Issue No. 5





NEWS from your ounci

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Christmas is coming.



Chairman's Words

heavy heart but also with

a glance into the near future of opportunity for our people.

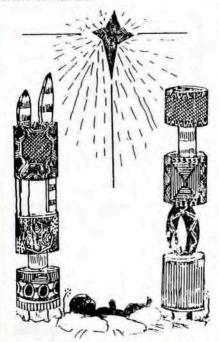
passing away far too young. Now in portunities and Tiwi benefits like our great Tiwi Leaders - our principal from Murrupurtiyanuwu. A Tiwi woman of strength, passion and Mana Nimpangi Ngawa Mantanga. vision for a greater future for the hundreds of children that have been under her care over many years.

In respect for her work our young people need take up the challenge and be prepared to work in our Tiwi owned industries so that they can make a real life for themselves and their children.

I write these words with a My sister once made the comment that "when I look behind me, I see nobody following". Well, now is the time for us all to step up; to make We mourn the loss of many of our sure that we are following in the family over the past couple of footsteps of our leaders past and premonths. Too many of our people are sent who have provided us with opgreat sadness we have lost one of never before. We must meet these exciting challenges head on.

Gibson Farmer Illortaminni. Chairman





From Tiwi Hymn Book, Christmas Carols



Lindy Timaepatua during maths activities at Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2013

Murrupurtiyanuwu School Wins School Improvement Award



Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School (MCPS) provides a Quality Catholic Tiwi Education for students from Pre-School to Year Six.

Each year MCPS is involved in the Catholic Education Northern Territory School Improvement and Renewal (SIRF) process. This process involves schools reviewing and implementing policies within two of the six key areas.

These areas include: Leadership, Teaching and Learning, Pastoral Care and Wellbeing, Community and Culture, Catholic Identity, and Finance, Facilities and Resources. In 2011 MCPS reviewed 'Teaching and Learning' and 'Community and Culture' through the SIRF process.



Year 3 students had excellent attendance and were given a set of "Bali" board shorts and shirts.

L to R: James Tipungwuti, Austin Kerinaiua, Tenisha Tipungwuti, Chloe Tipiloura, Marietta Puautijimi, Lindy Timaepatua.

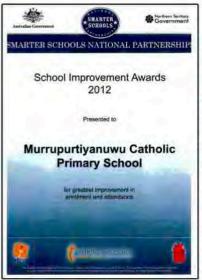
Series of Reforms

For the past few years Teaching and Learning has been a continual focus for MCPS with regards to the SIRF. A series of reforms have been implemented under the leadership of our Principal L. Kerinaiua, with the support of the Smarter Schools National Partnerships programs. These include:

- Whole school approach to Mathematics / Numeracy
- Count Me In Too
- SENA testing to provide data to inform teaching and learning
- Access to professional development for teachers

Students playing a "Fishing Game" using their Spelling words (from their Reading to Learn text) during the daily Literacy block.

Mark Apuatimi and Chloe Tipiloura



MCPS was awarded \$15,000 as the winning school in the category Improved Attendance and Enrolment and finished in the top four finalists in the category Improved NAPLAN test results

2011 saw the focus on 'Community and Culture', specifically school enrolment and attendance. Through the Smarter Schools National Partnership funding MCPS was able to implement a number of initiatives to target school enrolment and attendance. These were:

- Recruitment of a Tiwi Home Liaison / Enrolment and Attendance Officer whose specific role was to target non / poor attendance and provide a link between home and school.
- Communication and promotion of the School Enrolment and Attendance Measure (SEAM) throughout the Wurrumiyanga Community. This involved working in partnership with Centrelink, parents and the community.
- Incentives, acknowledgement and celebration of excellent attendance. Camps, raffles and prizes were donated / supported by community organizations in support of improved enrolment and attendance.



- Whole school approach to ESL / Literacy Reading to Learn (R2L)
- o PM Benchmark and other 'R2L' assessment to provide data to inform teaching and learning
- Access to professional development for teachers
- Improved school enrolment and attendance
- Creation of a positive learning environment through implementation and promotion of three school rules:
- Stay Safe • Respect Everyone • Learn Everyday





Miriam Puruntatameri

Tiwi Language and Culture is a focus in teaching and learning at MCPS. Traditional face painting is used with the students during school celebrations and ceremonies.



Rotating Literacy activities - Listening Post. The students love reading along and listening to stories using the headphones.

Timaya Cunningham, Ephriam Tipungwuti, Mark Pilakui, Hilda Kerinaiua, Jean Marie Tipungwuti



Students engaging in 'Count Me In Too" activities on a daily basis Austin Kerinaiua, Benedict Vigona, Lindy Timaepatua



Meredith Quail, MCPS



ing for students.



dently in English was very excit-



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Good to know

Tests show that the roots and leaf mould from our plantation trees is making our soils richer.





Senior Girls and teacher Alisa Macfie at their play, November 2012

Senior Girls at Tiwi College write of their dream for 2042: Tiwi Islands Number 1 Australian tourist destination: A world class Tiwi five star restaurant and Tiwi Girls winning the 2042 Football Grand Final!

"Hector" was the name given to our build up storms by Pilots of the Second World war who used Hector to navigate their way back to Darwin.

Beaufighter plane World War II



Buffalo Herd Management

The Australian Quarantine Service has been doing animal surveys with Tiwi Rangers for more than 10 years. During that time they have seen some serious problems with the health of buffalo in northwest Melville Island. There are a lot of buffalo in this area, and every year they run out of food. This lack of food has led to a number of problems, including:

- Not being able to run because they are so thin and hungry
- Bones that are weak and break because they don't have enough food
- Buffalo being born with no tails
- Buffalo being born with short legs and deformed feet



Deformed buffalo hoof, photo by AQIS

Floodplains were damaged

The large numbers of buffalo also mean that healthy floodplain areas are being badly damaged, and there is not enough food for any other animals, including magpie geese.

In 2010 Marine Ranger Andrew Tipungwuti assisted with an aerial survey, which estimated that there were nearly 7,000 buffalo on Melville Island.

Healthier place for plants and animals

In November 2011 Marine Ranger Andrew Tipungwuti did an intensive training course to learn how to shoot from a helicopter, and in August 2012 the first aerial shoot was completed. Another shoot was done in November 2012, and to date 1,013 buffalo have been removed.

Already the floodplain areas are showing signs of recovery as the waters run clearer and the grass can grow. Taking out the weaker buffalo and making sure there are only enough for the country to carry will mean a healthier place for all Tiwi Islands plants and animals. And healthy buffalo that are good to eat.



Civil Marine Range



Buffalo with short legs and deformed feet



Thin buffalo

Managers' Notes

Managers Tiwi Land Counci

These last few months have kept us busy

planning for our future and the strength we will need to manage the changes ahead for us all. Welfare program changes such as CDEP are happening at the time our forestry harvests begin and our real job opportunities grow. Our young College students are starting to plan their own futures as they begin to accept responsibilities for their own lives. Government is looking for improvements from all organizations that receive taxpayer money, including our Land Council.

This year's Tiwi Ashes cricket match was a wonderful example of corporate Australia coming together with us for the benefit of the future Leaders of our people.

Our 100% Tiwi Owned Corporations have also invested heavily in our Tiwi Forestry Project so that we can produce our first harvest of wood chip next year; The new Mantiyupwi shop at Wurrumiyanga, 'PILIY-AMANYIRRA' is being constructed as you read this.

TIFL and Tiwi Bombers; Tiwi Forestry Project; Tiwi College; Tiwi Ashes; Tiwi Land and Marine Ranger Program; Tiwi/Darwin Ferry Service; Funerals; Town Planning of Pirlangimpi; Port Melville Developments; Tiwi road network; Whole of Island Power grid; Sand Mining; fishing and hunting permits and fishing zones; Tiwi Islands Adventures...and many other projects require our attention.

Your TLC Managers and Delegates want to hear from

YOU about issues that concern, excite or effect you so don't be shy, talk to us, ask us questions because we are here to work with you!

And for this Holiday Season our best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas from all of us and our Land Council Members.



Tiwi Islands Adventures Bathurst Island Lodge





Bathurst Island Lodge nears completion

Chairman of Tiwi Islands Adventures, Mr Andrew Tipungwuti, has confirmed that the construction of Bathurst Island Lodge on the old Barra Base site at Port Hurd will be completed during December.

Andrew said that: "although some minor finishing off

work will be required at the site next year, the Lodge itself is just about ready and looks fantastic". He added that: "boats, equipment and furniture will be sent to the Lodge early next year in readiness for the Lodge's grand opening in March".



New Nursery at Tiwi Plantations





Under the Tiwi sun - little trees of the new Eucalypt species grown

2012 will be the first year seedlings have been raised on Melville Island since the Pickataramoor nursery in the 1980's. Without any existing facilities staff at Yapilika Forestry Centre (YFC) have been busy planning and building a new nursery. Using and recycling existing materials on the island staff constructed a shade house and open area to raise up to 200,000 seedlings.

The right mix

Seed being used in the nursery was sourced from previously planted Eucalyptus trees on the island. Collections in late 2011 and early 2012 by Yapilika Forestry Centre staff resulted in over 7kg of seed being taken.

After the construction of the nursery, sowing began on the 1st September 2012. Special growing media was sourced from South Australia and is mixed with a variety of ingredients at the nursery to make up the ideal potting mix for the seedlings to grow.

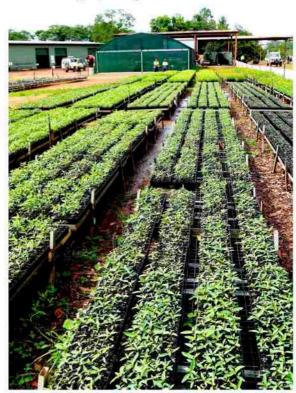


New Nursery at Yapilika - inside view

Building a new Nursery at Yapilika Forestry Centre



Area for new nursery



New Nursery at Yapilika - outside view



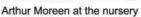
New Nursery

Seed usually takes 3 to 6 days to germinate in the shade house and the small trees are ready to be moved out into full sunlight after about two weeks. During the germination phase staff undertake some tedious work thinning out unwanted germinates while sorting and pricking out the best.



Seeds from previously planted Eucalypt trees on Melville Island









Pricking out the best

Steady hands, good eyesight and lots of patience are required for this job which many of our staff can attest.

Once out under full sun, seedlings grow at a rapid rate and after around 8 weeks are ready for planting in the field.

The outcome of these plantings will determine this species replacement of the current Acacia mangium.

It is expected the first seedlings will be planted prior to Christmas.

Craig Armstrong, TPC



Germinates for new Eucalypt species

Message from Member for Arafura

Representing all the people of Arafura at the First Session of the 12th Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory was a great honour. I was proud to be accompanied by the Tiwi dancers and to have Dolcie Kelantumama, Mary Moreen and Leonie Tipoloura, Ancilla and Rachel, witness my induction in Parliament as the new Member for Arafura.

My Maiden Speech emphasised my dream, - to listen closely to the needs of the people of Arafura - to see Aboriginal people grow strong through education and training - to work in proper jobs and businesses, and have strong, healthy, happy lives. The respect and dignity of our traditions is our partnership connection with other laws and culture. Too much dependence on government weakens the partnership. Ways need to be found quickly for stronger decision-making at the local level in Arafura to include our own voice and responsibilities.

Often local Aboriginal people in Arafura do not benefit from the large amount of money being spent.





Francis Kurrupuwu during Tiwi Ceremony in front of NT Parliament with Karen Tipiloura, his wife Ancilla and Mary E. Moreen

Where are our good all-weather roads, safe sewerage, good housing and furniture, good food and access to health facilities? Governments do spend the money. We must work with governments to remove the road blocks and secure a better future for the great people of Arafura. The Chief Minister has decided to hold Cabinet Sub – Committee meetings in different communities throughout the Northern Territory, so that government can listen better to the voices of Aboriginal people. I look forward to welcoming him to the proud communities of Arafura.

My work these last weeks has included the Chief Minister, Terry Mills and myself meeting with the Yolgnu Nations Assembly at Maningrida to discuss ways to better work with the people of West, Central and East Arnhem Land: presenting Certificates to the Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School for the highest improvement in enrolment and attendance of students - a wonderful achievement that recognises the major importance of education to the future of our young people and all the people of Arafura.

It was a huge tragedy when the wonderful, strong Principal of this School was taken from us all, in a sad and needless car accident. We must all strive hard to continue her great work.

I would like very much, to wish all the people of Arafura a happy and safe Christmas and a successful New Year, for 2013.

Francis Kurrupuwu - Member for Arafura Contact Details:

francis.kurrupuwu@nt.gov.au

Mantiyupwi Family Trust Piliyamanyirra Shopping Centre



The Mantiyupwi "Fold-Out" supermarket arrived in Wurrumiyanga.



"Fold-Out" shop arrives at barge landing



Enterprises workers have been helping in the construction phase.



L to R: Harvey Darcy, Greg Orsto, Ambrose Munkara



Foundation for the bulk store



Piliyamanyirra Shopping Centre placed on its foundations



First unit placed by crane



"Folding-Out" the building



Mantiyupwi Pty. Ltd.



It has now been 5 years since Mantiyupwi signed the 99 year lease, and such a lot has happened in that time. Mantiyupwi has worked hard to build commercial entities and opportunities for the family members.

At the beginning of the 99 year lease, it was expected to take 15 years to repay the initial \$5,000,000. It now looks like those funds will be repaid in under 10 years, after which the income from rental of the land will come directly to Mantiyupwi.

Achievements in 5 years

Over the past 5 years, Mantiyupwi has achieved the following:

- Establishment of thirty single rooms available for rent in Wurrumiyanga. This accommodation is managed by Tiwi Enterprises.
- Entered into a licence with Tai Asian Foods, to allow the operations of a Food Van in Wurrumiyanga. Tai will be moving into the new Piliyamanyirra Shopping Centre when it opens
- Loaned \$50,000 to help establish
 Tiwi Enterprises Pty Ltd
- Purchased Tiwi Tours, and engaged AAT Kings to manage this business
- Provided loans to both Tiwi Plantations Corporation and Tiwi Education Board
- Leased a tip truck to BIHA for a period of 5 years
- Provided financial support to local schools, the museum and sporting clubs
- Providing financial support for Mantiyupwi families through funerals and ceremony
- Providing financial support to the Mantiyupwi elderly and disabled through a quarterly subsidy



Walter Snr. Kerinaiua and Federal Minister Mal Brough signing the 99 year lease, Nguiu [now Wurrumiyanga] in 2007

Jobs from construction and retail operations

Perhaps the biggest project undertaking by Mantiyupwi has been the development of the new Piliyamanyirra Shopping Centre. Construction has begun, and Outback Stores will be engaged to manage the supermarket. There will also be 5 smaller shops, which will include Tai's Asian Food, a laundromat and a games parlour. Mantiyupwi is currently negotiating with the Traditional Credit Union about setting up an agency in the new shopping centre, and also for the establishment of a pharmacy.

The Piliyamanyirra Shopping Centre will be a major achievement of the Mantiyupwi people, and will provide jobs from the construction phase right through to the retail operations. Ongoing training and employment will be just two of the many benefits to the Wurrumiyanga Community of the Piliyamanyirra Shopping Centre.



Greg Orsto, Ambrose Munkara and Harvey Darcy at work at new Shopping Centre construction site

Wulirankuwu Pty. Ltd.



Wulirankuwu Pty Ltd was established in April this year, after the Wulirankuwu Land Owning Group signed the 99 year lease with the Commonwealth Government over the township of Milikapiti. The Group received \$1,760,000 as rent paid in advance, and established this corporate structure as the vehicle by which to manage and invest these funds. The Directors and Board Members are Mary Elizabeth Moreen, Wendy Miller, Samson Mungatopi, Connell Patrick Tipiloura, Christophena Tipiloura and Stanley Tipiloura.

The Directors realise that this is a once in a life-time opportunity to invest wisely in order to generate income in to the future. Besides receiving the money upon signing the 99 year lease, they will also have up to 4 new houses built in Milikapiti. Wulirankuwu is currently in negotiations with the Office of Township Leasing to look at less expensive housing options, thereby increasing the number of houses to be built.

Jobs, Education and Financial Independence

Wulirankuwu is interested in investing in Tiwi Businesses, which they see as building a future for their people that will include jobs, education and financial independence. To date they have:

 Committed to the construction of a 3 bedroom house to be located in Wurrumiyanga, and to be rented to Mantiyupwi for the purpose of housing the managers of the new supermarket being built.

- Approved a \$300,000 loan to Mantiyupwi to assist them with the establishment of the new supermarket complex.
- Approved a \$100,000 loan to Tiwi Plantations Corporation.
- Approved a \$100,000 loan to Tiwi Education Board.
- Purchased 1 hire vehicle to be managed by Tiwi Enterprises. It is hoped to purchase 3 more vehicles to add to the fleet.

Real Commitments for the Future

Wulirankuwu have also committed:

- to the establishment of an Education Fund within their budget, which families can apply to assist with educational expenses such as school excursions.
- to the \$50,000 sponsorship of the Tiwi Bombers Football Club for the 2012-13 AFLNT season.
- to the investment of \$250,000 in the harvesting equipment of the Tiwi Plantations Corporation.

The Wulirankuwu Directors are committed to the growing Tiwi economy and see investment in this economy as the way forward, as it will not only provide a sound return to Wulirankuwu, it will also create opportunities for employment and training for Wulirankuwu people.



L to R: Wendy Miller Stanley Tipiloura Connell Tipiloura Mary E. Moreen Sylvanus Tipiloura Samson Mungatopi Eric Tipiloura Frederick Mungatopi Vincent Mungatopi



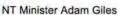


2012 Christmas Celebrations – all Wulirankuwu family members are invited to family Christmas lunch to be held in Milikapiti on Friday 14th December.

Tiwi Corporate meets with Gov. Ministers

In October the Land Council hosted a meeting of our business leaders with NT Government Ministers.







NT Minister Alison Anderson

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Representatives of the 8 Tiwi owned businesses meeting at Yapilika

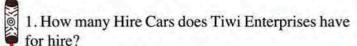




Our Eight major corporations are 100% Tiwi owned and have audited budgets exceeding \$1m with assets exceeding \$300m.

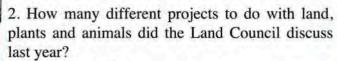
Tiwi Corporate presented a 40 page business guide for Government detailing their work and the business interests of the Tiwi private economy. Thirty two Tiwi Business Directors discussed the challenges of doing business and the work of their various industries from contracting, construction, property investment and tourism to maritime services, agriculture and forestry.



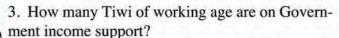


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a) 2 b) 5 c) 8



a) 6 b) 19 c) 33

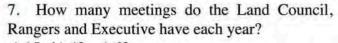


a) 130 b) 450 c) 720

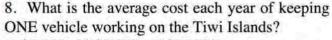
4. What amount of money is spent in our three Community Stores each year?

a) \$4 million b) \$16 million c) \$20 million

- 5. Which country eats the most Nutella every vear?
- a) USA b) France c) Australia
- 6. Who is the person selecting thousands of our tiny seedlings for planting the next rotation?
- a) Arthur Moreen
 b) Gibson Farmer
 c) Craig
 Phillips



a) 15 b) 42 c) 63



a) \$5,000 b) \$9,500 c) \$12,000

Youth Drop in Centre



Now open!

An unknown lady recently gave some money to Sister Anne that she has used to establish a Drop in Centre at Wurrumiyanga.

Red Cross has helped with the plans and clean-up of a building – now with TV, a pool table, musical instruments and video games that welcome our kids as a place to Drop In and escape the humbug and pressures. Check it out. It is a real feel good place to be when you want to be yourself.



Entrance door to Youth Drop in Centre





Big opening with young Tiwi dancers





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Virgil Kerinaiua

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Sister Anne Gardener AM





Shaun Apuatimmi

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Photos by John Hicks

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Private money supports our Football and College with more than half a million dollars every year.

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One Hector storm can produce 5000 lightening strikes.

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Lightening kills about 24,000 people a year around the world.

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Tiwi Bombers









Shane Tipuamantimirri

Michael Dunn

Ephrem Tipungwuti

The Tiwi community deserves to share the pride from the Tiwi Bombers season to date with the Club's adoption of a playing approach of "in the moment" ending any hint of a Premiership "hangover".

This fantastic characteristic of the Tiwi people is a simple but critical approach to ongoing success for the Tiwi Bombers Football Club.

The Tiwi Bombers Club has accepted the challenge of chasing "back-to-back" Premierships with a fierce determination to focus on the future and improve on the history making standards established last season.

The goal of a critical finish of a "Top 3" ladder position at the end of the minor round is achievable after a great start to the TIO NTFL 2012/13 Season.

Any suggestion of a Premiership "hangover" typical of mainland Premiers has not appeared due to the strong on-field leadership of the Club demonstrated by the example of Captain Shane Tipuamantimirri and Deputies Rupert Pupangamirri, Austin Wonaeamirri, Simon Munkara and Ross Tungatalum.

The recent return of inaugural Captain Edward Darcy from injury, recruitment of Pularumpi's Jason Puruntatameri and Milikapiti "young gun" Aaron Daniels has further strengthened our talent pool.

lengers to our title.

A developing group of future leaders featuring Premiership players Donny Mungatopi, Dion Munkara, Albert Tipungwuti, Michael Dunn, Gerrard Cunningham and Bradley Palipuaminni have quickly adopted the approach of "playing in the moment" to set a high standard for chal-

By adding the desire of Tiwi players who missed the history making Premiership like Roy Kantilla, Roy Farmer, Cameron Kerinaiua, Canis Tipuamantimirri and youngsters like Kenny Puruntatameri the Tiwi community can look forward with enormous confidence to the 2013 TIO NTFL Finals series.

Level of Loyalty

Few other Clubs in the TIO NTFL competition could boast the retention of 20 of their last Premiership team which displays a fantastic level of loyalty to our flagship Tiwi Islands Representative AFL team.

Full credit is due to Premiership Coach Leigh Crossman and his assistants Willie & Pedro Rioli and Captain Shane Tipuamantimirri. Congratulations from everyone at the Club to Leigh and wife Jemma on the recent safe arrival of their first child Jed Leroy Crossman.

President Mick Burns and the Board on behalf of players and members extend the Club's best wishes for a Safe and Happy Christmas. The Tiwi Bombers Club also wish everyone a Healthy & Happy New Year. We sincerely thank the Tiwi Community including the Tiwi Land Council and the Tiwi Corporate businesses for their ongoing passionate support and hope that we can bring more joy in 2013 -Go the Bombers!





















QUIZ ANSWERS from page 12

- 1. c) 8 cars
- 2. c) 33 projects
- 3. c) 720 Tiwi
- 4. b) \$16 million

- 5. b) France 75,000 tonnes
- 6. a) Arthur Moreen
- 7. c) 63 meetings
- 8. c) \$12,000



The Tiwi Ashes 2012



All roads led to the Tiwi College for the third annual Tiwi Ashes cricket bonanza in October. This year Justin Langer joined forces with Wendell Sailor, Matthew Burke, Michael Kasprowicz, Matthew 'Haydos' Hayden and Corporate Australia to deliver what has been reported as the 'best ever' Tiwi Ashes event.

From Bush tucker hunted by our College Tiwi staff and students, and cooked by our Fijian team of hungi experts; to sky divers, Tiwi Art, traditional dancing, B2M and a bit of cricket in between, a great day was the result.

Langers team won the trophy.....just.....but everyone was the winner, with kids from all schools on the Island represented in the teams for the first time.

The Tiwi Education Board would like to send a MASSIVE thank you to Corporate Australia for their amazing effort in raising \$240,000 for the Haydenway Tiwi College sustainable agriculture project, along with Guy Reynolds and Macquarie Bank, Mike Baxter and the Tiwi Islands Adventures Directors and staff and of course the great Matthew Hayden who are now well and truly part of the Tiwi family.

The Stars!

The Spectators!

"Ordinary people coming together to achieve extraordinary things"



The Langer Team - The Winner!



The Hayden Team - The Second Winner!

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The Sponsors!

Learning Pottery the Tiwi Way

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Robert Puruntatameri teaching Tiwi College students

Thanks to the Land Council

and Munupi Arts Centre, Tiwi College students have had the privilege of crafting clay with one of the Islands best and longest serving pottery artists Robert Puruntatameri.

Students from Tiwi College have started travelling to Garden Point on Tuesday afternoons to do some pottery sessions with Robert in his Studio. The students

have had one session so far and are scheduled for four in total.

In the first week students learnt to make simple bowls using clay moulds.



First moves

They rolled their clay into small long logs and pressed these logs into the moulds and smoothed them out to create bowls. Some students used the clay press to create a large bowl, which they called a canoe. The students then watched Robert as he did a demonstration on the pottery wheel.

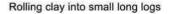
In the coming weeks students will be painting their pottery creations, treating them in the kiln and having a go on the pottery wheels.

As you can see in the pictures the students really enjoyed themselves. They are eagerly anticipating their next studio session with Robert.











Josh Mackenzie with Middle school boys



Robert Puruntatameri at the pottery wheel

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Wulirankuwu Family
Christmas lunch to be
held in Milikapiti on
Friday 14th December

Djurrupuwu Family
Christmas lunch to be
held in Milikapiti on
Tuesday 18th December

MERRY CHRISTMAS
EVERYBODY
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR