



Bamangka Kaban

"People's Paper"

New opportunities all at sea

Jabalbina is keenly waiting on the arrival of our own custom-made – and as yet unnamed – boat, due to be arriving soon from Brisbane, where it's in its final stages of construction.

The vessel is an 8-metre pontoon-style vessel that is surveyed to carry eight people, as well as field equipment and even our Kubota ATV (four-wheeled buggy) with its drop-down ramp – perfect for beach launches.

It will be powered by twin 90hp Suzuki motors and has all of the

required navigation equipment and electronics, as well as safety equipment which actually exceed the requirements for our style of operation.

The new boat will open up a variety of land and sea management activities for the Rangers, including coastal marine debris contracts for BioSecurity,

beach clean-ups, pest management and management of cultural sites along the coast and islands.

Rangers have been undertaking their Coxswains training and compliance certificates to allow them greater powers when out on the water managing our Bubu and Jalun.



Jabalbina on international award stage

In October Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation chair Desmond Tayley flew with CEO Jim Turnour to Bangkok, in Thailand, to accept an international accolade on behalf of Traditional Owners and the QPWS. See pages 2 & 12 for more!

ALSO INSIDE news and reports from our management team (right) – they are National Park Planning Officer Dan Keynes, CEO Jim Turnour, Ranger Coordinator - Assets Philip Minniecon, Enterprise Manager Anthony, Financial Controller Robin Saltmarsh, IPA Manager Jeff Arneith, Ranger Coordinator - Personnel Dawn Harrigan & Native Title Tenure Resolution Manager Conrad Yeatman.



Jabalbina has come so far we now have a range of government departments working through us to deliver services on country making it another busy year for us, CEO Jim Turnour writes...

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) is now increasingly relying on Jabalbina through our core ranger program for maintenance works in the National Parks.

At the same time, the Department of Natural Resources, Mining and Environment (DNRME) have relied on Jabalbina to support mine rehabilitation works near Rossville.

We are also getting the private sector and philanthropists knocking on our door wanting to work with Jabalbina and Bama businesses around tourism and land management contracting.

Developing tourism enterprises will be a major focus in 2019.

Staff are challenged every day to deliver good services so we can continue to grow, and create more jobs and opportunity for Bama.

We understand that the Bama communities expectations of Jabalbina are high and we all continue to work very hard every day to meet them.

I want to thank the Board and staff for their support and hard work this year.

We can't continue to deliver for Bama however, without the support of our funders and partners.

I would like to thank the Queensland and Australian Governments for their ongoing support and particularly agencies like Prime Minister and Cabinet, DATSIP, DNRME and QPWS for their investment in Jabalbina and through the corporation, Bama.

We look forward to strengthening our engagement with local councils in 2019 including Wujal Wujal, Douglas Shire and Cook Shire, particularly as we look to enable Bama to return to live and work on country.

We continue to develop our networks and partnerships including with the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA), Terrain Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Cape York NRM.

Jabalbina became a Member of Tourism Tropical North Queensland this year and we look forward to



ABOVE: DNRME's Tyson Smalley and Travis Warren with CEO Jim Turnour & Chair Desmond Tayley

working with tourism peak bodies and businesses to realise the enormous tourism potential across Yalanji Bubu and Jalun in 2019.

We had support from the Cape York Land Council this year for tourism planning and look forward to continuing to work with the Cape York Organisations to support Bama aspirations for country.

I'm looking forward to a good break, I'll be taking my family to the USA visiting extended family over the Christmas Holidays.

I would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Recognition result of team effort

So much has happened since our last Bamangka Kaban, only a few months ago Jabalbina Chair Desmond Tayley writes...

The CEO's and my trip to Thailand to pick up an international award on behalf of Jabalbina and the Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS) was definitely a highlight.

There is more about that on page 12, but for me personally, the opportunity to see a different culture was an experience, especially from a tourism perspective.

We visited World Heritage sites showcasing culture, and I think we in Australia have much to learn from that, not just from Thailand, but we heard New Zealand also does that very well.

Overall it was a networking experience, and it was also humbling to be recognised on that kind of scale.

I think it's important to recognise as well, that it was and is the team effort that comes from this organisation, in partnership with the QPWS, that got us over the line and into the spotlight for that recognition.

To see the progress from where we have come from to where it is today has been an incredible journey.

It's been a concerted effort from the whole team, from previous boards of directors up to the present, and all our teams on the ground who have worked very hard to achieve what we have today.

As we go into the end of 2018, I'd also like to take the opportunity to wish all our staff, community and groups within our area a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Our Admin Team: Financial Controller Robin Saltmarsh, Accounts Admin Kudisha Pierce, NTTR Admin Saisha Schonenberger, Receptionist Kellie Schreiber, CEO Jim Turnour & Cultural Heritage Officer Sheryl Burchill.



First hand look for D-G

Wujal Wujal's Queensland Government Champion Director-General (D-G) Jamie Merrick was in town late last month, for his third and final visit for the year.

Mr Merrick took the opportunity to have a look at the work Jabalbina teams have done at Kija Camp Ground (Roaring Meg).

Jabalbina chair Desmond Tayley said they were keen to make sure visitors were properly managed up at the falls.

"The public space up there has been tidied up and the toilets upgraded," he said.

"It's very important to have these D-G visits so they can see the funds they provide being put to good use.

"He represents the Department of Environment and Science, under Minister Leanne Enoch, so they are an important funding body for us.

"If he can see we are using the funds in the right way, that creates opportunities for us which mean we can protect and preserve more of our Bubu.

"It's good for him to come and see it first hand, to come out on Country and see what we are actually doing."

Mr Merrick and Executive Director Alena Tracey were welcomed and smoked on site by CJ Fischer and met with local Buru community members over a damper and billy tea.





Well spotted!

University of the Sunshine Coast researchers have been getting to know a few of our local Spotted Tailed Quolls (*Dasyurus maculatus*) thanks to some strategically placed camera traps set up in a secret location on Eastern Kuku Yalanji Bubu, with the help of Jabalbina rangers.

National Parks Planning Officer Dan Keynes said the quolls were attracted to camera traps, which were using a combination of different baits.

“The quoll can smell the bait, but can’t actually eat it,” Mr Keynes said.

“The stations are positioned so that the quolls have to stand up to get to them, which allows the researchers to tell if the quoll is male or female.”

He said five individual quolls were recorded and identified by their spotted pattern which is unique to each individual.

“Spotted Tailed Quolls are omnivorous mammals, meaning they eat both plants and animals, including insects, grubs, worms,

small reptiles, fruits and berries,” he said.

Researchers also found and filmed other threatened species such as ghost bat (*Macroderma gigas*) and spiny crayfish (*Euastacus robertsi*) as well as several endangered frog species.

“The ghost bat, which is a microbat, was discovered at night time, and is listed as ‘Endangered’ under the Queensland Nature Conservation Act and ‘Vulnerable’ under the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, so that was a pretty significant find,” he said.

“Especially in these areas where effects of climate change may be encountered in its earliest stages.”

He said the researchers were

welcomed to country by Traditional Owners and given a smoking ceremony to allow their safe journey on Eastern Kuku Yalanji Bubu.

“Jabalbina Rangers will be well equipped to carry on this valuable research into the future to conserve and preserve these threatened species,” he said.

Quick Facts about Quolls (from WTMA)

Two quoll species inhabit north Queensland, the spotted-tailed quoll and the northern quoll. The word quoll comes from an Aboriginal word from the Cooktown area, Ja-quoll. The genus *Dasyurus* includes three other Australian and two New Guinean species. The quolls’ closest living relative is the Tasmanian Devil.

Rangers 'crews' thro

Jabalbina's three Indigenous Protected Area ranger groups are based in Ayton, Mossman and Shipton's Flat so they can work at the front lines of the core of our work here on our Eastern Yalanji Bubu.

Each group has its own distinct Country to care for and look after, and each group takes on tasks diligently and with a purpose that can only come from the heart of who and where they are.

New IPA Manager Jeff Arneth – who covers a lot of ground in his job! – says they all work hard.

"The Shipton's Flat crew has just been finishing off some fencing projects at Jajikal and more recently they've been engaging with the community on monitoring wildfires," he said.

"They've also been reviewing their plant and equipment to see what they have and what they need to be able to undertake minor construction works and some signage maintenance coming up."

He said Ayton and Mossman crews had also been working with fences and fire.

"Ayton have also progressed with fencing at Trevathan and have been involved in a back burn at Zig Zag homestead," he said.

"They have also just finished fencing the Daintree cemetery and maintaining the Buru site up at Roaring Meg."

He said the Mossman crew had been set in a slightly different direction.

"A highlight for the Mossman crew has been working with Fisheries out of Port Douglas," he said.

"They've been out on a patrol vessel, and the idea is we want to start working together doing joint patrols."

He said things only slowed to a

different focus, rather than pace, over the coming wet season.

"Once the rain falls we'll be focused more on weed management activities and organising clan group meetings around land, fire, pest and weed management," he said.

"It is important to consult with Bama about the work we propose to do and the clan group meetings are an opportunity to bring people together to have their input as well as the work we do with Elders throughout the year"

Pictured above right: Fire debriefing at ZigZag and Right: Daintree Cemetery Fencing



Mossman Ranger Crew

Adam Fischer, Lester Port, Anthea Solomon
& Nigel Minniecon



Ayton Ranger Crew

Vincent Tayley, Alister G...
& Bradley C...

ough heavy workload



er Crew

bson, Nikita Tayley
Creek



Shipton Ranger Crew

Calvin Greenwool, Will Smith, Charlie Ross-Kelly
& Kallum Clarke



Enterprise initiatives paying off for Bama

Contract work for QPWS for almost everything from boardwalk repair to fencing has kept our workers busy over the past six months Jabalbina Enterprise Manager Anthony Czygan says.

“We’ve also been doing maintenance and renovations on the toilets in the Daintree National Park,” he said.

“We’ve just started repairing all the picnic shelters and other infrastructure within the National Park as well.

“That involves re-screwing the rooves, painting them, putting in new tables and just general repairs and maintenance.

“And we’ve done some other work such as installing new water tanks and concrete slabs to support those tanks and other watering points around the park.”

He said they had also won opportunities to work on some of the bigger contracting jobs in the park.

“Some of bigger contracting firms who have won tenders with QPWS include working on the new Marrdja Boardwalk upgrade that will start in January,” he said.

“There was an opportunity there for Bama to jump in

with a bigger company to gain some skills, experience to build their capability and capacity.

“And Jabalbina also won a contract, working with Zeph Walker, who’s a Bama builder from Walker Homes Construction, to put three new walking bridges in at Jindalba on the walking tracks.

“Jabalbina won a portion of the demolition of the three bridges and our workers will help Zeph work on the bridges.

“In turn that should help us to have those skills and experience on board which means we can look to further contracts in the future.”

He said a lot of work had also gone into the Kija campsite at Roaring Megs.

“Some enterprise workers worked to clean up the area with a backhoe, chain saw, whipper snippers and mowers,” he said.

“The camping ground is now all clear after they burned off earlier in the year and cleared up the debris.

“We can now start marketing that area as a destination and that will be good business for the Traditional Owners up there who are already running tours.”

He said there were other contracts ‘on the go’ from the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

“We’ve also won the contract to put a new fence line out at Shipton’s Flat,” he said.

“And lastly, but by no means least, the Collingwood Mine plant and machinery is all gone, and have finalised a rehabilitation plan for the site working with Kuku Nyungkal Elders Subcommittee.”

“The Plan was endorsed by the Jabalbina Board at a recent meeting.”



TOP: Collingwood Mine Site Committee;
ABOVE: Our Enterprise crew: Team Leader Rickie Burchill, Manager Anthony Czygan & Assistant Raymond Lafragua

TONC push for ‘hands-on’ approach

A third Traditional Owner Negotiation Committee (TONC) meeting, held in early November made progress on our journey to strengthen Bama involvement in National Park Management.

The TONC meetings are facilitated by Jabalbina as part of Traditional Owner support services for the Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program which is transitioning national parks to joint management and Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal Land (CYPAL).

Jabalbina's Native Title Tenure Resolutions Manager Conrad Yeatman said each member of the TONC and key stakeholders provided positive comment and feedback on how the meeting advanced over the three days.

He said TONC members remained committed to, and focused on, establishing and adhering to culturally appropriate park management principles and practices and increasing employment and opportunities. "The TONC is focused on seeing a hands-on approach to management by Bama of the four National Parks areas, with support from QPWS, transitioning over time to sole management by Bama," he said.

"Jabalbina continues to receive positive feedback about the CYPAL negotiation process from Traditional Owners."

He said high on the list of priorities was Traditional Owners' aspirations for park management.

"These have been identified through Indigenous Protected Area Management Plans and should be incorporated in management plans," he said.

"An example of that would be the Daintree Management Plan, but where management plans aren't developed then Indigenous Protected Area Plans should be foundation documents for QPWS planning and management instruments," he said.

"It was also agreed that Yalanji Tourism Development, facilitated by Jabalbina, should be a focus moving forward to support Traditional Owners to be engaged in Tourism ventures.

He said the field trip involved the TONC and a range of stakeholders involved with an on-country visit and tour of the proposed Bama Tourism opportunity at Dubuji Board Walk in Cape Tribulation.





New tourism c'tee keen to map potential

Eastern Kuku Yalanji land and sea country is set to change the way they do tourism business after recent meetings in Wujal Wujal and Mossman took the first steps towards mapping their opportunities.

As a result of the initiative, taken by Jabalbina, the Eastern Yalanji Tourism Steering Committee representing existing Yalanji tourism businesses from a cross section of clan groups, has been formed.

JYAC Chair Desmond Tayley said Tourism and Events Queensland board member Johnathan Thurston was one of several guests on the day.

Mr Tayley said discussions highlighted how much capacity for Indigenous tourism already existed in the region, and the extraordinary opportunity for significant growth.

"We heard from Traditional Owners who are already operating successful tourism businesses, ranging from Trike Rides in Port Douglas, Janbal Art Gallery in Mossman, through to bush camping sites and hosting school groups by Traditional Owners in China Camp and Shipton's Flat," Mr Tayley said.

"We also heard from those who aspire to start their own tourism business to enable Bama to return to live on country.

"The workshop is the first step towards developing a road map for tourism development across Eastern Kuku Yalanji land and sea country.

"Government agencies, peak tourism bodies and existing businesses have an important role to play supporting and partnering with Yalanji people if the potential for Indigenous tourism is to be fully realised."

He said the workshop heard Mossman Gorge had 372,000 visitors last year, which was more than Uluru.

"There is an immediate opportunity for the Gorge to be a gateway to disperse people throughout the region, to connect with other Yalanji, to experience the different cultures in areas around

Roaring Meg and further north in Shipton's Flat," he said.

Traditional Owner Juan Walker, Walkabout Cultural Adventures operator for the past ten years, agreed there was untapped potential.

"The sky is the limit," he said.

"The job opportunities for Indigenous people are endless.

"We want to pass on our cultural knowledge to our young people and tourism is a means of ensuring our culture doesn't die."

Roy Gibson, born and raised at Mossman Gorge where he currently does guided walks, also wanted to share his knowledge about Yalanji culture.

The new steering committee met for the first time last month in Wujal Wujal to review the outcomes from the workshop and agreed to focus on tourism business development and marketing of a Yalanji tourism trail.



New staff / New roles



Shipton Flats Team Leader Will Smith was born in Cairns and grew up in Yarrabah.

He worked on several cane farms throughout the Mossman district over his working life, before becoming a trainee for QPWS in 1995, also in Mossman, and he has been with them ever since in coordinating and supervisory roles.

He was excited to take the opportunity to work with Jabalbina earlier this year and is looking forward to a long future with us.

Favourite Day of Week: Friday!

Favourite Team: Parramatta Eels.

IPA Manager Jeff Arneth is from the banks of the Norman River and grew up amongst the sugar cane, at his home on the Tablelands near Lake Eacham.

He has been a Ranger for QPWS Tablelands and a Ranger Coordinator for Gungahdj, Ewamian and Djunbunji. He is also an Arborist (tree surgeon!).

In his immediate future he says he is looking forward to Xmas and the new year.

Favourite day of the week: Friday

Favourite team:

Now JT has retired I'm a bit lost!

New Ayton Rangers Team Leader, Alister Gibson was born in Cairns and grew up in Wujal Wujal.

He has been carpenter with the Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council and was a Councillor for eight years.

He has also been a Family Wellbeing Support worker and has coached several local footy teams.

And he has owned his own landscaping business.

Favourite day of the week: Thursday (today!)

Favourite team: Brisbane Broncos

New Ranger Coordinator for Personnel, Dawn Harrigan, grew up in Cooktown with her late Grandfather and Aunty.

Before I came to Jabalbina I was the Indigenous Knowledge Centre Coordinator for Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council.

She says she is enjoying her new job as coordinator, even though it is challenging, she says she is up for it.

Favourite day of the week: this new job has been so dynamic and unique, no two days are ever the same, and that's I love it.
Favourite team: Melbourne Storms and I also love fishing and camping.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AWARDS CEREMONY 2018

OCTOBER 30, 2018 UN CONFERENCE CENTER, BANGKOK, THAILAND



Jabalbina on international award stage

In October Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation chair Desmond Tayley flew with CEO Jim Turnour to Bangkok, in Thailand, to accept an international accolade on behalf of Traditional Owners and the Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS).

Together with Thailand's own Krabi Province, the Daintree National Park's planning and management has been recognised with the Global Low-Carbon Ecological Scenic Spot award, one of seven categories of an annual worldwide prize awarded by the Global Forum on Human Settlements and supported by the United Nations Environment Program.

The Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements Awards ceremony was held during a 2-day conference which brought together more than 400 major stakeholders from as many as 40 countries, with presentations made to 36 winners for their "significant contributions to sustainable cities and human settlements for all".

Mr Tayley said it was very humbling to receive such an award on behalf of the whole of the organisation and the team behind it.

"It takes a joint effort from everyone to be recognised at a global level like that," he said.

"The award was presented at their annual conference where there were people from all over the world, from Fiji to China to Dubai.

"We got a lot out of it, they spoke about tourism, sustainable building, digital technology.

"We also had the chance to visit some national parks, also World Heritage listed, and it was very impressive.

"Thousands of people visit these monument sites every year and I think they were really showcasing their culture.

"I don't think we do that enough here in Australia and I think we could learn from that."

The award was presented to Mr Tayley and QPWS Executive Director James Newman by Secretary General of Global Forum on Human Settlements and President of Better City Institute Lu Haifeng.



In the pictures are QPWS Executive Director James Newman and Colt Pitt with Desmond Tayley and Jim Turnour on the conference's World Heritage Site Tour in Thailand and (top) at the Awards ceremony.