

# MG CORPORATION News



*Roads servicing MG Community Living Areas are in desperate need of upgrading. (Photo: Guy McLean)*

## Community roads in state of disrepair

Prominent local Aboriginal leader Desmond Hill says lives are being put in danger due to the shambolic state of roads which service local Aboriginal Community Living Areas (CLAs). Mr Hill, who is Chairman of Kununurra-based MG Corporation, says many of the roads which lead to CLAs are not passable during wet season months and not much better during the dry.

“Most of these roads are in desperate need of repair,” Mr Hill said.

“If a situation arises where someone living in these CLAs needs urgent medical treatment there could be dire outcomes.”

Mr Hill said MG Corporation’s Aboriginal Development Program (ADP) had committed \$200,000 towards repairs on the CLA roads, while MG’s Community Foundation Trust (CFT) was also

considering a request for funding.

However, he also called on the relevant state and local government departments to pitch in “their fair share” of funding.

“These roads are a disgrace and it’s going to take a lot of work to get them back up to standard.

“People on CLAs are constantly putting their cars in for costly repairs due to damage caused travelling to and from Kununurra for work and other daily business.”



## Yee-Haa employees blaze trail to success



*Jason Woodman, left, and Jason Reid will continue to work and learn at Yee-Haa Trail Rides thanks to ADP assistance. (Photo: Guy McLean)*

TWO Kununurra teenagers will continue to gain qualifications in their chosen field thanks to additional funding support from MG Corporation's Aboriginal Development Package (ADP). Jason Reid and Jason Woodman have spent last year undertaking school-based traineeships with Yee-Haa Trail Rides and the new ADP funding will allow them to continue working in the job they love for another year.

The boys gained their certificates 2 in agriculture and conservation and land management last year and are undertaking their certificate 3 in agriculture in 2014. News of the injection of ADP funds was welcomed with tears of

joy. "It was the best news ever," Jason Reid, 16, said. "We've both learnt so much working with Yee-Haa and now we can spend 2014 building up our skills and qualifications even further."

Yee-Haa Trail Rides owner Kris Thomas said the trainees had become an integral part of his business.

"They've learnt the ropes from the ground up and they're always trying to pick up new things on the job," he said. The work at Yee-Haa is diverse, ranging from horse riding and animal husbandry, fencing and property management to providing a tourist experience

for the hundreds of visitors who step into the saddle for guided trail rides.

"It's the best job in the world," said 18 year-old Jason Woodman.

"We're earning our own money while we learn work skills which will help us get employment, either here in Kununurra or somewhere else, for the rest of our lives."

MG Corporation deputy chairperson Helen Gerrard said she was proud to see ADP funding attached to such a worthwhile program.

"These two young men are setting a shining example for the Aboriginal youth of this area."