

# THE KEE BOARD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KEE GROUP



Photo by Clayton Spiers

## NEWS IN BRIEF

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## HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

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## EMPLOYEE PROFILE

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With the first quarter fast approaching its end, **KEE** Group has been busy strengthening its leadership team with the addition of our first Group General Manager.

Mr. David Cox is certainly no stranger to our industry or our great West Australian state and he brings with him a wealth of experience and expertise throughout all our divisions. His passion and enthusiasm for our **KEE** family are already visible. Welcome David, and from all of us may I say this..."Strap yourself in for one hell of a ride, for our team is sharp, fast-paced and we burn on high octane fuel in our pursuit to support those who rely on our services; men, women, and machines."

**KEE** Group is continuing to focus on supporting our equipment and services with some new personnel joining our leadership team soon.

To our team, clients and customers, thank you for your continued support and energy, we are committed to serving you. If you are in Port Hedland over the Easter break, please drop in to say hello and pick up an Easter egg or two!

**Clayton Spiers, Director**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### **KEE Hire:**

**KEE** is at the start of our roller fleet upgrade, with the arrival of 30 new Dynapac Rollers so far this year and a further 50 to come.

It has been a busy and exciting start to 2021 with the continued growth in government and contracted works commencing throughout the whole of our wonderful state. Given the growth and fast-tracking of projects, **KEE** has made some significant investments in new dump trucks, artic water



One of The Originals; James 'Coady' Coad is pictured (left), receiving his commemorative gift for ten years' service, from Surfacing Manager Teokotai 'Bumpy' Samuel.

## KEE ANGELS

Here at **KEE**, we like to help out with our local communities where we can. This week, we were asked to help our local kangaroo sanctuary in Port Hedland.

The only feed available to the charity was in Perth, so with the help of **KEE's** Neil Casey and Nathan Terrell, and Theo Tsorvas from the Consolidated Group, we were able to coordinate and transport 12 pallets of hay and feed to the hungry 'roos.

The owner of the orphanage, Lisa Rose said; "Thank you to the big-hearted **KEE** angels! We don't know what we would have done without you!"



carts, production loaders, excavators, graders, positraks, tippers, and six-wheel water carts to support not only our local clients' needs but the needs of the **KEE** Group Northern Command (KGNC) Depot. We are the 'Go-To Hire Company'.

As we have said time and time again, we will continue to meet our clients' needs. Please feel free to contact me, I'd be happy to discuss your project requirements.

**Natalie Martin, Hire Co-ordinator**

### KEE Surfacing:

It's 2021, and we are proud to say that **KEE** Surfacing has now been running for a decade. This year we had the pleasure of presenting our original employees of **KEE** Surfacing with their ten-year service awards. As we are a relatively new company, it's good to see that we have kept our old-school team members who believe in loyalty. Congratulations to James Coad and Barry Weaver for ten years' service. Their solid hard work and dedication to **KEE** Surfacing is both inspiring and commendable.

In addition to our current order book, I would like to make mention of our successful inclusion into the Metropolitan Network Contract Annual Works Program. We are very grateful for this opportunity to assist Downer Mouchel in maintaining our great state's road network.

**KEE** Group has invested in further new equipment for our division; with the arrival of our two brand new spreader trucks for our spray seal division, our Super 2100 Paver for our base laying operations, fully equipped with MM-GPS levelling system, and a full replacement of our rolling fleet. This is to ensure not only our teams have the best equipment, but also our valued clients. With our growing capabilities, assisted by our team's experience and can-do attitude, this can only be a good thing.

**Bumpy Samuel, KEE Surfacing**

### KEE Fuel

Has everyone noticed the fuel prices lately? Onwards and upwards as the world enters recovery mode. Although



Our **KEE Fuel** scheduling team; Kunal Chhavia and Shannon Bowman.

## INDUSTRY NEWS

On the back of the surge in the iron ore price, the mining industry in Western Australia is again in the resurgence of a boom. Mining in WA is our single largest financial sector, and our mainstay of stability and profitability amid the uncertain times of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Iron ore is the first commodity to break \$100 billion in a boom year for commodity exports, with the export also breaking its monthly record in December 2020 at \$12.6 billion.

This was led by high demand across Asia, with China importing 1.17 billion tonnes of iron ore in 2020, exceeding its 1.075 billion-tonne record from 2017. Despite the serious trade tensions between China and Australia, iron ore exports are expected to rise by 2.3% in 2021, to 896 million tonnes.

Perth and regional areas are in a strong position to rebound from Australia's pandemic-induced recession with several major development projects underway across the city and regional areas.  
Source: [australiamining.com](http://australiamining.com)

**“The secret to success is to do the common things uncommonly well.”**

— John D. Rockefeller

here in WA we have been sheltered from the worst of COVID-19 and, to be honest, most companies we talk with, in both transport and construction segments, have all said they have “never been busier” – I guess we really are the lucky ones.

The other big change in WA is that we have seen our refinery close. What will happen from here as WA looks towards importing all its fuel products? Prices should become more competitive, right?

We will see several new storage facilities completed in the next few years and the refinery change into a major storage terminal. WA should see an increase in terminal capacity to over a billion litres of fuel products. The question is, how long will that last us all, and if there are supply chain disruptions for any reason, how likely is that even to happen?

January was also another milestone for **KEE Fuel** as we welcomed our latest piglet into the family! This gives us surety of supply, with two trucks heading to the northern metro projects and two heading to southern projects as we play our little part in the recovery and infrastructure programs. **KEE Fuel** will have you covered.

**Leigh Hayward, KEE Fuel Manager**

### **KEE Transport:**

It has certainly been an interesting past few months, with another Covid 19 lockdown period, the recent Perth bushfires and to top it off, some very heavy rainfall causing extensive road damage and flooding to WA's far northwest. With all this in mind, **KEE Transport** has continued operating across the state unabated. The pandemic has highlighted the high-value road transportation plays in the economic recovery for not only the state, but also the finances of the nation.

Regarding the recent bushfires in the Perth Hills district, it was our absolute pleasure to be in a position where we could help our firefighters and volunteers by delivering a Caterpillar D10t bulldozer free of charge. The Fireies used this dozer to get out in front of the fires and clear a massive firebreak which played a part in finally being able to contain the spread even further. This was the very least we could do for those who put other's safety before their own.

**Nathan Terrell, KEE Transport Manager**

# EMPLOYEE PROFILE

TODD FULLER, BRANCH MANAGER, PORT HEDLAND



## KEE'S PILBARA POWERHOUSE

"He has been exceptional" are the words straight from the transport and logistics manager at Austral Construction, Stuart 'Foz' Forster. "Todd is incredibly dedicated to his customers. He is very mindful of the state of equipment both going out and coming back in. He doesn't let anything go out unless he's 100% satisfied, which gives everyone peace of mind."

Todd and his crew have checked and supplied over thirty pieces of equipment to Austral Construction for the Gudai-Darri Project in Wittenoom alone.

In fact, Todd has been so dedicated that the team at Austral felt compelled to send flowers and a card to his wife, after Todd made the decision to stay back in the yard until a machine had been sent out to them, almost missing his wife's birthday dinner!

A very proud local Hedlander, his commitment to customer services is inspiring. Todd has also been successfully running the retail side of **KEE** Group Northern Command (KGNC), offering mechanical support to not only our own fleet of 700 machines, but also our clients' machinery, trucks, and light vehicles. Covering everything from break-downs, engine repairs, electrical and air-con support, and field service. "It's one thing for a company to buy brand new machines and put them out to hire, it's a totally different thing to be able to support them with sincere, personal hands-on care and 24/7 operations and mechanical back up", said our director Clayton Spiers, "that's where Todd and his team step in".

With over 35 years of experience in mechanical and logistics, **KEE's** Port Hedland Branch Manager Todd Fuller certainly knows a thing or two about the industry. He is well known and well respected, having previously worked for Rivet, Boral, Finmec, Kalari, and Bruce Rock Engineering. "I know many people in the business and I believe that keeping good contacts is an essential element to bringing success to our yard".

Born in Tauranga, New Zealand, Todd lived in the harbourside city with his parents, two brothers, and sister. His dad was a skilled mechanic who taught Todd his trade. "He worked in the logging industry and spent his career fixing skidders and low-loaders for Doug Campbell Logging". From the age of 15, he used to shadow his dad at the workshop. "As a kid, my brothers and I loved football and rugby and we all did a fair spate of boxing." However, Todd's main passion was go-karting and rally car driving. "I used to compete against the different towns in a Mark One Escort, it was a lot of fun and sparked my competitive nature".

At the young age of 18, Todd bought 50% into an engine re-conditioning business with mentor and business partner Laury Shutter. "I had a choice of buying a house, or buying a business" he said, "and at the time it felt right to step into something exciting, I guess it was a bit of a gamble". Tragically, after only 6 months of the partnership, Laury died of a heart attack. Todd was thrown into the deep end. He had to learn fast and really step up. The gamble did pay off and after successfully running the business for 25 years, he sold it and began looking for a new direction.

Todd moved to WA with his wife of 31 years Tracy and their three children. Their favourite holiday spot is camping in Cape Keraudren.