



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



NEWS from your LAND Council

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Good to know

Over 3 million foreign ants have been eradicated on the Tiwi Islands – the largest successful fire ant eradication project in the world to date.

Survey for the road works on the Picka to Garden Point Road begins 8th April.

Golden Snapper research has begun. Records say these fish are getting scarce around the Islands.



Chairman's Words



Back in February when we expect to have at least 1200mm of rain only 400mm had fallen; but we have made up since then and the new forest plantings are going well. We expected our Port in place last year: it has now cleared engineering tests to be in place by June. We expected Great Southern to be harvesting this year, but they have gone; now it is up to us. Like landowners everywhere – finally it will always be up to us to manage and develop our own lands for our people. And we can!

April/May will have harvesting equipment – trucks and chippers; skidders and loaders for Tiwi contracting to begin. Here are the jobs our old people promised. Please join this workforce with your Tiwi skills. It is work that respects the hopes that our great leaders of past generations had for us all.

Government is now supporting our decisions to protect our waters and to encourage our Tourist Fishing business – TIA, and our world class wholly Tiwi owned Fishing Lodges.



Chairman Gibson Illortaminni at work, Yapilika Tiwi Forest camp

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of the past.

Congratulations to Munupi Landowners on forming their new Munupi Family Trust to undertake their own planning and development of their Pirlangimpi Township. And to Mantiyupwi landowners on the opening of their new Business Centre and Shopping Mall – all Landowner money and ideas at work for our own people upon our land.

Meetings begin this month at all communities for your ideas on improving Local Government services. It is important to have your say. And through all these months we cherish the memory of those who have left us. We are grateful for their lives and respect their strengths that remain with us all.

*Gibson Farmer Illortaminni.
Chairman*

Bathurst Island Lodge Open for business



Following a short testing period, Bathurst Island Lodge at Port Hurd officially opened for business on March 24th.

Nigel Baxter, General Manager of Tiwi Islands Adventures told us the new Lodge “looks great and that guest bookings for the 2013 season are very, very good”.

The new Lodge caters for 12 guests and is professionally managed by Lindsay and Karen Mutimer who were the previous managers of Melville Island Lodge.

Mark West (Westy) is the head-fishing guide at Bathurst with Andre Puautjimi based on site as the Tiwi Marine Ranger for the area.

Nigel said “we have assembled a great team of people and that all Tiwi should be very proud of



Andre Puautjimi, Tiwi Marine Ranger

their fantastic new fishing Lodge”.

Nigel added that:

“Tiwi Islands Adventures is the largest guided fishing business in Australia and, with Bathurst Island Lodge now operating, could even be the largest in the world”. How good is that!



First guests “going” fishing at Bathurst Island Lodge



Dining area at new Bathurst Island Lodge



Brand new Bathurst Island Lodge at Port Hurd, March 2013

Managers' Notes



Managers Tiwi Land Council

As expected, your Tiwi Land Council Chairman, Managers, Trustees and Delegates have started 2013 full of running. Highlights for the first three months of the year include:

- Confirmation of the purchase of the new Port to be constructed at Port Melville over the next three months
- Establishment of the Munupi Family Trust Pty Ltd and ongoing Township Lease discussions with Traditional Owners and the Federal Government
- Negotiations with the NT Government with regards to fishing zones on Tiwi waters
- Commencement of operations at the new Bathurst Island Lodge
- Opening of the Piliyamyirra Shopping Centre at Wurrumiyanga
- Trustee meetings to discuss Mineral Exploration requests on the Tiwi Islands

- Upgrade of Telstra sites
- Tenders called for a new Darwin to Tiwi passenger ferry service
- Discussions on new Freight and Barge services for the Tiwi Islands
- Wurrumiyanga Barge Freight Terminal proposal
- \$30 million Tiwi Islands Roads submission to the Federal Government

Please remember to talk to your TLC Delegates about issues that affect you. Your Tiwi Land Council is always on the lookout for feedback on things we do well as well as where we can be even better.

Management Committee Tiwi Land Council

Quiz

1. Who first reported the presence of foreign ants on the Tiwi Islands?
a) Willie Rioli b) Brian Clance c) Therese Burke
2. Who is the first Bathurst Island Marine Ranger?
a) Andre Pautjimi b) Denis Tippaklippa c) Connell Tipiloura
3. What is the oldest surviving ship's marker on the Tiwi Islands?
a) Florence D b) Don Isidro c) Survey ship Geranium
4. How many hectares of new trees did we plant this wet?
a) 40 hectares b) 100 hectares c) 130 hectares
5. What is the name given to the size of our chip ships?
a) panamax b) handysize c) capesize
6. Who won the Brother Pye medal at Tiwi Islands Grand Final?
a) Gabriel Henry b) Joey Burke c) Kevin Portaminni
7. What is the average attendance rate for the past twelve months at Tiwi College?
a) 65% b) 72% c) 81%
8. How many players kicked 3 goals each at the Tiwi Islands Grand Final?
a) 1 b) 3 c) 5

Quiz answers on page 11

Fire Ants - Eradication success



When native animals start behaving in strange ways, it could mean that there is a problem, and when Therese Burke from Pirlangimpi asked the Land Council about strange behaviour in Green Ants in 2003, we thought we should check it out. The Land Council contacted Ben Hoffman from CSIRO who is an expert on ants to see if he could help. Ben spent several weeks on Bathurst and Melville Islands in October and November 2003, and found some interesting things.

He found large nests of big-headed ants in Wurrumiyanga, Pirlangimpi and Takamprimili, tropical fire ants (known to us as ginger ants) in Pirlangimpi, Milikapiti and Yapilika, and singapore ants in all communities. None of these ants belong on the Tiwi Islands – they have all been brought in with goods from the mainland. It is interesting that a lot of these ants were in pot-plants that have been brought over from the mainland.



Fire Ants



Junior Guy and Jeremiah during poisoning

Ben treated as many ant nests as he could while he was there, and had excellent support from Therese Burke at Milikapiti, the Tiwi For Life Team at Wurrumiyanga, and Junior Guy from Milikapiti. The big-headed ants were eradicated pretty quickly, and we then turned to the issue of the tropical fire ants, which are very hard to get rid of. It was estimated that there were three million ants that needed to be eradicated.

With funding support from the Indigenous Land Corporation, a programme was developed to start working at Pirlangimpi and Yapilika to eradicate the fire ants. When the funding ran out, Ben and his Tiwi support (including Tiwi Forest staff and Tiwi Rangers) kept going with whatever resources they could find. Ten years later it finally looks like the ants are under control in the target area. The work has been so successful that it will be the world's largest eradication of these ants.

Quarantine Aware

Pest animals and weeds can destroy a lot of the beautiful country on the Tiwi Islands, and it is important to keep them out. We can all help by being Quarantine Aware – even things as small as ants can be a major problem if we bring them to the Islands in our luggage and freight – especially pot plants!



Tiwi College - "Peaceful Picka"

"Respect"



2013 has begun well, school numbers have been excellent and the overall attendance rate remains at around our steady 80% despite it being a tragic start to the year in terms of funerals.

"Peaceful Picka" is re-emerging - our community where we help students respect the culture of the western world and be work ready; and we respect the culture of the young Tiwi in our care and that of our Tiwi staff.

We are very excited this year in introducing 2 councils, which help empowering Tiwi within our school - One is our Tiwi Leadership Group who meets with the Principal and advises of any issues they believe should be addressed. The other is the Student Leadership Council. This is comprised of senior boys & senior girls who represent the 4 skin groups. They will meet with students and members of the Tiwi Leadership team as a way of taking greater responsibility and ownership of their school.

Students from this group will represent the college at TITEB & TLC meetings.



Shane Tipuamantimirri, Nichols Medal winner with Senior Girls



Shane Tipuamantimirri with Imalu Champions..



R to L: Ian Smith, Amy Moreen, Andrew White and Cor Koole meet Walpiri visitors

Senior Boys



Richie Mccann

Senior Girls Middle Girls



Bronny Burger Melina Davidson

Family Group Home 4



Dunstan & Nadine Maetaloa

Curriculum



Cheryl & son Zac West

New Staff

This term we have had some great results already:

- First Aid course for the Senior students
- Improved reading levels via our Reading Program
- VET Certificate 1 in Agrifood & Construction has begun for the Senior Boys
- Art classes - with work to be exhibited exclusively in Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- Leadership groups in the Middle Boys class
- Fantastic literacy developments in the Primary school
- NTOEC enrolment for our Senior Girls
- Drama classes for the girls
- Personalised goal-setting by Solo for all students

Next term is already heating up to be a big one. It will be the start of a more rigorous approach to our Literacy & Numeracy, balanced with special events including:

- Learning to Drive course for senior students
- Id cards for all students
- DreamTime trip to Melbourne - Art Exhibition; Essendon visit; Long Walk and the Dream Time game
- Narangba, Queensland Leadership trip
- Darwin Work Experience, Senior Girls
- Tiwi College Work Experience afternoons
- Expanded AFLNT & GYW program

Our college is near capacity - but we will have a few students leaving us over the holidays. We have room for Middle School Boys & Senior Girls. Please contact Ian at school or any of our Tiwi Staff & they will let me know.

We hope students, staff and families have a safe and restful Easter holiday break. We look forward to seeing all of our students back ready to learn in term 2. Mana

Ian Smith, Principal Tiwi College

Message from Member for Arafura

After a number of meetings with government departments and the Minister for Transport, and now Chief Minister - Adam Giles, I am very pleased that we were able to make the announcement on Wednesday 6 March on the Tiwi Islands, that the government is seeking tenders for a trial Ferry Service from Darwin to the Islands. This ferry service is very important for the Tiwi people.

I am also very keen to improve the roads in the Maningrida region and I have had a number of discussions with relevant Ministers in the government to progress this. It is important that the Maningrida region has far better road access than at present.

Progress is being made to reform Shire arrangements within Arafura and this is a very high priority for me as the Local Member. I am determined to see more decision making returned to the local level so that those directly affected by decisions in Local Government can have an important say in how these decisions are made.



Francis Kurrupuwu at Year 12 Celebration in Gunbalanya with West Arnhem College graduates Robert Balmana and James Marddy

During my visits to the communities within Arafura, I was invited recently, to a very important graduation ceremony in Gunbalanya where two, first ever, Year 12 students, graduated from the West Arnhem College. Congratulations to Robert Balmana and James Marddy.

This was a terrific performance!

I strongly believe that education and employment holds the key to the future for Aboriginal people and that every young Aboriginal person should receive a quality education, with real input from local Aboriginal people. Robert and James have shown us the way forward. The Principal of the Jabiru Area School has advised me that the School is holding important discussions with the Traditional Owners and Elders of Kakadu National Park and I look forward to discussing how Indigenous education and employment can be progressed here too.

I was very sorry to hear the Doctors Jan and Peter Bowman have left Wurrumiyanga. They were very grateful for the support shown to them by the Tiwi people. I will be discussing this with the Minister for Health as I don't think the Tiwi were consulted sufficiently in this matter. Many Tiwi, including myself and my wife Ancilla, were very sad to see them go and we thank them for their great contribution to our health and well being and wish them all the very best for the future.

Contact details:



Francis Kurrupuwu - Member for Arafura

Phone: 8999 6950

**Email: francis.kurrupuwu@nt.gov.au
electorate.arafura@nt.gov.au**

Piliyamyirra Supermarket



NOW OPEN

The new supermarket built by the Mantiyupwi family was open for business on Friday, March 15th. There was a simple ceremony to mark the occasion, with Walter Kerinauia very proudly telling the crowd of onlookers about how this is a dream come true for him. He knows that the Piliyamyirra Supermarket will be there to benefit his people for many generations to come, not only through the supply of fresh fruit and vegies and other grocery items, but also through the training and employment opportunities it will provide. Walter then cut the ribbon and was the very first customer to enter the shop.

The shop is managed by Bernice and Clayton, of Outback Stores, and they have a very proud team of Tiwi's working with them to ensure the shop is run smoothly and successfully.

SEE MORE OPENING PICS ON LAST PAGE



Grapes, capsicum, onions



Fresh meat and sausages



Pumkins, potatoes



Walter Kerinauia and Greg Orsto cutting the ribbon



Tiwi Island Football League



The Tiwi Islands Football League held its Grand Final on Wurrumiyanga Oval Sunday 17th March 2013. Being the most popular sport on the Tiwi Islands, the Grand final competition drew a passionate, enthusiastic crowd from far and wide. It was undoubtedly one of the fastest games to be seen on the Wurrumiyanga oval. The field was picturesque with a fantastic surface for the Imalu Tigers and Tapalinga Superstars to “battle it out” for the premiership title. Once again, it was a never-to-be-missed game of skill, agility and teamwork from both sides. Thanks Imalu and Superstars for a fantastic spectator sports day. Congratulations to “Imalu Tigers” on winning the Premiership. Looking forward to 2014!

Kym Phillips, PMP - Photos by Lara Gerber



	1/4 time	Half time	3/4 time	Full time
Imalu Tigers	4.0..24	6.2..38	9.3..57	13.7..85
Tapalinga Superstars	2.4..16	6.7..43	10.7..67	10.9..69

Imalu

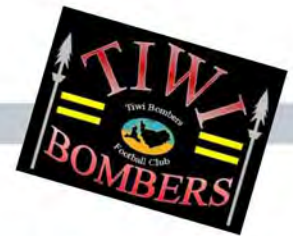
Best Players Gabriel Henry (Br Pye medal), Joey Burke, Kevin Portaminni, Alistair Darcy, Mathius Liddy
Goalkickers 3 Ray Wilson, 3 Graham (Aeroplane) Puruntatameri, 3 David Kantilla, 2 Chris Miller, 1 Kevin Portaminni, 1 Cameron Vigona-Ros

Tapalinga

Best Players Freddy M Puruntatameri, Chris Warlapinni, Kenny Puruntatameri, Alan Kerinaiuua, Canis Tipuamantimirri
Goalkickers 2 Canis Tipuamantimirri, 2 Harley Puruntatameri, 2 Norman Pagirimimmi, 2 Jason Palupaminni 1 Robert Cunningham 1 Nelson Puruntatameri



Tiwi Bombers



TIWI BOMBERS FC 2012/13



The Players, Board & Members of the Club sincerely thank our Sponsor Partners for their valuable support during Season 2012/2013



The Club acknowledges the support of all sponsors especially Major Corporate Companies Tiwi Corporate, Holiday Inn, Wulirankuwu Trust, MZI Resources, Essendon FC, HostPlus Insurances, Tiwi Enterprises, Fly Tiwi and Vanderlin Drive Surgery.

“Experience of a lifetime”



Artists from Jilamara welcome Mick and guests
Photos by Lyn Chick



The amazingly generous Mick Burns and his guests enjoyed the “Experience of a lifetime” hosted at Melville Lodge on Grand Final weekend. Their support has turned the dreams of Tiwi Bombers and Island Football into funds that are necessary for infrastructure and the operations of our \$500,000 annual costs to provide unique and special Tiwi Football.

Pedro and his Jilamara team gave them all a warm and traditional welcome upon their arrival on Melville Island. Mick, supported by Air North and his own helicopters, had guests collecting croc eggs and out enjoying Tiwi waters.

Tapalinga Award winners

Starwin Management & the Diamond Creek Football Club (women's team) are proud to present the Tapalinga Award (shining star) initiative.

On Saturday 23 March on ABC Territory Grandstand we exclusively announced the award winners; Gladys Puruntatameri & J-Lee Puautjimi. Through the 'Diamonds from Dust' initiative they have been selected to travel to Melbourne and play for Diamond Creek in the VWFL. Activities will also include visits to Melbourne's cultural & tourist attractions, football training, visit to an AFL club, media interviews, and more!



J-Lee Puautjimi

Has been in the #3 green and gold jumper for Saint Marys Football Club for many seasons. She has also represented the NT in the National Women's Championships. J-Lee also schooled at St John's College previously and is soon to be 19 years of age. J-Lee has been employed with Red Cross at Wurrumiyanga (Bathurst Island) as part of this initiative. This season she played 15 matches for SMFC, kicking 10 goals and in the best in 4 games and played in the Grand Final game. Her favourite position is on the wing and she barracks for St Kilda (Saints).



Gladys Puruntatameri

Pictured with Tiwi Bombers captain and work colleague Shane Tipuamantamirri, Gladys has played for Nightcliff Tigers in the NTFL Women's League for the past two seasons. Gladys schooled at St Johns College in her younger years and is now working at Tiwi College. Turning 20 this year, Gladys is aspiring to be a school teacher. Her favourite football role is in the back line but she is also known to ruck and move forward to kick goals. Gladys barracks for Richmond Tigers in the AFL.

Karina Gray, Starwin Management



Review of Regional Governance 2013

From March until early June 2013 the Department of Local Government's engagement officers will be visiting remote and regional communities to listen to local residents and key community stakeholders' comments regarding the services and support they need in their respective communities, and how regional governance in the Territory can be improved.

The officers will also be discussing options for regional governance that could strengthen local governments in regional and remote communities and getting feedback from communities about these options.

Information Sessions on Tiwi Islands:

Milikapiti

10:00am Tuesday 26 March at the Milikapiti Local Board Meeting, Shire Office, Milikapiti

Pirlangimpi

10:00am Wednesday 17 April at the Pirlangimpi Local Board Meeting, Shire Office, Pirlangimpi

Wurrumiyanga

10:00am Tuesday 23 April at the Wurrumiyanga Local Board Meeting, Shire Office, Wurrumiyanga

Department of Local Government engagement officers will be available for one-on-one discussions with interested members of the community and stakeholders.

- For more information on the Review of Regional Governance go to www.yourcouncil.nt.gov.au.
- To arrange for an engagement officer to meet with you while they are visiting your community please call: Kate Wheen (08) 8999 8524.

www.yourcouncil.nt.gov.au

NT Gov. Ads

MILIKAPITI

10:00am Tuesday 26 March
at the Milikapiti Local Board Meeting, Shire Office, Milikapiti

PIRLANGIMPI

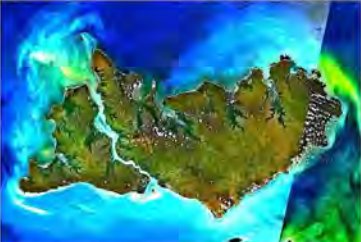
10:00am Wednesday 17 April
at the Pirlangimpi Local Board Meeting, Shire Office, Pirlangimpi

WURRUMIYANGA

10:00am Tuesday 23 April
at the Wurrumiyanga Local Board Meeting, Shire Office, Wurrumiyanga

QUIZ ANSWERS from page 3

1. c) Therese Burke
2. a) Andre Pautjimi
3. c) HMAS Geranium 1927 survey plaque Eastern Melville Island
4. b) 100 hectares of Eucalypt
5. b) Handysize
6. a) Gabriel Henry
7. c) 81 %
8. b) 3
Ray Wilson
Graham (Aeroplane)
Puruntatameri
David Kantilla
each kicked 3 goals.



Community Flyer

Tiwi Islands Education Board is seeking members

Do you want to see improvements in education for you, your children and your community?

Become a member of the Tiwi Islands Education Board and represent the education needs, views and aspirations of your community and region.

This council will ensure that the Tiwi peoples' voices on education will drive how education services will be delivered on the Tiwi Islands.

Tiwi people, who are interested in helping to improve education results for their people, are invited to complete an expression of interest.

Nominations are opening soon to Tiwi people who:

- Are living on the Tiwi Islands
- Have an understanding of the key challenges in Tiwi education
- Have knowledge and experience in Tiwi education
- Have knowledge and experience in engaging Tiwi people and communities in education or related fields
- Have knowledge and experience in representing and advising on Tiwi people's experiences, views and needs, particularly to governments and other service providers
- Have the capacity to represent the Board at forums and be an advocate for the Tiwi education sector
- Have community support for their nomination.

Please note that police checks are a requirement.

For more information phone Mark Motlop on 8999 5612

and/or email mark.motlop@nt.gov.au

www.education.nt.gov.au

Piliyamyirra Celebration



This Week's Special



Facts

Dollar turn-over for Tiwi business TIA from Tiwi catch and release Tourist fishing is approximately equal to the entire NT commercial harvest sale of 650 tonne of barramundi every year.

Ten years ago only 11% of Australians were over 65. The over 65 year olds will make up over 20% of the Australian population during the next three decades, including on the Tiwi Islands!