



# THE TIWI

NEWS for  
Traditional  
Owners



## NEWS from your LAND Council

### Chairman's Words



Welcome to our Christmas / New Year Edition

of *The Tiwi*.

It has been an incredibly sad time for all of our Tiwi family over the past weeks, with so many of our loved ones leaving us. I'd like to share our sincere condolences with all families throughout the Islands. It is a time of sadness but also a time when we need to stick together and look after each other.

2017 has been an extremely busy year for your Land Council, everything from continuing to work on forestry and Port Melville developments, completing the Township lease of Pirlangimpi, power grid work commencing, the Vernon Islands officially being recognised as Tiwi land, managing our Land and Sea Ranger program who maintain our sea and land so well for future generations to enjoy, to welcoming in our new TIRC members and so much more in between.

As the year comes to a close, it's time to take a deep breath, reflect on the positives as well as the challenges we faced and overcame and prepare ourselves for what promises to be a bigger and better 2018.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our friends of the Tiwi who continue to support us in our vision of a strong, resilient and prosperous Tiwi Nation, from Governments to our teachers and health workers and all organisations and all Tiwi and non Tiwi employees in all of our communities.

I'd also like to wish all of our family and friends a very merry Christmas and New Year. Celebrate wisely with family and friends and remember the Tiwi way: Treat everyone with the same respect that we, ourselves, would like to be treated.

Mana

*Gibson Farmer Illortaminni,  
Chairman Tiwi Land Council*



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# Executive Management Committee

## EMC's Notes



Tiwi Land Council Executive Management Committee



**Awana!** Merry Christmas everyone!

What a year it has been! 2017 is ending and we will soon be welcoming in 2018.

It's been a big year for the Tiwi Land Council Executive, including its delegates and staff working tirelessly to continue the vision and ground work of the old people, combining with new visions and aspirations of your current Tiwi Land Council.

Thinking back on 2017 and all the achievements - Tiwi people should feel proud of all the positive steps that have been taken.

Back at the start of the year Sister Anne Gardiner kicked it off, being awarded Senior Australian of the Year. This amazing Award shone a spotlight on Sister Anne's life work on the Tiwi Islands, Sister Anne became an Australia wide story and was acknowledged for dedicating 50 years to Tiwi. What a start to the year!

Then Andrew Tipungwuti - appointed by the TLC to be the first ever Tiwi Deputy CEO. With all his experience over 10 years with TLC, Andrew was mentored by the great old Tiwi Leaders of the past.

**Early in the year** we had the Governor General visit. Jennifer Ullungura Clancy did all of us proud performing the duties of Master of Ceremonies. We quickly found ourselves in March and it was time for the biggest event on the Tiwi Calendar, the TIFL Grand Final! This year we saw huge numbers, people coming from all over Australia. After a tough fight Muluwurri Maggies bought it home!

In April Tiwi's very own Robbie Collins won a Logie Award, being the first ever Tiwi person to win this award!

Sadly, in our June/July issue we reported on the departure four wonderful people who were leaving their jobs after working with Tiwi for many years. Jack Long retired after working as a Marine Ranger for decades, with a very emotional send off.

Solo from Tiwi College retired after 8 years of service to Tiwi College, staff, community and most importantly the children, along with Solo's wife Akinisi. Akinisi and Solo played a very big part in employing house parents that have been with our children for a long time and are still there to this day. Their wisdom and spirit is missed at the college still today.

**And lastly** Tiwi College farewelled Ian Smith. 'Smithy' was the longest serving principal in independent schools in the NT and absolutely set Tiwi College up to its current status.

Also during this time Pirlangimpi Community celebrated the signing of their 99-year lease, after years of negotiations. Pirlil will soon see the benefits of the lease agreement.

We have also had a year of active representation on some very important committee's like the Coastal and Marine Committee, Science Reference Committee, Aboriginal Benefits Account (ABA), Indigenous Land Management Committee, Marine Rangers Working Group, Tiwi Education Board, Tiwi Land Council

Audit Committee and Tiwi Leaders Forum, to name a few. TLC Executives have travelled a lot this year, away from home, to represent you, the Tiwi people. They push and strive for the very best outcomes for all Tiwi people and the land.



**The new pontoon** project at Wurrumiyanga & Paru is set to start and is very exciting for all Tiwi. Once complete, hopping on and off the Sealink ferry will be much easier for all. Work on the Interconnected Electricity Grid has also started with drilling under the Strait occurring right now.

Just last month Richard Puruntatameri made the long trip from the Tiwi Islands to Cairns. He represented Tiwi Islands, alongside the Land Development Corporation and proudly spoke to potential investors from all over the world about Malawu country and the Tiwi Islands.

As we move into Christmas and into the new year and cyclone season, all of us here at the TLC wish you all a very happy, safe and restful time. 2018 is shaping up to be another big year and we are all excited and ready for it to start.

As always, TLC welcome's your feedback and idea's. Please speak to the TLC representatives, members or give the office a call.

Be safe and enjoy this festive time of the year. Mana.



Executive Management  
Committee



# Tiwi Enterprises update



2018

**Tiwi Enterprises expands** into heavy equipment with the acquisition of all of Kelvin Stewart's equipment on Melville Island when Kelvin recently decided to retire after some 30 years contracting on Melville Island. The first piece of equipment brought to Wurrumiyanga was the large water tanker which has been hired out to the construction crew drilling the underground power cable tube between the Bathurst Island and Melville Island for Power and Water to run electricity cables between all the major communities.

The equipment will be used on various 2018 projects such as the Pontoon project on the foreshore, the visitors welcome centre and the extension to the cargo handling facilities as well as the various companies carrying out contract work on both Islands.

The long term aim is to create more real jobs for willing Tiwi workers. Our heavy training program in 2017, which we have funded from day to day operations has resulted in the following graduates:

<b>Forklift certificates</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Working at heights</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Working on elevated work platforms</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>MR truck licences</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>HR truck licences</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Backhoe licences</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Skid Steer operations</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Chemical user certificate</b>	<b>6</b>

**Our joint venture** company Tiwi Contractors has carried out the following specific building training:

<b>First aid training</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>HR truck licences</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MR truck licences</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Backhoe</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Skid Steer certificates</b>	<b>2</b>

**It is planned** to do additional training in 2018 to help our Tiwi staff to do higher paid activities.

*Ray Allwright, Tiwi Enterprises*



Barge landing at Wurrumiyanga



Pontoon project on the foreshore



# Tiwi Ranger Training



**Over thousands of years**, Tiwi people have developed and used knowledge to care for the environment and promote cultural well being. Today, Tiwi Land and Marine Rangers bring that knowledge of the past and new science together in their jobs of managing land and sea.



**It is important** to keep up to date as new ways of looking after country are developed. In 2017 Tiwi Rangers completed training in Fisheries Compliance, GPS and Map Reading, Weed Control and Chemical Handling and Work Health Safety. Rangers also attended a number of conferences and workshops to connect with other land and sea managers and learn from each other.

Workshop and conference topics included burning for carbon, protection of country from pests and weeds, managing cats and other feral animals, project planning and using drones for land management. More training is scheduled for 2018 to help Rangers apply best practice to looking after the Tiwi Islands land and sea.

*Kate Hadden, TLC*



Tiwi Land and Marine Rangers get their Work Health Safety Certificates from trainers Red and Mick



# Midway meets TPC



**The Chairman** (Greg McCormack) and CEO (Tony Price) visited Yapilika Forestry Centre on Thursday and Friday. They met with the TPC board including the Chairman (Kim Puruntatameri) and Deputy Chairman (Gibson Farmer). Patrick Puruntatameri, Dennis Tipakilippa, and John Wilson were also in attendance. A range of topics were discussed including the improving wood chip market conditions, third party expressions of interest in plantation re-establishment, and the potential export of pine logs.

Midway and Tiwi Plantations Corporation representatives meet at Yapilika forest centre on 7th December 2017

**Midway** are pleased to be involved in the project, and the Tiwi representatives stressed the importance of the forestry project to deliver jobs and economic benefit to the Tiwi people. Midway is looking forward to helping the Tiwi people pursue their aspirations. Midway and PMP are planning further introductions by meeting the family groups in the New Year. *Glen Samsa, CEO PMP*

**Meanwhile if there are any Tiwi wishing to be employed in the forestry project in the New Year please register your interest by calling the Yapilika Forestry Centre on 08 89783774.**





# Awana Mamunta of Tiwi College



**This year has brought** so many great achievements that staff, students and families should be extremely proud of.

In the Academic program our students have been achieving great things with the young women all gradually working towards their Year 12 NTCET Certificate & the Young Men working towards achieving a SEDA Certificate II in Sport & Recreation, a VET Certificate II in Construction as well as some NTSDE units. There were a number of trips off Island with 3 groups going to Melbourne and 1 group going to Alice Springs. These trips were made possible with the kind support of SEDA/Essendon Football Club, ILF & Scotch College & Sitlzer.



**In the Academy program** our students continued their focus on strong bodies, strong culture and strong minds. They took part in a number of awesome opportunities where they could enjoy their strengths in sport & culture. The end of semester Incentive reward trip to Darwin was a highlight for all involved.

In the FGH the students have continued their life skills program with the school fete being the major event of the year. Students raised money for their selected charities as well as to purchase something for their own FGHs.



**Looking ahead to 2018** we are extremely excited to announce we will be opening a new young women's class from term 1. This will provide both more enrolments spaces and improved education for our young people.



# Awana Mamunta of Tiwi College



**Shania Puruntatameri** has worked hard on her NTSDE studies for the past 4 years, studying Year 11 and 12 subjects including Art, PE, Child Studies and more. She graduated with a full Year 12 NTCET Certificate — our 6th Tiwi College student to graduate in Darwin.

**Warrick McGorm, Anthony Guy and John Pupangamirri** completed a VET Certificate 2 in Construction.

Anthony and Warrick also completed the full SEDA program, achieving a VET Certificate 2 in Sport & Recreation. Columkil Ullungura completed units in the Construction and Sport & Recreation programs. We are proud to see these graduates move into their adult lives with strong employment skills and life skills.



## Tiwi College congratulates all the school leavers for 2017



**Have a safe** and happy Christmas & New Year from everyone here in the Picka Family. Mana, *Stuart Ward, Principal Tiwi College*



Kingy with mechanic John L. Munkara at Nguuu Garage





# Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Tiwi



**Merry Christmas** to all Tiwi! It has been our pleasure to look after you on board this year and we hope you have had a comfortable and enjoyable year travelling on the MV Tiwi Mantawi.

**We would particularly** like to thank everyone in the community for the warm and friendly welcome that you provide to the many tourists that we bring to the Tiwi Islands.



Deckhand Jo, skipper Gerard and engineer Kaelan

**We were proud** to be able to support community members including Tiwi Bombers FC, Tiwi College, the Sistagirls, Waratah's FC, Buffaloes FC and Bima Wear throughout this past year.

**Wishing everyone a safe, happy Christmas and all the best for 2018.**

**Mana  
SeaLink NT team**

## Come to Darwin

# FOR THE FOOTY



### BOMBERS GAME DAYS AT TIO

28/10	Tiwi vs Wanderers
25/11	Tiwi vs Nightcliff
2/12	Tiwi vs St Mary's
6/1	Tiwi vs St Mary's
13/1	Tiwi vs Palmerston Magpies
20/1	Tiwi vs Wanderers
10/2	Tiwi vs St Mary's

Buy a return ferry ticket and get a

**FREE FOOTY TICKET**

to any Tiwi Bombers game at TIO Stadium

Please enter promo code **AFLNT** when booking online or through an agent to get your free footy ticket.

**CONDITIONS:**

- Must be from Wurrumiyanga to Darwin and return
- Can be purchased on board, online or through an agent
- One NTFL ticket per passenger
- Valid for Tiwi Bombers games until 10 Feb 2018 at TIO Stadium
- Only days on which Tiwi Bombers (men/girls teams) are playing.

### TIWI ISLANDS TIMETABLE

DAY	DEPART CULLEN BAY	DEPART WURRUMIYANGA
<b>DRY SEASON</b> 1 Oct – 15 Dec 2017 • 1 Apr – 14 Dec 2018		
Thursday	8:00am	3:15pm
Friday	8:00am	3:15pm
Sunday	12:00pm	3:15pm
<b>WET SEASON</b> 17 Dec 2017 – 31 Mar 2018		
Thursday	12:00pm	3:15pm
Friday	12:00pm	3:15pm
Sunday	12:00pm	3:15pm

Please arrive at the ferry terminal 30 minutes prior to departure.  
\* Subject to change without notice.  
Please check the website for public holiday and long weekend services.