



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



CEO's Message

Hello everyone, I would like to welcome you back to The Tiwi Edition 49.

Firstly, I send my condolences to all Tiwi families who have lost loved ones over the festive season, sadly it always seems the season for tragic losses of family members. My thoughts are with you.

Last year, we ended with a high with the TLC delivering the method of choice of its members to the eight clans, which has never been done in the history of TLC. The outcome of this process allowed the clans to nominate for positions on TLC.

From this we have new members of Council and some new members added to our Executive Management team. These positions will stand for 3 years.

Some of the highlights of 2020 we reflect below with many discussions taking place:

Securing funding from NIAA for the upgrades of Power and Water, minor road access and ablutions/kitchens where needed.



Andrew Tipungwuti
CEO Tiwi Land Council

Funding for the COVID-19 respite containers, fitted with roof, veranda, water tank, genset and kitchen sink. These have been completed on Melville and the rest will be finished this dry on Bathurst.



We have also had discussions with the Commissioner of Police to secure a permanent police presence for Milikapiti.

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NEWS from your TIWI LAND Council

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Good to know

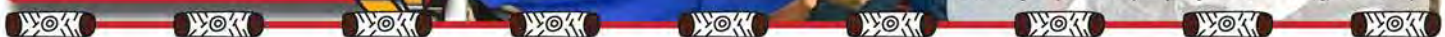
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Fort Dundas is being considered for heritage listing.



TLC Chair and Deputy Chair election
R to L: Gibson F. Illortaminni (Chair re-elected)
Andrew Tipungwuti (CEO)
Stanley Tipiloura (Deputy Chair newly elected).



CEO's Message



Meetings with both governments, NT and Federal for our Tiwi roads that are in desperate need of repair.

Discussions about our Morgue facility that is in need of capacity storage and changing the system from chiller to freezer, these discussions are on going and we certainly hope to finalise by this dry season.

There have also been discussions with clan groups around future opportunities.

Major projects coming up this year are based on the Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs supporting all the land councils through a stimulus package to ensure a better social and more beneficial lifestyle for our indigenous people.

Whilst this takes place, we the TLC, continues to work close with our other Land Council colleagues for the betterment of our peoples.

This year 2021, we have also have had our Chairman and Deputy elections, which was exciting to see.

Our current Chairman Gibson Farmer secured his fourth term as chair of TLC and long standing executive member Stanley Tipiloura took deputy position. Congratulation to them both on their appointments.

We also say thank you to our out going Deputy Leslie Tungatulum whom has been our deputy for some time.

We have a big year ahead to complete outstanding projects this dry season and to also start new projects this year.

We as TLC look forward to working with you all as we progress through 2021.

Best wishes to you all.

*Andrew Tipungwuti,
CEO Tiwi Land Council*

Some events of the past months and weeks



The Christmas Meeting and Lunch and the Full Land Council meeting held in Darwin 22/12/2020:

- Outgoing and incoming, new Executive Committee Members, Members and Delegates appointed to the TLC
- Presentation of plaque by the CEO in recognition of the two artists who designed the Tiwi Flag in 1995 for the Tiwi Land Council
- We had visitors joining us for lunch on the day from OTL and TITEB
- CEO informed everyone of his wishlist - for the Tiwi Islands.



CEO's Message



Some events of the past months and weeks

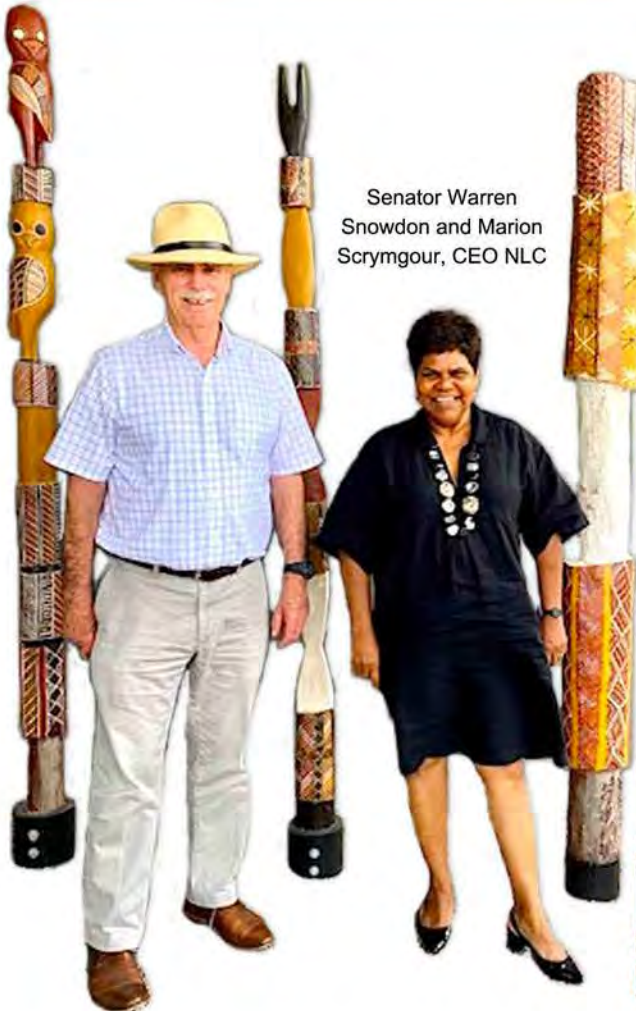
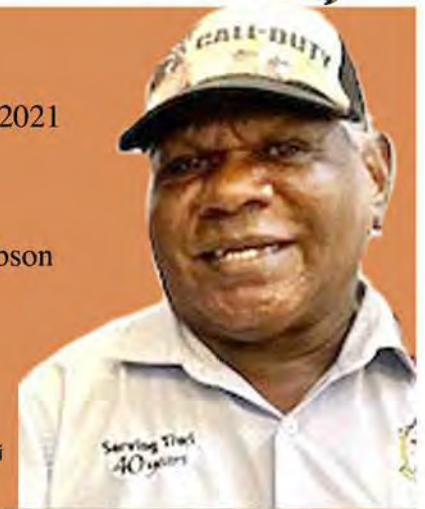


First Full Land Council meeting for 2021 was held at Wurrumiyanga 15/02/2021. Chairman's and Deputy Chairman's election:

- Chairman re-elected for the 4th term – Mr Gibson F. Illortaminni
- Deputy Chair – Mr. Stanley Tipiloura

Stanley Tipiloura
Deputy Chairman TLC

Gibson F. Illortaminni
Chairman TLC



Senator Warren Snowdon and Marion Scrymgour, CEO NLC



TLC hosted – a joint Land Council meeting over two days in February 2021 that was chaired by TLC CEO Andrew Tipungwuti.

Day 2 - visit from Senator Warren Snowdon



CEO's Message



Some events of the past months and weeks



In March an Oyster farming discussion was held in the Darwin Office. The TLC also met with BIHA - Matt Fowke, had a Blue Mud Bay review - Ian Curnow and Cattle discussions.

First new EMC and Trustees meeting for 2021 held in Darwin on 02/03/2021:

- Update from NTG - Ed Smelt regarding roads.
- Buffalo Proposal as Economic Development and job opportunities for the Tiwi Islands.
- Croc Eggs Hatchery proposals as part of the wishlist (stimulus package – Federal Minister Ken Wyatt) to creating job opportunities into the future.
- Discussion on Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) and Tiwi Islands Adventures (TIA) with Tiwi Resources.



Discussing Paru Road upgrade and buffalo proposal.



Discussing IPA and TIA with Tiwi Resources.



3.1 Paru Road Upgrade – Stage 1

- Tender for the upgrade of Paru Road starting from the Three Ways intersection closed in March 2020
- Tender award was delayed due to COVID-19 Biosecurity restrictions and the potential impact of the works on the endangered plant species *Typhonium jonesii*
- In August 2020, the construction tender was awarded to Tiwi Partners for 3.6km of road upgrade and seal
- Construction will commence in the 2021 dry season when site conditions allow and level of impact on *Typhonium* plant species is known



Discussing crocodile eggs hatchery.

CEO's Message



Some events of the past months and weeks



The next delivery of COVID-19 Respite Centres will be coming soon in the dry season when road conditions improve.

We have a new staff member on our TLC Team.

Please contact for all enquiries: Joline Bower
Reception/Administration Officer

Ph: 08 8997 0797
office@tiwilandcouncil.com



Looking forward to the new Executive and Trustees in the next edition.

ABAAC March meeting Aboriginals Benefit Account Advisory Committee



Front row (L to R): Yananyumul Mununggurr (NLC), Lisa Mumbin OAM (NLC), Barb Shaw (CLC), Sammy Bush-Blanasi (Co-Chair), Lorraine Jones (NLC), Leeanne Caton (Chair)

Back row (L to R): Brian Tipungwuti (TLC), Tony Wurramarrba AO (ALC), Jeffrey Zimran (CLC), Robert Hoosan (CLC), David Harvey (NLC), Matty Ryan (NLC), Graham Kenyon (NLC), Peter Lansen (NLC)

Chairman's Words



Hello everyone,

Firstly, it's important for me to pay my respects and extend my condolences for the loss of many loved ones. Let us welcome 2021 with a great sense of gratitude for all the blessings that we have had and let's encourage and lift the spirit of all around us.

2020 will be a year that most people in the world would not be able to put easily behind themselves. So let's take the challenges from that and use it as lessons learnt, and not take anything for granted.

We Tiwi people looked after our islands and community members keeping our elders and vulnerable people safe during the unprecedented time of the Coronavirus.

The Tiwi Land Council, CEO, Executive Committee Members, Trustees and members together with me made some very hard decision to achieve safety for our people.

I as Chairman of the Land Council would like to sincerely thank you all for playing your part in keeping everyone safe.

I take this opportunity to thank the CEO, Executive Committee Members, Trustees and Members in having faith in me, and re-electing me as the Chairman of the Land Council for my 4th term.

I congratulate my Deputy Chair Stanley Tipiloura and welcome him and the new Executives and Members on the TLC. I would like to thank the previous Executives and members for the contributions they have made to the Land Council in the past 3 years.

Mana,

*Gibson F. Illortaminni
Chairman Tiwi Land Council*



Mr. I. Fernando 2013 - representing Tiwi Enterprises in Alice Springs at the Indigenous Economic Development Forum



**Mr Ivan Fernando
D.O.B 9th August 1959**

Passed on the
24th January 2021

He is remembered by his loving wife, children, grandchildren, great grandchild, brothers, sisters and family members.

Our sincere condolences to the above for the life of Ivan who spent many years assisting the Tiwi people as a respectable liaison officer at the Xavier boys' school and worked at the Territory Families on Bathurst Islands.

A respected Trustee of Malau and a valuable member of the Tiwi Land Council, for a couple of decades.

He is sadly missed and remembered by the CEO, Chairman, Members, Colleagues, staff of the Tiwi Land Council and the Tiwi community members on both Islands.

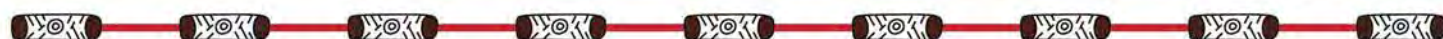
The Funeral will take place in Wurrumiyanga – Bathurst Island.

Mr. I. Fernando 2014 - TLC meeting



Past and present Tiwi Leaders

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



Tiwi Grand Final 2021



Imalu Tigers



Community members getting ready for the Tiwi Grand Final 2021. The hair styling was a complimentary service from Deadly Hair Dude, a-not-for-profit Indigenous and special needs hairdressing and training group. Engaged by TITEB, they visit Bathurst and add value to Tiwi life and training.

At the end of the game - Bulldogs are the winners!



Tiwi Grand Final 2021

History made on Tiwi Islands



The Tiwi community is celebrating the inclusion of the first-ever female team to its grand final day.

Mary Dunn a board member for the Tiwi Bombers says the launch of a women's team has been a long time coming. Source: Aneeta Bhole

It was football fever in the Top End when thousands from across the country spilled into the remote Australian island of Bathurst, just 80 kilometres north of Darwin. Just one day a year, the country's most remote brand of Australian rules football takes centre stage, where fans get a talent snapshot of some of the nation's most gifted footballers.

Some of the stars who had their beginnings here include Cyril Rioli and Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti. For the mostly Indigenous population of fewer than 2,500, football is more than a game, it is considered religion.

"Every child who is born here is literally given a football when they are young," said Mary Dunn a board member for the Tiwi Bombers and resident of the island. "That is footy for us here."

This year the women's team joined the coveted event for the first time in history.

"It is really emotional because it has been a long time coming - trying to push for it for so long," Ms Dunn said. "With the men's [competition] it has been 51 years since Tiwi Islands Football League has been running, and 11 years for the Tiwi Bombers. So it's about time we get our women in."

There had been "a lot of emotions" seeing the girls play, according to Ms Dunn, who added that she would like to see the team get into the league.

"We would love to see some of our young ladies make it to the AFLW, which would be great," she said.



After the debut of the women's team, it is hoped the team will become a more permanent fixture of the league. Source: Aneeta Bhole



The Tiwi Islands Football League has been running for 51 years. Photo supplied Patakijiyali Museum

Tiwi Grand Final 2021

History made on Tiwi Islands



Tarlina Tipungwuti (left) and team captain Laelia Dunn (right). Source: Aneeta Bhole

"But the first step is hopefully next season to make the premier league of the women's NTFL season.

"We are almost there. Fingers crossed we get in next season."

Coach of the women's team Colleen Gwynne said the girls had the same drive as the boys.

"When the siren goes it is game. The girls don't take a backwards step," said Ms Gwynne.

"They're hard on the ball and very competitive - that's how I want them to be."

Ms Gwynne said it's been a dream to get the girls team going and they are ecstatic to see it go ahead this year.

"It's been a dream of Mary Dunn's. She's seen her family and relatives play in the men's league has always had a dream to see the girls out there," she said.

"Then we got an opportunity this year to play six exhibition games which we've played in Darwin which has seen the girls come over."

"It has been a real test for us to get them over there - and for some it is a game they have never played before."

The Tiwi Bombers women's team is made up of players from the Tiwi Island communities of Wurrumiyanga, Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti.

The team's captain, Laelia Dunn, said there is nothing better than being on the field.

"It's a massive thing for us, to get the girls to show their skills, to play in front of family and a home crowd," she said.

"Footy is in the people's blood. It's not only about winning but we have fun, play, showcase our skills and show what Tiwi women can do."

Last year, visitors were banned from coming to the island for the game due to coronavirus precautions.

But with the vaccine rolling out across Australia, restrictions have eased, bringing the island community back to life.



Coach of the women's team, Colleen Gwynne, talks strategy with captain Laelia Dunn. Source Aneeta Bhole

Supporters of the Imalu Tigers. Source Aneeta Bhole



Tiwi Grand Final 2021

History made on Tiwi Islands



Walama Bulldogs supporters

Fellow teammate Tarlina Tipungwuti said she was excited to play the grand final and felt lucky it was during a year people were allowed to visit the Tiwi Islands. "To have tourists here again is great, to showcase our talent. I am so excited to be here, our Tiwi magic. It's pretty bloody awesome," she said.

"I have been playing since I was 16, I played in Canberra too when I lived down there. "To have a Tiwi bombers womens team is amazing. It has been a long time coming." Ms Tipungwuti hails from Melville Island and said the team doesn't get to always train together. "Myself and three other girls train together but others train elsewhere," she explained. "All of us girls are living in different parts of the island so it is difficult for us to get together and train as a team but we have our own space and crew so it is really good."

With the snap closure of the Tiwi borders last year many visitors shared their gratitude they were able to finally make it to see the game.

"The first time I was meant to come in 2018, from Alice Springs, it got cancelled because of a cyclone and then last year it was cancelled because of COVID," said Samantha Wills as she watched from the grandstand.

"So third time lucky, I finally made it and it's been great. I also spent a lot of money at the art sale." Tom Young said he is new to Australia and the Territory and so being at the game was "very special".

"That's why I wanted to come here," he said. "The culture is also amazing and totally different to anything I have experienced, and the people are really friendly."

The grand final match was a cross-island clash between the Imalu Tigers from Melville Island and Walama Bulldogs out of Bathurst Island. In a nail-biting battle for the win, the Walama Bulldogs secured a 12-point victory 95 - 83. As crowds began to fan out of the grounds, the sounds of celebrations echoed through the small community.



It was an absolute pleasure to come to Tiwi and cover the grand final with the help of Brian Tipungwuti. It was so great to get a feel for Tiwi and speak to some of the brilliant women now playing in the Tiwi Bomber's women's team.

Aneeta Bhole, SBS News

Ford Dundas heritage



Fort Dundas is being considered for heritage listing under the *Heritage Act 2011*. The NT Heritage Branch has been meeting with the TLC to talk about the benefits of heritage protection. The Heritage Branch will meet with Tiwi Rangers and the Munupi clan in April. The Heritage mob want to visit the site during the July school holidays. This trip will include Tiwi landowners, Rangers, and the TLC Anthropologist. The purpose will be to record the significance of the place, take photographs, and write a report to the Heritage Council with the findings. Heritage protection will provide a way for Tiwi to tell their stories for Fort Dundas. It will also promote the importance of the site to Tiwi people, and make sure visitors know not to touch or take anything from the area.

**Do you have a story about Fort Dundas?
Have you found any interesting objects at the site?
Do you want to be involved in the project?**



Old well at Ford Dundas

If so, Leslie Pyne, TLC Anthropologist wants to hear from you!
Ph: 0409 045 145
anthropology@tiwilandcouncil.com



HMS Lady Nelson - The Ship that brought the first European settlers to Melville Island in 1824

Tiwi dancers Tony Pilakui, Noel Galala, Tracy Puruntatameri at Ford Dundas in 2013

Roads upgrades and Sacred Sites



Tracy Puruntatameri, Paulina Puruntatameri and her grandson Jace doing site assessments with the TLC.

The Australian Government committed \$60 million toward this \$75 million project in partnership with the Northern Territory Government to upgrade roads on Melville Island over the next 10 years. In late 2020, the TLC started talking to landowners about accessing country for kukuni (water) to make bitumen for the roads upgrades.

In December 2020, the Munupi clan nominated landowners to do site visits along Pirlangimpi Road with Leslie Pyne (TLC Anthropologist) and Murray Knyvett (TLC Resource and Environment Officer). TOs and staff confirmed where there was kukuni and checked for special plants, animals, and sacred sites that need to be protected near the roads and surrounding bush.

During the December fieldwork, Tracy Puruntatameri put together an application to register his father's burial site at Pukulupi (White Sands). Leslie, the TLC Anthropologist helped Tracy to record the story and took GPS coordinates and photos at the site. Tracy's application and Leslie's sacred site report have been sent off to the Sacred Sites Authority known as AAPA. The AAPA Board will review the application and hopefully approve the site registration in the upcoming months.



Tracy Puruntatameri registering his father's burial as a sacred site.



Did you know there are laws in the NT to protect sacred sites?

We have a law called the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act that offers protection for Aboriginal sacred sites through a site registration process. Aboriginal custodians can apply to have their sites registered with the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA). Walter Kerinauia Jr is the Tiwi representative on the AAPA Board.

What does it mean to 'register' a sacred site?

As Tiwi people, you have strong law to help you look after your ancestors, perform ceremony, and care for important cultural sites on country. But applying to register a sacred site with the Sacred Sites Authority (AAPA) offers greater protection for these places under whitefella law.

The AAPA website has some useful information about why it is important to register sacred sites.

(<https://www.aapant.org.au/our-services/register-sacred-site>)

- Site registration enhances the protection of sacred sites.
- Registration of a sacred site by the AAPA Board is considered proof in a court of law that a place is indeed a Sacred Site.
- Registration makes it easier to prosecute any offences committed in relation to that site.
- It establishes clear boundaries, details the features and traditions that make the site sacred and identifies the Aboriginal custodians of the site.
- Secret and sensitive material about the site is protected and not made available to the public.

What happens after a site is registered?

Any member of the public viewing the Register of Sacred Sites will see the location and boundaries of registered sacred sites. A Tiwi person can go to the AAPA Office in Darwin to request to see the list of sacred sites and a map of a particular area. Contractors/developers can also request information to help them locate sacred sites near a proposed development.

How can site damage be prevented?

There are two main ways that Aboriginal sites can be protected: firstly, through Aboriginal custodians registering sacred sites and secondly by stakeholders obtaining an Authority Certificate before commencing works in an area.

AAPA recommends that anyone wanting to undertake work on land or sea anywhere in the NT apply for an **Authority Certificate**. Through this process, AAPA consults with the Aboriginal custodians for a particular area to find out if there are any culturally sensitive sites nearby. Custodians may nominate buffer zones around their sites to minimise the impacts of a development. This is an important step because AAPA then provides advice to the applicant about the buffer zones nominated by custodians. The applicant receives a document called an Authority Certificate with a map that shows the location and extent of sacred sites in the project area. The Certificate advises of any restrictions that may apply to avoid damaging sacred sites.

More information about authority certificates can be found here:
<https://www.aapant.org.au/our-services/authority-certificates>

Tiwi ARC Project Update



Thinking about the future of the Tiwi Islands: balancing development with the needs of people, country and culture

This project came about through discussions between Tiwi traditional owners, staff from the Tiwi Land Council and Tiwi Resources, as well as researchers from Deakin University, Charles Darwin University and the University of Melbourne.

The project wants to support Tiwi people to make good decisions about their islands and to make sure that what is important to Tiwi people comes through. This means balancing the economy and development with other things that are important to Tiwi people like culture and country – trying to keep everything ‘level’, now and into the future. Scientist mob call this ‘sustainable development’.

This project will look at sustainable development on the Tiwi Islands by:

1. Talking with Tiwi people and other stakeholders about what is important for the future of the Tiwi Islands
2. Understanding what is happening with country now by talking with traditional owners and mapping important places, plants and animals
3. Building ideas and making models to understand how things might change in the future depending on what is done to look after country
4. Working together with Tiwi people, scientists and others to share information to support making decisions



A challenging year for everyone

While 2020 has brought many challenges and despite some major delays, this project has managed some significant progress over the course of the year. Outside of some fieldwork based around animal surveys, travel restrictions have meant that a lot of work has been more about the project team figuring out how to work remotely and to come up with some plans for future work in the new year. Below is a brief update of activities over the year and some upcoming activities.

We are pleased to welcome new team members to the Tiwi ARC project

Importantly, we have now been joined by a local Tiwi woman, Mavis Kerinaiaua, who is working with us as a co-researcher on the project. Mavis brings with her a wealth of experience working cross-culturally, is passionate about community engagement in research and has been recognised for her work in supporting Tiwi around climate change issues.

Mavis is also a proud Mantiyupwi traditional owner with a strong sense of culture, and will be invaluable in supporting Tiwi involvement in this research project. You will probably already know Mavis having seen her around Wurrumiyanga – welcome Mavis!



Mavis Kerinaiaua

Tiwi ARC Project update



We have also been joined by two new PhD students to bring the total up to 3. Joining us from Charles Darwin University will be Georgie Neave who will be working on understanding more about how the interaction of fire, feral cats and herbivores (buffalo, horses and pigs) impacts mammal populations. Alys Young will be based at Deakin University and her focus will be looking at how land use and conserva-

tion can be modelled to understand different scenarios for development. Georgie and Alys are joining the social science PhD student, Mitch Jones, who is based at the University of Melbourne and is looking at ways of supporting traditional owners and scientists to work well together on collaborative science.



Georgie Neave



Alys Young



Mitch Jones



Feral cat recorded on a camera-trap

Finding out more about animals on the Tiwi Islands

This year, Dr Hugh Davies and Georgie worked with the Tiwi Land Rangers to complete animal surveys at 42 sites across Bathurst Island. We repeated live-trapping surveys that were last done twenty years ago. By comparing the number of animals that we trapped this year, with the number of animals that were trapped twenty years ago, we can check that Tiwi animals are healthy. We also looked for feral animals (such as cats and pigs) that can be causing problems for country.

As live-trapping is not effective for some animals (like feral cats), we also set up five camera-traps at each site. These camera-traps were left out bush for five weeks, taking photos when animals walked past. This information helps us know where different animals are across the Tiwi Islands, which is important when making land-use decisions.

Over the coming year in 2021 we will continue our surveys of Tiwi plants and animals. This information will help Tiwi people decide which areas to protect and which to develop, and help protect Tiwi country for future generations.



Colin, Shane and Derek setting up live-traps to check that Tiwi animals are healthy



Colin, Shane, Derek and Hugh setting up a camera-trap

Starting a conversation about what's important for Tiwi country and culture

We have also been working on getting ready to start talking with Tiwi about what's important for Tiwi country and culture. This has meant figuring out how to work together being separated by large distances (Wurrumiyanga and Melbourne!) and through travel restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the work has taken place over the phone or by video call and, whilst this has its own challenges, we have still managed to get things started.

The main jobs that Mavis, Dr Margaret Ayre and Mitch have been working have been to develop com-

munication and engagement tools that will help with talking to Tiwi people about the research, and to start planning workshops that can help Tiwi to talk about what they think is important for the future.

Starting in the new year, we will be looking at running participatory mapping workshops with the Tiwi Land Rangers and hopefully will be holding some storytelling workshops with other Tiwi community members.

If you'd like to know more about this project please contact Mavis Kerinauia (Mobile: 0417 025 391, Email: maviskerinauia@tiwiresources.com.au)

Tiwi Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) update



Tiwi Land and Marine Rangers participated in a Tiwi IPA planning workshop just before Christmas. Over two days the Rangers talked about what they think will be necessary to protect the natural and cultural values of the islands in the future. The workshop built on the outcomes of the IPA Planning Committee's workshop held last November and will contribute to developing a draft Plan of Management.

Got a question?

If you would like to find out more about the IPA please contact Dom Michel.
 T: 0418 851 248 E: Dominique.Michel@tiwilandcouncil.com

Barbie McKaige and Nic Gambold

Tiwi Rangers IPA Workshop

Back row, [L to R]: Colin Kerinauia, Chris Long, Warwick Puruntatameri, Clinton Rioli, Derek Puruntatameri, Shane Austral, Cecil Black, Dom Michel, John Sebastian (Sebi) Pilakui, and Brian Austral.
 Front row, [L to R]: Barbie McKaige, Willie Rioli, Nic Gambold and Yvonne Kelly



Bush tucker

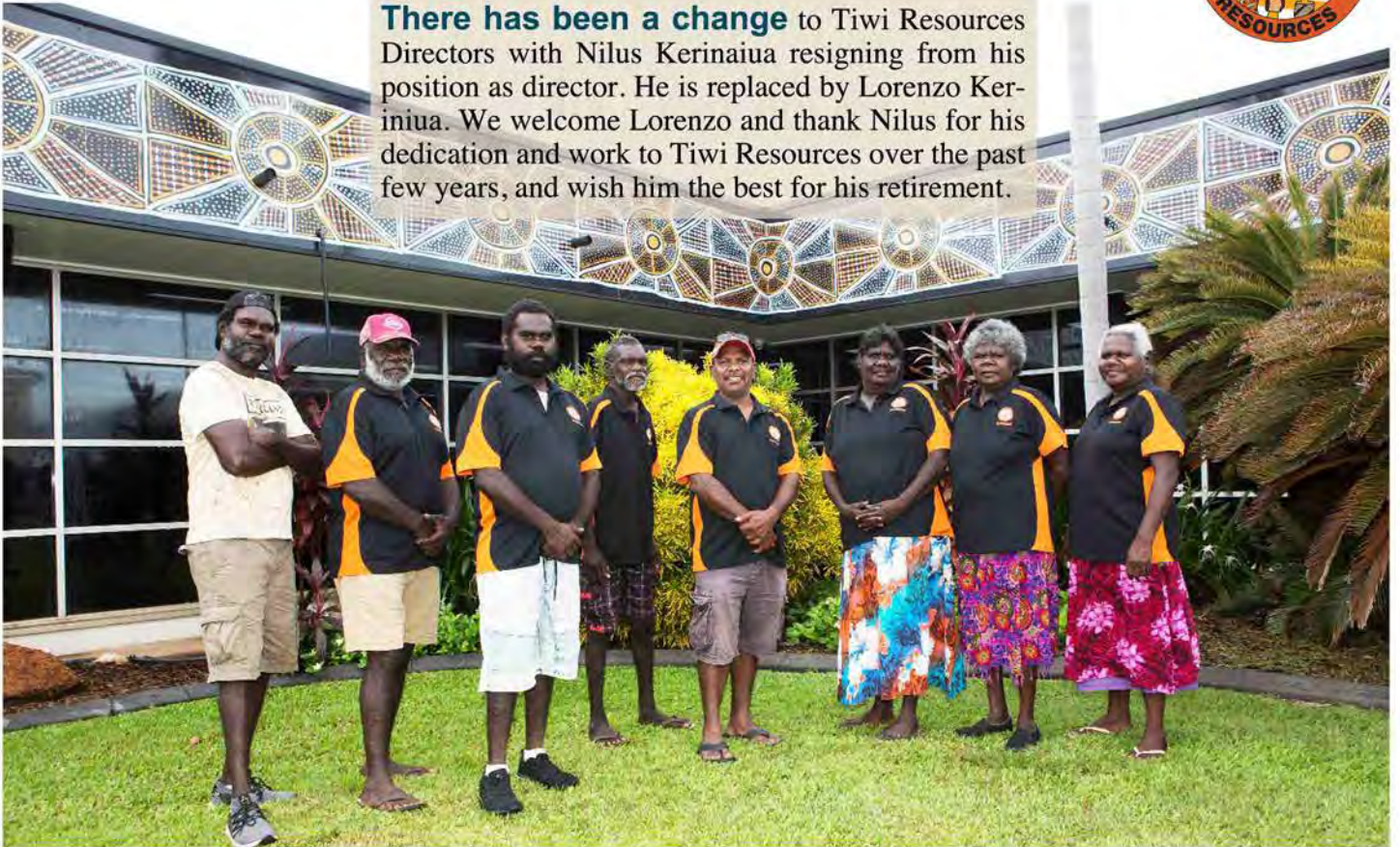


Once the Tiwi IPA consultation phase is finished and the Plan of Management has been approved by Traditional Owners and submitted to the Government, the IPA can be dedicated. This is expected to be sometime in early 2023 and funding for land management and cultural activities will then commence. The Tiwi IPA will then become part of the National Reserve System, which includes all of Australia's IPAs, national parks, and nature reserves. It will be managed by Tiwi Rangers and administered by Tiwi Resources on behalf of the TLC. Nationally, the IPA Program is run by the National Indigenous Australians Agency in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Water, and the Environment.

Tiwi Resources update



There has been a change to Tiwi Resources Directors with Nilus Kerinauia resigning from his position as director. He is replaced by Lorenzo Kerinauia. We welcome Lorenzo and thank Nilus for his dedication and work to Tiwi Resources over the past few years, and wish him the best for his retirement.



TR directors [L to R]: Ron Poantimilui, Lorenzo Kerinauia, Adonis Wommatakimmi, Nilus Kerinauia (retiring), Willie Rioli, Janey Puautjimi, Linda Pungamirri, Alice Munkara (Chair). Absent Wendy Miller.

ARC Linkage project (Mavis Kerinauia)

The ARC Linkage project is going well. Mavis has been very busy liaising with Scientists, Research teams and Universities, in particular with Mitch Jones. This work has been a challenge due to COVID-19, but Zoom and other technologies has been invaluable during this period. Mavis also unveiled the Turtuni Painting which she designed and Fiona Kerinauia painted. The Turtuni painting and the story has now been completed and Mavis presented it at the December Directors meeting.



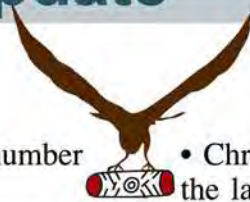
Threeways

The Ranger Headquarters at Threeways is proving to be a very useful facility for contractors needing accommodation. It has:

- 8 airconditioned single ensuite rooms (connected by breezeway) communal kitchen
- Generator/Solar power
- Wi-fi
- fully fenced secure compound

Please contact Angela on 89411162 for bookings.

Tiwi Resources update



Tiwi Rangers

Willie and his team have been busy across a number of fronts, including:

- continuing with the weed spraying and management program
- continuing to work with the Strong Women and Menzies on the pilot program for medicinal plants
- continuing to work with the various researchers and visitors to the islands, such as Megan Petit from CSIRO who works on the fire ant project
- The Marine Rangers spent a week visiting various sites across the 2 islands with representatives from the Darwin Aquaculture Centre investigating the suitability for a black lip oyster farm.

NGAWURRAYAMANGI MURRAKUPUNI
NGAWURRAYAMANGI WINGA



- Chris Long and Brian Austral travelled to Cairns in the late March to attend the National First Peoples Gathering on Climate Change, where they shared Tiwi stories of how climate change is impacting on the islands. They also learned about climate change impacts in other parts of the country.

- Willie is continuing to work with the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network (ICIN). He is on the steering committee which has been meeting regularly to work through the processes of establishing a new corporate structure, which is both a challenging and interesting process.

- The next meeting of the Fire and Weed Committee is scheduled for Thursday May 13th 2021 at Wurrumiyanga, to plan for the upcoming fire season. The Rangers will be travelling around the communities to talk to families about managing fire to best protect our pristine Tiwi environment throughout the dry season.

Nguiu Club news



The Nguiu Club is going well, considering the additional costs and requirements needed to meet COVID Safety standards to keep our community and families free from COVID-19. Part of this is to only allow a certain number of people into the bar at any one time. Our staff are managing this well and would like to thank the community for their support.

Well done to Cassian, Anthony and Richard for completing their responsible service of alcohol (RSA) certificate. Currently NCAC has 17 staff employed; 14 are Tiwi.

There have been some changes around the Club including the arrival of a new work vehicle, replacement of all computers and upgrade of the music and speaker system.

The Bistro is also about to undertake improvements which will allow better flow of patrons through the Bistro and the ability for the area to be used as a training/meeting area. Completion of these changes will happen in the next few months.

NCAC continues to support the community, including:

- A donation of \$20,000 to the Tiwi Island Football League to assist the league in repairing the lights so Thursday night football can recommence for next season.
- A donation of \$60,000 to the Patakijiyali Museum to assist with operational costs, including wages for Ancilla and Yvette.
- Supporting graduates and their families to attend their graduation ceremony in December.
- Continuing to support family to travel by bus to funerals held on Melville Island.

Julie and Paul are going on a well-deserved holiday for 6 weeks, Mark and Penny will be in their place, commencing the week prior to the Grand Final. Drop in and say Hello!





NT



MV Enterprise

PORT and MARINE

What's Happening at Port Melville?

On the 6th of February the bulk carrier MV Enterprise departed Port Melville with a load of approximately 24,000mt of Tiwi pine logs for export. This completes the export project for the pine plantations on Melville Island and is a credit to all involved especially in the challenging COVID-19 environment that has confronted us.

Since April 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe impact on the national and international economy with obvious implications for many industries, NTPM being amongst these. We have had to adjust our operations not only to reflect the pandemic protocols and the economy but also the difficulty in personnel movements. As from mid-February we will hopefully return to our normal work pattern and you will see familiar faces back at the Port.



On 8 February a work crew from our sister company AGC arrived at the Port and over the next 2 months they will undertake a variety of capital works involving the tank farm and wharf which will provide us with a number of improvements involving operations and maintenance.

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



Aileen and her family playing with home visit activity resources, May 2020

The Menzies Play to Connect team support parents and children in transition year at MCPS (aged 3 to 7) to learn about child development through participation in creative child-led play. The program consists of group sessions at the school library and home visits to families with a ‘strengths based’, positive approach. In the parents’ session, parents discuss the importance of the early years and the relationship between parents and children. In the interactive sessions, parents sit with their children and together they choose what they want to do: paint, build or play an interactive game. The parent then practices special skills for play: how to let the child lead, how to listen, to watch and give encouraging feedback and how to set boundaries.

Local Tiwi implementation officers Maggie and Aileen delivered an innovative variation of the Play to Connect parenting program in Wurrumiyanga to support families through learning and play during COVID-19 restrictions last year. The adapted home visit model focused on learnings with parents in the Play to Connect program and local capacity building. Maggie and Aileen who were participants of the program themselves, provided resources and support to parents families. During term 1 Maggie and Aileen have continued to provide home based support to families – introducing program themes to the new families by checking in and providing activity kits.



Aileen and Maggie planning and reflecting with Darwin based staff on the phone at Wurrumiyanga beach, April 2020





Darwin based team and Tiwi based team during the Play to Connect end of year planning and reflection workshop at Menzies office, November 2020

The challenge of adapting to the 2020 coronavirus uncertainties, restrictions and operational hurdles facing our work was an insightful learning experience, highlighting the importance of innovative teamwork. Since then, the Tiwi staff have continued to support families during home visits, with remote support from the Darwin office. Parents have said they were happily surprised to see two local ladies working by themselves.

The Play to Connect program was developed in response to the evaluation findings and experiences drawn from over 12 years of the delivery of the Let's Start program. Funding for the program delivery is provided by Red Cross, Communities for Children strategy.

Find out more about Play to Connect here:
menzies.edu.au/playtoconnect

The Play to Connect team includes people from the Tiwi Islands and Darwin.

The team is led by Professor Gary Robinson, Centre for Child Development and Education, Menzies School of Health Research.



Maggie



Aileen



Kate



Carolin



Gary

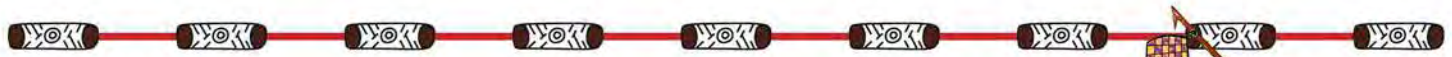
Mulakunya Aged Care news

Mulakunya Aged Care was very fortunate to receive some grant funding and we have refurbished the ladies bedrooms and bathrooms. With the ladies picking the colours for the walls in each room. This funding has also enabled us to put in a nurse call system. This allows residents to call for assistance while in their room. The next stage of this is to have new curtains in each room, new furniture for the bedrooms and in the breezeway area.

Below is a picture of our first garden, we have planted pineapples, mulberry and gooseberry so far. The next stage is to build a raised garden bed, this will be for the residents to grow some vegetables. This project should be completed by the end of March.



Over the Easter weekend we are planning to have a bush tucker day, so any donations of bush foods would be greatly appreciated. Or we are happy to have anyone assist us in gathering food.



Murrupurtiyanuwu CPS



Hi Everyone!

MCPS 2021 Term 1 is off to a busy and wonderful start! It's been great to see our Classrooms and Playgrounds filled with so much encouragement, laughter and happy children again.

You can expect to see some big changes around the grounds of MCPS with major renovations currently happening to our School Staff room, Learning Spaces and Laundry.

We have also had a new uniform designed by Ancilla Kurrupuwu which you will see the children and staff wearing around the community soon.

Thank you all for your continued support,

Berkley Muldoon and Caroline Bourke

*Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School
Wurrumiyanga*



Molly, Stacey and Ruth in their new shirts

Awana mamanta from Tiwi College



Awana friends, family and communities!

I respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Pickertaramoor country that the Tiwi Education Board leases for Tiwi College. We are grateful for your continued support and love for Tiwi students and investing in their futures. The school principal works closely with the TEB Board Advisory and in particular thanks to Brian and Andrew Tipungwuti for having a vision and working with the school to achieve this.

Tiwi College enjoys bringing together the children of the Tiwi from Pirlingimpi, Nguiu, and Milikapiti community centres every Monday at 10am from the local shops.

Tiwi College now has a roll of over 100 boarding students who live on Pickertaramoor campus Monday to Friday. With our dynamic schedule, Tiwi children now wake up to do morning activities they can choose! They go back to eat a nutritious breakfast that follows the national boarding school standards and healthy eating program, shower, and then go to learn. The production of our Farm has grown, as well as students participating in farm upkeep and maintenance.



Staff enjoy meeting members of the community, and liaising closely with family groups to support Tiwi children holistically. We also engage with local stakeholder groups to provide that wrap-around support, working together with other organisations on the Tiwi Islands. This first Trimester, we have already seen success with the increased engagement of our senior students helping the community!

Our hearts and minds are always open.

Thank you to the Traditional Owners of Pickertaramoor, and community elders who have supported us in this journey.

Mana,

Jill Lees, Principal Tiwi College

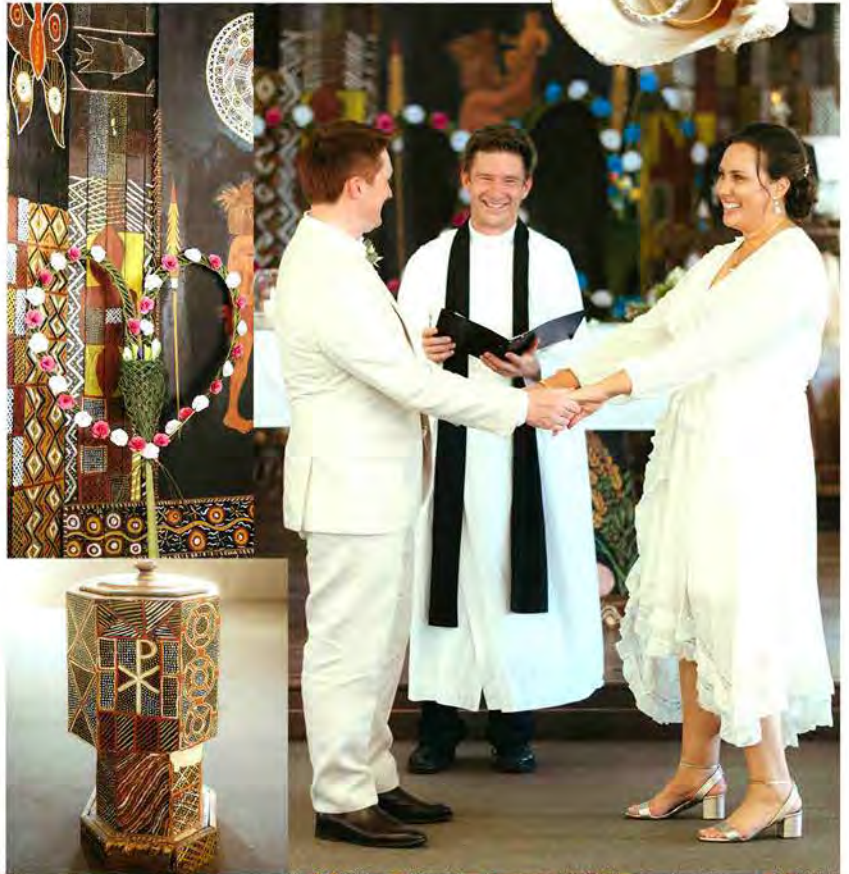


Dream Wedding on Tiwi Islands

Jason Patrick Ryan and Sarah Kristin Sophia Danne married on 31 October 2020 at St Therese's Church on the Tiwi Islands.

The bride and groom first met on the Tiwi Islands and shared many adventures there, before moving to Sydney and getting engaged earlier this year. Their original wedding plans were shelved as a result of the general circumstances of 2020 and, in particular, given that Sarah's family lives in Victoria. Luckily, the Northern Territory border opened up, allowing them back to the Tiwis for what ended up being a rather spectacular elopement.

Jason and Sarah are very thankful to those who made it possible to celebrate their wedding in such a special place – in particular, Sister Anne Gardiner, Minister James Harricks and Father Pat Mara.



Sister Anne, long-time resident of the Tiwi Islands and a dear friend to the couple, gave this special blessing to the bride and groom on the day:

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back;
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

