



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



CEO's Message

Hello everyone and welcome back to the next edition of the Tiwi.

As always, I offer my respects to all those that have lost families over the last few months. Our thoughts are with You.



Andrew Tipungwuti
CEO Tiwi Land Council

I would like to express our apologies for missing the dry season edition which was due to covid and unforeseen lock downs.

However, I trust everyone has had a good break with families out bush. In this edition I'm going to touch base on a few things that you should be aware of involving discussions with clans, organisations, and Government Departments, Homelands funding, NTESP (Northern Territory Economic Stimulus Package), Tiwi Partners, Covid-19 Respite containers, Tiwi Plantations, Rio Tinto, Tiwi Leaders forum and importantly your Tiwi Land Council.



Continue page 2

NEWS from your TIWI LAND Council

Topics

CEO's Message	1
Wulirankuwu News	4
Nova Peris Foundation	8
Cultural Mapping	9
Forestry Project Launch	11
IPA has a logo	12
Tiwi Ranger	13
Mosquito protection	15
NT Port and Marine	16
Menzies Pandora Study	16

Good to know

Wulirankuwu purchased TIA fishing lodge.



See page 4



Emma Kerinauia (top right) talking to Tiwi women about concerns. See page 6

CEO's Message



Full Land Council meeting at Wurrumiyanga

We have met with all clan groups to date speaking of updates of clan registers, and opportunities for landowners with business ownership and investments from the NTESP, Mining exploration on Tiwi lands etc.



Full Tiwi Land Council meeting October 2021 at Wurrumiyanga



Jikalaru



Malawu



Mantiyupwi



Ranku



Mirrikawuyanga



Munupi



Wulirankuwu



Yimpinari



Patricia Puruntatameri

The first Election process in 2020 of The Method of Choice, Patricia Puruntatameri is the first woman to be nominated to the Tiwi Land Council.

CEO's Message



Full Tiwi Land Council meeting October 2021 at Wurrumiyanga



Chairman Gibson F. Ilortaminini addresses the Full Land Council meeting at Wurrumiyanga



Sandra Schmidt from the NT Government and Garry Triglavcanin from Global Energy Ventures (GEV) presented the **Green Hydrogen Project** to the TLC.



Full Land Council meeting: The BTI police officer was invited by the CEO to talk with TLC members on some of the challenges the local communities are faced with.



Presentation Kevin Doolan to the Land Council



CEO's Message



NTESP Northern Territory Economic Stimulus Package

Organisations have been advised that there is an opportunity to apply for funding through the Land Council if they can identify a project that would bring benefit back to Tiwi whether through financial support or jobs and training.

A successful application received to date was from Wulirankuwu clan to purchase the fishing business of Tiwi Islands Adventures based on Wulirankuwu land.

I congratulate them and wish them all the best with their new business.



Samson Mungatopi, Bernard Tipiloura, Wendy Miller, Irene Tipiloura, Rob Ashley and Michael McGregor at Melville Island Lodge

Great Wulirankuwu news!

Thanks to funding from the NT Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package and the support of the Tiwi Land Council and the Office of Township Leasing, Wulirankuwu are now the proud owners of Tiwi Islands Adventures. The directors are very excited and are keen to see the growth and development of the business over the coming years. They have been working with Rob, Gheorja, Michael and Kate from PWC Indigenous Consulting to develop their broader business and to strategise their plans for the future. The TIA Lodge will compliment nicely the Wulirankuwu Motel, which will be open early next year.

*Congratulations to the Wulirankuwu family!
Tiwi Resources*



Homelands funding from the ABA

There is funding support for outstation assistance offered to TIRC by ABA to deliver upgrades with solar power hybrid systems, water tanks and water lines, Telecommunication, and minor roads upgrades.

Tiwi Land Council was also offered to deliver projects to Conder Point, Taracumbi, Pitjmirra outstation with upgrades. TLC are in near completion stages of these project delivery. NIAA have inspected 2 of the three outstations and was satisfied of the works done to date. TIRC has also been offered to submit for projects to Wurankuwu, Takraprimilli, Paru outstation. These projects are still being delivered.

Tiwi Partners

I have had discussions with Tiwi Partners Consultant Alan McGill to discuss how Tiwi Partners are going. This is a great joint venture partnership that applies for small and large contracts Australia wide.

The joint ventures profits made will become available to all Tiwi people on the register of Traditional land-owners.

Tiwi Partners will advise more in the next edition of the Tiwi News.





Respite Containers



Facing challenges on the islands to deliver the respite containers for all 8 Tiwi clan groups

All containers are near completion on Bathurst Island and will be officially handed to the landowning groups to take possession. These containers have been made available for the landowners through support of the TLC.

The containers do not belong to any individuals and are the property of the landowners. This initiative has been supported by Federal Minister Wyatt for Aboriginal Affairs.

The Melville Island containers will be completed soon, weather prevailing. The same conditions of ownership apply to these containers also.



The work was carried out by WTD Constructions, with the guidance of the TLC Resource and Environment Officer Murray Knyvett.



CEO's Message continue page 6


The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
Member for Hasluck

Reference: A

Mr Andrew Tipungwidi
Chief Executive Officer
Tiwi Land Council
PO Box 38545
WINNELLIE NT 0821

Dear Mr Tipungwidi

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 July 2021 regarding Support for Residents Affected by COVID-19 Initiative.

I commend the Tiwi Land Council on consulting with community members and the installation of sixteen Adapted Remote Area Emergency Respite Facilities across the Tiwi Islands. Providing facilities on country to minimise the risk of contracting COVID-19 to be applauded.

Thank you for sharing your report on your achievements.

Yours sincerely



The Hon KEN WYATT AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians

218 / 2021

CEO's Message



Registration of Traditional Owners

The Registrar of the TLC has been out and about in community's updating the landowner register.

It was great to see many families come and check their families against the register. As this will be ongoing and I'm sure there are many who haven't yet listed.

Please, if you are concerned about not being on the register, please contact the registrar Tiwi Land Council, or call our office on 08 8997 0797 for enquiries and general information.

Emma, has also been around engaging with Tiwi women on both Islands listening to their concerns and reporting back to the land council.



I'm going around the community talking with women with any issues they want to raise with the TLC. Thanks Emma

Emma Kerinauia
TLC Registrar and
Tiwi Women Engagement
Officer

CEO's Message
continue page 7



CEO's Message



Tiwi Land Council Review

The Tiwi Land Council will be having a review by an independent organisation to see how it delivers its services.

TLC believes in transparency and accountability. TLC will work with NIAA staff from the Federal Minister's office.



Executive Management Committee meeting at Wurrumiyanga Visitor Centre



Presentation of Nova Peris Foundation – discussion took place regarding healthy nutrition, sports, education, health, spiritual wellbeing and cultural activities.

See page 8

TLC CEO Andrew Tipungwuti initiated a joint meeting with Larrakia Nations and NLC



Andrew initiated the meeting to discuss the proposed development site at Little Mindil. This site is culturally significant to many Aboriginal people in particular the Larrakia and Tiwi people.

A joint letter has been submitted to the Chief Minister Michal Gunner addressing concerns about the development and stating the lack of engagement with Aboriginal custodians.

Here are some updates from our staff:

Anthropologist

Cultural heritage management for areas of cultural significance. Working with Tiwi landowners to register sacred sites with the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) to ensure their protection into the future. (Site assessments have been completed to register many sacred sites.)

Working with the Tiwi Rangers to prioritise the protection of the cultural sites. Working with the NT Heritage Branch and landowners to pursue Heritage listing for Punata (Fort Dundas), the Paktakijiyali Museum, and Keeping Place.

Traditional owner identification and recognition. Working with the Mantiyupwi clan to further Tiwi aspirations for Murrumujuk (Tree Point). Advocating on behalf of Mantiyupwi to promote land access opportunities at Murrumujuk.

Working with TLC Resources & Environment Officer to improve clan engagement regarding land use/access requests and agreements.

Grants Officer

Provide assistance and support with grant applications. Review documents and provide advice for robust and concise grant applications.

Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd grant application for community Tree Planting and Clean-up week through Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal - Strengthening Communities Program Round 10 - \$20,000.

Tiwi Enterprises grant application to upgrade the Tiwi Islands Welcome Centre on Bathurst Island through Visitor Experience Enhancement Program (VEEP) - Round 5 - \$34,591.51

Submitted proposals from clan groups, funding through Community Initiated Grants (NIAA-Commonwealth), NIAA have advised to apply for funding through Aboriginal Benefit Account (ABA).



Andrew Tipungwuti, CEO TLC

Resources and Environmental Staff

Gamba Grass Response - Coordinate the response to recent Gamba grass detections by engaging with all relevant stakeholders. Assisted with a weed survey focused on Gamba within the entire community of Wurrumiyanga in the early dry season to enable an action plan to be developed.

Weed and Seed Quarantine Inspections - Inspect all of the Tiwi Partners equipment and materials prior to mobilization to Melville Island for road upgrade works.

Assisted Jikilaruwu clan members to make an informed decision about the future of the title that covers the sand dune system on Bathurst Island. TLC committed to fund LiDAR survey and modelling to fully understand the resource. A significant amount of planning went into this work with the aim to complete the survey by late August or September. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions in NSW, the LiDAR survey has been delayed and will not be possible this dry season.

Nova Peris Foundation



A fantastic couple days on the Tiwi's attending my second, full community consultation on Garden Point to speak directly about my plans for the Nova Peris Foundation. Having worked with the Tiwi people for the past 12 months, setting up my charity from scratch and obtaining crucial partnerships & sponsorships, I am very happy to have the full support of the Tiwi Land Council, the Regional Authority, the newly elected Mayor Marius Puruntatameri and Lawrence Costa MLA. I am looking forward to the next 12 months in achieving wonderful and important outcomes with food sovereignty and jobs through micro enterprises. Garden point will have the chance to have access to freshly grown food as well as the opportunity to work in an exciting, innovative social enterprise venture with the first being a laundromat. The buildings and assets I aim to deliver will be owned by the Munupi people.

You can also watch a segment about The Nova Peris Foundation's aims and objectives on Kochie's Business Builders, a channel 7 program where I spoke about the beautiful Tiwi Islands, in particular Pir-langimpi. There is a link on my social media platforms.

Nova Peris

"You can't be what you can't see. So if we want our communities to be healthy we need to make healthy food available. Have people growing it and eating it fresh." Nova Peris



Nova Peris and Mayor Marius Puruntatameri



8 Nova Peris and TLC Executive Management Committee

Cultural Mapping



During the dry season, cultural mapping took place across Bathurst and Melville Islands to record sites of cultural significance. These stories were recorded to preserve Tiwi knowledge for future generations and to protect sacred sites from being damaged from upcoming developments planned on the islands. Some families chose to also register burial sites with the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA), the government mob that keeps a record of sacred site information. AAPA keeps this information safe on a computer in Darwin. They use it to talk with landowners when a developer wants to build something near a sacred site. AAPA works with the landowners to understand the cultural story and importance of a sacred site. The landowner can put protections or buffer zones around a sacred site so that a developer does not damage it. This helps traditional owners to have more of a say about the development, too.

Next dry season, the TLC Anthropologist and Rangers will work with Tiwi families to put up some signs at sacred sites. This will help protect the sites from being accidentally damaged and also help Tiwi people locate them more easily in the bush.

If you want to talk to Leslie the TLC Anthropologist about protecting your family's sacred sites,

please call 0409 045 145

or email

anthropology@tiwilandcouncil.com



Dry season burning on Cape Fourcroy Road



Munkara mob looking for kukuni (freshwater springs) during the Kilimaraka Cultural Survey



Munkara family at the Kilimaraka Cultural Survey (July 2021)

Cultural Mapping



Protecting arrakinginga site at Mintaluwu

In September, traditional owners contacted the TLC with concerns about a yellow ochre or arrakinginga site off Pirlangimpi Road at Mintaluwu. If that part of the road is sealed, there is concern that access to arrakinginga will be cut off. Arrakinginga is commonly used in ceremony and artists rely on the yellow ochre for painting.

Munupi clan members Tracy Puruntatameri and Marius Jr Puruntatameri assisted the TLC to record the story and applied to register the site with the sacred sites mob, AAPA. Traditional owners also nominated a potential diversion track to provide to the NT Government Roads Project as an alternative route to avoid covering up the yellow ochre with bitumen.



Close-up of arrakinginga used in ceremony and painting



Tracy Puruntatameri and Marius Jr Puruntatameri with arrakinginga (yellow ochre) at Mintaluwu off Pirlangimpi Road



Ranger James DeSantis and Carol Puruntatameri assisting with the site assessment



Eymard Tungatalum, Osmond Pangirraminni, James DeSantis and Tony Pilakui in front of the plaque at Punata

Registering Punata as a Heritage Place

In June, Sam Wells and David Steinberg from the NT Heritage Branch were invited to Pirlangimpi to present at a Munupi clan meeting about registering Punata (Fort Dundas) as a Heritage Place. Joined by senior custodian, Eymard Tungatalum, the Heritage Branch briefly presented the site and talked about the nomination and declaration process. Then in late August, the Heritage Branch returned to Pirlangimpi to visit the site with Eymard, Carol Puruntatameri, Tony Pilakui, Osmond Pangirraminni, Marine Ranger Coordinator James DeSantis, and TLC staff. They all explored the site together and sat down to discuss Heritage listing and implications. If the site is declared as a Heritage Place,

there will be a shared decision-making process that includes the Heritage Council and Minister. The Heritage Branch wants to continue to talk to Tiwi people about what this means. There will be further talks with Tiwi and other stakeholders in the next few months about declaring Punata as a protected site. This may include discussions about a management plan to establish a decision-making process for the site and management priorities.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Sam or David (NT Heritage Branch):

David Steinberg - 08 8999 5083
Sam Wells - 08 8999 5041



Eymard Tungatalum visits Punata after many years.

Leslie Pyne (TLC Anthropologist), Carol Puruntatameri, Eymard Tungatalum, Osmond Pangirraminni, James DeSantis, Sam Wells (NT Heritage Branch), Tony Pilakui

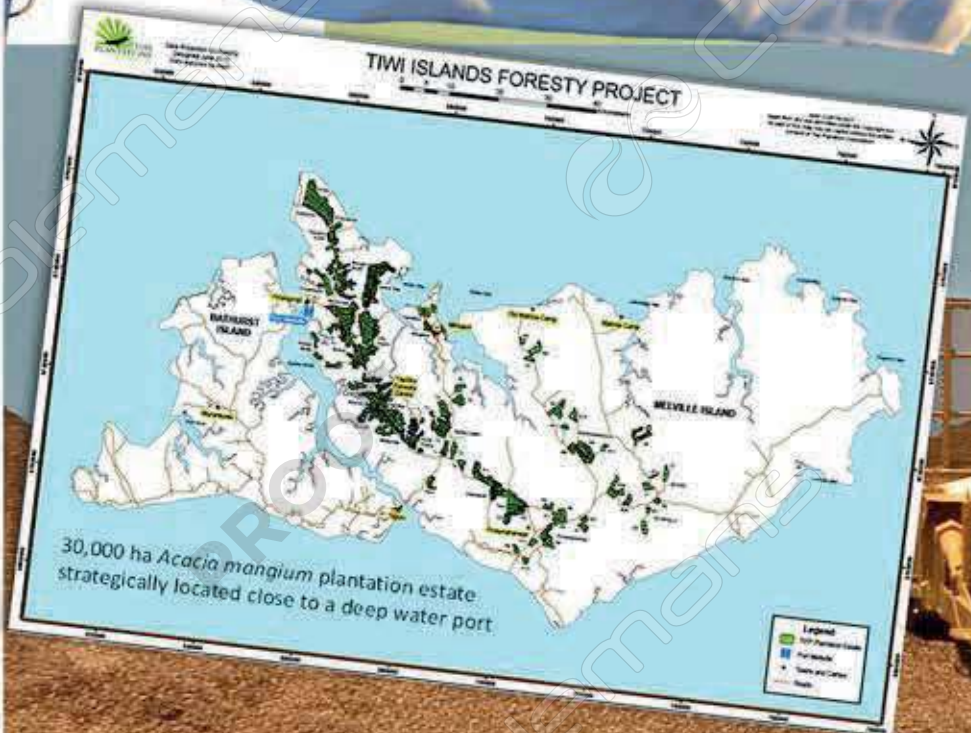
Tiwi Forestry Project Launch



The new “Maximising northern tropical forestry – linking communities and cutting edge technology” project was recently launched. The project is being funded by the Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRC NA). People from all around Australia watched online as Kim Puruntatameri, Gibson Farmer Illortaminni, Mark Ashley and others talked about the project and why it is important for the Tiwi Plantation Corporation.

The project involves Tiwi Plantation Partners working with other companies, university and government to make the forestry business run better. This includes working out how to grow the trees faster, how to increase the amount of wood there is and getting more money for the wood when it is sold. The project will also look at how other Tiwi businesses can benefit from better forestry.

The project will run until 2024 and will involve researchers from the University of Melbourne and Charles Darwin University traveling to the forestry plantations to work with Tiwi, Tiwi Plantations Corporation, Plantation Management Partners and Midway. The project team will continue to give updates on this exciting project.



The Tiwi Indigenous Protected Area - IPA has a logo!



At the last IPA Committee meeting in March 2021, members developed a logo to be the face of the Tiwi IPA. The logo serves two purposes - it tells people the name of the IPA and creates a visual symbol that represents the Tiwi Islands and Tiwi people.



Committee members wanted something that makes a strong first impression, is memorable and separates the Tiwi IPA from all of the other IPAs across the country. At the two-day workshop in Darwin on March 18 and 19, members worked through a number of options and agreed five elements needed to be included in the logo - one plant, two animals, and two cultural items.

The logo will be the foundation of the IPA's identity and will be used on all publications and for promotion of the IPA across multiple platforms.

They agreed on the following elements, each of which has significant meaning for Tiwi:

- Minta – Cycad (*Cycas armstrongii*)
- Pipirriwini - Dragonfly
- Jipwajirringa - Agile Wallaby
- Japalingini – Headband worn during Pukumani ceremonial dances
- Japurraringa – Forked fighting stick

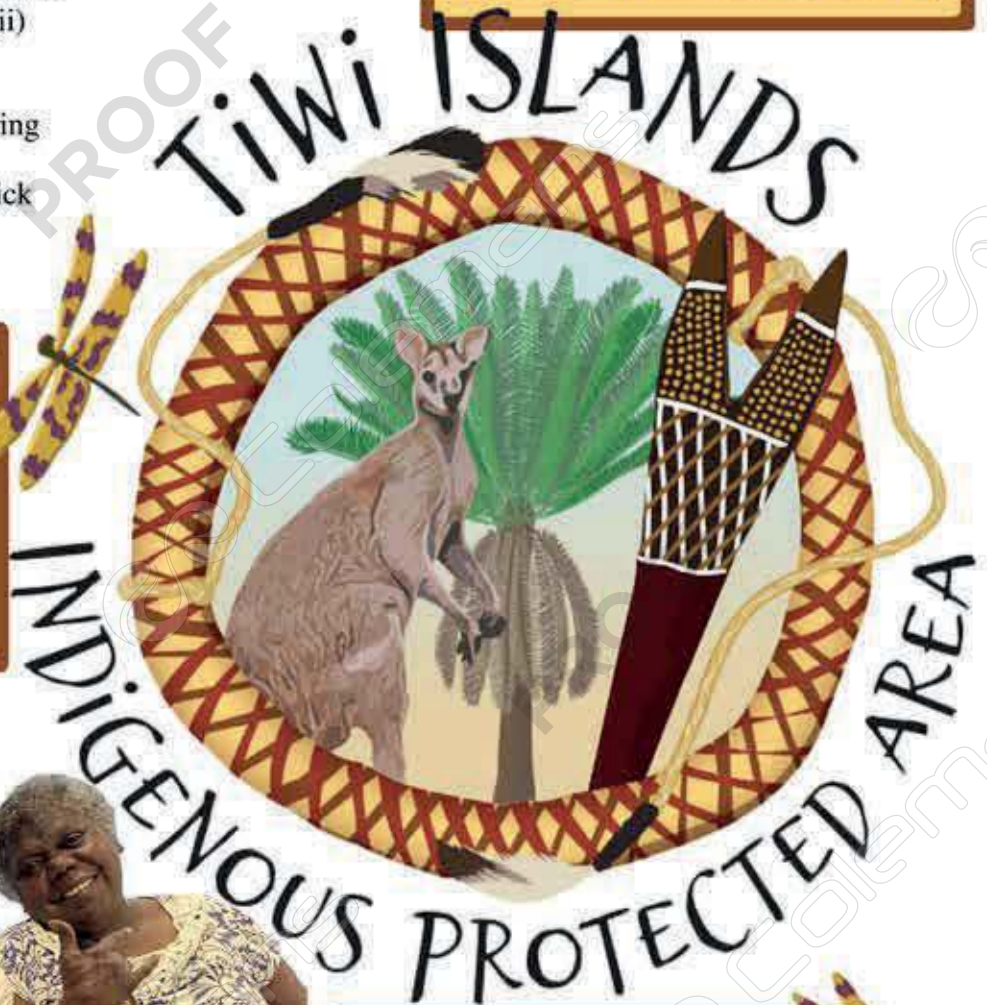
'It looks nice, represents our bush tucker, our culture and our land.'

Jane Puautjimi (IPA Committee Member and Tiwi Resources Director)



'It is beautiful. The japurraringa, minta, and wallaby all show our connection to our land and our culture. Well done to the IPA Committee for this design!'

Alice Munkara (Tiwi Resources Chair)



'It tells the story about the wallaby protecting our land, and the japurraringa tells the story of our people and connects us to our ancestors.'

Ron Poantimilui
(IPA Committee Member)



Wendy Miller and Tina Patlas at the March workshop

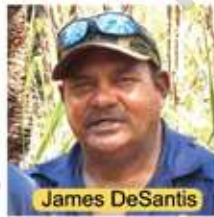
Tiwi Land & Sea Ranger

The last few months



The Tiwi Island Rangers have been very busy these last couple of months.

Congratulations to the Tiwi Island Rangers and Tiwi Resources, who have secured seven years of funding for the Ranger program through NIAA. The funding agreement begins in 2023.



James DeSantis is the Marine Ranger Supervisor. Well-Done James!

Goodbye to Cecil Black, former Marine Ranger, Milikapiti. Tiwi Resources and the entire Tiwi Islands Ranger team wishes Cecil all the best for the future.

Dom Michel, Tiwi Islands Ranger Program and IPA Manager has moved from TLC, and is now working directly with Tiwi Resources to better support the Rangers.



Goodbye to Donna Snell, who was supporting the Ranger program for some time over the last few months. Tiwi Resources and the entire Tiwi Islands Ranger team wishes Donna all the best for the future.

Adam Tipoloura, was successful at job interviews in early Aug 2021, and has secured a full-time Marine Ranger position at Wurumiyanga. Well-Done Adam!



There is now a **vacant Marine Ranger position at Milikapiti**, which we hope to advertise very soon and interview candidates in October.

Marbine Austral, was successful at job interviews in August, and has secured a full-time Land Ranger position at Milikapiti.

There is a **vacant Land Ranger position at Garden Point**, which we hope to advertise very soon and interview candidates in October.

This makes Marbine The Very First Tiwi Islands Female Ranger. Well-Done Marbine!

The Rangers have performed a bunch of activities to preserve the Tiwi Islands:

Rangers Shane Austral and Derek Puruntatameri assisted Alyson Stobo-Wilson (CSIRO) with LiDAR surveys, early August 2021.

This project seeks to build a better understanding of the impact of large feral herbivores, primarily buffalo and horses, and varied fire regimes on the structure and composition of savanna habitat.

Specifically, the project will investigate how these disturbance processes interact to influence habitat structural features such as cover and shelter which are critical resources for declining small mammals.



LiDAR - Measuring 3D structure of land and vegetation



Melville Island fire plots

- Monitor change in habitat from different burns:
- LiDAR scan fire plots on before (May-August) and after (August) planned burns
 - Scan plots again in May 2022

Aim: Learn how different types of fire influence resources (food and shelter) for small mammals



Tiwi Land & Sea Ranger

The last few months



Rangers performed Fire and Cat Awareness Info Sessions at:

Wurrumiyanga Community (Tue 21st September 2021),
Pickataramoor College (Wed 22nd Sept 2021),
Milikapiti Community (Thurs 23rd Sept 2021),
Pirlangimpi Community (Tues 28th Sept 2021).



This year's roadshows also included information sessions about cats for Community members- how cats breed quickly when not desexed, and the terrible effects that cats can have out on Country (to all our native, Tiwi birds, mammals and reptiles). Katrina Doody (AMRRIC) presented some great education to community members and even provided some face-painting. Ann Grattidge (from ILSC) also attended and helped the Ranger team deliver some fantastic education for the wider Tiwi Community.

On behalf of the Tiwi Ranger team, thanks to Donna, Katrina and Ann for helping us provide important info to our Tiwi locals.



Willie Rioli presenting at Garden Point fire roadshow.



Tiwi Land & Sea Ranger

The last few months



Fire ants taking bait to queen ant

Rangers have continued to perform fire ant monitoring and eradication work at Milikapiti. As the first rains for the wet season fall on Milikapiti, this is the time the queen fire ants grow wings and fly to create new nests. If you see fire ants in your community, please report to your local Rangers.



Rangers assisted Menzies staff and TOs with collecting bush medicine around Wurrumiyanga as part of an ongoing pilot study to determine if commercially harvesting Tiwi bush medicines is something that Tiwi people want to pursue.



Chewing jimijinga

Willie Rioli (Land Ranger Supervisor) and Dom (Tiwi Resources) attended a meeting with NT Health and Federal Biosecurity in Darwin to discuss Ranger's involvement in managing mosquito traps on the Tiwi Islands.

Rangers will install the traps and sample mosquitoes every week. Rangers will then arrange the transport of mossie samples to Darwin where they will be tested for Japanese Encephalitis- a disease carried by mosquitos. Rangers will work with NT Health and Federal Biosecurity to distribute information to Tiwi Community members about the disease. There are many types of mosquitos. The mosquito that carries the disease Japanese Encephalitis generally only bite at night.



japanese-encephalitis

Rangers ask all Tiwi Community members and visitors to:

- Avoid getting bitten by mosquitos at night.
- Put mosquito screens on your doors and windows.

NT Port and Marine

What's happening at Port Melville

On the 25th July the bulk carrier **Forestal Pacifico** departed Port Melville with a load of approximately 35,000mt of Tiwi wood chips for export. Although some 22 months since the previous shipment, all operations were conducted safely and efficiently and a credit to all involved in a continuing Covid effected environment.



Forestal Pacifico berthing at Port Melville

Over the last 3 months the Port has been subject to regular trespassing, vandalism and theft – both company and personal effects. This is extremely disappointing as the Port, all those working there and contractors that we support are members of the community. These acts place both those committing them at risk on an industrial site and place employees and guests in an environment that compromises their safety and well-being.

All such events have been reported to the police and action will be taken against those responsible.

If there is a requirement to access the Port precinct for legitimate reasons, please contact either Lindsay or Shelby and they will assist.



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



Big thanks from Menzies PANDORA Study



The research team visited Wurrumiyanga in the last week of June to catch up with the wonderful Mum's and their kids who have contributed to this study over many years. The study is looking into the long term health effects of diabetes in pregnancy. Despite the rain we were able to catch up with over half of the Mums and their kids. We also held a morning tea at the Women's Centre where we shared information from the research findings about preventing/controlling Type 2 Diabetes (The Key 5).

For more information on The Key 5 and the work done by the Diabetes Across the Life-course - Northern Australian Partnership please scan the QR code or go to <https://dipp.org.au>. The Menzies PANDORA team would all like to thank Kaylo (Karen Purantatameri) for being our guide and assistant for the duration of our visit.

See you next year Wurrumiyanga!



Emily Papadimos, Katie Michelle and Alison Simmonds

