



THE TIWI

NEWS for
Traditional
Owners



NEWS from your LAND Council

Chairman's Words



Welcome to our new edition for June/July 2018 of *The Tiwi*. It has been a busy period for Tiwi Land Council. As you all know Brian Clancy our CEO has not been well and is on leave.

To assist Andrew, Minister Nigel Scullion had provided funding for a General Manager. Land Council is happy to report that Garry Cross has been appointed to that position and that together he and Andrew have been getting on with the job.

Brian will be retiring from the position in the coming month. He has been a great friend of Tiwi for many years. As our CEO he has worked tirelessly and provided sound guidance and leadership.

TLC has operated their Darwin office from Secrett Road, Knuckey Lagoon for a number of years. Whilst the Government has provided funding to purchase that property, the zoning requirements of the property do not allow us to operate an office from there. Attempts to change the zoning have failed.

We wish Brian well for the future. I have no doubt we will still see a lot of Brian and Jennifer and I know that as his health improves he will be back supporting us in some way. Until Brian officially retires our Deputy CEO Andrew Tipungwuti will step up to the Acting CEO role. Andrew as Deputy has been doing a great job and we wish him well and offer him all the support we can.

We have had to go and find another property.

I am pleased to report that we have purchased a property in Winnellie that we will soon be fitting out to be the future home of TLC.

Good to know

Cats, fire and small mammals on the Tiwi Islands - community factsheet included in this issue



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The new NT Fisheries Inspectors with Andrew Tipungwuti [2nd from right] as first official Tiwi Fisheries Inspector

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Tiwi story

Chairman's Words



The property is a short walk from the bus stop on Stuart Hwy, with easy access for anyone to attend. Andrew, Garry and I have prepared budget requests to the Minister for a range of new staffing position. One of those positions we hope to have is that of a facilitator.

A facilitator would be there to assist Tiwi as a point of first contact for a range of services. So instead of going to other providers or the Northern Land Council, we can go to our own place for help on a range of issues.

More exciting times coming up that will include:

Celebrating 40 year of TLC, launching our new website and the opening of our new office.

*Gibson Farmer Illortaminni
Chairman
Tiwi Land Council*



Contact

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**Tiwi Land
Council**

Executive Management Committee

EMC's Notes



Tiwi Land Council Executive Management Committee

Awana!

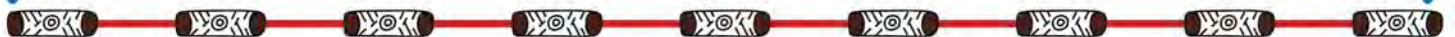
Back in May TLC's Acting CEO Andrew Tipungwuti and Chairman Gibson Farmer did a fantastic job at representing Tiwi people at the NT's Biannual Strategic Forum. This was a hectic two-day event with back to back sessions. Covering important issues such as Township Leasing, PM&C meetings, the NT Aboriginal Land & Sea Action Plan and Land Claims. Tiwi people can feel good in knowing that people like Andrew and Gibbo are out there talking and listening and taking every opportunity that comes along that will benefit all Tiwi people.

Gibson Farmer has been attending a lot of the proposed NT Treaty working group meetings in Darwin for quite a few months now. Gibson, John Wilson and Kim Puruntatameri were all at the Barunga festival for the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with NTG, which is an MOU between the NT Government and all four of the Territory's land councils.

In other big news Andrew Tipungwuti attended a workshop in Darwin, along with 5 other N.T. Rangers to make history in becoming the first Aboriginal NT Fishing Inspectors (Class 1). It wasn't easy though - Andrew had to complete a Certificate II and III in Fisheries Compliance run by NT Fisheries and the NT Water Police.

As you can see, it has been a busy time. Keep safe everyone!
Muna.

*Executive Management
Committee*



New Port Supervisor 2018



Stewart Rioli was recently promoted to Port Supervisor for Tiwi Plantations Pty Ltd.



Stewart Rioli:

“It would be good to see more of our young people working alongside me. I would like to help develop a path for our young people coming direct from College into employment/training.”

Stewart Rioli:

“It’s exciting to see locals taking control of local business. With the help of the Northern Territory Government, we are working to develop more employment pathways for Tiwi.”



Stewart Rioli,
Port Supervisor

Stewart started working for Tiwi Plantations on the 28/05/2015, he started as a machine operator working on the woodchip stockpile operating wheel loaders, bulldozers and skid steer loaders at Port Melville.

During this time, he has not only developed his machine operating skills, and his planning, supervisory and leadership skills have improved as well. As a result, he was promoted to leading hand in 2017, and with the opening of the position of Port Supervisor in 2018 he was the right choice.

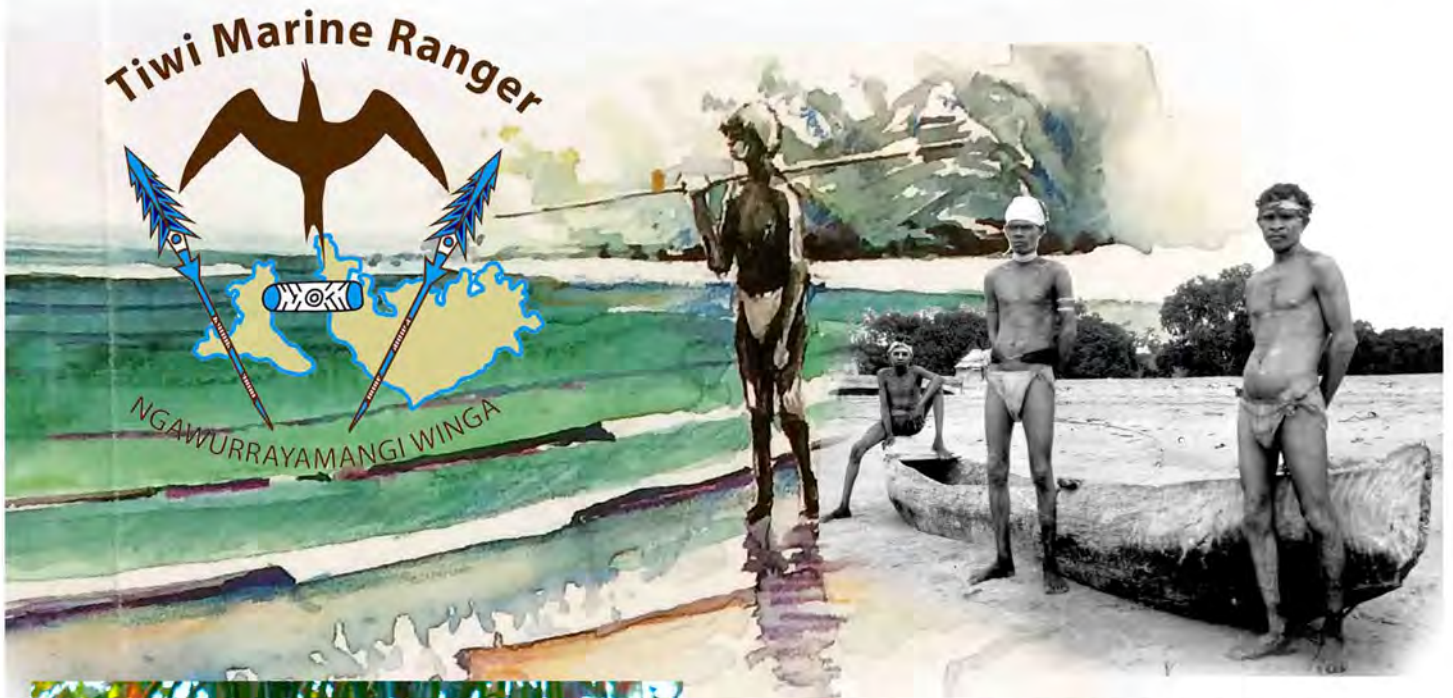
This is a challenging role having to supervise a team of people and a fleet of machines to achieve the demands of exporting high quality woodchip to Japan, and recently, China. Stewart also oversees the setting up the ship loading equipment and looking after the stockpile during ship loading.

Paul Walford, Deputy Manager PMP



Acting CEO Message

First Tiwi Fisheries Inspector



Andrew Tipungwuti on 18th May 2018

After many years of seeking powers for our marine rangers to inspect, the NT director of Fisheries Ian Curnow, on the 18th of May has made appointments to a hand full of indigenous rangers across the Northern Territory [see cover page].

As part of my supporting role, I was appointed as an inspector of fisheries to support our rangers where needed.

To gain the knowledge to undertake the role of fisheries inspector, it is my belief that without the training and knowledge of the NT Fisheries Act that I have received over the years, this would not have been made possible.

Before my appointment as current deputy CEO of TLC, I have been part of the Marine ranger program over the last 10 years, and a huge part of the rangers, I have spent a lot of time doing training through fisheries.

The appointment is to keep people safe at sea and compliant to regulations of the NT Fisheries Act.

*Andrew Tipungwuti,
Acting CEO
Tiwi Land Council*

Finally - "The winning goal" Fisheries Inspector



Quietly hidden among the words of our acting CEO (opposite), lies a remarkable story with HUGE implications for all our landowners. It is the story of power and responsibility to manage our land. It is the story of how an ancient people – the Tiwi people, once managed this responsibility to benefit our people through their knowledge of how our island waters and landscape behaved; - knowledge acquired through years of training and discipline at the feet of our Elders.



Photo by Heide Smith

Forty years ago (on 1st June 1977) our clan leaders met and determined to continue their responsibilities to manage our Islands. But the knowledge needed about these responsibilities had changed. It was not enough to know about managing our own land and waterways for ourselves; - outsiders, visitors, investors, government, - all demanded we understand and practice new rules if we wanted a Land Council of our own. Our Clan Leaders said they did. Out of that meeting the Tiwi Land Council was born.



Use of our waters by outsiders was discussed at that meeting in 1977. Illegal fishing; what can we do? All a major concern then that has dominated many of our meetings since. We wanted power to manage the rules. We needed the knowledge of how they worked. We Tiwi who could manage our waters for ourselves through centuries past, could not enforce our rules for other people using our land and sea today. We accepted responsibilities but we needed to learn new knowledge to have any power.



And so we have. This appointment of our first Fisheries Inspector completes an amazing journey. Through thousands of years our Elders taught generations of Tiwi how to manage their responsibilities. You need knowledge; lots of it. Old Aloysius back in the 1980's reckoned it took about eight years for our young men to become knowledgeable about their responsibilities to manage our land and sea.



Congratulations to our first Fisheries Inspector. New understandings of laws and processes is hard work. It is the same hard work our Elders demanded in a different age. We believe they would be as proud as we are of this appointment and the journey of knowledge required to get there. Truly a Winning Goal for us all!

Tiwi Land Council

Tiwi Rangers receive NTG grants



Tiwi Ranger supervisor Willie Rioli

Tiwi Rangers received some funds this year from the NT Government's Aboriginal Ranger Grants program. Funding was received for some much-needed capital equipment, along with money to tackle weeds, pigs on Melville Island and pest ants. TLC also received some money to start consultations for an Indigenous Protected Area on the Islands. We would need to apply to the Federal Government for an IPA and if we are successful, it will help to protect Tiwi Plants and Animals and provide more jobs for rangers into the future.

Kate Hadden, TLC



It's fire time!

The Tiwi Islands Fire and Weed Management Committee met at Wurrumiyanga in May to plan the 2018 burning season. Tiwi Rangers and TOs are out and about doing early burning by road and helicopter, and will continue until the middle of July.

Scientists have shown us that if country is burnt early in the dry season instead of late, it protects Tiwi plants and animals, and saves carbon going into the air. This means getting out and burning country earlier, and putting in firebreaks so that late fires don't run. It also helps to protect our forest industry by keeping hot fires out of the plantations.

A big pat on the back to everyone for the 2016 and 2017 fire seasons, where there were fewer fires overall across the Islands. This is helping to keep Tiwi plants and animals healthier and happier, and helping to generate carbon credits.

Kate Hadden, TLC



Continuing research about feral cats

You can help by not keeping cats as pets.



Since 2013 Tiwi Rangers have been working with researchers to find out how many feral cats are on the Tiwi Islands, and what impact they have on Tiwi Plants and Animals. Each project gives us more information about what we can do to reduce the impact from feral cats. See the factsheet in this issue of *The Tiwi* to learn about the latest research project.

Kate Hadden, TLC



Developing Northern Australia

Kim Puruntatameri at conference



The Developing Northern Australia Conference has been held at Alice Springs Convention Centre on 18 and 19 June 2018. This annual conference is now in its 4th year and continues to be a meeting place for those individuals, companies and government entities that are vested in progressing Northern Australia.

The conference provides a platform for networking and connecting with like-minded contributors to share the opportunities, challenges and outcomes for growing Northern Australia.

Kim Puruntatameri as Chairman of Tiwi Plantations Corporation did an outstanding presentation of TPC's operations, its history and successes in front of an expert audience.

Kim met among others with board members of the Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRC NA) including their Chair Sheriden Morris and CEO Jed Matz. Jed and a couple of other CRC board members are now scheduled to visit the islands on the 25th of July.

Tiwi Land Council



Kim Puruntatameri, Chairman TPC at his presentation during DNA conference in Alice Springs



Farewell and good luck Robyn



Robyn Trethowan at SRC meeting, Melbourne 2018

In July we say goodbye to Robyn Trethowan, who is retiring from the University of Melbourne. Since 2016 Robyn has provided wonderful support to the Tiwi Science Reference Committee, a partnership between the Tiwi Land Council and Melbourne University that supports research on the Tiwi Islands.

We will miss Robyn's 'can do' approach and her wise and quiet advice. Many Tiwi research projects got across the line because of Robyn's follow up and persistence, and the SRC was stronger with her involvement.

We wish her the very best of luck and a wonderful retirement, and hope to see her on the Tiwi Islands for a visit sometime.



Tiwi Land Council

Pontoons to arrive in 2018

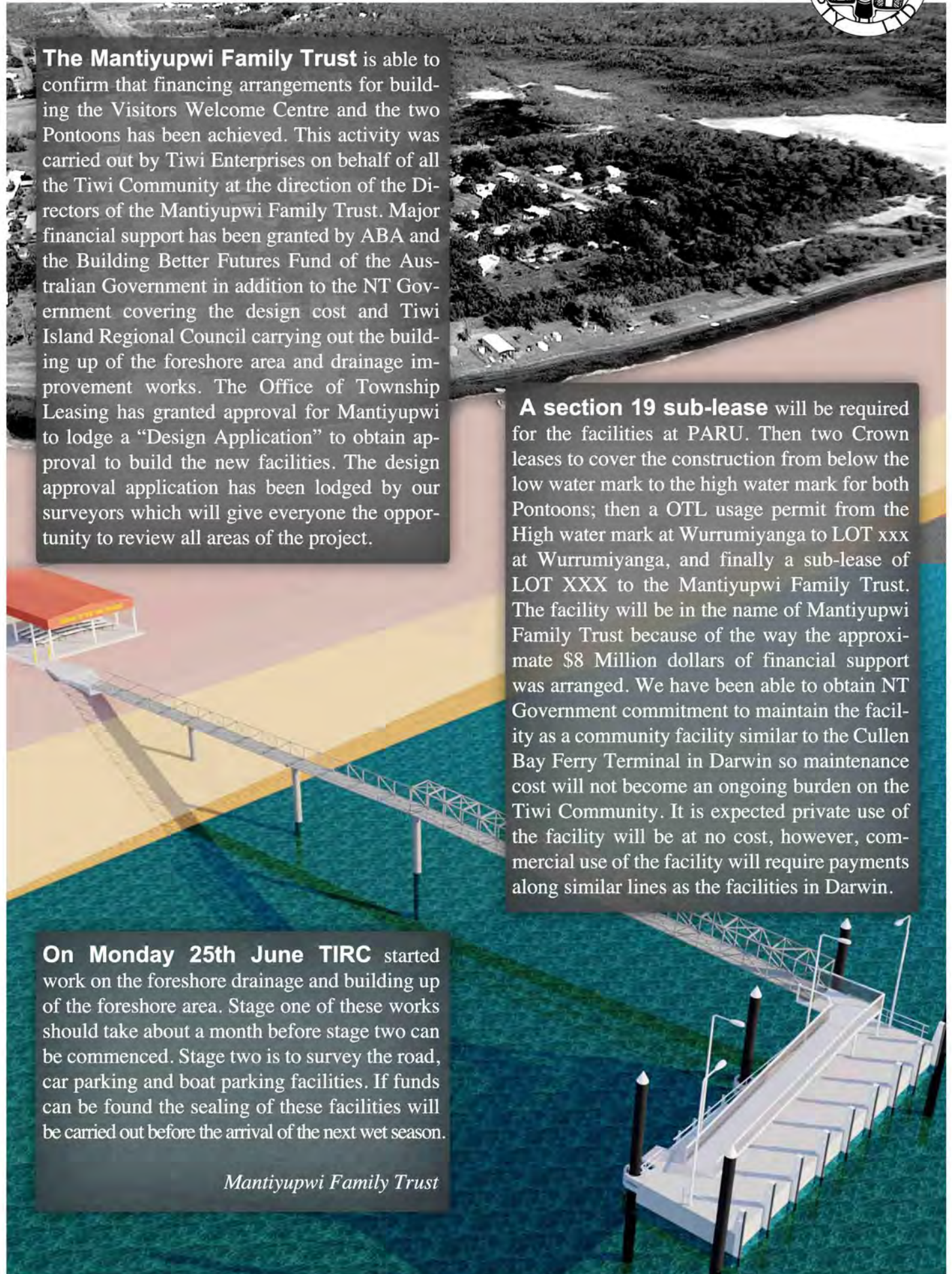


The Mantiyupwi Family Trust is able to confirm that financing arrangements for building the Visitors Welcome Centre and the two Pontoons has been achieved. This activity was carried out by Tiwi Enterprises on behalf of all the Tiwi Community at the direction of the Directors of the Mantiyupwi Family Trust. Major financial support has been granted by ABA and the Building Better Futures Fund of the Australian Government in addition to the NT Government covering the design cost and Tiwi Island Regional Council carrying out the building up of the foreshore area and drainage improvement works. The Office of Township Leasing has granted approval for Mantiyupwi to lodge a "Design Application" to obtain approval to build the new facilities. The design approval application has been lodged by our surveyors which will give everyone the opportunity to review all areas of the project.

A section 19 sub-lease will be required for the facilities at PARU. Then two Crown leases to cover the construction from below the low water mark to the high water mark for both Pontoons; then a OTL usage permit from the High water mark at Wurrumiyanga to LOT xxx at Wurrumiyanga, and finally a sub-lease of LOT XXX to the Mantiyupwi Family Trust. The facility will be in the name of Mantiyupwi Family Trust because of the way the approximate \$8 Million dollars of financial support was arranged. We have been able to obtain NT Government commitment to maintain the facility as a community facility similar to the Cullen Bay Ferry Terminal in Darwin so maintenance cost will not become an ongoing burden on the Tiwi Community. It is expected private use of the facility will be at no cost, however, commercial use of the facility will require payments along similar lines as the facilities in Darwin.

On Monday 25th June TIRC started work on the foreshore drainage and building up of the foreshore area. Stage one of these works should take about a month before stage two can be commenced. Stage two is to survey the road, car parking and boat parking facilities. If funds can be found the sealing of these facilities will be carried out before the arrival of the next wet season.

Mantiyupwi Family Trust



Upgrade of Wurrumiyanga Airport



A major contract has been awarded by the NT Government to Fulton-Hogan to resurface the Wurrumiyanga runway and taxiways to remove the rough surface at the northern end of the runway. Work has already started with Tiwi Enterprises preparing a hard stand work area for the contractor to store the 15,000 tons of blue metal required for the major resurfacing.

It is expected the project will be completed by mid September with up to 35 workmen here for the peak activities time. The work plan calls for the airport to remain operational during daylight hours with the resurfacing to take place between 7 PM and 6 AM. The Care Flight helicopter will be on call for night flights and special arrangements will be in place for emergencies that cannot be serviced by the Care Flight helicopter.

Ray Allwright, TE

Testing of Carboncor Cold Asphalt

The Tiwi Island Regional Council is testing a new product called "Carboncor" to fill in pot holes. The new material was supplied by Tiwi Enterprises as a test sample. A heavy traffic road junction of the Kerinauia highway and new Forestry road was selected as the sample site. The material is a water based product which joins up with existing asphalt when it is lightly watered on being placed it into pot-holes. The suppliers have advised that when it is correctly applied it usually lasts 10 years where as Hot Asphalt only has a few months in pot hole repairs.



Filling pot-holes

The product is suitable for new roads and footpaths. The NT agent (Peter Styles) is installing a production plant in Darwin and we will be able to purchase it in bulker bags, open sea containers or 25 kg bags. It is a South African product which is now widely used in Asia.

Tiwi Enterprises



ABC "Back Roads" on Tiwi Islands



Brooke Boney visits Tiwi Islands

A special "Back Roads" program taken on the Tiwi Islands will be on ABC TV on Monday 23rd July at 8 pm.

"Back Roads" takes viewers to more of Australia's most interesting and resilient communities. These towns are full of colourful characters whose grit and good humour will continue to uplift and inspire.

Brooke Boney is the newsreader on Triple J with an audience of one million listeners a day.



Awana Mantawi - Renae McGarvie



Renae McGarvie

I would sincerely like to thank all of the Tiwi Land Council and Tiwi people for welcoming my family, Justin and Anika and I on your beautiful country and teaching us all about your Tiwi ways.

We all arrived on the 20th May 2016 and I will be moving back to work in Darwin permanently from Monday 4th June 2018.

I have learnt so many things and listened to the Tiwi elders and young people teach and share their culture with me and especially Anika.



We are all so very grateful and appreciative of your time and support of us especially during challenging times.

I have learnt a lot living here in Tiwi and thank you all for that opportunity. Justin, Anika and I will be here for a final farewell at MCPS at the Friday 1st June assembly and the Xavier assembly on Tuesday 29th May.

Nimpangi Mantawi

Renae, Justin & Anika McGarvie



Aboriginal Benefit Account (ABA) Grant Funding Round



The **Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA)** is funding for one-off projects which benefit Aboriginal people living in the Northern Territory. ABA supports projects that are not covered by other government funding. There are two ABA grant funding rounds held each year in February/March and July/August. The next grant funding round will be open for 8 weeks from the 2 July to the 27 August 2018.

Applications are sought from Indigenous controlled organisations that support the employment of Indigenous Australians. The ABA funding round is also open to applicants who are sole traders. Applicants must have an ABN and be registered for GST. If you are interested in applying it is recommended you discuss your proposals with the ABA Team in Darwin on 1800 354 612. You can also talk to the PM&C team on the Tiwi Islands, Tim Scott, Mavis Kerinaiaua, Wendy Mungatopi and Henry Dunn or the Tiwi Land Council.

Applicants who are seeking funding for a business investment are required to contact Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) prior to submitting an application. IBA will provide an independent opinion on the viability of business proposals. There is an easy form on our webpage that should be used to contact IBA.

Further information can be found on the ABA website, just search ABA Grants or go to www.pmc.gov.au and follow the links.

Jilamara Textile Screen Printing Studio and Workshop, Milikapiti is a project which has been recently funded by ABA. The funding has assisted the Art Centre to run a series of screen printing workshops and purchase of screen printing equipment, which has created employment for two local artists. Art Centre Manager, Jackie Hocking said Jilamara now has a “textile screen printing studio, which provides artists with a fit for purpose screen printing facility”. The funding has also allowed the artists to produce screen printed fabrics and clothing for sale at the upcoming Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair from 10-12 August.



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Go to website:
www.pmc.gov.au
and follow the links

Phone contact for ABA Team:
1800 354 612

ABA grant funding round open from
2 July to 27 August 2018



Colourful assortment of hand printed t-shirts



The heat kiln purchased through ABA grant



Pauletta Kerinaiaua holding the beautiful material she designed and printed

ABA Grant Funding Round



Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) Grant Funding Round

Opens: 2 July 2018

Closes: 27 August 2018

Funding is for one off projects that benefit
Aboriginal people in the NT

ABA supports projects that are not covered
by other government funding

Aboriginal controlled organisations are
encouraged to apply

Contact 1800 354 612 | aba@network.pmc.gov.au OR
speak to your GEC, IEO or ABA Advisory Committee Member
www.pmc.gov.au/aba-grants



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet