MRM joins Borroloola for Christmas Community Concert

Our local community of Borroloola hosted their first Carols by Candlelight event this year, with outstanding success. Organised by Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation, and sponsored by McArthur River Mine, the concert saw all community groups and agencies support the event and lead carols.

The MRM Choir led the carols ‘Santa Claus is coming to town’ and ‘Deck the Halls’, receiving one of the biggest applause of the night.

Santa made his way to remote Borroloola arriving on the Swamp Doggy boat led by Roz Kerr from NT Parks & Wildlife. Every child in community received a gift from Santa, with many kids over the moon with their new rods and tackle boxes for fishing in the McArthur River over the school holiday period.

Message from the GM

I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. I’d like to thank everyone who has worked and spent time at MRM this year for their efforts, and commitment to making a MRM a better and safer place to spend our time. We’ve achieved a number a major milestones through the year including final government approvals, new mining fleet mobilisation, drydockign and refurbishment of the Aburri, recommissioning of Cell 1 at the TSF, a new Enterprise agreement via New Approaches, record revegetation on the channel, and increased workforce diversity.

We should all feel very proud of these achievements as they are cumulatively contributing to the ongoing and future success of MRM. I have been extremely lucky and privileged to have been your General Manager for these last 6 years and I’m extremely proud of the passion and perseverance that you’ve all shown – the grit of MRM people is what makes the difference. I’m also very pleased to be handing over the direction of MRM to your new General Manager Steve Rooney who I’m sure will lead MRM onto to bigger and better things and even more success in the years to come. You’ll still see me from time to time, my family is not planning on moving from Darwin for at least the next few years so I look forward to sharing MRM’s future achievements with you.

Regards,
Sam Strohmayr
Two of McArthur River Mine’s 191 tonne haul truck trays have been painted blue and pink to raise money and awareness for cancer. The mine has taken advantage of an upgrade to its haul fleet to raise awareness of breast and prostate cancer. The trucks – normally decked in mine yellow – have just entered into full service in their colourful new livery.

Survey technician Zarn Hatch commented “It’s been a great project to work on – a great effort from all involved. There has been a whole lot of people working behind the scenes to get the project off the ground and it has been a lot of fun. You can just jump on the prostate cancer fund raising page where there are a lot of people trying to raise money and awareness. We’re just one of them.”

The blue team has so far raised over $15,000 with the pink team not far behind on $10,500. Every employee who donated more than a certain dollar value was rewarded with either a pink or blue shirt, depending on the charity of their choice.

A third truck painted white will soon go into service for Mates in Mining, a service preventing suicides in mining communities across Australia. McArthur River Mine was the first mine site in the Northern Territory to become an accredited Mates in Mining community. This was achieved by training all staff in suicide awareness and selected staff as supporters to help those who may need help.

The charity trucks fund raising efforts are in addition to activities held earlier in the year at MRM for the Mother’s Day Classic and Run with Dad, for father’s day.
Announcement of the 2020 Northern Australia Emergency Response Competition

The Northern Australian Emergency Response Competition is an event organised by the Minerals Council of Australia and plays an integral part in emergency response training. The competition gives our MRM team the opportunity to test their skills in the field through simulated emergency situations.

The scenarios are designed to be the closest that teams will get to the real thing, while putting teams under the pressure of being judged by seasoned professional adjudicators and watched by their peers, colleagues, family and the general public.

MRM is very pleased to announce the MRM train-on team for 2020 competition. The team will be competing in Darwin from the 28th to 31st May 2020.

Please pass on your congratulations and support to the following who will be representing MRM: Stephen Cusack, Mitch Griffiths, Shaun Jurd, Daniel Moore, Emerson Pollard, Kyle Wagner, Leigh Wardrope, and Mitchell Wilson.

Isn’t Christmas and New Year a time of gathering with our families, sharing meals and celebrating holidays together? For FIFO workers and their families it can be a time when work rosters mean they can’t be together and it can be tough.

For some, Christmas and New Year can be a very lonely time. Results from research at Queensland’s Griffith University showed a significant increase in depression and suicides on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Day. Workmates can help by being aware of the increased risk at these times. If someone you know is struggling, this is a time to offer extra support and include the person in your activities.

If you are struggling yourself then let someone know. They may be able to help you feel better and find some solutions to the tyranny of distance which keeps you apart from significant others.

Most importantly if you have thoughts of suicide SEEK HELP IMMEDIATELY. Tell someone you trust and ask them to stay with you. Speak to a mate, a peer support worker, a supervisor, or an Emergency Medical Officer.

Mates in Mining has also established a national helpline on 1300 642 111. They suggest that if you have a mate in trouble, you offer to do this together.

MRM Emergency Management

This month, eight MRM staff completed their national competency in Emergency Incident Response Management facilitated by safety training specialists ERGT.

The course focuses on developing situational awareness and building the capacity of team members to take on specific coordination roles in the event of an emergency, and manage the company’s response to a major incident.

Emergency management involves constant review and identification of improvement opportunities regarding our site’s emergency plans and procedures. The team members were put through a series of mock incident scenarios to practice their new skills.

Have your family members got the MRM Community app?

Available on iPhone and Android
Search for MRM COMMUNITY

Make sure your family members have access to MRM Communication Alerts during this cyclone season.
Christmas Parties 2019

Our Christmas parties held in Darwin are organised by the MRM Social Club.

Stations Christmas 2019

Our local pastoral stations gathered together at Leila Creek Station this month for their bi-annual Funkhana social event.

Skipping Skills for local school holiday program

A partnership between NT Skipping, Roper Gulf Regional Council and McArthur River Mine created a special sports day for 24 kids from Borroloola this month.

To maximise time with the Elite Skippers, who had flown in from Darwin, the skills workshops were held on site in the MRM Village. MST prepped the mess area for a full 5 hours of rope skipping, led by Eliza, Hermine, Sammy, Abbey and Calan from the Pumper Jumpers skipping club.

Skipping NT gifted Roper Gulf Regional Council a ‘starter pack’ of ropes that should allow them to incorporate skipping as a regular part of their ongoing sports program through the school holidays.