

# MG CORPORATION News

## Strong start to KAI's Aboriginal employment

The company clearing land on the recent Ord Stage 2 expansion site has made an encouraging start to building a local Aboriginal workforce in Kununurra.

Kimberley Agricultural Investments, the Chinese-owned company named as the government's preferred option to develop and farm the new Ord lands earlier this year, already boasts a workforce consisting of more than 60 per cent Aboriginal employees.

MG Corporation Chairperson Ms Edna O'Malley said KAI had demonstrated an early commitment to driving Aboriginal outcomes through employment opportunities.

"It's great to see so many Aboriginal people employed by KAI in such a short time," Ms O'Malley said.



*Former MG land and water ranger Stephen Davies now works with KAI.  
(Picture: Guy McLean)*

"By all reports KAI are extremely happy with the work they're doing out there on the land clearing and, hopefully, there'll be more jobs available after the wet season."

KAI General Manager Jim Engelke said the company had exceeded its own early

expectations around Indigenous employment outcomes.

"We're really proud of the crew we've put on the ground," Mr Engelke said.

"Our workforce, being 60 per cent Aboriginal, reflects the community we live in here in the East Kimberley and it makes good business sense to employ local people."

## MG Corporation board expands to bring the skills of Ted Hall Jnr and Des Hill to the decision making table

MG Corporation now has a full contingent of five MG directors on its board following elections earlier this month.

Ted Hall and Desmond Hill were

elected to the two vacant MG directors' positions, joining Edna O'Malley, Helen Gerrard and Ted Carlton on the board.

Ted Hall Junior is a local

businessman with family links to the Miriuwung, Gija and Mulngin (NT) traditional owner groups.

A proud father of five, Ted was educated in Kununurra, Perth and

Adelaide, before undertaking an associate diploma in journalism and broadcasting at the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.

Ted currently lives at his family community Mandangalla (Glen Hill) and has worked in the pastoral industry and spent a decade working at Waringarri Radio.

Desmond Hill is a local Miriwung man who is currently employed as the Chief Executive Officer at Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation and has served as a director of various Aboriginal corporations in the Kimberley. He is passionate about improving the health, education and employment outcomes for MG people and conserving the ancient culture.



**There were emotional goodbyes and even the odd tear as MG Corporation directors, members and staff said farewell to popular long-serving staff member Kelly Edwards earlier this month.**

**Kelly spent more than two years at MG Corporation, working as company secretary during a period of great transition.**

**MG Corporation Chairperson Ms Edna O'Malley thanked Kelly for her dedicated service and wished her well during her new role working at Jabiru in the Northern Territory alongside traditional owners of Kakadu National Park.**

**"Kelly has been a great asset to MG Corporation during her time of service," Ms O'Malley said.**

**Katrina Eastham has now replaced Kelly in the role of company secretary.**



## **MG leaders say "No" to domestic violence**

MG Corporation shared a leading role in raising awareness about the need to stamp out domestic violence in the East Kimberley. Hundreds rallied at White Gum Park for Kununurra's first Annual Silent Domestic Violence Memorial March on Friday 22 November 2013. They honoured all those who have lost their lives as a result of domestic and family violence. Particular victims were remembered by their family members. Someone who had experienced and escaped domestic

violence also shared her experience with those present. A tree was planted in memory. Helen Gerrard, who is a prominent member of organisers GY Corporation and also MG Corporation's Deputy Chairperson, was pleased to see so many people from the local Aboriginal and non-Indigenous communities turn out for such an important event. "As a community, we all need to stand up and say 'enough is enough' and events like this just help raise awareness."

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