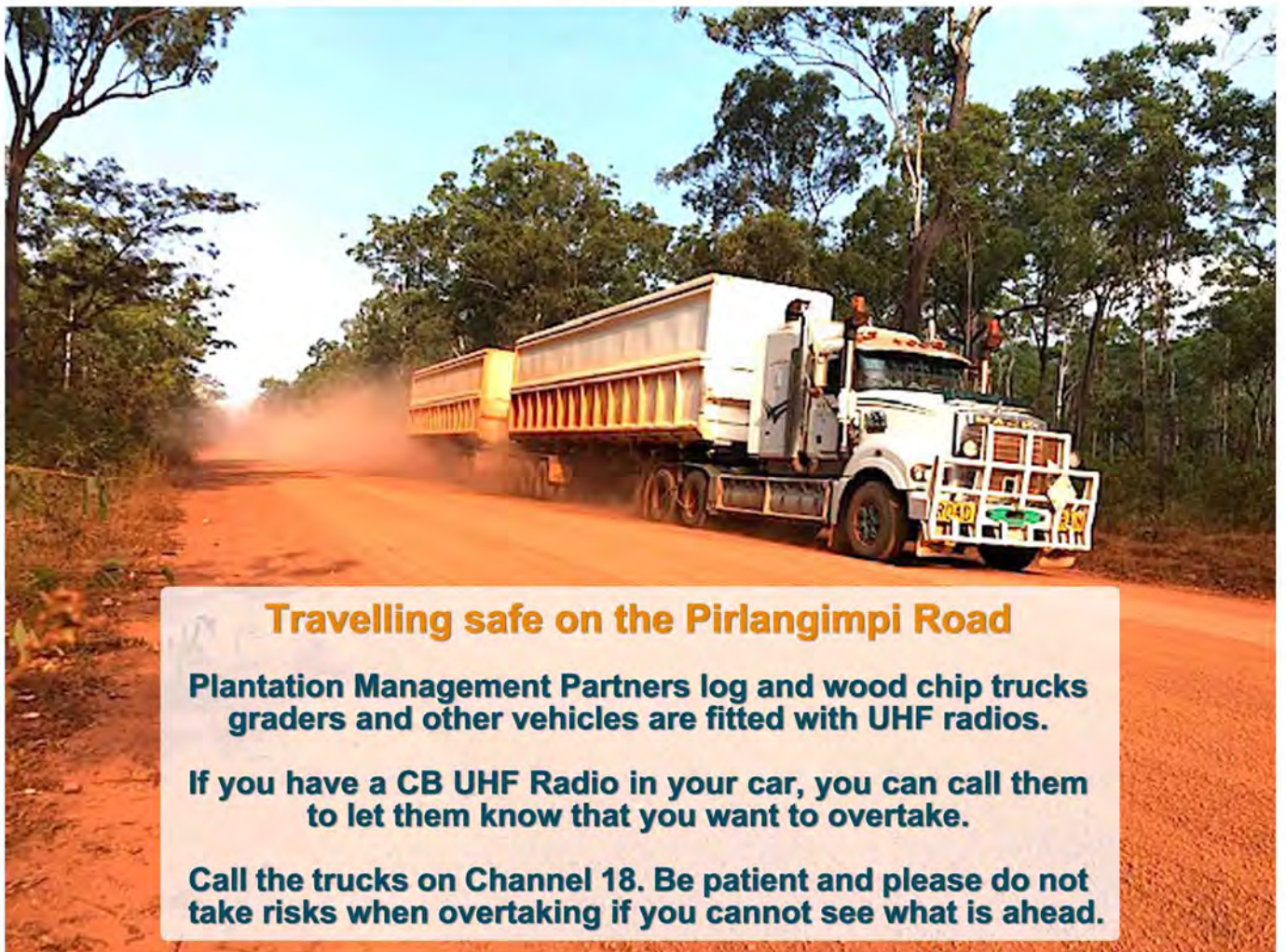
**Fire season has started**, which will reduced visibility and the road crew are working hard on the Pirlangimpi road to keep it in good condition but the dust and smoke will always be a problem.

Always slow down when traveling through smoke over the road or if you can't see the road ahead.

If you have a CB in your car, trucks can be called on Channel 18 to notifying of passing.



## USE CHANNEL 18



### Travelling safe on the Pirlangimpi Road

**Plantation Management Partners log and wood chip trucks graders and other vehicles are fitted with UHF radios.**

**If you have a CB UHF Radio in your car, you can call them to let them know that you want to overtake.**

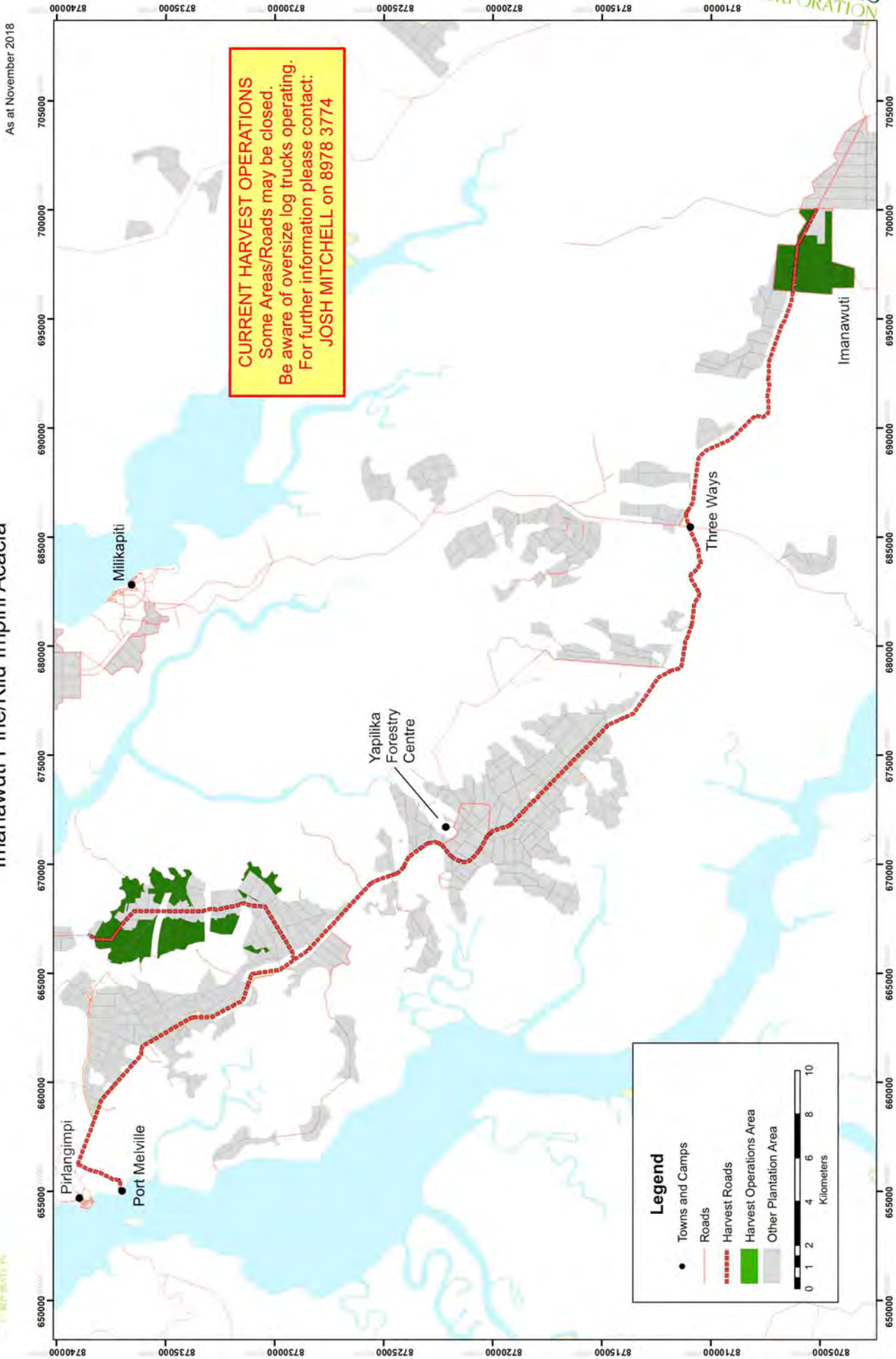
**Call the trucks on Channel 18. Be patient and please do not take risks when overtaking if you cannot see what is ahead.**



# Forest harvest area



## TPC Harvest Haulage Route Imanawuti Pine/Kilu Impini Acacia



# Public Notice - seeking comment from interested stakeholders



**Plantation Management Partners Pty Ltd** is a plantation woodchip and log processor and exporter. PMP's processing facility is located on Melville Island, Northern Territory, Australia. Plantation woodchips and logs are exported through Port Melville.


PMP is seeking certification to the FSC Chain of Custody and Controlled Wood standards (FSC-STD-40-004 & FSC-STD-40-005).

PMP purchase plantation wood exclusively from the Tiwi Plantations Corporation Pty Ltd, trustee for the Tiwi Islander landowner groups on Melville Island.

**We invite stakeholders** that are involved with or have an interest in PMP's plantation wood supply to offer comment or feedback to PMP by the 24/6/2019 in relation to PMP's processes for ensuring High Conservation Values (HCVs) such as biodiversity, forest ecosystem health, soil and water, cultural and heritage values are identified and protected.

PMP's Stakeholder Consultation Form (Doc 266) outlines details of PMP's processes for HCV protection, and stakeholders may use this form to submit written comments to PMP.

**The links below** provide documentation relating to PMP's implementation of the standards and stakeholder involvement.

Information	Link	QR Code
FSC website:	<a href="http://au.fsc.org/other-consultations.269.htm">http://au.fsc.org/other-consultations.269.htm</a>	
Link to Plantation Management Partners public dropbox	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/home/PublicDocuments/PMP">https://www.dropbox.com/home/PublicDocuments/PMP</a>	
Link to FSC certificate database	<a href="http://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a0240000007SN91AAG&amp;type=certificate&amp;return=certificate.php">http://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a0240000007SN91AAG&amp;type=certificate&amp;return=certificate.php</a>	

**Contact:** Sustainability Manager – Plantation Management Partners Pty Ltd  
**Telephone:** 08 8978 3774  
**E-mail:** [ForestManagementEnquiries@plantationpartners.com.au](mailto:ForestManagementEnquiries@plantationpartners.com.au)

Document is only controlled if accessed from the Midway Intranet.

Amendment: Alter layout

# Nguiu Club update



**It has now been 3 years** since Mantiyupwi, Outback Stores and ORIC entered into the agreement for the ongoing Nguiu Club, and a new agreement has ensured Outback Stores will continue to manage the club for the next 5 years. The success of the club over the past 3 years has been very pleasing and has resulted in a lot of financial support for the community, including:

- Many students over the years travelling on school excursions
- Annual sponsorship of the Patakijiyali Museum for its ongoing wages and operations
- Annual sponsorship of Tiwi Island Football League
- Sponsorship of the Tiwi Bombers, and in particular the junior girls and boys teams
- Contributions to the Murrupurtiyanuwu annual fete
- Contribution to the Tiwi Hospital Fund administered by Tiwi Resources
- Community events and barbeques have been supported
- Contribution towards the current project being carried out at the Patakijiyali Museum to make the building more cyclone proof.



Nguiu Club meeting

**The infrastructure of the Nguiu club** has been progressively improved, including work carried out on the following:

- Upgrade to electrical and plumbing
  - Refurbishment of bistro and kitchen, including new ovens and bain maries
  - Repairs to the roof
  - New fence around the perimeter of the club
- Upcoming work includes the concreting on the entrance to the Bistro and recycling area.

**Overall the Board** is very pleased with the progress made over the past 3 years, and is looking forward to continuing to improve the facility and services, and to being able to provide support back into the community on the back of the financial success achieved. The current Board members are Angelo Orsto, BJ Timaepatua, Danny Munkara, Ivan Fernando, Jennifer Clancy, Russell Pupangamirri, and Stacey Parker.



Nguiu Club Board



## What's happening at Port Melville?

Many thanks to the TITEB work crew who in February cleared all the Port's accommodation camp grounds of weeds etc. and thus hiding places for snakes! Excellent result and the camp looks great.



Tony Brown:

*"I have been with NTPM since January 2018, I hold the position of Senior Fuel Bunker looking after the bunkering of vessels that call into the port. I also deliver fuel around the island including the Tiwi College and PMP Forestry.*

*I have been in the transport and logistics industry for just on 40 years, the last 11 years in the marine, oil and gas logistics fields.*

*My hobbies and interests include travel, rugby union and family genealogy."*

## Meet the Port Melville Team

Anthony (Tony) Brown and Michael (Mick) Rice are the Port's Bunkermen. Their task is the maintenance and operation of the fuel facility – ensuring the fuel system is safe and operational at all times, receiving fuel from inbound tankers, refuelling of vessels calling at the Port, provision of fuel for power generation, heavy plant and other vehicles for Port operations and clients.



Mick Rice:

*"I Grew up and live in Busselton, Western Australia. Married with 2 children.*

*19 years' experience in the fuel industry working in Service stations to Bunkering Rig Tenders, Barges and various other vessels working for Shell, Viva and BP marine.*

*I enjoy Football (AFL), Camping, Fishing and 4wding.*

*My perfect day is spending time with my wife and kids."*



**Jon Betjeman**  
Business Manager NT Port & Marine  
Email: [jon.betjeman@agc-ausgroup.com](mailto:jon.betjeman@agc-ausgroup.com)  
Mob: 0415 949 019

# Solar energy project at Bathurst Island



Solar energy site west of Wurrumiyanga

**Construction of a solar energy site** west of Wurrumiyanga is part of Australia's largest rollout of solar power to remote communities.

The site consists of 3,400 solar panels that works alongside diesel engines.

The 1.1 Megawatt (MW) capacity meets up to 50 percent of daytime power needs and will save more than 15 percent on annual diesel fuel.

**NT Minister for Renewables**, Energy and Essential Services Dale Wakefield said the Solar Energy Transformation (SETuP) program to roll out solar power to 25 remote communities is an important step forward in achieving the NT Labor Government's target of 50 percent renewable energy by 2030.

**SETuP is a \$59 million program** co-funded by the NT Government and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA).

**Prior to construction at Wurrumiyanga** the NT's Power and Water Corporation worked with the ARDS Aboriginal Corporation to deliver presentations to schools and other community groups to explain the solar technology and its benefits.

**The site was cleared** and fenced by Aboriginal-owned corporation Yingwati Pty Ltd, **providing local jobs**.

Energy produced through the panels connects to the local electricity network and is controlled by the Wurrumiyanga power station.

**The site creates opportunities** to expand the network.

*Lindsay Murdoch, NT Gov.*



Sample for solar panels

# Awana mamanta from Tiwi College



What an incredibly busy and productive past couple of months it has been for our staff and students here at Pickertaramoor. Our Art program is going from strength to strength with teacher Adele providing students with all kinds of fun and creative opportunities. Our assembly room is now decorated with student made pukumani poles and looks fantastic. We also hosted two bubble making visitors from Italy who ran a series of workshops with students early in the term. As you can see from the photos the staff and students really enjoyed this experience. Adele is also hoping to develop a community Art project in the near future that will allow Tiwi College students to create and enjoy art with their home communities and family members.



Our senior students are developing their work ready skills with both the Senior Young Women and Senior Young Men engaging in work placements out in the Tiwi communities for a week of on the job training. Our Senior Young Men follow theirs up with two weeks of building and construction training as part of their studies and several cultural mentoring and sport coaching opportunities also that allow them to share and enhance their cultural knowledge and public presentation skills. Our annual Scotch College exchange trip is just a couple of weeks away and the Middle Young Men's class along with a handful of juniors are incredibly excited about heading to Melbourne during the AFL Dreamtime week and are set to enjoy a whole range of amazing experiences and activities in the city along with their hosting Scotch families and school.



At present, Tiwi College has three past Scotch students here volunteering their assistance for Terms 2 and 3. Hugo, Oscar and Josh have settled into our Tiwi College family remarkably well and we are all grateful to have them here with us.



Our primary class continues to grow in size and strength under the amazing guidance of teacher Jayde and assistant teacher Bobette. Students recently were visited by Direct Instruction expert Helen who was blown away by the progress students had made in their reading ability. A number of students were presented with special awards at the assembly acknowledging their efforts and huge leaps forward.

Our student leaders of each class have also been selected and recently presented with their leader badges. We congratulate all of the students selected and encourage them to be proud and active leaders for their peers at Tiwi College.

Still to come this term is the much awaited and highly anticipated Reward Camp in week 8 that has a strong focus on Tiwi College and is coordinated by our incredible Academy Crew. A large group of students will be asked to attend the camp in recognition of their consistent efforts this semester. Another exciting event that many are looking forward to, is the Family Group Home organised and run school Fete to be held in week 9. The wider community is invited to attend and enjoy the delicious treats and wonderful student made art and crafts on sale.

Our term ends with a bang just as it started with both a school disco and students having the opportunity to watch and learn circus performance courtesy of a visit from professional company Circus Oz in week 11. Plenty more action and news to come so watch this spot! Mana,



# Fire season is here



Willie Rioli at the 2019 Savanah Fire Forum

The **Fire season** is fast approaching and Tiwi Rangers have been preparing for a busy couple of months.

In **February Ranger Supervisor Willie Rioli** and Tiwi Fire Coordinator Bruce Holland attended the 2019 North Australia Fire Forum in Darwin where more than 200 people discussed the impact of late dry season fires on country. Willie also attended the International Indigenous Carbon Forum in Melbourne in early May.

**Late dry season fires destroy** more country and kill small mammals. They also help wild cats to kill animals and birds. For the past 3 years, early dry season burning by Forestry and Rangers has reduced these late fires. Over the next 8 weeks Tiwi Rangers and Forestry Fire Crews will be out burning to protect the plantations and outstations. Aerial burning with the helicopter will also happen in the middle of June. Firebreaks around outstations and Tiwi College are being graded at the moment.

Mana.



If you want your country burnt please talk to one of the Rangers or call Willie on 0488949809 or Bruce on 0475262158  
Please tell everyone Karluwu Yikwani

## BURN SCHEDULE 2019

	Description
1	Spray / Grade Plantation Firebreaks. Spray Outstation Firebreaks & Tuyu track
2	Check Country for dryness in Yimpinari, Cape Gambier, Takamprimili & Bathurst Is.
3	Protection burns around Taracumbi & Paru Plantations
4	Burn roadsides in Yimpinari & Jessie; Milikapiti & Paru Rds
5	Burn around Takamprimili, Taracumbi & Yimpinari Outstations
6	Aerial burning Yimpinari, Andranangoo/Cape Gambier, Paru & Bathurst Is.
7	Protection burns around Andranangoo 6 7 8 & 9 plantations
8	Roadside burning in Andranangoo, Goose Creek & Cape Gambier
9	Protection burns around Pickertaramoor Plantations & Tiwi College
10	Roadside burning Bathurst Is.
11	Protection burns around Jessie & Bonkalji plantations

Activity	Responsibilities	Week Starting										
		13 <sup>th</sup> May	20 <sup>st</sup> May	27 <sup>th</sup> May	3 <sup>th</sup> June	10 <sup>th</sup> June	17 <sup>th</sup> June	24 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>nd</sup> July	8 <sup>th</sup> July	15 <sup>th</sup> July	22 <sup>nd</sup> July
1	Tiwi Fire Crew & Forestry											
2	Tiwi Fire Crew & TO'S											
3	Forestry											
4	Tiwi Fire Crew											
5 & 6	Tiwi Fire Crew											
7	Forestry											
8	Tiwi Fire Crew											
9	Forestry & Tiwi Fire Crew											
10	Tiwi Fire Crew											
11	Forestry											

KARLUWU  
YIKWANI  
  
NO MORE  
BURNING



# Fuel Reduction Burning Notice

Tiwi Plantations Corporation will be conducting

## Fuel Reduction Burning

In the following areas during

**MAY and JUNE 2019**

- 🔥 Bremer
- 🔥 Northern Beaches / Rangini
- 🔥 Pinyanappi
- 🔥 Mirapoka
- 🔥 Yapilika
- 🔥 Rolla Plains
- 🔥 Taracumbi
- 🔥 Pickertaramoor

Contact Quinten on 8978 3774

For further information

**Burning Tiwi Trees is Burning Tiwi  
Money**