

# THE KEE BOARD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KEE GROUP



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Many civil companies recognise **KEE Group** as a major force behind their civil infrastructure projects and we are happy to announce that we are now also a preferred supplier to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). Combining all our services has and will continue to provide a competitive advantage to those savvy companies wanting to streamline operations. One call can bring fuel, transport, hire equipment, asphalt, profiling, extruded concrete barriers and now spray seal. NorthLink Two (pictured) is nearing completion and from the Main Roads department to the project delivery team, it has produced some of the best asphalt roads this state has seen, in record time. Every KEE Group division was employed to help create history and we are proud of our loyal men and women who worked so hard throughout the project.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### KEE Hire:

The continuing growth within the hire industry has driven KEE to invest in additional new equipment to meet our clients demands. We have committed to purchasing five state of the art Ammann Pad Foot Rollers and five Smooth Drum Rollers bringing our total roller fleet to 225 and total equipment list to 550. These machines are particularly useful for civil infrastructure, mining, asphalt and spray seal projects. "A roller is a roller!" I hear you say, but where we differ is our robust five year extended warranties with our OEMs plus our 24/7 support from our KEE Field Service team lead by Mark Lewis and Zekan Erceg. Over the past three months we have focused on supplying to local government bodies and offering plant equipment, transport and asphalt services to shires and councils.



KEE Fuel's first fully certified and banded poly storage tanks

## FACTS WORTH READING

If you are having any issues with a machine, the operation and maintenance manual is one of the best sources of information you have.

You will find this in the cab of your machine.

It will usually answer any questions regarding problems with machine operation and can also provide helpful tips on how to maximize the machine's operation.

I encourage operators with all levels of experience to regularly review the manual and build on their current knowledge, but always remember that 24/7 support from KEE is also only a phone call away. Call me, Mark Lewis, KEE Maintenance Manager on 0438 776 700

*"It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things."*

*-Leonardo Da Vinci*

In February, KEE Group were proud to win the Shire of Cambridge. We are happy to report that the shire has been impressed with our attention to detail and the professionalism of our managers and crews.

Mal McDonald, KEE Business Manager

### KEE Fuel:

"All good things must come to an end", so the saying goes. We were there at the start. We will be there at the end. Congratulations to the loyal, dedicated troops that kept NorthLink Two alive and functioning, sustaining the project with the lifeblood of the industry- DIESEL. You are almost there gents... a few weeks to go and it brings a close to almost 400 shifts and 10,000 machine fills - a magnificent effort performed by a magnificent team. Well done Gary, Rob, Kunal, Yak, Yogi and Cooch, you all deserve the highest praise.

As we head in to autumn the landscape changes. We also hope to change the landscape on diesel refuelling with the introduction of KEE Fuel's first fully certified and banded poly storage tanks. In today's challenging climate it is important to understand your costs. It may be time you should ask yourself "How can I cut costs and think outside the box?". It may be a worthwhile exercise to do the maths and see if having your own little diesel supply on your doorstep can save you one of the most important things in this busy modern world- TIME.

Leigh Hayward, KEE Fuel Manager.

### KEE Sweeping:

*"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is a progress, and working together is a success."*

Henry Ford.

We all have competition in life. Competition is good, it can often give us the motivation to become better. Sometimes competitors can even come together and deliver unexpected results that have some stand back and remark, "Didn't think we would ever see that!" From KEE Sweeping to all our competitors that helped out on the NorthLink Two Project, we say a big THANK YOU!

Although the construction is almost completed, we witnessed a rare event recently where we saw on one day seven sweepers (that's right, seven) from five different companies, on the same site,

**KEE Group- proud  
to be a preferred  
supplier of WALGA**





## INDUSTRY NEWS

### Infrastructure Australia's priority list recognises WA projects

- Western Australia has 15 nationally significant projects/initiatives on the list, compared to seven in 2016
- Morley-Ellenbrook Line features on priority list for the first time
- Greater focus on METRONET

This year's priority list has two projects and 13 initiatives for WA transport infrastructure, compared with just one project and six initiatives in 2016, highlighting the State Government's increased engagement with Infrastructure Australia.

#### New initiative listings include:

- Morley-Ellenbrook Line (Transport Connectivity between Morley and Ellenbrook)
- Fremantle Traffic Bridge
- Tonkin Highway Gap
- Karratha-Tom Price Road
- Canning Bridge crossing capacity and interchange (IA identified initiative).

The Yanchep Rail Extension was assessed as one of eight high priority projects. The State Government is heavily investing, with \$3.6 billion allocated for METRONET projects, with \$3.2 billion for roads.

#### KEE Surfacing:

With only weeks to go, we are about to hit top gear with the biggest project in WA history nearing completion. Our asphalt crews are averaging 12-20,000m<sup>2</sup> a shift per crew and echelon paving has begun, with both our super 2000 pavers boxed up to reach 7.6m wide, increasing production and quality.

Our Rhino's are now becoming a force in WA due to the increased demand for our high class profiling crews. We now have three full service crews and our customers have provided excellent feedback, commenting on both the quality and speed of our end product.

Our spray business is off to a fantastic start, employing only the best people with a can-do attitude, supporting our asphalt and profiling crews. Due to our business growth, we have had to restructure our surfacing team, appointing Leigh Hayward as Spray Manager, Daren Marriot as Profiling Co-ordinator and Christopher Huriwai as Asphalt Superintendent.

Bumpy Samuel, KEE Surfacing Manager

working collaboratively to deliver the required result. It was a real suction sweeper symphony if there is actually such a thing?!

The last quarter also saw KEE Sweeping respond to our countrymen in need... our lean, mean drying machine travelled to the east and is now helping to dry up parts of Queensland recently struck by the devastating natural disaster. Our thoughts go out to all that may have been affected. When we loaded the Road Dryer on the truck bound for the flooded lands, the driver remarked "steady on, just how bloody good is that thing?!"

The only response I could give was - "Like you I was a non-believer my friend ... until I saw it in action for myself!"

Leigh Hayward, KEE Sweeping Manager

#### KEE Transport:

KEE Transport has continued to go from strength to strength over the past few months. We have been able to secure some very exciting partnerships throughout this time which leaves us extremely confident of the road ahead. The Christmas/ New Year break gave our team (pictured) a very well deserved break however, due to the amount of work coming in, we were back in full swing much earlier than previous years, so thank you to our team for their relentless efforts. March saw our fleet on one occasion being located in every single state except Tasmania. Now that's a feat our fleet should be proud of!

Nathan Terrell, KEE Transport Manager



# EMPLOYEE PROFILE

BUMPY SAMUEL, SURFACING MANAGER



## BELOW THE SURFACE

Paralysed from a dare devil stunt at four years old, this man certainly lives up to his name! Like Kanye, Kylie and the Kardashians, our Surfacing Manager is known only by one name... that is "Bumpy". The nickname for Teokotai Samuel came about when in his younger days his experimental stunts caused him a whole lot of hurt. When he was four, one of his physical feats led him to waking up the next day paralysed. The bump to his head had made his brain swell, but after six weeks of his parent's worry and anguish he bounced back to normal. As a kid, Bumpy loved building ramps and performing tricks on his BMX, "I've always had the attitude that if someone tells me I can't do something, I'll just go ahead and try it" he said, "and the dares from my mates got bolder, bike ramps got bigger and the obstacles became more dangerous, including jumping over some of the other kids." The amount of bruises and breaks he suffered from messing about earned him the permanent nickname.

Originally from Flaxmere, a suburb in the Hawke's Bay region of New Zealand's North Island, Bumpy grew up in the coastal town with his parents, two brothers, Noel and Albert and sister Linda. "My dad taught me how to become immune to pain, I wasn't the easiest child to bring up and he used to bash me with the vacuum stick on a daily basis! Little did he know I'd always have newspaper down my pants to soften the blows!" he confessed. His dad, who has also worked in the industry all of his life, taught Bumpy everything he knows and one of his earliest memories was being taken on a bitumen sprayer at three years old. "My dad would take me to work with him at the weekends and on school holidays, so I became accustomed to being around the intense heat and the smell of bitumen from a very early age," he said. "I started working in spray seal at the age of 14 for Bitumix Ltd, NZ earning a decent \$8.60 per hour and then moved in to asphalt when I was 22, becoming the youngest supervisor in my division."

Some people are head hunted yearly, some monthly, Bumpy seems to be head hunted on a daily basis. But luckily for us he's stayed a loyal warrior of KEE since 2011. Our Surfacing Estimator James (Coady) Coad said; "Bumpy is a boss who does things by the book to ensure our clients get a great experience from start to finish. He has worked his way through the ranks and developed many skills to get where he is today. His 'never say no' attitude and his willingness to give anyone a go is one we all can all aspire too." Bumpy said; "It's almost impossible to plan your day at KEE, as it's always full of surprises! But in all seriousness, our first and foremost aim is to help people and that is a trait I have learnt from Antonia, Clayton and Damon."



**Industry legend, winner of Asphalt Worker of the Year Award 2017 and personal friend of Clayton, Damon and the Spiers Family, Sam Barbatano (pictured left) said; "I met Bumpy in the crew a few years ago and my first impression of him was 'This guy's got his head screwed on the right way!' When Bumpy's role changed from being in the crew to KEE Surfacing Manager our relationship grew further. Whenever I ring him for an asphalt crew, profiling crew or even to hire equipment, he always says "No worries Uncle Sam, will do!" And at the drop of a hat he'll make it happen. I've been in the asphalt industry since 1970 and it's easy to see Bumpy certainly is an asset to KEE Group in more ways than one."**

Bumpy winds down at the weekends by playing golf and hanging out with his family. He lives with his wife Lilly and his three children Moena 20, Noel 15, Tiamaya 11 and dog George- his right hound man.