



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



CEO's Message

DRAFT

Hello everyone, welcome back to "The Tiwi" edition.

I would like to pay my respects and acknowledgement of our past and present leaders of Tiwi Land Council and Tiwi communities.

I also give my condolences to all the families who have lost loved ones since our last Tiwi edition.

Office of Township leasing, we closed visitors from entering the famous Tiwi Grand Final for the first time in history.

This then led the way for governments to implement closures across the NT with the Biosecurity Act.

This has created security and safety for our people. Knowing that our Tiwi borders - between Darwin and the Islands are closed, helps us to better understand the huge risk if the virus was to ever make it to the Tiwi Islands.

Closures due to coronavirus

We have had some interesting times over the past two months. The lives of many have been impacted by the coronavirus. This has led to confusion and major concerns of our people.

TLC has heard from many Tiwi and residents and have had to make some tough decisions to secure safety for all across the Islands. In working partnership with the



A. Tipungwuti, CEO

As the virus declines in the NT, life will resume to normal and Governments will lift the travel restrictions. A date for this will be considered soon.

Some good news

Whilst the coronavirus is a plague, the Tiwi Land Council has been

Good to know

Government Assistance Package
Covid-19
Application

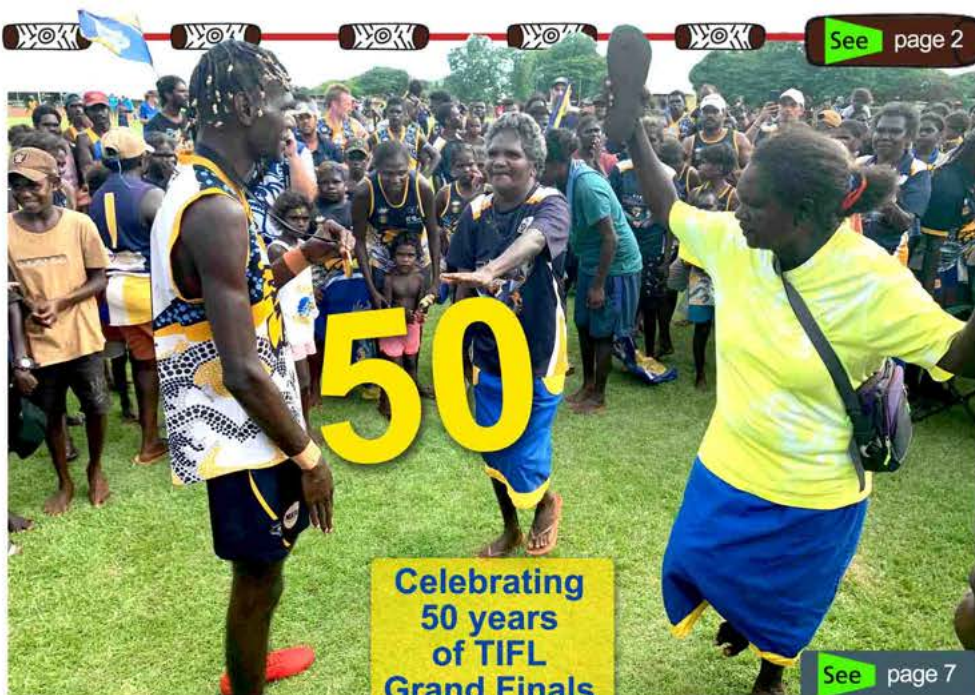


See page 16
(back page)

NEWS from your TIWI LAND Council

Topics

CEO's Message	1
TLC Team Notes	3
Our Thanks to Kate Hadden	4
Mr. D. Guy - In Memoriam	6
50 years Tiwi Grand Final	7
Quarantine and Biosecurity	8
CEO - Picka Creek Caution	9
TLC Anthropologist	10
NT Port and Marine	10
Mulwurrampi Enterprises	11
Hearing for Learning	12
Tiwi College	14
Covid-19 Gov. Support	16



Celebrating
50 years
of TIFL
Grand Finals

See page 2

See page 7

CEO's Message



..some good news

working hard to seek funding from NIAA (National Indigenous Australian Agency) to assist upgrades for Power and Water, solar etc. for the outstations across the Tiwi Islands.

We have already had businesses send in quotes for works and hope the contracts will be awarded soon. I hope to have the works started this dry season and completed asap.

This will assist outstations with their growth and future requirements.

TLC HQ-Picka

FYI the TLC HQ is coming together nicely and we plan to have some productive meetings at Picka once the travel restrictions are lifted.

Acknowledgments

I send our best wishes to Kate Hadden who has given over 20years of service to the TLC and Tiwi people. Through her work, she has worked tirelessly ensuring that our Environment on Tiwi has been kept pristine and safe.

We wish her all the best with her retirement. Thank you Kate.

Mark and Kerry Muller who recently retired from Tiwi Enterprises.

We wish you both the best with your retirement. Your efforts to help Tiwi has been greatly appreciated.

Until our next edition, please keep your families safe and listen to all updates that is yet to come about the coronavirus.

Andrew Tipungwuti, CEO Tiwi Land Council

Past and present Tiwi Leaders

The Tiwi Land Council would like to acknowledge all our past and present Tiwi Leaders.

Due to coronavirus the Memorial Service and Funeral dates for our past Chairman Mr. R. Tipungwuti have changed:

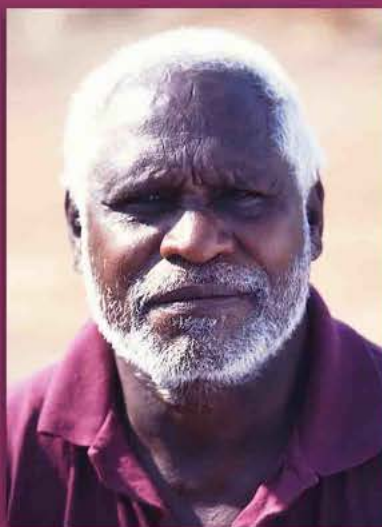


Photo by Heida Smith

Our past Chairman Mr. R. Tipungwuti

A Memorial Service will be held in Darwin at St Mary's Cathedral on the 10th July 2020.

The Funeral will take place at Ranku on Bathurst Island on the 13th July 2020.

Time to be advised



Tiwi Land Council Team Notes



TIWI LAND COUNCIL OFFICE 116 REICHARDT ROAD WINNELLIE NT 0821

COVID-19 Pandemic Tiwi Islands



Appreciation and acknowledgement for the outstanding, hard work - done by Andrew Tipungwuti, CEO of Tiwi Land Council to protect his people on Melville and Bathurst Island.

When leaders hold a growth mindset, they can perceive their performance and outcomes as largely reflecting, the quality of the strategies used or effort they deploy, even in instances when encountering unprecedented, setbacks such as the Coronavirus pandemic.

A growth mindset primes leaders such as our own CEO - Andrew Tipungwuti, who views such challenges as opportunities.

So Andrew's concerted effort was instrumental in the actions he took in protecting his people on Tiwi Islands.

Andrew using a risk-based approach took calculated steps in restricting visitors to the Islands and firstly he stopped visitors entering to attend the Tiwi Grand Final.

The CEO quickly recognised the importance of protecting those vulnerable members especially, those wise and respected elders of his communities should the Coronavirus enter the Tiwi Islands.

Hearing the voices of his Tiwi people the CEO, with the support of his Chairman and Executive members closed off the Tiwi Islands.

It's important to state that the CEO worked tirelessly since the outbreak of this pandemic and in negotiation/cooperation with both the NT and Commonwealth Governments to achieve this result, and to be the first Land Council to close the Islands in the Northern Territory.

However, the CEO made sure that the community members were able to move freely between both Islands.

We are extremely fortunate to be led by our CEO, Mr. Andrew Tipungwuti. His outstanding leadership and decisive action have ensured the safety and wellbeing of the Tiwi community; - something that continues as this pandemic unfolds.

Tiwi Land Council Team

TIWI LAND COUNCIL HQS PICKATARAMOOR

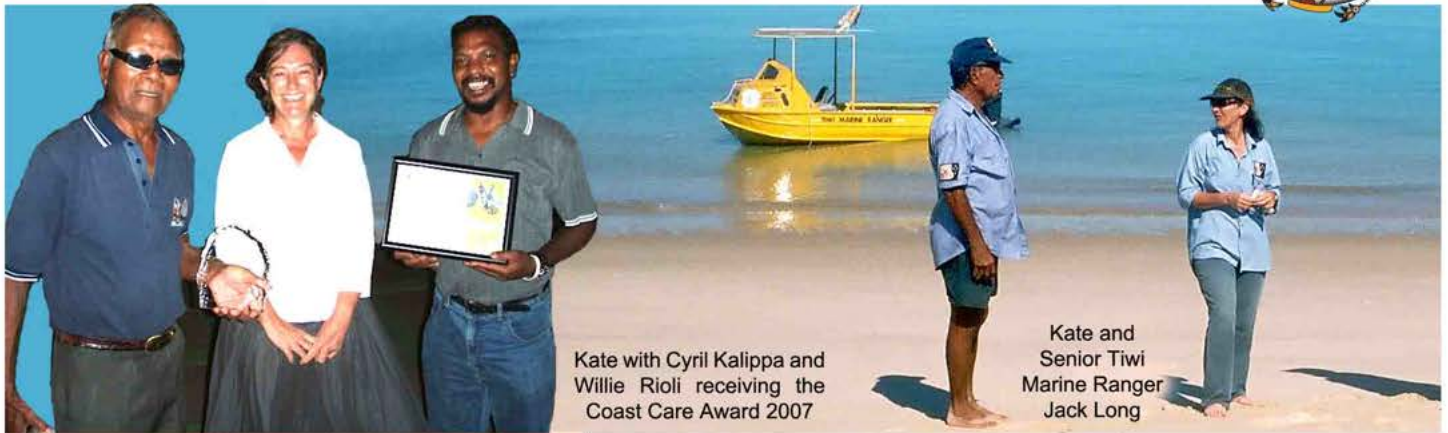


TIWI LAND COUNCIL HQ



Our Thanks to Kate Hadden BSc.

Retirement of our Land and Environment Scientist



Kate with Cyril Kalippa and Willie Rioli receiving the Coast Care Award 2007

Kate and Senior Tiwi Marine Ranger Jack Long

Our Thanks from Tiwi Land Council - Kate Hadden BSc., for the work of your lifetime upon our land.

Kate literally wrote the script for land management of natural resources in the Northern Territory. Hers' was the first detailed and officially accepted Natural Resource Management Strategy for aboriginal land, anywhere. It was based upon an extensive data base Kate developed, providing tools for land and sea management practices on Tiwi land. She was recognised as NT Rural Woman of the Year in 2002, and in 2006, on the commendation of Ranger Andrew Tipungwuti (now our CEO) became the 17th recipient of the coveted McKell Medal – awarded nationally for outstanding achievements in environmental science.

Kate Hadden's work and leadership was founded on empowering others. It is her legacy. She found the resources to establish our enduring Ranger programme; she initiated world recognition developing our protection strategies for Olive Ridley Turtles; - who can forget the joy in community classrooms as their own adopted satellite tracked Turtle surfaced thousands of miles distant from their birth site at Putjamirra. Wild pigs, endangered Goshawks, eroded banks and escarpments, magpie geese, buffalo, cats and dogs; -nothing escaped her interest that embraced the care, quality and sustainability of our Tiwi landscape.

It was a passion that resonated with landowners and embraced her fierce advocacy of Tiwi entitlements to use their land for Tiwi determined benefits. It was advocacy requiring detailed submissions that only Kate could present. Forestry, mining, ports, crops, roads and infrastructure – many subject to Senate inquiries and environmental audits – all secured with thanks to a very special environmental warrior – Kate Hadden. This work continues with support from Melbourne University environmental scientists (and others) attached to our Science Reference Committee that was nurtured and managed by Kate.



Tiwi Fire Week 2012 at Bathurst Island



At the Tiwi Science Reference Committee meeting, Melbourne University School of Forestry 2015



Our Thanks to Kate Hadden BSc.



Retirement of our Land and Environment Scientist

A translator of good science and practical land management, Kate Hadden stimulated land owner enthusiasm among us for over two decades. This was possible only through her accountability to and respect of Tiwi traditions and leadership. Nothing was pushed. Everything required consultations; - many that extended over several years, until the essence of Tiwi understandings and consents demanded Tiwi decisions and action. This was (and remains) the “proper Tiwi way”; always acknowledged – never compromised. Kate’s work was admired and respected by our traditional leaders and their families. She became part of what is best across our landscape - enduring and sustainable. She will always remain so. Thank you Kate for your good work among us. When you look around our Islands, our waters, our infrastructure, our plants and animals and much of our industry; - you will find why Kate Hadden cannot be forgotten.

In saying this, the CEO, Chairman, Executives, Members, Community members and staff – we all wish you Kate the very best of luck for an enjoyable retirement that you have been looking forward to experience on a personal level.

Tiwi Land Council

Kate at work with Tiwi Forest and TLC members



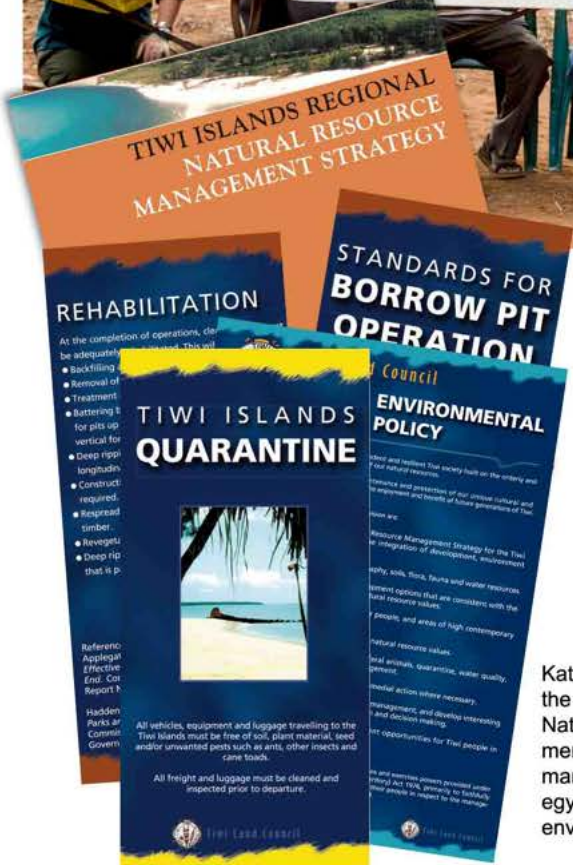
Kate addressing the Tiwi community



Kate with Bruce Holland, Tiwi fire coordinator



With Kim Puruntatameri



Kate Hadden wrote in 2004 the Tiwi Islands Regional Natural Resource Management Strategy followed by many important other strategy papers and extracts for environmental protection of the Tiwi Islands



Mr. D. Guy - In Memoriam



DAVID GUY

He is remembered by his family
Wife Marietta Lorenzo
Children and Grandchildren

Our sincerest condolences to the above, for the life of David who was a respected Executive Management Committee Member of Tiwi Land Council, and contributed to the decision making for over two decades. David also represented the Land Council at Aboriginal Housing NT committee.

Funeral at Milikapiti Community on Melville Island
At 9.00am on the
15th May 2020 (NOTE TBC)

He is already sadly missed.

Chair, CEO, Executives, Members
and Staff of the Tiwi Land Council

With special condolences to family from
cousin John Wilson.

Mr Guy played a key role voicing housing concerns for his people on the Islands as the TLC inaugural representative on the Aboriginal Housing NT Committee (AHNT). He strengthened the reach of AHNT to be NT wide, making it the most linguistically diverse and geographically dispersed representative body for which AHNT was awarded the NT Human Rights 'Diversity' Award in 2018. In July 2019, Mr Guy also helped make history as a 'Founding Director' of AHNT as the first incorporated Aboriginal peak housing body in the Northern Territory. AHNT will treasure memories of Mr Guy with us in Alice Springs in July 2017, visiting Town Camps, and attending activities to mark the 10th Anniversary and the injustices of The NT Intervention. Mr Guy's enthusiasm as an advocate for housing reform, his humour at our meetings and his generosity of spirit will be missed.

Aboriginal Housing NT (AHNT) Board of Directors, Members and Secretariat extend our sincere condolences on the recent passing of Mr D Guy (Junior) to his family, community, and the Tiwi Land Council.

Louise Weber, Secretariat, AHNT



Above: Mr Guy in Alice Springs with the full AHNT Committee and below with AHNT staff and Committee (L-R) Louise Weber, Chris Neade, Theresa Roe, ex-Co-Chairs Matthew Ryan & Barb Shaw, Brionee Noonan.



50 years - Tiwi Grand Final



NITV personality and St Kilda legend Gilbert McAdam was front and centre at the 2020 Tiwi Islands Football League Grand Final. The Arrernte man hosted a television feature story for the Yokayi Footy show - which celebrated 50 years of TIFL Grand Finals as well as the art and culture behind Tiwi football. McAdam also found time to join the commentary team calling the Grand Final.

The end of season show down between Ranku Eagles and Tapalinga Superstars was internet streamed live by AFLNT and delay broadcast by NITV and Aboriginal Television. NITV has expressed an interest in covering future games on a more regular basis from Stanley Tipiloura Oval - if a suitable filming & commentary platform can be established.

Leonie Melder, TLC has worked with NITV / SBS - in obtaining this Article and photos to provide to the Communities of the Grand Final Events



Gilbert McAdam interviewing Brother John Pye Medal winner Ian Tipungwuti-Kerinauia from the 2020 TIFL champions Ranku Eagles.

Quarantine and Biosecurity



Why is Quarantine and Biosecurity Important?

The natural resources of the Tiwi Islands are our most valuable asset. They not only form the basis of our traditional activities, but also underpin our economic aspirations. The introduction of feral animals, weeds and other pests and diseases will place the flora, fauna and communities of the Tiwi Islands at great risk.

If you see something that doesn't belong on the Tiwi Islands, report it to the Tiwi Rangers immediately on 0488 949 809.

Tiwi Islands Apsley Strait

How can I help?

- DO NOT take plants and animals to the Tiwi Islands unless authorised to do so by the Tiwi Land Council.
- Before you travel, check your clothes for seeds and soil, especially if you have recently been in an area where weeds occur.
- Check and thoroughly clean any freight you are sending to the Tiwi Islands.

Some Quarantine threats of concern are:

- Cane toads
- Cats
- Weeds
- Fire ants
- Pigs
- Infectious diseases that can exist in native or introduced flora and fauna (like African Swine Fever in pigs)
- Buffalo
- Marine pests, and many others



Keep the Tiwi Islands free from Cane toads. If you see one of these, contact the Tiwi Rangers.

Fire Ants

In 2018, there were thought to be 200 fire ant nests at Milikapiti, on Melville Island. Tiwi Rangers & CSIRO have been working together to find the nests and destroy the ants since then. Now it is believed that only a few nests exist at Milikapiti, Melville Island. Rangers plan to continue working towards completely eradicating fire ants from the Tiwi Islands. These ants are distinctive by their painful sting to humans, and cause serious threats to turtle and seabird hatchlings.



Brian Austral at Milikapiti treating a fire ant's nest



If you see this ant around, please contact the Tiwi Rangers immediately.

See page 9

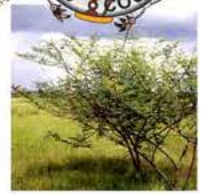
Quarantine and Biosecurity

Weeds

Weeds have bad effects on Tiwi Island's natural landscapes. Rangers have been working hard to kill different weeds around the Tiwi Islands. Some of the weeds the Rangers have been targeting include Gamba grass, Lantana, Mimosa, Mission grass and Rangoon vine.



Colin Kerinaiaua with young Mimosa plant



Clockwise:
Mission grass
Mimosa plant
Gamba grass

Fire

Tiwi Rangers will soon be performing their 2020 planned burning activities. Rangers work closely with Forestry staff to prepare sites before burning. This means, spraying and using graders to clear fire-breaks. Then, it is time to check the Country for dryness to determine if it is suitable to burn. Rangers then work very carefully to burn around valuable sites like cultural sites, buildings and outstations

in order to protect them. The Rangers will then perform aerial burning from a helicopter. Rangers have helped to prepare the 2020 Fire and Weed Management Plan. The Management Plan will be complete and distributed throughout Tiwi Island Communities by the end of May 2020.

Murray Knyvett and Dominique Michel, TLC

Little Croc at Picka Creek

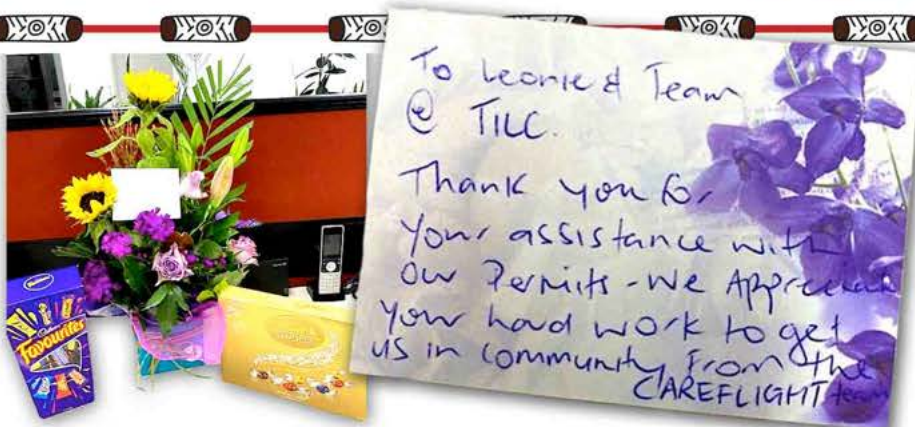
FYI: This is what I found in the creek at Picka. Our pet dog Jack is curiously checking out the baby croc. Due to this sighting, mum croc and siblings will be upstream of the water pump shed in Picka crossing.

Little crocs generally move at night followed by mum as they look for food.

Crocs have been a part of our lives for generations and I ask that caution is taken and kids are not swimming in areas of the creek unless it's ankle deep.

I informed the rangers who have just got a new croc trap delivered that we can seek their assistance to trap.

Andrew Tipungwuti, CEO TLC



The Senior Administration Officer, Leonie Melder and the TLC Team received a big 'Thank you' note from CAREFLIGHT for their many late evening work hours to process the Islands permit for the CAREFLIGHT Team.

TLC Anthropologist



Tiwi sculpture 1970s



I look forward to meeting you!
Leslie Pyne
TLC Anthropologist
M: 0409 045 145
E: anthropology@tiwilandcouncil.com

I'm **Leslie Pyne**, the new Anthropologist with the Tiwi Land Council. Before this job I worked with Anindilyakwa mob on Groote Eylandt and also with Warlpiri people in the Northern Tanami Desert. I grew up in New York City – a long way from the Tiwi Islands! Living in New York introduced me to people from lots of different cultures and made me interested in studying anthropology. I moved to Australia in 2012 and have lived here with my husband ever since.

This is the first time the TLC has had a full-time Anthropologist. I'll be engaging with the old people to record stories and protect sacred sites. There is a lot of work to be done with landowners and Rangers to ensure cultural sites are properly mapped to protect knowledge for future generations. I hope we can work together with museums to find out where Tiwi cultural materials are held in collections in Australia and overseas. Building these relationships will ensure cultural items are being kept safely or returned to the rightful Tiwi custodians. I will also be working with the TLC Executive Board to strengthen Tiwi engagement with external stakeholders wanting to access the Tiwi Islands for any purpose – such as for business, research, development or tourism. This means shifting control to Tiwi people to improve TLC policy and decision-making.

Leslie Pyne, TLC Anthropologist

NT Port and Marine



What's Happening at Port Melville?

Port Melville remains fully operational to service the needs of the marine and local operations. That said, the Covid 19 pandemic has effected the operations of the Port as it has the rest of the Territory and nation. The Port is strictly adhering to all government directives and has instituted additional measures to ensure the health of our personnel and the wider Tiwi community. Should you need to call at the Port or have any questions, please don't hesitate to first contact the Port Manager, Lindsay Whiting or our Health, Safety and Environmental Officer Shelby Noble.

And also a reminder. Port Melville is an operating industrial facility and only persons with prior permission and a valid reason to be on-site are permitted entry. We have recently had several instances of unauthorised persons being detected entering the facility putting themselves and others at risk. In the first instance any such persons will be instructed to leave pending a possible report to the Police.



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

Muluwurrampi Enterprises

RM Mungatopi & TJ Mungatopi trading as “Muluwurrampi Enterprises” is a 100% Tiwi founded, owned and managed company currently operating at Milikapiti (Snake Bay) on Melville Island in the Northern Territory.

The company is being led by senior Traditional Owner Mr Ralph Mungatopi and is being driven by his nephew Mr Tristan Mungatopi with the aims of creating growth in local employment and reducing welfare dependency by stimulating the local economy.

The first commercial contract awarded to Muluwurrampi Enterprises was the construction and installation of three toilet facilities in locations where Tiwi people often travel to for cultural and recreational purposes; Karslake camping area and Taracumbi outstation and Taracumbi waterfall, all on Melville Island.

Ralph Mungatopi and Tristan Mungatopi are developing sound business plans to operate viable commercial enterprises at Milikapiti and across the Tiwi Islands into the future:

- Contract Construction Work, Labour Hire and Plant & Equipment Operation
- Cultural Heritage Management and Consultancy
- Community Housing Venture
- Vehicle Hire & Taxi Service
- Vocational Education & Training (VET)
- Small Business Incubator

Muluwurrampi Enterprises will be forming Joint Ventures with other companies, particularly companies with proven performance records and existing positive connections with Tiwi Island communities across a wide range of fields and industry. Ralph Mungatopi and Tristan Mungatopi are acutely aware that successful business partnerships with industry, government and stakeholders will underpin the future success of the company ergo the negotiation of Joint Ventures is a very high priority for Ralph Mungatopi and Tristan Mungatopi.



“Kali nyurruwaripa kapi ngingawurla milimika Muluwurrampi” - “We welcome you to come and work on our land”.

Muluwurrampi is the name of the land which extends from the Milikapiti barge landing to the hill near the Milikapiti Sports & Social Club, and was the name Ralph Mungatopi chose for the family business.



First job done - Installed toilet facility



TJ Mungatopi & RM Mungatopi

The sky is the limit

for Wurrumiyanga's Hearing for Learning Trainees!



Trainers from the Menzies School of Health Research 'Hearing for Learning Initiative' are praising the dedication and commitment of 10 community members who are training to become ear health facilitators.

Trainees have completed 4 weeks of training with 2 weeks to go. Training has been put on hold for now due to the current travel restrictions in place to keep communities safe from the risk of Covid-19.

The group started training in February as part of the Initiative which aims to show that training people on country with knowledge of their people, language and culture is the best approach to allow better liaison between the community and ear health services and continuum of care in the ear health space.



The sky is the limit

for Wurrumiyanga's Hearing for Learning Trainees!



The 10 Trainees have completed their accredited units which focussed on workplace health and safety, writing simple work place documents and theory on ear health such as; hearing loss, ear anatomy, child development and how use otoscope and tympanometry to assess each other's ears.



Training
Ear health training

When training resumes, the trainees will start practising ear screens on children, and are going to be learning about health promotion. A graduation event will be held once the last 2 weeks of training has been completed.

From the group of Wurrumiyanga Trainees, 2 people will be employed part time by the clinic as Ear Health Facilitators working with families and the schools to help kids who might not be hearing well.



Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti are also part of the Initiative which will continue until the end of 2022. Training will be delivered over 3 months beginning at six-monthly intervals in 20 communities across the Northern Territory – we don't know yet when training will start in the other Tiwi communities, but we will keep you updated. Gunbalanya and Katherine are next.

The Initiative is funded by lead philanthropic supporter The Balnaves Foundation, and the Australian and Northern Territory governments.



For more information please email
hearingforlearning@menzies.edu.au or
call (08) 8946 8600.



Awana mamanta from Tiwi College



Like many schools in the country and especially remote schools, the staff and students at Tiwi College have followed the Government and Tiwi Land Council restrictions. We have taken extra precautions to be safe as we continue with our learning. A very big thank you to our staff and Family Group Home parents for going the extra mile for our students.

Term two promises to be filled with good learning and many exciting opportunities for our students. Take care and stay well.

*Jill Lees
Principal, Tiwi College*



Our mid-term engagement days are always a highlight of the term. Both the boys and then the girls had a day out on Country in Term 1 where they competed in team games and activities after doing some planning at school to come up with their team logos and chants. An awesome time was had by all staff and students involved.

The Girls Academy have been tackling Covid-19 head on! Although it can be overwhelming the girls have been discussing ways to stay safe on the Islands. We have had many wonderful conversations about why we are so lucky to be safe on Tiwi. The girls all say 'Let's keep it that way!'



Awana mamanta from Tiwi College



Our female staff and students celebrated International Women's Day with a special presentation followed by some fun team-building games down at the courts.

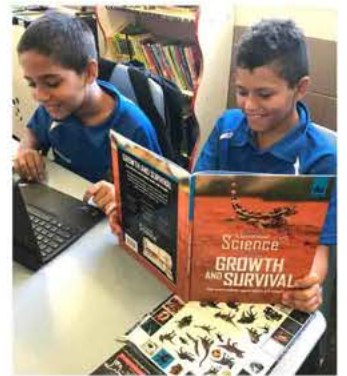
A group of students represented Tiwi College as contributors to a new book: "Ngawurramangajirri - Tiwi phrases for mental health and wellbeing".

The students involved did an amazing job, not only with their drawings but with the way they held themselves during the launch. The amazing Kitirika (turtle) you can see in the picture was created by the female students of Tiwi College as a project completed during culture week 2019. It looks beautiful but also educates people about the role this beautiful creature plays on the Tiwi Islands. The Dalyngini (sugarbag bee) was studied by the male students during the production of a beautiful piece of art.



In Term 1 a second primary class commenced with our cohort now split into lower and upper classes. Our youngest learners have settled in splendidly with their new teacher and Tiwi College life.

Our upper primary class are loving learning about Science and are very thankful to Corey of Deadly Science and Australian Geographic for their donations of amazing science books and experiment kits in Term 1.



We currently have a number of senior students enrolled in School Based Traineeships. Demaga Warrior (left side) is enjoying her Community Services traineeship that allows her to work at the college farm one day per week and gain some fantastic, practical skills.



Our Senior Young Men are getting in some valuable driving practice and also learning Safe Driver Education at Tiwi College. In term 1, a number of the SYM students successfully attained their Learner Driver's license!



Courtney Higlett, Academy Team

Covid-19 Government Support

Government Assistance Package Covid-19, Application for Support Funding



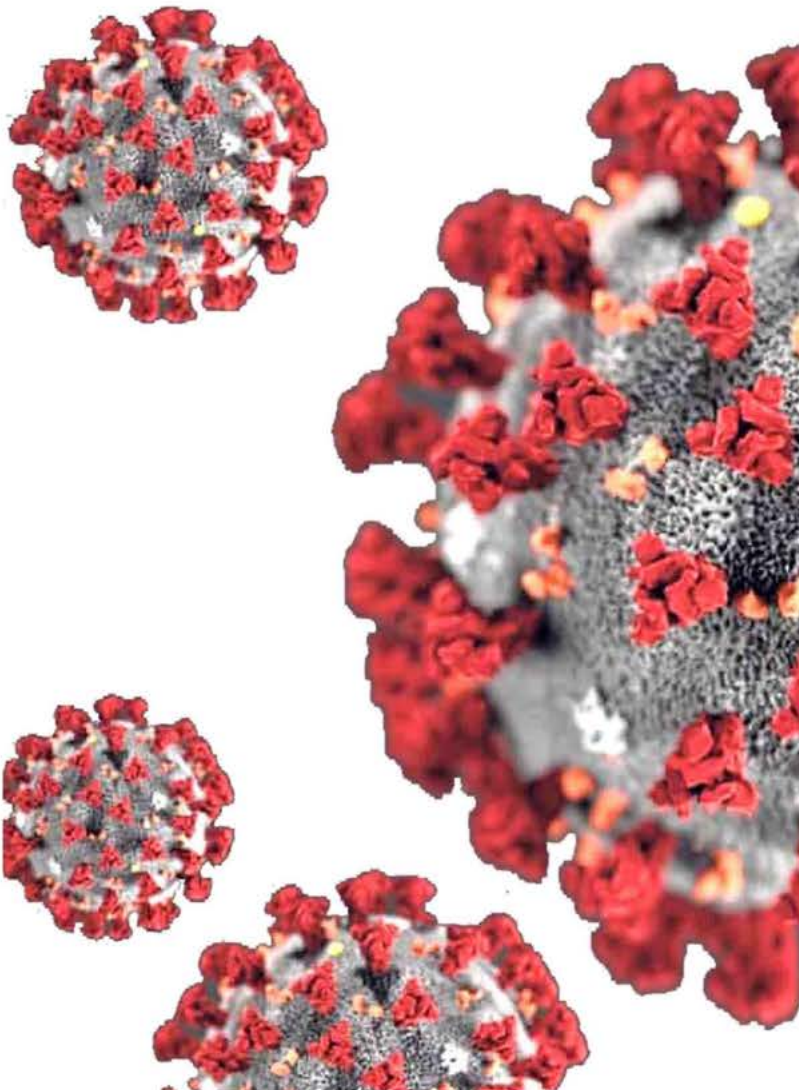
The funding will allow the Tiwi Land Council to provide immediate support to residents of Aboriginal communities who have been affected by the restrictions imposed to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Funding must support Aboriginal residents living in communities. This may include accommodation such as tents or dongas to reduce over-crowding, travel assistance or hybrid generators. Other small capital items would include water tanks to transport potable water, chainsaws, small tools or cooking equipment to ensure residents can remain on communities for approximately six months. Funding is not recurrent, cannot be used for cash payments and should target homelands and small Aboriginal communities.

We will be working closely with the clan group on how best to use these resources for the benefit of all Tiwi residents, living on the Tiwi Islands.



**Access
via the website
or QR code:**



Application for Support Funding.
Government Assistance Package
Covid-19

Funding is not recurrent, cannot be used for cash payments and should target homelands and small Aboriginal communities, to ensure residents can remain on communities for approximately six months.
Funding must support Aboriginal residents living in communities.

* Required

1. Date *

Please input date in format of d/M...

2. Name of Person or Homeland making request: *

Enter your answer