



TIWI TIMES

Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board

Banana Muffins and Dog Operations



Above photo from Left to Right:

- (1) Stephen Cutter - The Ark Animal Hospital veterinarian
- (2) Eileen Fletcher - AMRRIC Trainer/Educator
- (3) Jan Allen - AMRRIC Program Manager
- (4) Wendy Brown - University of New England (UNE) Canine Science lecturer

Milikapiti and the Tiwi Islands were very pleased to see the Remote Vets arrive to help their dogs.

Many children get sick because the dogs are sick, but with this vibrant Healthy Dog program no dog or child in Milikapiti should get sick from mange or ticks.



The remote vets and AMRRIC do a great job helping the community dogs to stay healthy and well.

The dogs in other parts of the world are not so lucky as Tiwi dogs.

In Poland for example dying and dead dogs and cats are seen by the side of the road and no one has the money to help them get to a vet.

The AMMRIC and remote vets were made welcome by Ashanti Fernando who spent the day in the TITEB training centre making Banana Muffins to say thank you to the vets for all their hard work.



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Quote of the Month

People's minds are like parachutes. To function properly they must first be open.

W.G.P.

Aboriginals Benefit Account Animal Management Worker Project



Tiwi Islands Shire Council (TISC)

Milikapiti, Melville Island 2/7/2012 – 3/7/2012

AMRRIC Overall AMW Project Objective:

To improve long-term community health and well-being on remote Indigenous communities by improving animal management with a specific focus on dog health, through the training and support of local Indigenous Animal Management Workers.

Immediate Objectives:

- To deliver Animal Management training and on the job training and support to selected TISC employees
- To broaden the range of activities and responsibilities of the TISC employees to Animal Management Worker skills and ensure understanding of this role
- To increase recognition of the AMWs and their role in the eyes of the community and promote participation in the Dog Health program

Participating Organisations:

AMRRIC, Tiwi Island Shire Council, TITEB

Participating Individuals:

- AMRRIC Program Manager, Jan Allen, AMRRIC Trainer/Educator, Eileen Fletcher, University of New England (UNE) Canine Science lecturer, Wendy Brown and The Ark Animal Hospital veterinarian, Stephen Cutter.
- John Pilakui - Milikapiti - attended both days
- Jason Joran - Milikapiti - attended Day 2
- Deidre Lechleitner - Pirlangimpi - attended both days. Environmental Life Skills Officer.
- Ningle Galarla - Pirlangimpi - attended Day 2. Environmental Life Skills Officer.
- Shannon Cook - Milikapiti - attended both days

Location:

- Milikapiti Community -
 - Day 1 - TISC Board room and community
 - Day 2 - Housing workshop area and community
- Accommodation was TITEB 'motel'

Background:

As part of AMRRIC's Aboriginals Benefit Account Animal Management Worker Project, in the Tiwi Islands, AMRRIC offers support, training and mentoring for Animal Management Worker positions - or positions that have an element of this as their responsibility.

After a meeting with Rosanna De Santis, Director of Corporate and Community Services, TISC, in April, it was decided to organise a veterinary program partially funded by UNE during the week (July 30- Aug 2) prior to the Milimika Festival. The Director suggested a repeat of a training workshop AMRRIC ran in Pirlangimpi, Aug 2009, as soon as possible in Milikapiti with 3 interested TISC employees from each of the 3 main Tiwi Island communities. These people could continue their training and facilitate the veterinary program at Wurrumiyanga, prior to the Festival.

The 2 possible participants from Wurrumiyanga were unable to cross the Apsley Strait due to rough seas both days unfortunately.

A considerable percentage of the Milikapiti population- human and canine - were on 'bush holidays' at Karslake due to school holidays.



Aboriginals Benefit Account Animal Management Worker Project



Achievements:

The training workshop was held July 2nd and 3rd.

The training workshop timetable is attached.

The program consisted of 3 formal presentations (power points) on **Day 1** on the topics of:

- The role of Animal Management Workers
- A few potential parasitic zoonoses - mange, ticks, fleas and worms
- Dog Behaviour and Body Language

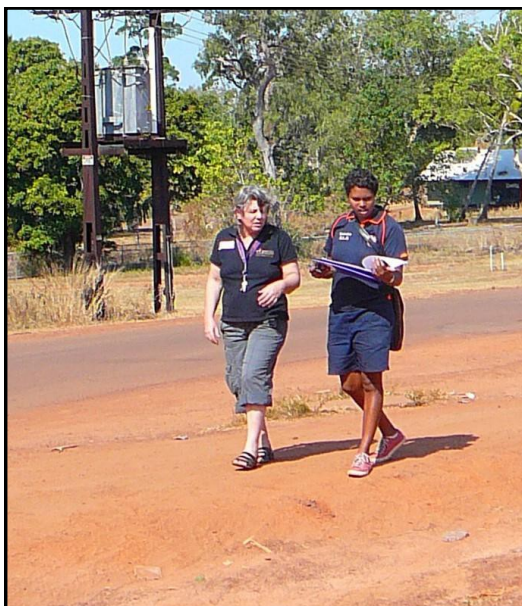
There was a practical component that covered use of ivermectin with dogs and developing a census over the 2 days.

Day 2 involved a continuation of the activities of the previous day as well as training in assisting with veterinary program:

- Liaising with community members- explaining what services the vet offers, and their advantages
- Delivery of the dogs to and from the surgery suite
- Preparation of the dogs for surgery- clipping, cleaning, tattooing, applying collars.

AMRRIC's manual *Dog Health Programs in Indigenous Communities for Environmental Health Practitioners Guide*

was used as a reference and a copy given to one of the participants.



Outcomes:

There were 3 attendees on Day 1 of the workshop and 5 on Day 2.

All participants were keen, responsive and very effective.

Over 60 dogs were dosed with ivermectin sandwiches.

A total of 14 desexings were achieved - 8 female and 6 male dogs.

A surgery list for the next veterinary program in Milkapiti has been developed.

Conclusion

Far greater outcomes were achieved as a result of the Animal Management Workers' participation.

It is hoped this is a step towards encouraging the development of further skills in Animal Management in TISC employees.

We look forward to continued cooperation from these TISC employees during the veterinary program in Wurrumiyanga from July 30 to Aug 2, and further programs in the other Tiwi communities.



Tiwi Islands Ferry Service

The Northern Territory Government is trying to organise a ferry service from Darwin for this weekend's Tiwi Islands art and culture festival.

The Milimika arts festival on Nguiu will feature performers including Shellie Morris, the Sista Girls and Strong Women's choir.

The festival's creative director Jason De Santis says the Territory Government promised to organise a ferry to the Tiwi Islands, but there's no sign of it.

The Tiwi Islands have had no ferry service since January after the SeaCat operator lost the more lucrative contract to Mandorah.

The local MLA Marion Scrymgour says the new operator Fast Ferries will not run a Tiwi service this weekend.

But she says the operator is being offered a subsidy to start a Tiwi service soon.

"We're hoping that from August 10 the Tiwi Islands will have a long-term, ongoing ferry service," she said.

Ms Scrymgour says the Government is trying to find an alternative ferry for this weekend's festival.

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Northern
Territory
Government

housing
the
Territory

A Territory Government Initiative

Reporting repairs and maintenance

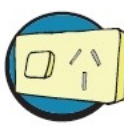
To keep houses in good condition it is important that they are repaired and maintained often.

As soon as something is broken or stops working properly, tell your housing officer.

You should report things like:



dripping taps or taps that are hard to turn on



power points that are not working properly



stove hotplates that are not working



blocked toilets, drains or sewerage leaks



fans that are not working properly



electrical wires sticking out

For more information talk to your housing officer or call Territory Housing on 1800 104 076.



www.housingnt.nt.gov.au

Circulating throughout Melville and Bathurst Islands which include the Communities of Pirlangimpi, Milikapiti, Wurrumiyanga & Ranku

Articles For The Tiwi Times

If you have any articles which you would like to go into the **August** Tiwi Times please email them to us at tiwitemes@titeb.com

We try our hardest to get your Tiwi Times out by the end of each month and it would be appreciated if you could have your articles for the next Times to us by:

Tuesday 21st of August