



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



NEWS from your TIWI LAND Council

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CEO's Message

It has been a busy time since the last edition of "The Tiwi" News.

The Tiwi Land Council was successful in obtaining funding to bring the Pickataramoor HQ back up to standard as our Island base.

Our Land Council now has a seat at the table in relation to the National Partnership Agreement into Indigenous Housing provision across the Territory. Land councils now have an active role on the "Joint Steering Committee" that will work with Governments to achieve the best possible outcomes in Indigenous Housing design and delivery.



A. Tipungwuti, CEO

We applied for funding to engage an anthropologist as a new staff member to the Land Council.

This person will gather information in relation to Tiwi History and particularly pay attention to Tiwi and their association with land around the Greater Darwin area through to Gunn Point and beyond.

Tiwi seek recognition of their historic involvement in this land.

The General Manager, Garry Cross, will lead this and work closely with the anthropologist. You can contact Garry if you have any information you wish to pass on.

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Good to know

Tiwi Islands Fire Management Plan 2019 now available.

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CEO's Message



Tiwi Land Council drove the push to ABA to fund "Grants Officer" positions for all Land Councils.

We were successful in having these positions funded.

If Tiwi have a proposal for a business venture for example, they can apply to ABAAC to seek a grant. The Grants Officer will assist them in preparing their Application to go before the ABAAC.

The Grants Officer, Anthropologist and the new Resource and Environment Officer, when engaged, will all spend a lot of time on the Islands working, based out of the Picka HQ.

The Land Council will also be holding more clan meetings in the future to keep all Tiwi up to date with what is happening and take on-board their input.

Our Land Council, we believe is heading off in a new direction with greater consultation with our people and providing more professional services that can only benefit Tiwi and their future.

*Andrew Tipungwuti
CEO Tiwi Land Council*



**Apply for permits on
www.tiwilandcouncil.com**



Tiwi Land Council website: permit application

For your information Permit Fees

The Tiwi Land Council would like to keep you all informed that the fees from the permits to all areas will be contributed to the Hospital fund on the Tiwi Islands.



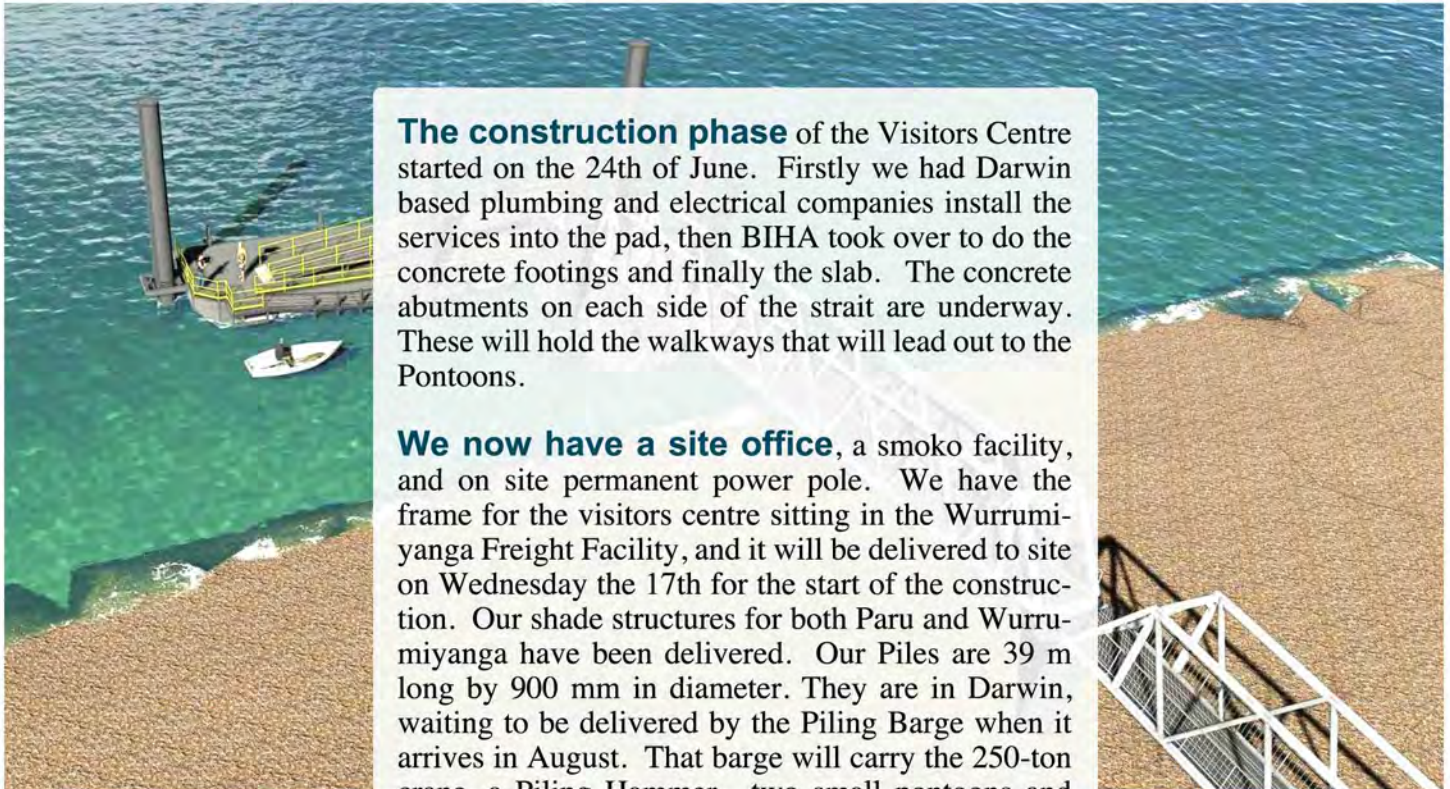
**TIWI LAND COUNCIL OFFICE
116 REICHARDT ROAD
WINNELLIE NT 0821**



Tiwi Enterprises - Visitor Centre at Wurrumiyanga

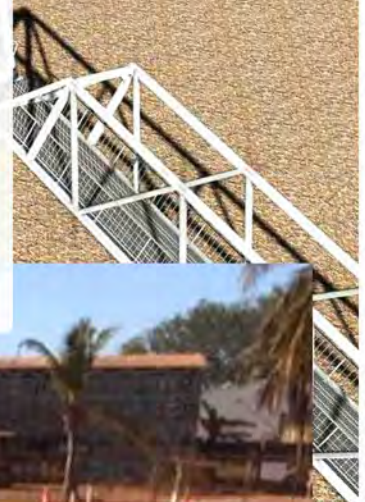


Concept drawing: Pontoon and Jetty



The construction phase of the Visitors Centre started on the 24th of June. Firstly we had Darwin based plumbing and electrical companies install the services into the pad, then BIHA took over to do the concrete footings and finally the slab. The concrete abutments on each side of the strait are underway. These will hold the walkways that will lead out to the Pontoons.

We now have a site office, a smoko facility, and on site permanent power pole. We have the frame for the visitors centre sitting in the Wurrumiyanga Freight Facility, and it will be delivered to site on Wednesday the 17th for the start of the construction. Our shade structures for both Paru and Wurrumiyanga have been delivered. Our Piles are 39 m long by 900 mm in diameter. They are in Darwin, waiting to be delivered by the Piling Barge when it arrives in August. That barge will carry the 250-ton crane, a Piling Hammer, two small pontoons and two large Pontoons along with the four walk ways.



Finished slab of Visitor Centre at Wurrumiyanga



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Tiwi Enterprises - Visitor Centre at Wurrumiyanga



Paru area has been widened and built up.



Pontoon steel arrived at Wurrumiyanga



The project is ahead of schedule at this stage, but due to locked in dates of various contractors, barges, tides etc., the project will still need to run to our original program. If it seems at times that nothing is happening on site, it may well be that we are waiting for one of the above reasons. Hammering piles is one operation that will be very dependent on the right tides.

We have completed training for Tiwi Enterprises staff that will be working on this project, being Slinging Operations, Working at Heights, Elevated Work Platform, Confined Spaces, First Aid and various vehicle licensing.

We have Tiwi staff on this project, but mentionable has Sebby operating the roller and heavy machinery for building the pads on both sides of the Strait, Killian for operating the Bobcat and being the go to person, Joseph for operating the concrete agitator truck.

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

BIHA delivering concrete to the Visitor Centre Project



Joseph and Ray on site for the delivery of the first load of concrete



Farewell Jack Long



Jack Long

The Long way home

Only two years ago we recorded, in these pages, our thanks to Jack Long on his retirement. We wrote of his dedication to serving our people and the breadth of his knowledge about our land and surrounding seas. Of the respect he maintained throughout his life for our culture and traditions. We concluded in acknowledging that this star among us came from desert country, but that his life lived on our Islands made him *Tiwi in every way*.

Fifteen years ago the late Michael Gordon of *The Age* wrote about Jack at a time of *reconciliation* and national reflection. These reflections were titled *Trails of Tears*. For Jack they were more about his triumph over tears. His ability to conquer insecurity and self-doubt. To immerse himself in learning of landscapes and the skills to manage them. His success throughout a Long life has benefitted us all. Our gratitude that Jack Long lived among us will resonate through generations to come. It is the same gratitude accorded on the passing of another hero in another age:-

*“Here he lies where he longed to be.
Home is the Sailor home from the sea.
And the Hunter home from the Hill.”*

Lifelong friends, colleagues, immediate and extended family all know how remarkable and special Jack was. In the early 2000s, TLC was finally able to benefit from Jack’s qualities when the Tiwi Marine Ranger position became available, and Jack agreed to take it on. Over the next 15 plus years until his retirement, Jack created yet another legend. His deep knowledge of country, his work ethic, his respect and care for others and his humble outlook brought him, and Tiwi, a reputation that was known and respected across national and international borders.

There are stories, adventures and special relationships that would fill yet another book of Jack’s life – too many to fit here.

Jack achieved International Coxswain qualifications in 2006. During his training, the trainers recognised that his boat handling skills were far better than theirs!

Jack’s knowledge of country allowed many researchers to work on the Tiwi Islands. He partnered work in areas such as turtle management, Crested Tern protection on Seagull Island, keeping cane toads out, growing oysters for commercial benefit, fire management, feral pig management and many, many more. Because of his knowledge of country, Jack became an author on international scientific papers.

Jack’s work led to TLC winning several Landcare and Coastcare Awards.

Researchers all grew to respect and appreciate Jack, and many kept in touch with him long after their projects were finished.

But perhaps the most special memories were sitting around the campfire (where Jack had provided all the wood) doing nothing much except enjoying the land and the company, and having a bit of a laugh.

He is missed by us all, but his legend will live forever in our hearts.

Thank you Jack Long. Rest in Peace.

Tiwi Land Council

Farewell Jack Long



I'd like to share a story about one of the most humble, inspirational, strong and loving men that I have been lucky enough to have ever met.

I remember when I first came to Bathurst Island in 1987 to teach I would often hear of this mythical man who lived up at Garden Point.. It was almost as if his name was whispered, like 'The Phantom' such was everyone's highest regard for him.. Jack Long.

Stories of his absolute hunting and football prowess would come down the Aspley Strait to Nguui on the Tiwi tide.. stories of how he would feed the whole community with bush tucker, of how he always put everyone else before himself.. stories of a tough footballer who at Gardens Oval would jump the fence and chase and clobber a Buffaloes player who hit his brother Walter and stories of all of his kids who could play a bit of football as well.



I didn't get to meet this legend in person until I started dating his adopted sister and my future wife, Jennifer in 1988 and his brother Walter would take me up to Garden Point to meet up with Jack, go hunting or fishing and have a few beers.

All I can say is that those stories of Jack I heard before actually meeting him were well and truly understated.

Here in the flesh was a man made of iron and a heart of gold, his knowledge of where, how and what to hunt and fish was simply supernatural.

But to me, how he treated this annoying (especially when drunk)and skinny white kid who didn't know a fish from a buffalo and couldn't play football to save himself, was what I always held close to my heart. He never judged me, and accepted me even when I was a pest.. he would make sure I had a beer in my hand and would force feed food into me when he knew I'd had enough to drink!

When we lived at Paru he would often come by and drop off fish, turtle, buffalo, crabs or whatever he'd been hunting at the time and whenever we went to Garden Point he would tell me to go 'hunting' in his freezer and this 'great white hunter' would always leave with an esky full of everything for the family!



And then when we moved to Pika, we would come home to find half a dozen Magpie Geese mysteriously left at the door by the man himself.. never asking for anything in return, selfless and loving.

Other people will have greater memories of his football and hunting abilities than me but I do remember one time when we were hunting for Geese at Goose Creek, and I was the token dog, as that's pretty much all I was good for, collecting the fallen geese.. and I was walking out of the swamp with three geese over my shoulder and really struggling with the mud and the load.. on my knees.. calling out to Jack to 'save himself' and from behind me would come Jack, hardly visible under the weight and cover of probably twenty geese, dancing over the mud like a mud skipper, picking me up from the slush, pushing me forward and adding my three geese to his twenty and happily heading back to camp, whistling all the way.. the man, the legend.

And work.. could the bloke work.. He was unstoppable.. day or night it didn't matter.. if a job needed doing then Jack got it done. I know the Tiwi Land Council holds Jack in the highest possible regard, leading the Marine Ranger program for many years with his incredible knowledge of Tiwi land and sea.

We were lucky to spend some time with Jack over the last few weeks he was at home and for me it was such a beautiful experience. We didn't have a lot to say to each other but just sitting next to him with the footy on TV was one of the most rewarding and peaceful times in my life.

So to my nginyimini, you lived a life that we all wish we lived, happy to the end, content in the knowledge that you have left us all that have been privileged enough to have spent some time with you over the journey, so much better. A legacy of kids, grandkids and great grand kids that you can be proud of sharing your beautiful DNA with, in being humble, loving, selfless and fun to be with.

All our hearts are broken with your passing but you've well and truly earned the right to have a rest with your wife, the love of your life, and your mates, including Supperrule, Foxy and all the others.

Our prayers, thoughts and love go out to Jack's seven boys and two girls as well as his family from the desert to the Tiwi Islands and all those who have been, like us, proud and lucky enough to have called him our friend and family.

Rest In Peace Jack Long, the Man, the Legend.

Brian Clancy, Former CEO TLC



Port Melville

What's happening at Port Melville?

June was a very busy month at the Port with the loading of the 16th export shipment of Tiwi woodchips onto the bulk carrier 'Green Harvest' which departed on 16th June and the loading of the bulk carrier 'Manzanillo' with the 2nd export shipment of Tiwi pine logs. Both shipments were undertaken safely which is a credit to the Port and PMP teams. In addition, the Port bunkered a number of fishing and Commonwealth vessels as we grow this side of our operations.

First export shipment of Tiwi wood-chip in November 2015



Pile of Tiwi wood-chip

June 2019!

**16th export shipment of Tiwi wood-chips
and
2nd export shipment of Tiwi pine logs**



June also saw the arrival of the Port's new tug fleet which is in partnership with 'Coastal Tug & Barge'. The MT Capel and MT Kioloa are now home ported at Port Melville and can be seen berthed on the wharf. This is an exciting development for NTPM and CTB and grows the capability of the Port to support vessels.



Meet the Port Melville Team



Dean Edwards

Dean Edwards is the Port's Maintenance Coordinator and Plant Operator and is teamed with the soon to be appointed Wharf master. Dean's role is to ensure that all the Port's equipment is maintained and operated correctly and also, as with any remote location, assist wherever a pair of hands is needed. Dean has been with NTPM for close to 2 years and with AGC at our Kwinana fabrication facility for 8 years prior to this.

Dean is also a huge West Coats Eagles supporter!

NT
Jon Betjeman
Business Manager NT Port & Marine
Email: jon.betjeman@agc-ausgroup.com
Mob: 0415 949 019
PORT and MARINE

Managing fire and weeds on the Tiwi Islands



This year's Tiwi Islands Fire Management Plan is now available. The Fire Management Plan outlines fire management activities carried out this dry season, as well as weed management activities undertaken by Rangers over the 2018-19 wet season.



Cover Tiwi Islands Fire Management Plan 2019

The Fire Management Plan aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the Tiwi Islands, as reducing these emissions can earn carbon credits. Last year Tiwi Resources became the first organisation to enter into an agreement with the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation to fund Tiwi fire management in exchange for carbon credits. The agreement guarantees funding for Tiwi Rangers for three years.

Greenhouse gases can be reduced by burning earlier in the year, and by burning less country overall. Burning before the end of July results in lower intensity cooler fires that give off less greenhouse gas. Late season fires from early August onwards are hotter and produce more greenhouse gas. In addition, low intensity fires early in the dry season burn more patchily and are less destructive to Tiwi plants and animals.



Copies of the Fire Management Plan are available from Tiwi Fire Coordinator, Bruce Holland, and the Tiwi Resources and TLC offices in Darwin.

Photo by David Maurice Smith

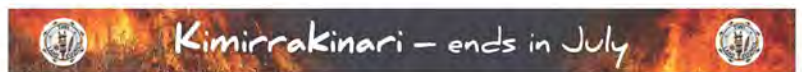


Photo by David Maurice Smith



Activity	Responsibilities/resources	Week starting								
		May 13	May 20	May 27	June 3	June 10	June 17	June 24	July 1	July 8
1	Tiwi Fire Crew & Forestry									
2	Tiwi Fire Crew & TOs									
3	Tiwi Fire Crew & Forestry									
4	Tiwi Fire Crew									
5	Tiwi Fire Crew & TOs									
6	Tiwi Fire Crew & TOs									
7	Tiwi Fire Crew & Forestry									
8	Tiwi Fire Crew									
9	Tiwi Fire Crew									
10	Tiwi Fire Crew									
11	Tiwi Fire Crew & Forestry									

NO MORE BURNING

KARLUWU YIKWANI

Managing fire and weeds on the Tiwi Islands



Photo by David Maurice Smith



Contact:

Bruce Holland
Tiwi Fire Coordinator

Ph: 0475 262 158

Email:

bruce.holland@tiwilandcouncil.com

The management strategies used to reduce late season fires include:

- Helicopter burning early in the dry season to reduce fuel loads and provide patches of burnt country that stop late fires from running;
- Ground-based burning along roadsides in the early dry season to reduce fuel loads and create patches of burnt country that stop late fires from running;
- Grading firebreaks around assets, such as plantations and outstations, and burning off early in the dry season.

Weed management has been included in the plan as it is an integral part of fire management on the islands. Grassy weeds replace native vegetation and produce high fuel loads. They promote high intensity, late dry season fires leading to ecosystem degradation, habitat loss and species declines. The Fire Management Plan also includes a weed reference section to help with the identification of key weeds on the islands. Please contact Rangers as soon as possible if you notice any of these weeds growing on your country.



Barbie McKaige

Tiwi Islands Weed Management Program 2018-19

Activity	Responsibility	Month starting						
		5th November	3rd December	7th January	4th February	4th March	1st April	1st May
1	Ranger Supervisor							
2	All Rangers							
3	Tiwi Marine Rangers							
4	Tiwi Land Rangers							
5	Milikapiti Land Rangers							
6	Pirlangimpi Land Rangers							
7	All Rangers							
8	All Rangers							
9	All Rangers							

Farewell Vivian Kerinaiua



I remember him as being a quiet but very caring student. He looked after my welfare always. When I got to know him better I felt I had a bit of a greenie in my class as he was so passionate about country.

His quiet and humble manner reminded me of Walter. His quick and sharp humour reminded me of Imray. He was a very kind, empathetic and thoughtful young man. I always felt that he rarely let on his deep thoughts. A quiet achiever.

His shy, genuine smile will haunt me forever.

*Ian Smith, Former Principal
Tiwi College*

When the Tiwi Land Ranger Programme started 13 years ago in 2006, Vivian was part of the first team appointed. He stayed full time employed until illness forced him to leave in 2017. He was so valued that a position was held open for him in the hope that he would get well and return. Sadly that was not to be, and his presence is missed.

Vivian had a deep care and interest in country. He was generous in sharing his knowledge, and was also interested in learning about other, non-Tiwi ways of management. During his employment he achieved Certificate qualifications in Conservation and Land Management through Charles Darwin University.

Vivian was passionate about looking after Tiwi plants and animals, and worked on many projects that studied them and protected them. Vivian also worked on projects that were essential for developments on the Tiwi Islands. Without this work, enterprises such as Forestry, Port, Sand Mining, Solar Arrays and many others would not have gone ahead. Knowledge of the plants and animals, and how to look after them, was essential for these projects to gain approval.

Vivian spent many weeks camped out with researchers and other workers. Researchers respected and appreciated Vivian's knowledge, and his quiet but confident attitude. He made many friends who stayed in contact after projects were finished. This was largely due to the way Vivian would care for and look after people, and make sure they were always OK. He did it quietly, never expecting anything in return.

With his colleagues Vivian made bush trips a joy, and often had everyone in fits of laughter with his clever sense of humour and his quick wit, which would come out at unexpected times!
We miss him, but will remember him forever.

Tiwi Land Council



Pirntubula Community Benefit Fund



The Directors of Pirntubula PCBF have approved the establishment of a Community Benefits Fund, with the purpose being to assist Tiwi families with meeting the extra costs relating to:

- Funerals, with a limit of \$3,000 available for each funeral, and to be used to assist with travel for family, yinkiti etc.
- Education, covering costs of excursions etc.
- Health, assisting those people and their chaperones, who need to travel interstate for medical appointments.

The PCBF has been established with funds contributed from Tiwi Partners and from Port Melville Pty Ltd. Application forms are available from Yvonne Kelly (Tiwi Resources – 8941 1162), and applications must be approved by Directors.



The Directors of Pirntubula Pty Ltd are:

Adonis Wommatakimmi, Bonaventure Timaepatua, Charles Tipungwuti, Danny Munkara, David Guy, Leslie Tungatalum, Richard Puruntatameri and Stanley Tipiloura.



Forest trucks notice



PMP's harvest sites are relocating from KI to Bremer and the haulage of pine logs will continue until November.

There are signs along Pirlangimpi Road warning of road works. Please slow down and take care whenever passing graders or other road works machines.

PMP has successfully harvested woodchip and pine logs over the last couple of months with trucks running day and night.

To reduce the dust in some areas PMP will be undertaking road works on sections of the Pirlangimpi Road.

There will be reduced speed limit signs where the road surface is being improved. This benefits everyone so take your time and pass carefully. Do not overtake if you cannot see.

If you have a UHF radio trucks can be called on channel 18

Always take care when passing trucks Dust can make it difficult to see. Please do not overtake when you can't see the road ahead. Slow down and move to the side as trucks pass.

USE CHANNEL 18