Chairman’s Words

Welcome to our new edition of The Tiwi.

We pass on our condolences to family and friends who have lost loved ones over the past weeks.

We were pleased to have had Barnaby Joyce as Deputy Prime Minister along with Indigenous Affairs Minister, Nigel Scullion visit us in August. We welcomed them with a Traditional smoking ceremony and they were impressed with how the Tiwi are trying to make a better life for all of our people.

We also held our Tiwi Leaders Forum in August. The Tiwi Leaders forum is made up of members from your Tiwi Land Council Executive and your Tiwi Islands Regional Council as well as other Tiwi organisations and it’s about working better together and keeping the communication lines open. We don’t always have to agree with each other but it’s important that we respect each other at all times.

I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members of the Tiwi Islands Regional Council after the elections, including our new Mayor, Gawain Tipiloura and Deputy Mayor, Stanley Tipiloura and also to thank those members who have worked for us over the past few years, with a special thanks to Mayor, Lynette DeSantis. The Tiwi Land Council looks forward to further strengthening our relationship with the Tiwi Islands Regional Council and working together to create a better future for our people.
Chairman’s Words

We also welcome Brenton Toy back as Tiwi Bombers coach and we look forward to working our way back up the ladder after a few challenging years. I’d also like to wish all teams in our Tiwi Islands Football League the best of luck for the new season upon us.

We continue to work towards delivering the Tiwi Islands power grid and you will shortly notice works beginning on the tunnel under the Aspley Strait before the wet season.

We held our Science Reference Group Committee meeting and Climate Change Workshop at Wurrumiyanga in October and November.

Both critical meetings ensuring that our future generations inherit a sustainable and environmentally healthy Tiwi Islands.

With the Dry season done and dusted and the build up with us, it is a time to be aware that the hot conditions can make us all a bit cranky so remember to take a deep breath and look after each other.

Mana,

Gibson Farmer Ilortaminni
Chairman Tiwi Land Council

Farewell Larry Tessmann

Larry was a great man to know.

He will be sadly missed by all us across the Tiwi Islands. Those of us who got to know and work closely with him knew just what a man he was.

Managing our Tiwi environment with all types of requests utilizing his skills as chief helicopter pilot will be sadly missed.

Condolences to his family and Jayrow Helicopters.

Andrew Tipungwuti
Deputy CEO Tiwi Land Council

Larry Tessmann on Melville Island with Andrew Tipungwuti
Barnaby Joyce visited Tiwi Islands

The Tiwi Land Council, Mantiupwi Traditional Owners and Tiwi Islands Regional Council were delighted to host a visit from Barnaby Joyce as Deputy Prime Minister, along with Minister Nigel Scullion on the 31st of August at Wurrumiyanga.

After a Tiwi welcoming smoking ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Scullion met with members of the Tiwi Leadership Forum, including members of the Tiwi Land Council, Tiwi Islands Regional Council, Mantiupwi Traditional Owners, our Tiwi Rangers and other community leaders.

Both Ministers commented on how the Tiwi are visionary people who are doing everything they can to make a better life for their people through initiatives such as Township Leasing and economic development. Our Deputy Prime Minister had a special interest in our Marine and Land Ranger program and spent some time talking with our Tiwi Land Ranger manager, Willy Rioli and his team and was particularly impressed with the biodiversity work our Rangers are doing.

The visit finished with a tour of some of the projects happening and about to happen at Wurrumiyanga.

We thank both Barnaby Joyce as Deputy Prime Minister and Indigenous Affairs Minister Scullion for visiting the Islands and we look forward to continuing to work with them into the future.

Tiwi Land Council
Awana,
The build-up is well and truly here with some rain already falling!
**It’s been a very busy** few months and things at the Tiwi Land Council are getting busier by the day. With Christmas and the end of year break fast approaching everyone seems to want to get everything done before the end of the year!
Over the last few months TLC Executive Managers have been travelling around the NT representing all Tiwi people. We never lose sight of the big picture and are always working for all Tiwi people to ensure that children have every opportunity for a bright future and that all Tiwi have many opportunities.
It is also very important to us that your TLC representatives have the opportunity to work on our own personal skills so that we can be at our best while representing you.

**This month**, three of us attended training at CDU. This training gives us more skills and new tools that can be used while we are out working for the Tiwi community - attending various business meetings, exploring and negotiating economic development opportunities, communicating and meeting with government departments and taking full advantage of all the possibilities that will benefit Tiwi.

**Several of us** attended the 8th Indigenous Economic Development forum held over two days at the Convention Centre in Darwin. The forum was hosted by the Tiwi Island’s very own Logie Award winning actor Robbie Collins, who was also happy to come by TLC’s information booth to relax and watch some old ceremony films we had playing on a TV screen. There were a lot of very positive success stories about Indigenous people getting out there and running very successful businesses.

We also had representation at the most recent Coastal and Marine Strategy committee meeting in Darwin; the N.T. Biannual Strategic Forum in Darwin; various meetings and consultations regarding the Tiwi Islands power grid; ABA sittings over 3 days and numerous other events!

**Just a quick reminder** for Tiwi mob to start getting ready for the wet season. Please start thinking about a cyclone box with all the required emergency supplies you might need. Add things such as dry clothes, lighter, canned food, important documents and photos, a couple of litres of drinking water, first aid kit and a torch.

*Mana.*

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*Executive Management Committee*

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*Tiwi Land Council booth at 8th Indigenous Economic Development Forum at Convention Centre Darwin*
Where are we now -
Our Tiwi journey to better health and longer lives

Few communities in Australia have records of their healthy and unhealthy lives over the past 100 years. Tiwi have the most detailed records of any through this century. From the 900 or so Tiwi alive in the 1920’s to the 2000 alive today, it is possible to understand why Tiwi death rates have been the highest in Australia, and why now more and more young and middle-aged Tiwi are living into old age.

Professor Wendy Hoy and her colleagues have written hundreds of research papers about this. Recently Wendy has been able to inform the Land Council, and the world, that Tiwi no longer have these appalling records of dying too soon. Research has found that the worst was passed in the late 1980’s. And that since then some amazing changes in good health now reveal how and why Tiwi are able to enjoy longer lives.

Today Australian women can expect to live for nearly 85 years. The men close to 81 years old. Tiwi men and women, half of whom once struggled to live beyond 15 years back in the 1960’s, and the other half, fewer than 45 years, can now anticipate life into their 70’s. This is still well short of life expectancy for other Australians, but getting closer.

Knowing how we can close this gap has been Wendy Hoy’s work, and the work of a number of other gifted medical researchers since the 1950’s. They started seriously gathering data in the 1980’s that pin-pointed kidney failure as the number one health problem. They began unfolding the reasons for that, and found that tiny babies who didn’t weigh a lot got kidney disease. These babies were also more likely to get too fat in later life leading to other problems. They became diabetic and were likely to get many other infections too.

Wendy has found that living longer Tiwi lives is not only about controlling kidney disease. Eating too much sugar, soft drinks and other sugary foods; puffing cigarettes; not enough vegetables and fresh fruit in the diet (remember how the old Tiwi Health Board handed out fresh fruit at Grand Final – there was a reason for that!). She has found that Mums’ having babies must focus on looking after their own good health. That this will ensure stronger babies able to grow into stronger men and women. Stronger men and women live longer and they in turn enrich the lives of us all. Tiwi Land Council

Contact Prof. Wendy Hoy
Email: w.hoy@uq.edu.au
Science Reference Committee meets at Wurrumiyanga

At the end of October, scientists from the University of Melbourne met with representatives from the Tiwi Land Council, Land and Marine Rangers, TLC staff and Tiwi school students at our second Science Reference Committee meeting for 2017, and our 10th meeting since the Committee was formed in 2011.

More than 30 people attended the meeting, and as usual there was plenty of discussion. Jane and Sofia provided an update on their project to collect and store all Tiwi environmental data. The project is nearly finished, and the end result will be years and years of information gathered together and stored in a single location. The information is the property of Tiwi people, and will be used to help make decisions about land use.

Hugh Davies also provided an update on his work with Tiwi Rangers looking at the relationship between fire and feral cats. Studies are showing that late fires make it easier for feral cats to hunt and kill Tiwi animals. This is another reason why we should try to burn early in the year. Hugh and Rangers are now trying to find out just how many feral cats there are on the Tiwi Islands.

New projects that were talked about included a research proposal to find more opportunities for Tiwi in the forestry plantations, gathering cultural objects and information and keeping them safe, and exploring opportunities for conservation areas on the Islands.

The SRC continues to be a valuable place for us to talk about research needs, and we are grateful to the University of Melbourne for their ongoing support. We look forward to the next meeting to be held in Melbourne in April next year.

Kate Hadden, Tiwi Land Council
The new joint venture company (Tiwi Contractors Pty Ltd) formed by Tiwi Enterprises in partnership with D T Hobbs is up and running. Its first major N.T. Government building contract was for the construction of a three bedroom house and two duplex buildings in Forestry. The five dwellings were completed within ten weeks, with 33% of the man hours being supplied by willing Tiwi workers. It also completed the first eight “Room to Breathe” projects in Milikapiti in late June, also using local Tiwi staff who helped ensure the project was successful.

Their major project will be the building of the long awaited Morgue at Wurrumiyanga. It is hoped to have this community facility completed by the end of this year. Currently one team of workers is building two additional homes at Tiwi College, and a second team of workers is removing the existing GBM office and accommodation and relocating it to Enrail. This is an extension of the Mantiyupwi Motel facilities and will provide additional accommodation for visiting contractors. Once the project at Tiwi College is completed, that team will proceed to Milikapiti to set up the Wurirankuwu Motel, which will be in operation for the next dry season.
I am delighted to be able to report to the Wurrumiyanga Community that the Manti-yupwi Directors have been able to get the Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation back on track. A profit of $216,264 was achieved for the year ending on 30th June 2017. This was after paying off the debts of the $197,445 left behind by the previous committee and spending $253,944 in 16/17 on repairs and maintenance. This excellent result has enabled your club to recommence supporting various community activities.

Your committee has recently approved:

- $18,000 to support the operations of the Tiwi Island Football league
- $50,000 to support the Tiwi Bombers and the new boys and girls AFL football teams.
- $3,000 to support the MCPS 2017 school fete
- $4,500 towards replacement floor covering in the new Church
- $50,000 to support the operations of Pataka-iijiyali Museum

During the year several minor donations were made to assist various children travelling for educational and sporting activities. Several community BBQ’s and other events were also supported.

We have been able to refurbish the bistro and kitchen facilities. However, we still have to carry out repairs and upgrading of our bar facilities which we hope to achieve prior to the local football grand final.

The dead tree in the bar area will be removed in the near future.

Recently I helped the security staff check our valued clients into the club and I witnessed twelve examples in one night of local people trying to enter the club with a false ID record. If this problem continues your committee will have to ban the owners of the false ID being used as well as the persons trying to enter with false ID.

In recent weeks, five banned people have been found drinking inside the club after cutting the wire fence to gain admittance.

If this unlawful behaviour continues we could end up not being permitted to have a club. The committee is very concerned about the club’s future because of the unlawful actions of a small number of our community.

Overall, I am very happy with the progress we have made. It is great to see the facilities being improved, the community being supported and people enjoying themselves.

Wesley Kerinaiua
Chairman
Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation
Job vacancies in Security Industry for Tiwis

The MSA security company, which is providing security staff to the Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation, is keen to take on a number of Tiwi workers and provide them with on the job training. This will enable them to work in the Security Industry in Darwin. The company has many clients in Darwin where they provide security services. For Tiwi’s looking to live and work in Darwin this is a very good opportunity to gain a start in a growth industry.

The Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation is trying to get the Director-General of Licensing to amend the existing Nguiu Club licence to permit trained Tiwi security staff to be employed in our local club. Your committee is very keen to employ trained Tiwi security staff in our club.

Anyone interested in the positions should see Ray at Tiwi Enterprises who will arrange for you to submit an application for a Darwin positions.

Riley Review into NT Alcohol Policy

On Thursday 19th October the NT Government announced that it was accepting all the recommendations of the Riley Review other than Sunday sales. The Chief Minister (Mr Gunner) announced that over the next twelve months a new Liquor Act will be developed from the ground up to address the recommendations of the Riley Report.

One of the recommendations is that the rules for Community Clubs should be a matter for the local Community to apply, but there should be NO Prohibition, which there is at the moment.

It may take longer than twelve months before the new rules apply to our Nguiu Club but at least we now know change will be achieved in the future. It is a good result for the community members who gave evidence to the Riley Review.

Wesley Kerinauia, Chairman Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation
On the 4th April this year the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility held a workshop at Wurrumiyangga about climate change. There was a lot of information shared, and a lot of interest from the people who came along. It was decided that organisations across the Tiwi Islands should form a group that meets a few times a year to look at how we manage future sea level rises.

We talked about the workshop at our Science Reference Committee meeting in Melbourne later in April, and researchers from the University of Melbourne offered to come to the Islands to hold another workshop that would get us on the road to planning for climate change on the Tiwi Islands.

On 1st November the team from Melbourne, led by Jon Barnett and Steve Swearer, came to Wurrumiyangga and ran a workshop that was attended by representatives from the Tiwi Land Council, Land and Marine Rangers, PM&C and TLC staff.

Everyone at the workshop agreed that all relevant organisations across the Tiwi Islands should be involved in planning for climate change. It’s now up to us to keep the ball rolling and make sure that the decisions made today are the best ones for our future generations. Kate Hadden, TLC
Works are starting on the Tiwi Islands Interconnected Grid Project. The first stage is drilling a hole under the Apsley Strait for the power cable.

**Works overview**

- Starting on 6 November 2017, the drilling works will take place over 2-3 weeks between the hours of 6:00am and 6:00pm every day.

- The drilling works will be past the Wurrumiyanga barge landing.

- An area 55m x 55m will be filled for the drill rig pad (Tiwi Enterprises).

- The works area will be fenced with temporary fencing (BIHA).

- There will also be works occurring on Melville Island near Paru, welding one kilometre of polypipe together.

**Community impact**

- Please stay away from the site.

- Access to the creek is still possible via the road in front of the fenced area.

- Machinery noise will be heard surrounding the works area between the hours of 6:00am and 6:00pm.

- Two water trucks will be driving through the community – using Puti Drive.

Photo: A similar drill rig will be used.
Opportunity for Tiwi people to do small fishing operations

As part of the Blue Mud Bay agreement, the Northern Territory Government made significant changes to the Aboriginal Coastal Licence to ensure it is more viable for Aboriginal people wanting to catch and sell fish. A number of Tiwi people now hold an Aboriginal Coastal Licence and have received training from NT Fisheries on how to operate it.

**Tiwi people who want to catch fish and give it away do not need a licence.**

An Aboriginal Coastal Licence is only needed for Tiwi people who want to catch fish and sell to others, including local shops. If Tiwi people would like to apply for an Aboriginal Coastal Licence, contact the Tiwi Land Council or the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries. The licence cost is $50 per year.

Table: Comparison between traditional fishing and Aboriginal Coastal Licences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Giving fish away (Traditional fishing)</th>
<th>Selling fish (Aboriginal Coastal Licence)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tiwi people can fish as they have always fished:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Tiwi people can continue to practice customary traditions and catch fish for family and give it away to community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Use a fish trap.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Use other fishing gear like handlines, fishing rods, spears and bait nets.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Use crab pots.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Do not need to tell NT Fisheries what you catch.</td>
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<tr>
<td>✗ Must not get money for fish.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Must not use large mesh nets.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Aboriginal Coastal Licence allows Tiwi people to:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Catch and then sell their fish.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Use up to 100 metre net with 65 mm mesh.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Use a fish trap.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Use other fishing gear like handlines, fishing rods, spears and bait nets.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Sell fish to anyone, including the local shops.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Application fee to be paid and down fishing gear to be used.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ No crab pots.</td>
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<tr>
<td>✗ No fishing in ‘Reef Fish Protection Areas’.</td>
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<tr>
<td>✗ No targeting of barramundi, mud crab, spanish mackerel or king threadfin.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Must do ‘seafood handling’ training.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Must do an interview with the NT Government before a licence can be issued.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Must send all fishing information every month to NT Fisheries to help monitor how much fish is being caught.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF AN ABORIGINAL COASTAL LICENCE

The submitted form is a legal document, and all details on the form must be provided. Incomplete forms will not be approved.

1. Applicant is required to complete the application, specify name, contact details etc.

2. TLC to complete section on the right hand side of the application form.

3. A support letter is required from the TLC recommending the licence applicant to be the holder of an Aboriginal Coastal Licence for a particular area.

4. A map depicting the proposed area in which fishing will occur must be submitted with the application.

5. Proof of identity of the applicant, photograph or driver’s licence must accompany the application.

6. The $50 application fee may be paid by the following methods:
   - Direct Credit Transfer
   - Cash Cheque
   - EFTPOS
   - Credit Card

*Note: You must conduct an interview with the NT Government before a licence can be issued. This can be done by telephone or from a NT Government employee in your community.

Buffalo, pig, fish, turtle, dugong and goose carcasses attract crocodiles.

Please, if you have been hunting or fishing, take your scraps to the tip.

Don’t leave them on the beach.

Keeping our people safe
From little things, big things grow

When the elders of the Tiwi Islands sat together all those years ago and first imagined a school built by Tiwi, run by Tiwi, for Tiwi it was only a dream. This dream became a reality and Tiwi College is almost 10 years old and is growing in every way each year. Elders past and present and all Tiwi people can be very proud of what has been achieved here.

Almost

At Tiwi College we focus on the whole person. We provide programs in the Academic Classroom, Family Group Homes and Academies that aim to give our students knowledge and skills that will help them be successful in all aspects of life.

The Academic program this term has been packed with loads of engaging units of work that are tailor made to cater for the range of abilities and interests in our students. Each class has also had a major visit or excursion this term that our students have worked towards and they have all represented the school and the Tiwi people proudly.

- The middle school girls visited Alice Springs thanks to the very generous support from Sitzler.
- The middle school boys have had the Scotch College boys visit them. This relationship and 2 way sharing of knowledge is so valuable for all those involved and continues to grow stronger each year.
- The senior young women went to Melbourne with the support of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation where they worked with professional authors to complete their 4th published book.
- Finally the senior young men took part in the first ever Melbourne SEDA (Sports Education Development Australia) excursion where they worked alongside a number of other Victorian SEDA classes to help develop their knowledge and share their own, in particular about Tiwi Culture.
The family group homes (FGHs) have been teaching the life skills programs ‘strength’ for the boys and ‘shine’ for the girls. On top of this the team have planned, catered for and facilitated community dinners, recreational activities and disco nights for our students and staff to enjoy. They also cooked for all those that attended the recent Milikapiti funeral for an ex-student of Tiwi College. On behalf of the TEB and Tiwi College I want to thank them for helping us pay our respects in this small manner.

The Academy program is also growing stronger each year. The program takes place every day after school between 4:30-5:30PM. In the past this program has focussed mainly on football but in recent years there has been a shift to develop ‘Strong Bodies, Strong Culture and Strong Minds’. A major area of development has been in the Culture Program. Elders from all 3 communities have come to Picka weekly to educate our young people about Tiwi culture.

On behalf of the Picka Family, we wish you all a safe, happy and restful holiday.

Mana, Stuart Ward, Principal Tiwi College
Come to Darwin for the footy

Come to Darwin FOR THE FOOTY

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.

Call 1300 130 679 or visit sealinknt.com.au