

Young Indigenous Meatworkers Gazette

News letter of the Boys from the Bush Projects, Remote Area Work Scheme (RAWS)
Issue No. 7, Wednesday, 20 January 2010



This space is reserved for the logos of those meat processing companies that engage RAWS workers

Another successful Northern Territory recruitment drive

With all the NT organisations closed down for the Christmas and the New Year break, Milton was busy travelling about the NT in the dust, heat, flies and flooding rains, recruiting young people to the Remote Area Work Scheme.

In climatic terms, this recruitment drive could not have occurred at a worse time. Nevertheless, Milton managed to recruit a record breaking 19 young people within 2 weeks.

This recruitment drive also occurred during a period when, according to some people, few young people would be in the communities due to cultural business. The result of this recruitment drive, however, tells a different story.

I came across a very interesting thing on this trip. These days we hear a lot about the large number of young people from

remote communities on drugs and alcohol. I have also talked a lot about this problem. To my surprise, on this trip, I came across a large number of unemployed young people from remote communities who are **not** on drugs and alcohol.

The first of our new recruits from the second recruitment drive



Elroy Raymond resident of Ti-Tree is the first of our new recruits from the second recruitment drive. Elroy travelled back to Narrandera with Milton in the recruitment vehicle and caravan.

Pictured below is Milton leaving the community of Santa Teresa.



Barry Campbell, our first worker to be moved up to knife work

Pictured below is Barry Campbell from Titjikala. Barry is our first worker to be moved from Rockdale Beef's meat packing line to a trainee slicer on the boning floor.



Keep up the good work Barry.

New main home and workers flats

Over Christmas we took up the opportunity to move into a better home with 4 bedrooms and a short walk to the main street; more suited to our needs and for the larger number of young people soon to arrive.



Milton has also rented 2 flats side-by-side, overlooking the river channel. The selected residents have the choice of living by themselves or sharing the flats with other workers chosen by Milton.



Pictured above are the 2 flats on the river side.

Barry's wife, Christobell, and daughter, Giaam



Pictured above is Barry's wife and daughter. They came down to Narrandera from Titjikala to spend Christmas and New Year with Barry.

This is the first time BFTB has successfully taken on a family man, where he and his wife have come to accept the truth that very few jobs will ever come to Titjikala.

To increase the family income and build a career for themselves fathers and husbands have no choice but to look for work in other parts of the country.

Moses Mulda - Money man



Rockdale Beef provide good paying jobs to young people willing to work hard.

It was bound to happen sooner or later - the first young person to throw it in

All RAWS participants love to see their picture in this newsletter and have me write about how well they are doing, but not everyone will be successful.

Sadly, Jason Boko of Titjikala is the first person to have broken his agreement and returned home after only 1 month.

Jason always had a weak work ethic, and going off welfare to try and work for a living proved all too much for him.

His father also sent him a large amount of money which didn't help matters.

Boys from the Bush (BFTB) Projects has been endorsed as a public benevolent institution and a tax concession charity

BFTB Projects was established to provide benevolent relief to disadvantaged young Indigenous people living in remote communities.

The Australian Government has now endorsed BFTB Projects as a Public Benevolent Institution and a tax concession charity.

This means that BFTB Projects may now receive tax deductible gifts of money or property for the purpose of providing relief to disadvantaged young Indigenous people living in remote communities.

Another great donation towards our bus

Ted and Rozie Sherwood have made a super generous donation of \$1,000 towards the cost of our work bus.

Many thanks Ted and Rozie, from all of us.



Please keep the donations coming. With the help from Soad James, Lara Wieland, Michael McDaid, and Ted and Rozie, we are going very well towards the full cost of \$10,000 for our bus.

Worker of the Month Award and Most Improved Worker Award

We will soon be introducing 2 types of awards for our workers:

- Worker of the Month Award
- Most Improved Worker of the Month Award

Workers will be selected by Rockdale Beef management on the basis of their work performance, and by Milton on the basis of their behaviour outside of work.

We plan to present these awards at a dinner at a local restaurant.

We are now calling on organisations, including Job Service Australia service providers to sponsor the presentation of these awards.

The idea behind these awards was first developed by Milton with groups of disadvantaged young people back in the 1980s with a great deal of success. The practice was developed further in the late 1990s with young offenders using a number of prestigious restaurants in Cairns.

These awards will be good for the recipient's curriculum vitae (CV)

EDUCATIONAL SECTION FOR RAWS' WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Which chicken has the most fat?

- A) KFC chicken**
- B) takeaway barbequed chicken**
- C) grilled breast of chicken (no skin)**



**Look at the next page for the answer in
teaspoons of fat**



- A) KFC is highest in fat because it is deep fried in oil
- B) Most of the fat in barbequed chicken is in the skin
- C) Grilled chicken without the skin is the lowest in fat

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Australian Government

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 Lara Wieland

