



# TIWI TIMES

Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board

## Literacy and Numeracy Program at Milikapiti



Donessia Macdonald has resigned from her position with TITEB at Milikapiti and she has told us she will be retiring to Darwin and working part time at the Charles Darwin University. She will be finishing work with us on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

Literacy & Numeracy Classes and Money Management will continue as usual.

The Directors of TITEB wish her well in her semi retirement!

## RJCP Men's work crew at Milikapiti

The RJCP Milikapiti Men's Work crew have undertaken an upgrade of the grounds surrounding the local Church. Undergrowth has been cleared, garden beds re-established & new plants have been planted to beautify the area. Newly appointed Supervisor Brian Austral said he thought that by clearing under the established trees already there; that locals could make better use of the shade that is now accessible.

Plants were provided by Milikapiti Farm as were the tools & equipment used in the project. Farm staff & TITEB RJCP have already formed a valuable working relationship & plan to work collaboratively in local future projects.

Similar work began this week around the Safe House to help maintain the grounds.

This community participation aspect of programming is an important aspect of the RJCP program vs the old contracts; the involvement of locals is a crucial component so they are assisting the direction projects & activities take within their own communities.

[More pictures on page 5](#)



Some of the men involved Yagu Puruntameri, Daniel Stassi, Roy Farmer & Robert Cook



Plants being arranged to be planted in a retaining wall at the front of the church

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## Quote of the Month

*If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.*

**John Quincy Adams**

## Maralampuwu on Tiwi graduation and TITEB in NT Legislative Assembly 15 October 2013



### Mr KURRUPUWU (Arafura):

Mr Deputy Speaker I rise to speak on Tiwi graduation. It was a great pleasure for me to be invited to speak with the graduating students, parents and relatives at the recent graduating ceremony of students who have completed their studies with a Tiwi Training Education Board. It is a major lifetime achievement for students who graduated; striving to achieve a sound and relevant education is a key to a happy life. We have to understand two lives: our own Tiwi education and culture, that of the wider society in Australia and increasingly, the rest of the world. The secret of how to be successful in a wider society lies in the secret that education can teach us. Education is the means by which people

can achieve an understanding regardless of their race or background. Like all things that are available, education requires hard work and discipline. One of the first secrets about education is it is a great equaliser. A good education makes us all equal. What becomes important is the skill and knowledge we have learnt not our background or the colour of our skin. It is a reason why individual organisations and countries become powerful and prosperous; it gives them more knowledge and understanding.

Having an educational qualification is the first step a student takes on the role to be able to choose the job they like and they are happy working in. In this job they can earn income, have a family, support families and buy all necessary goods and services to make themselves and their family happy and successful. Without education this lifestyle cannot start. People are left to take handouts from government, they cannot earn more than they are given, and they can never step up to higher income or better jobs. This is exactly the reason why many become angry and depressed. In the wider society education and learning does not stop; it is an important part of life and is called continual learning.



As we prepare to learn more secrets are uncovered and we become special and important people. In wider society we are paid more for these important skills and knowledge because they are scarce and not many people possess them. That is important because it means those of us who are prepared to learn are going to understand better than others the complex questions and answers that surround us.

Besides the graduating students and their families and friends, I would also like to congratulate the terrific work and contribution of the dedicated staff of Tiwi Islands Training and Education Board led by founder, Norm Buchan. Under the guidance of Norm and his dedicated staff we had 81 more students graduating at the ceremony in baking kitchen operation, conservation

and land management, community service, business education, and health and work preparation. The qualifications range from Certificate 1, 2, 3 and 4 to diploma level. This is a truly great achievement both for the students and TITEB.



TITEB was established by Norm and the Tiwi Land Council to co-ordinate all training and employment activities on the Tiwi Islands. The Board is owned and managed by the Tiwi Board and directors. The main goal of TITEB is to put Tiwi people into jobs. The vision of TITEB is to facilitate a prosperous future for all Tiwis to lifelong learning and skill development. Learning is seen to be vital to understand and contribute to society as well as perceiving personal economic outcome. TITEB seeks to train people for a wider range of employment opportunity available on the Tiwi Islands. It considers it to be just as important to train someone to be a motor mechanic as to train someone to help their children with their homework.

Such an approach leads to a wider range of skills and knowledge and an appreciation that everyone has an important role to play in building a balanced, prosperous and happy community. TITEB is a registered training organisation and group training organisation registered nationally and quality endorsed. It has recently become responsible for very important remote jobs and community programs. Since commencing operation in 1999, TITEB has been responsible for assisting 215 apprentices complete their apprenticeship in carpentry, plant operation, children's service, education support, business study, essential services, forestry, environmental land and management, [inaudible] services, health workers, environment health, and sport and recreation. All students who graduated [inaudible] have a tremendous amount to be proud of. I offer them sincere congratulations. These students are leaders of the future and we will depend on them to guide us to happy and prosperous lives with the knowledge and skills they have acquired.



## Wurrumiyanga farm back on track



Wurrumiyanga farm is getting back on track with staff and equipment that is a necessity for the farm to operate at a level that will benefit the whole community, by providing fresh fruit and vegetables in the months and years to come.

With the arrival of a new tractor to do the heavy work and a keen group of people like farm manager Bill Andrews, Robert Cunningham and RJC participants, the whole community will be enjoying the benefits of its produce soon.

Pictures below:

Wurrumiyanga farm crew delivering some fresh picked mangos to the aged care centre and the school.



### RJCP Participants at Wurrumiyanga helping out around the community



### RJCP Men's work crew at Milikapiti



Some tools & equipment being shared between RJCP & Milikapiti Farm

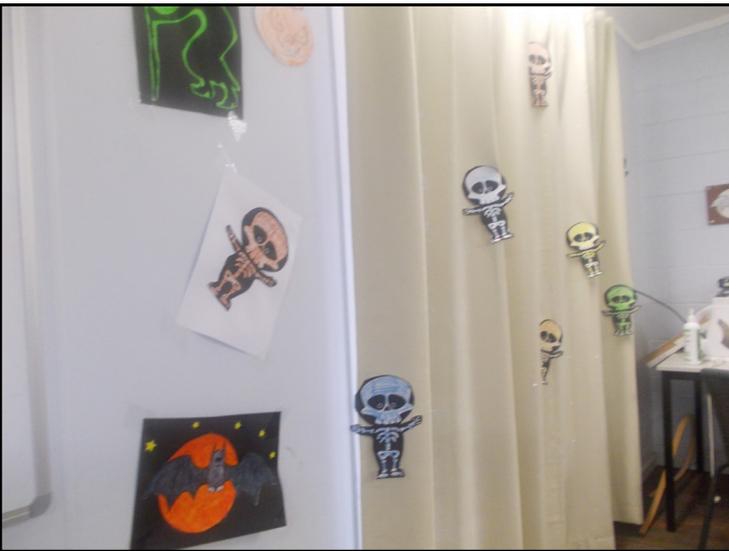
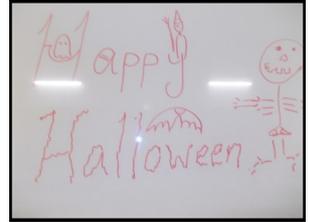
Clearing & pruning of the original garden bed, preparing for the new plants



## SEE Program participants at Wurrumiyanga get into the Halloween spirit



Veronica Davoren and SEE Program participants at Wurrumiyanga get into the Halloween spirit by decorating their classroom and having a Ghoulish Halloween morning tea.



## Northern Territory Indigenous Education Council (NTIEC) News



Currently the Education Department with NTIEC is looking at a structure or a model for a Tiwi Islands Education Board to possibly manage all our schools on the Tiwi Islands. This consultation started three years ago, when I was the Chairman of the Tiwi Education Board, and we revisited the need for our Tiwi people to manage all the schools on our Islands. This is exciting for the Tiwi people with the challenge it presents that I am sure the Tiwi people through its leaders embrace in trying to improve the education standards of our Tiwi children in the generations to come.

In the last two years and most recently, Maralumpuwi and myself have had discussions with the NT Education Department and the head of Catholic schools, Bishop Eugene Hurley with others in the Catholic education. These negotiations and consultations have obviously taken time but there are positive signs as we are progressing.

We as Tiwi people need to be empowered to make the decision for the education of our future Tiwi children. And there is a need to bring in experts for their advice but it is the Tiwis that should make decisions that will be important in changing the education for our people reflecting our cultural integrity and using the National standards.

We should all look forward to the start-up of this new board and I would personally like to see young enthusiastic Tiwis that have an interest in education to be on the new board.

Let's all be optimistic that this will not only start next year but is a start of a hope of raising the standard of education for our Tiwi children.

Mana Nuwanguwuri Mamanta.

Ngiya Pirrawayingi.



Karina Coombes has recently been employed by the Northern Territory Indigenous Education Council (NTIEC) to provide guidance and cultural advice for the delivery of Community Governance and Business Administration Workshops to parents and community members of the Tiwi Islands to assist the Tiwi's to achieve improved community outcomes. The role will require direct supervision of four (4) casual staff, one (1) within each of the communities of Wurrumiyanga, Wurankuwu, Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti.

The NTIEC is committed to delivering Governance and Business Administration training, through workshops, for all Tiwi people. Workshops to be held in Wurrumiyanga, Wurankuwu, Pirlangimpi, Milikapiti and Pickataramoor during the period of late November early December.

If you are interested in participating in these workshops please contact Karina on 0497813439 or [karina@titeb.com](mailto:karina@titeb.com) for more information.

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Driver is Supervisor & TITEB Employee Mick Dundee aka Michael Page,  
 Passenger seat Nicholas Kypreos participant & trainee about to leave for Perth  
 with Indigenous Marine/ Melville Port.

No matter how good or how bad  
 your life is, wake up each  
 morning and be thankful that  
 you still have one.

Lessons Learned In Life

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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 **November** Tiwi  
 Times please email them to  
 us at [tiwitimes@titeb.com](mailto:tiwitimes@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 19th of Nov 2013**