

SO MUCH MORE . . .



Plan your end of the year holidays ahead

The year of 2011 is coming to an end and Christmas is just around the corner. The KGT Admin team would like to remind all trainees and apprentices about the importance of submitting their leave forms in case they wish to go on holidays at the end of the year. As per the usual procedure with leave forms, trainees and apprentices should make sure they provide all relevant dates and that the form is signed by the supervisor.

Annual leave forms can be e-mailed to reception@kgt.org.au or faxed to 9168 3810. For Kununurra clients, you can also submit your annual leave form in person in our office.

If you have any questions about how to complete your leave form, ask your KGT field officer or contact our friendly team on 9168 3808.

Jawun Secondee

KGT continues to receive support through the Jawun Indigenous corporate partnerships and welcomes McKenzie as this month's Jawun secondee. McKenzie is from Sydney and has come to Kununurra to assist KGT with reviewing and restructuring our marketing plan to help us get the word out on the work KGT does to support our trainees and apprentices. McKenzie has been visiting our apprentices and trainees on site and shadowing our field officers around town. If you see her, please make her feel welcome as her work is important to KGT's ability to provide opportunities for our participants.

Thanks again to Jawun and McKenzie for continuing to support the indigenous communities of the East Kimberley!



East Kimberley's Shining Stars

After attending the East Kimberley aboriginal achievement awards earlier this month, I was left with a singular powerful impression. There are many aboriginal people in this region, young and old, achieving great things with quiet pride and determination. They have not forgotten their culture, they are proud of it. They have not been discouraged by history, they have been inspired by it. They have all made decisions to put their best foot forward and demonstrate what the aboriginal people of the East Kimberley are truly capable of.



There were those among the award winners who excelled in academia, there were those who excelled in the workplace and those who excelled in their communities. There was pride on display, there was talent and skill and universally there was hope and encouragement for the next generation. There wasn't one among the winners who wasn't grateful for the assistance that they had received from their families, friends and colleagues and there was a genuine light of pride in the eyes of the elders who witnessed their people being honoured for all the good work they have done. It was a very special night.

Those who won awards were the outstanding few from a high achieving group. Their achievements were worthy of honour, but high honours must also go to every aboriginal person who is out there having a go. They are a credit to their families, they are a credit to their communities and above all they are a credit to themselves. It takes courage to rise above a difficult start and in many cases a tough life, but that's what these people have done and continue to do. They show the way forward, they demonstrate what can be achieved, they honour themselves and their culture and they should be applauded.

All of us here at KGT would like to applaud our apprentices and trainees, both past and present. You are all champions and there are no limits to what you can achieve for yourselves, your families and your people. We are proud of all of you.

Well done!

Mark Sweeney

Werlemen Girls get a taste of Trainees at HV8

The staff at Home Valley Station (HV8) welcomed twelve students from the Werlemen Girls Program to showcase the various traineeships offered at Home Valley Station.

The twelve girls in years 10-12 were split into teams of four and did a number of rotations throughout the various areas of HV8.

In the kitchen, the girls were shown how to make a number of different deserts, from chocolate mousse to making crème brûlée.

Housekeeping opened the

girls eyes to what skills are required to ensure guests have a comfortable and enjoyable stay in the premium Grass Castles.

Finally Piri, from the restaurant crew, showed the girls how to set a table "a-la-carte" style and also the fine art of creating mocktails. The girls were then given four mocktail recipes to create (and enjoy).

The team at Home Valley certainly provided an interactive "taste tester" of career opportunities available out

at HV8. The Werlemen Girls appreciated the time dedicated by HV8 staff and have certainly received an insight into what the future could hold for them.



Special points of Interest:

EAST KIMBERLEY ABORIGINAL
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

BROOME NEW COUNSELLOR—
DAVID YATES

NORTHERN AIRPORT SERVICES
CUSTOMER & COMMUNICATION
WORKSHOP

Inside this issue:

From the CEO... "East Kimberley Aboriginal Achievement Awards"



What a fantastic night the East Kimberley Aboriginal Achievement Awards night was. I was inspired by the wonderful achievements being achieved by so many in our community. We have so many "Champions" in our own backyard that we do not know about, and this special event highlighted the achievements of so many individuals and organisations throughout

the East Kimberley. The guest speakers and entertainment captivated the audience.

Congratulations to the organisers and to Wunan Foundation on a wonderful initiative.

It also got me thinking about the contribution that KGT makes to the whole Kimberley region, so I looked back at some statistics since the establishment of the organisation.

I was pleasantly surprised to discover that we have employed over 1000 Indigenous people in Australian Apprenticeship positions since our inception in 1997, nearly 75% of the total number of apprentices/trainees employed. Employing apprentices/trainees is only part of what we do.

Running Pre-Employment Programs, providing mentoring and counselling services and labour hire, is all part of a day's work at KGT.

We support local events such as the East Kimberley Aboriginal Achievements Awards, The Kimberley Moon Event, the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the Starlight Foundation to name a few.

Needless to say, we cannot do this, without the wonderful support of our loyal Host Employers, so if you are thinking of taking on an apprentice or trainee, please give one of our friendly staff members at KGT a call and discuss your apprentice/trainee requirements.

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Kununurra Trainee of the Month - Caroline Constant

Host Employer: Kimberley Group Training
Qualification: Cert III in Business



Caroline Constant has been awarded the trainee of the month because of her dedication and great enthusiasm for the job. Caroline has always worked very consistently and is always eager to learn new things. She has a great personality and good customer service skills. She approaches all her tasks with a positive attitude. Caroline has also progressed well with her TAFE studies showing a lot of interest. At work she is constantly coming up with suggestions for improving the administration team. The KGT team wishes her well in the future and congratulations.

Congratulations Caroline!

Broome new Counsellor - David Yates

Hi everyone

I'm the 'new' counsellor, with an older twist, in the Broome office. I have spent all of my professional life working in the fields of mental health, addictions and education, and used these skills whilst employed in England, Hong Kong and now Australia. More recently I have lived in Broome for six years and worked and studied in the fields of Aboriginal health, throughout the East and West Kimberley, the local University of Notre Dame, Broome campus and the Kimberley Training Institute [formally TAFE].

I am a trained counsellor, health educator and have conducted meditation workshops in workplace and private settings.

After living and working in cities such as London, Perth and Hong Kong, I now appreciate the peace and quiet of rural Australia and tell everyone I have now become a 'bush man' and am here to stay!

I have recently developed a passion for cooking, having a Thai daughter-in-law who has passed on some of her culinary skills. So together with some Hong Kong classics, I like to cook up an Asian storm in the kitchen and follow all those myriad of cooking programs on television. My other hobbies are international communications via Skype and the humble email and caring for my growing collection of Cuban cigars! My son and family live and work in Wyndham, so I do have a strong affinity for the East Kimberley which has some beautiful countryside!



What a fantastic turnaround!



The trainees working with John Holland are really starting to find their feet. Due to the patience and understanding of the Project Manager Tim Burns we now have 5 guys who are turning up on a regular basis and learning new skills.

As their field officer, it is exciting to see that the guys are starting to address any issues that may hold them back from completing the traineeship. With the programs now in place to assist the trainees, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Bardi Jawi Trainee Rangers

On Monday the 5th of September, KGT's Field officer Roland conducted a site visit to assess the progress of the Bardi Jawi trainee rangers at One Arm Point, accompanied by intern Jessica Lee. They were both delighted with the remarkable progress the rangers have made. Bardi Jawi Rangers have had a very busy year managing and looking after their land, sea and country whilst developing new and existing skills.

After receiving two small boats through Western Australian government departments the rangers have been able to carry out marine patrols, complete dolphin surveys, monitor the sea grass, research and utilise the vessels for marine rescue training. The rangers have also had the valuable opportunity recently to travel outside the Kimberley to Perth and Queensland to learn new skills to bring back to Bardi Jawi country whilst at the same time promoting the work that they have been doing. In addition the rangers have done a fantastic job at maintaining their work-site, in terms of safety and organisation.

The Monday duty checklist is really paying off!



COMPLETIONS

Jonathan Adrian

Argyle Diamond Mine
Cert III in Engineering
Mechanical Trade

Damon Howard

Brolga Developments
Cert III in
Carpentry and Joinery

Amanda Park

Argyle Diamond Mine
Cert II in Business

Dale-Maree Rollason

Broome Primary School
Cert II in Community
Services

Antonio Sibosado

Argyle Diamond Mine
Cert III in Automotive
Electrical

*Congratulations
&
Well done!*

From Kimberley Group
Training



Northern Airport Services Customer & Communication Workshop

Thank you to all of the Northern Airport staff who attended the Customer Service & Communication workshop at KGT. It was great to see such an energetic and responsive team who all positively engaged in the three hour workshop. In partnership with KGT, Northern Airport Services Managing Director Frank Rodriguez supports the professional development of his staff through accredited training in aviation ground operations.

Trainees currently have the opportunity to complete the traineeship at a Certificate 2 level but we are looking to progress this to Certificate 3 in 2012.

With the new upgrades to the airport there will be further opportunities for traineeships at NAS and interested applicants need to contact KGT Field Officer Hayley Cook on 9168 3808 for further information.

It's fantastic to work with an organisation such as Northern Airport Services that genuinely supports local people in terms of training and employment opportunities.



Kununurra New KGT Staff - Kim Griffiths

Kim Griffiths is now the new mentor for the KGT Kununurra Office. Kim has a wealth of experience working with the local community and before joining KGT he worked as an Aboriginal Indigenous Education Officer at the Kununurra Clontarf. Most recently, Kim was one of the nominees for the category "Person of the Year" at the East Kimberley Aboriginal Achievement Awards 2011.

What is the best thing about working at KGT?

KGT has great staff members and I am happy to be part of a team that helps trainees and apprentices.

Do you have any advice for people who are thinking about starting a traineeship/apprenticeship?

Choose wisely if it's the right job you want to achieve your goals.

What is your favourite sport? Football (Aussie rules!) and Basketball.

What do you like the most about Kununurra? My family and fishing, of course!



Visit to Myroodah Station



I went to visit KGT Pre-Voc Trainees at Indigenous Land Council (ILC's) Myroodah Station on Tuesday, 20 September.

It was great to witness how fantastic these guys are doing. Owen Brown, Ryan Sunfly, Quinston Constaine, Hosey Juboy and Lesley Skinner are in their 2nd last week and will complete the 5 week course on Friday, 30th September.

Upon completion these trainees will be offered a Certificate II in Rural Operations Traineeship with a guaranteed job at the end of it. When visiting the trainees yesterday, I saw them driving the grader, clearing a path for this weeks' muster and fixing fences. Others helped sawing the horns off the cattle. A bit of a bloody affair but I was told it's like filing your finger nails.

Marion Haas

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Kenneth Martin and Corbin Dryden for being nominated for the Master Builders WA Apprentice of the Year Awards 2011. Kenneth is currently in his first year of a plumbing apprenticeship and Corbin is in his second year of a carpentry and joinery apprenticeship. Host employers, East Kimberley Plumbing and Rapley Wilkinson have supported the nominations with great reviews of the two candidates. KGT would like to thank everyone involved in the process.

The awards will be held in Fremantle on the 4th of November and we will keep you posted of the outcome.

Well done!



"Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit."

Conrad Hilton



ODD SPOT

The largest dog ever reported in the Guinness Book of Records was a 8 feet 3 inches long, 343 pound English Mastiff named "Zorba"