



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



NEWS from your LAND Council

Good to know

More Tiwi wild-
life protected
from feral cats

See page 8 and
guide included



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Chairman's Words

Welcome to your August/September edition of *The Tiwi*. We pass our condolences on to our families and friends who have lost dear ones over the past couple of months.

The bush holidays gave me some time to think about what I and your TLC team, Executive and Delegates and staff have been doing over the past twelve months. With all of our lives busy running here and there, I'm never really sure if we're just chasing our tails, but having had some time to take a deep breath, I can happily report that we have actually been doing some pretty amazing work for the benefit of all Tiwi people.

Some big ticket projects over the past 12 months, that have come to fruition or are in the final stages of planning include the signing of the Township Lease of Pirlangimpi, the first cheque arriving for the Wurrumiyanga Township Lease, having repaid their \$5 million upfront payment and we have secured funding for the pontoons and welcome centre at Wurrumiyanga and Paru.

The Vernon Islands are in the final stages of being handed over to the Tiwi Land Trust after the TLC and

Gibson Farmer Illortaminni, Chairman

NLC have come to an agreement having worked together for many years to make this happen.

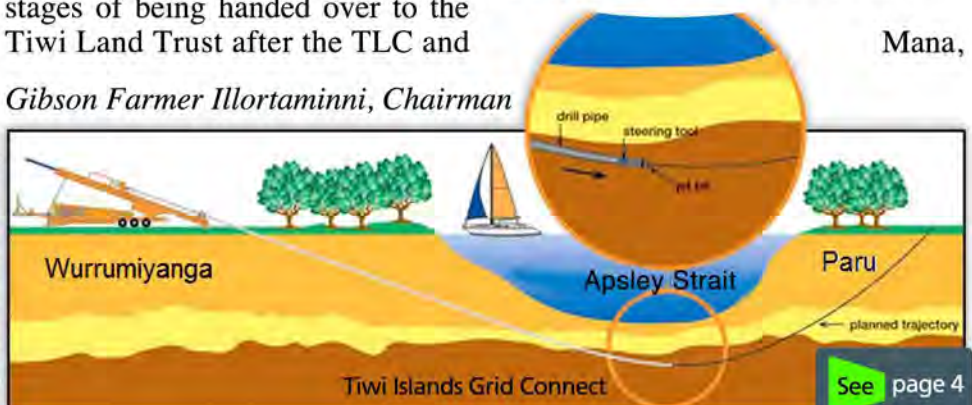
The Power Grid, having been discussed for over 15 years is about to commence, with the tunnel under the strait happening this year and the power line work to Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti and hopefully Pickataramoor, to kick off next dry season, potentially opening up Melville Island, including outstations along the way with power and optic fibre.

We continue to help secure the future of the Tiwi Forestry Project, Port Melville has been given the green light and is looking at really cranking up business, the Tiwi Bombers are looking at a new era of excellence, we are developing a wonderful relationship with your Tiwi Islands Regional Council and we will keep fighting and scrapping for you, the people we represent.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Bush Holidays with your family and as we get ready for the hotter weather on its way let's prepare ourselves to manage our emotions and remember that we are all one family that need to support each other all the way!

Mana,

Graphic Power and Water Corp.



Executive Management Committee

EMC's Notes



Tiwi Land Council Executive Management Committee



We hope that family are enjoying this year's Dry Season, even though the weather hasn't been as cool as it usually is. Here's hoping the build-up doesn't come around too soon!

It's that time of year again when the Tiwi Land Council is busy with the end of another financial year and transitioning into a new financial one. The Darwin office has been buzzing with our auditors 'in house' looking at everything to do with the land council's operations, as they do at this time every year.

The Executive Managers continue our work involved in various committees representing Tiwi people in areas like Fisheries, Aboriginal Housing, Ranger programmes and the Aboriginal Benefits Account. We are out there contributing and speaking up strong for Tiwi people.

Most recently Brian Tipungwuti attended the NT Coastal & Marine Management Strategy Committee meeting at Development House on the Esplanade Darwin, while other Executive Managers continue to represent Tiwi across a range of different portfolios.

In other TLC news, we formally welcomed Dominic McCormack who has come on board to be our Legal Representative.



Executive Management Committee

Sister Dorothy Fuller



Sister Dorothy Fuller

The Tiwi Land Council and all Tiwi families would like to congratulate Sister Dorothy Fuller on a wonderful achievement of 60 years as an ordained nun, the first aboriginal nun in the Northern Territory.

You are to be celebrated. You have spent your life serving God and community.

Your presence within the Tiwi Islands has been a real honour and we value the service you have provided over the years.

With your commitment and sincerity, you have time and time again displayed your dedication to the church and Tiwi people. You have

gained much deserved recognition for your hard work and dedication, you have undoubtedly built eminent goodwill in the community. With your services, the community has gained so much insight.

Tiwi Land Council considers it a privilege to have had you tirelessly dedicate yourself to the people of the Tiwi Islands. Not only did you provide a learning platform but also offering a shoulder for those in need to rest their head on, a place for people to seek revival and a dependable rock for people to lean on in times of need.

We hope you will remain in our lives for many more years to come.

Oyster trail going strong



The **Tiwi Land Council** has had a strong relationship with the Darwin Aquaculture Centre for many years, championed by ex TLC Chairman and long time Manager Cyril Kalippa. Cyril had a strong belief that oysters could be grown out on the Tiwi Islands as a source of food for local people, and maybe even an economic venture in the future. He was also concerned that too many areas around the Islands were over harvested, and that soon there wouldn't be any wild oysters for people to collect.



Cyril Kalippa



Marine Ranger Cecil and NT Fisheries Paul marking an oyster collection site, August 2017

An **oyster growing trial** was first set up on the Tiwi Islands 2011. Staff from the Darwin Aquaculture Centre took mature oysters from Shark Bay and had them produce young, or spat, at the Centre near Darwin. The spat were then grown up until they were big enough to put out in mesh cages just near the Pirlangimpi barge landing. This first trial didn't go very well - the cages fouled and the oysters didn't grow.



First trial in 2011

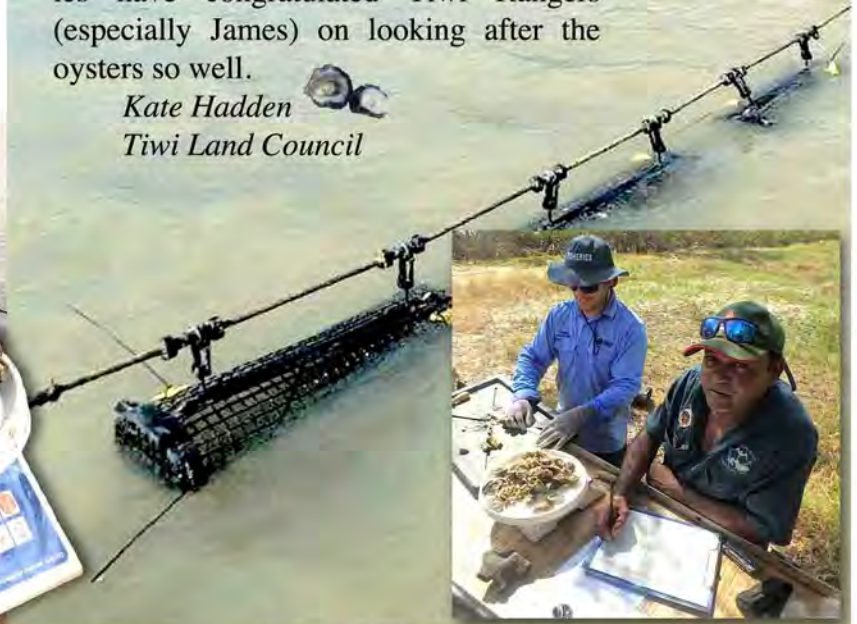
Please remember:



In **late 2013** a new trial was set up using a different method. The new method has baskets suspended between star pickets so the oysters are underwater at high tide, and out of the water at low tide, which is more like natural conditions. This time the results were remarkable. In just a couple of months the oysters had grown to four times their original size, and were fat and healthy.

Tiwi Rangers and staff from NT Fisheries have been regularly measuring the oysters and looking after the baskets, and on a recent visit they found that many of the oysters are above market size. NT Fisheries have congratulated Tiwi Rangers (especially James) on looking after the oysters so well.

*Kate Hadden
Tiwi Land Council*



Marine Ranger James and Fisheries Paul measuring the oysters, August 2017

The Power Grid
having been discussed for over 15 years
is about to commence.

Tiwi Energy Solution Presentation by PowerWater

Tiwi Islands: Major communities

Current Electricity Service Delivery

PWC own and operate diesel power stations and isolated electricity networks in Wurrumiyanga, Milikapiti and Pirlangimpi. Diesel fuel is transported to each of these communities via barge.



Wurrumiyanga Switchyard



Wurrumiyanga Power Station

Project Description

- Stage 1: Grid connect Pirlangimpi to Wurrumiyanga which opens up serviceable land for housing development in Pirlangimpi. This includes an under bore of the Apsley Strait.
- Stage 2: Grid connect Milikapiti to Wurrumiyanga which opens up serviceable land for housing development in Milikapiti. Connection of additional load (e.g. Pickataramoor, Forestry, Port) will be dependent on load profiles.
- Stage 3: Construct a new power station on Melville Island which will open up serviceable land for housing development in Wurrumiyanga and allows regional development on the Tiwi Islands with additional load.

Opportunities

- Opportunity for immediate availability of developable and readily serviced land within the existing 250m and future planning 500m noise buffer zone of the power stations.
- Opportunity for local indigenous businesses and contractors to perform clearing works which form significant portion of this project and must occur prior to construction.
- Opportunities for commercial development through improved availability of land would promote economic growth and indigenous employment;
- Opportunity to grid connect school at Pickataramoor (capital contribution from third party would be required \$2.1 million)



Pirlangimpi Power Station



Pirlangimpi Fuel Storage

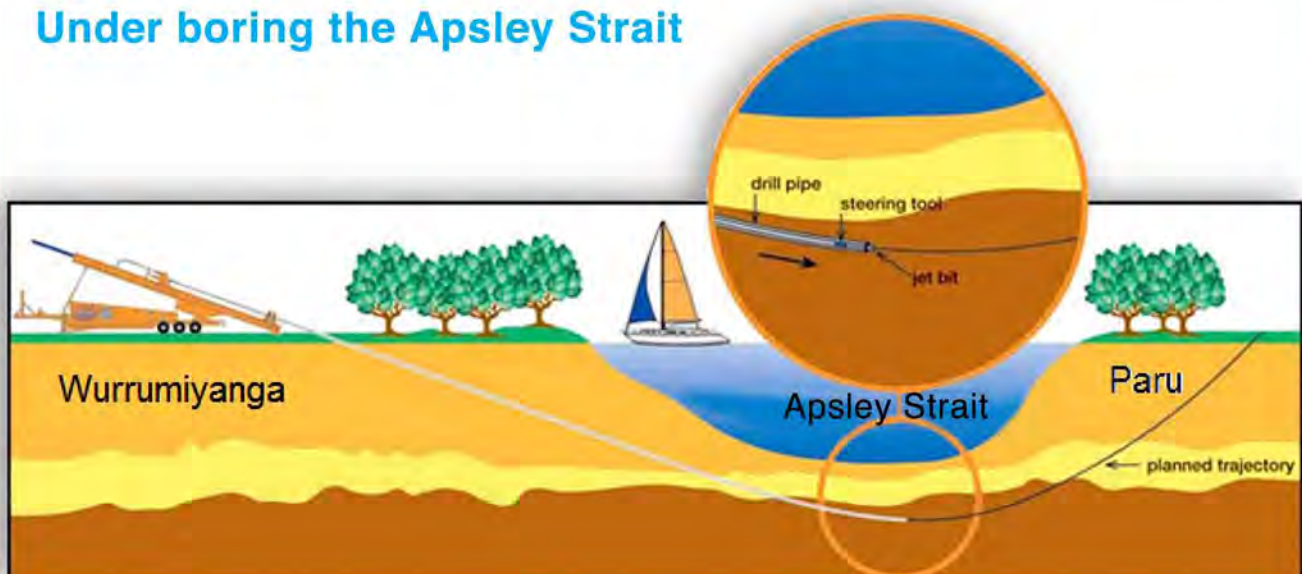


Port Melville - 2013



Tiwi Forest Plantations

Under boring the Apsley Strait





More work on cats!



Camera set up to detect cats in the bush

In August Tiwi Rangers again worked with staff from AMRRIC (remote vets) on a second cat de-sexing visit to Wurrumiyanga. This final trip saw another 13 cats having the 'no kitten' operation. With 28 cats de-sexed in June, that makes a total of 41 cats that can no longer have kittens which could become feral and endanger Tiwi wildlife. A big thank-you to Wurrumiyanga cat owners! And remember, you can always take your cat along to the normal vet visits for the operation.



Cat operations at Wurrumiyanga

In June Land Ranger Supervisor Willie Rioli and the TLC's Kate Hadden attended a feral cat workshop on Kangaroo Island. The workshop was called the "Five Islands Workshop" because there are currently 5 Australian islands working on removing cats completely. A lot of good learnings came out of the workshop about the best way to find and catch feral cats. Unfortunately for us it is an extremely expensive thing to do, and the '5 islands' are far smaller than Tiwi. But it was good to learn what tools are available to manage feral cats, and hear about the lessons from elsewhere.



Feral cat workshop on Kangaroo Island - COLD!



Feral cat workshop radio tracking

We are also working with University of Melbourne researcher Hugh Davies to find out exactly how bad the feral cat problem might be on the Islands. In July Hugh put out 140 cameras on both Bathurst and Melville Islands. The cameras will stay out for a month, and take photos of animals walking past. Once they are downloaded we will start to get an idea of how many feral cats there are, and start to think about how we can manage them.

In the meantime, everyone can help Tiwi animals by:

- discouraging people from keeping cats as pets
- making sure community owned cats - girls and boys - have the operation so they can't have kittens
- keeping cats inside at night so they don't hunt Tiwi animals
- not bringing new cats to the Islands
- controlling rats and mice by putting baits in the ceilings.

Tiwi Land Council



Kimberley Ranger Forum



In August Tiwi Rangers Willie Rioli, Colin Kerinaiaua, James Desantis and Bronson Mungatopi attended a Ranger forum at Pender Bay (Gurrbalgun) in Western Australia. The forum was attended by more than 200 rangers from over 60 groups around Australia.

The forum was an opportunity for rangers to learn from each other, develop new skills, share experiences and enjoy the beautiful location. Held in partnership with the Federal Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, the forum had a particular focus on biosecurity and quarantine. Other sessions included information about staying safe in the workplace, equipment maintenance and constructing timber benches. Tiwi Rangers were able to showcase their work at the Northern Australia Ranger EXPO held on the final day.

By all accounts it was a fantastic few days, and a great opportunity to network with other groups, learn new skills and exchange information.

Kate Hadden, TLC



Tiwi Rangers at EXPO Gurrbalgu, Western Australia



First aid demonstration

Apprentices at Tiwi College



Anthony Guy - working as a junior guide for Tiwi Islands Adventure through the Hayden Reynolds Tiwi College Project

Paulinas Stassi and Anthony Guy at the Darwin Boat Show

Each year a select group of hard working Tiwi College students are selected to work as apprentices for the Hayden Reynolds Tiwi College Project. Some different roles include maintenance of the farm, collecting and distributing produce, writing newsletter columns, being a tour guide for visitors, designing art work to be screen printed and sold on the HR Project clothing range and most recently working as junior fishing guide for the Melville Island Fishing lodge.



Senior young men construction



Girls' 6th win in a row at the Mt. Franklin Cup. They won this year against a combined team of Maningrida and Xavier College



Elders teaching Tiwi College students Tiwi language as part of the after school Academy program

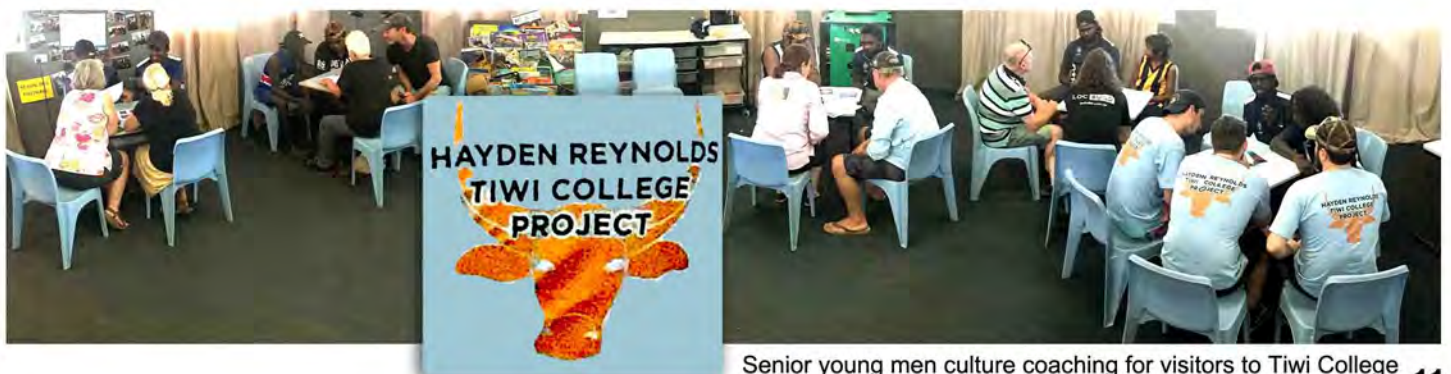


Middle School Boys teaching Macquarie sponsors how to dance buffalo

In term 3 a major focus for Tiwi College is on cultural emersion. We have excursions in different parts of Australia, and visitors coming up to Tiwi to visit. Students will be sharing their culture, and learning about others. As part of this cultural emersion Macquarie sponsors of the Hayden Reyn-

olds Tiwi College Project spend time at the college taking part in classes and learning more about life on Tiwi Islands. The project is in its 9th year and has gone from strength to strength benefitting the Tiwi College community greatly.

Stuart Ward, Principal



Senior young men culture coaching for visitors to Tiwi College

Tiwi Islands Lightning Carnival



Friday 21st - Sunday 23rd September 2017 at Tiwi Oval

Some keypoints for this years carnival

- Visiting team participating will be West Arnhem Maningrida

- A new TIFL team Tikilaru (Jikilarruwu Dockers) to participate

- All games will be 2 x 15min halves (4 games for each team) then finals

- Weekend Carnival being AFL Preliminary Final weekend

- Saturday Night Community Barbecue and Dance

- Sea Link Ferry to operate on Friday, Saturday and Sunday

- Essendon FC players to be present over the carnival

Any further questions feel free to contact Aaron Dunster or Chris Smith on 0427 451 735

Friday 22nd September

1:00 PM Tikilaru Dockers v Walama Bulldogs
2:00 PM Maningrida West Arnhem v Tapalinga Superstars
3:00 PM Muluwurri Magpies v Tuyu Buffaloes
4:00 PM Pumaralli Thunder & Lightning v Ranku Eagles
5:00 PM Walama Bulldogs v Imalu Tigers
6:00 PM Tapalinga Superstars v Tikilaru Dockers
7:00 PM Tuyu Buffaloes v Maningrida West Arnhem
8:00 PM Ranku Eagles v Muluwurri Magpies
9:00 PM Imalu Tigers v Tapalinga Superstars

Saturday 23rd September

09:30 AM Tikilaru Dockers v Tuyu Buffaloes
10:30 AM Muluwurri Magpies v Pumaralli Thunder & Lightning
11:30 AM Maningrida West Arnhem v Ranku Eagles
12:30 PM Tapalinga Superstars v Walama Bulldogs
1:30 PM Tuyu Buffaloes v Imalu Tigers
2:30 PM Tiwi Bombers v Darwin Buffettes Youth Girls
4:00 PM Pumaralli Thunder & Lightning v Maningrida West Arnhem
5:00 PM Ranku Eagles v Tikilaru Dockers
6:00 PM Muluwurri Magpies v Walama Bulldogs
7:00 PM Pumaralli Thunder & Lightning v Imalu Tigers

Sunday 24th September Finals

9:00 AM First Semi Final
10:00 AM Second Semi Final
11:00 AM Juniors Game Youth Boys U/17's
12:30 PM Preliminary Final
1: 15 PM TIFL Clubs Meeting
2:00 PM Grand Final

