

THE KEE BOARD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KEE GROUP



Photo by: Brett Cable

NEWS IN BRIEF

INDUSTRY NEWS

FACTS WORTH READING

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change"- Charles Darwin 1809.

This quarter has seen many changes at **KEE** Group, beginning with the elevation of David Cox from General Manager to Chief Executive Officer. Well done David and thoroughly deserved.

Basecourse is producing some of the finest jobs the state has ever seen, which has been both a tough change and a precision manoeuvre. Having the ability to now lay the base, profile existing roads, spray-seal and then asphalt has enabled **KEE** to become Australia's first company to deliver all aspects of surfacing.

Our market of mining and civil infrastructure is forever evolving for the better with a massive focus on safety and superior techniques. **KEE** is proudly on the coalface, working hard to innovate and raise the bar.

Thank you to our magnificent team of men and women who Keep Exceeding our Expectations. Merry Christmas to all and here's to a prosperous 2023.

Clayton Spiers, Director

NEWS IN BRIEF

KEE Hire:

KEE Hire is continuing to receive pre- ordered stock throughout the business, supplying a very broad range of new equipment into the market both in Perth and throughout the Pilbara. Equipment of all makes and types continues to be delivered to **KEE** and our customers.



KEE'S RISING STAR

One of KEE's rising stars was presented with a Vibe Award for her outstanding work on the RAAF Pearce project this month.

Pugmill operator Kiara Lasserre, 22, was given the award by Project Manager Mark Faulkner from CPB Contractors. The accolade is given to those who have proven to be well organised in their work, to have excellent communications, and to be willing to speak up, challenge entrenched thinking and demonstrate the core values of CPB.

Basecourse Manager Rait Sagor said, "Kiara's integrity, positive attitude, and excellent work ethic make us proud to have her on the team. We look forward to seeing Kiara build a long and successful career here with us at KEE".

Photo by: Gary Batten



With the weather finally clearing in Perth, we have seen a huge demand for rollers and loaders and we are proud to be able to support the many significant projects throughout the state to keep WA's infrastructure moving forward. Todd Fuller and our **KGNC** hub continue to be busy and fly the **KEE** Hire flag in the Pilbara. Some of the large projects we are support are those with Eastern Guruma, Highways, Austral Construction, Roadline Contracting and Centrals Earthmoving. **Natalie Martin, On-Hire Manager**

KEE Surfacing:

As much as I would like to write about all the fantastic new equipment we have had delivered and all the quality projects we have completed over the past months, for this quarter I would like to focus on our people. In particular, our two living miracle's.

Firstly, to one of our heavy hitters here at **KEE** Group. Our Asphalt Superintendent Christopher Huriwai has encountered a number of health obstacles over the last decade. He is a well-respected leader in the industry, who always rises above any challenges that are put before him.

Over the last two months, Chris has been in hospital in Sydney undergoing life-changing surgery. Thankfully he is now back home in Perth and will need to take the next 12 months off to recover. From all of us here at **KEE**, we wish you all the best on your recovery Brutha.

Our second miracle of the quarter happened to Mark Patterson (Paddo), who after working tirelessly for the asphalt industry for over forty years entered the lotto and won! Paddo received an incredible first-division payout of \$892,735.67! Well done Paddo! Paddo came to **KEE** in 2019 to train and share his wealth of knowledge with our asphalt teams and this win could not have happened to a nicer person. Enjoy your retirement Paddo.

Bumpy Samuel, KEE Surfacing Mgr



SOUTH AFRICAN SAFARI ADVENTURE

Two lucky KEE employees were chosen to go on a trip of a lifetime to South Africa to see the impressive BELL HQ and share knowledge and experience with fellow industry professionals.

On-Hire Manager Natalie Martin and Maintenance Manager Mitch White flew to Johannesburg to learn more about the BELL company and the impressive machinery they build at the factory.

Nat tells of her first impressions of BELL and their unexpected safari adventure with a lion, a flat tyre and a car full of fitters!

Join our newsletter mailout to read more. Go to www.keegroup.com.au > news> The KEE Board> sign up!

**“We make a living
by what we get,
but we make a life
by what we give.”**

— Winston Churchill

KEE Fuel:

Our Christmas present is coming along nicely. A big thanks to Tieman Tankers and Liquip Australia for fitting in a late-notice rigid build slot well ahead of what we thought possible. Here at **KEE Group** we are proud to support Australian manufacturing and we look forward to taking delivery of our fifth Aussie-built Pink Pig later this month.

For those of you who like to fuel your thirst for knowledge, here are a few facts to share around the Christmas dinner table - did you know, Rudolf Diesel, the inventor of the diesel engine, originally designed it to run on vegetable oil? In fact, one of his early demonstrations, at the World Exhibition in Paris in 1897, had a diesel engine running on peanut oil.

Did you know the world produces about 100 times more biofuels now than it did ten years ago, and by its very nature, biofuels are renewable resources. Yes, I know some of you hard-core environmentalists are lining up to shoot me down, however, it is an alternative to oil-based products, right?

Leigh Hayward, KEE Fuel Manager

KEE Transport:

The transport industry has been very turbulent over the past few years and has escalated in the past 12 months. The industry along with many others has seen skill shortages, dramatic time delays and cost impacts in supply chain for parts and equipment, with little improvement on the horizon.

The **KEE** transport team work hard with our customers to manage expectations and priorities to deliver a reliable, safe and efficient service where possible.

We welcome a new starter to the team, Sara Larrazabal. Sara joins us this month and has hit the ground running. Assisting with compliance checks and admin, Sara has proven to be an attribute to the team and her positive and bubbly personality allows her to interact well with customers.

Hale Preston-Samson KEE Transport

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

MARCUS WEBB, KEE MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR



MAKING EVERYONE'S LIVES EASIER

"If everybody was as easy to deal with as Marcus, my life would be a whole lot easier!" says Ertech's Plant Hire co-ordinator Michael Hill. "Nothing is ever too hard for Marcus. He jumps straight onto things and gets the job done. He has continually gone over and above to provide a great service to Ertech, whenever needed. If we have any issues or parts required, Marcus organises it quickly and efficiently with minimal downtime."

At KEE, we always strive to Keep Exceeding Expectations, and this is why we are so proud of our Maintenance Co-ordinator Marcus Webb.

Originally from Whangārei in New Zealand, Marcus and his family moved to Perth when he was six. His first impression of Perth was the lack of crocs! As a child he had the impression that Australia would be full of the man-eating critters.

His father, who sadly passed away in 2013, was very inspirational. "He just taught me to get on with it," said the 44-year-old, "through good times and hard times, just to keep going," he said, "and Dad told me to always look after those who are around you."

As a child, Marcus wasn't fond of school, but he had a good coach who helped him with rugby league and he ended up playing fullback/ centre for nearly ten years.

One thing many may not know about Marcus is that he likes to box. To those of you who know him, he has a mild-mannered temperament but put him in the ring and you'll see a different side. He once even competed in front of a thousand people at a charity event at the Crown Pyramid in Burswood. "I was put in the heavy-weight category, and I had to eat as much as possible for a month beforehand." He had to weigh in above 95kg, but when he was training, he kept slipping down to 93kg. "At one stage I was eating two chickens a day just to put enough weight on for the fight!" On the day of the weigh-in, he ate one and a half chickens and drank four litres of water. "Just before I stepped on the scales, I filled my pockets with coins in the hope I would make the required weight," he confessed, "and it worked!"

Over his career, Marcus has worked for various companies, all within the large plant industry. He has been a purchasing/ store co-ordinator for SVA, Thyssenkrupp and Schenck Process and he started in the KEE Group workshop four years ago. Marcus starts at 6.30am every day, and his tasks include processing off-hire reports and charges, raising workshop jobs, liaising with customers and contractors to arrange on-site repairs, purchasing of parts and supporting KGNC with warranty claims and purchasing. It's a big job and it needs someone with a calm, stoic personality. If he takes the finger off the pulse, it means the flow in the workshop will stall.

"I believe the best practise is to always keep it real," he said, "there's no point in sugar-coating things, it's best to be honest and direct so the client knows all the information upfront". His top tip in working for the industry; "Be patient and look after your customers".

Marcus has one son; Chace, 12, and two daughters; Ella, 9 and Georgia who is 2. His favourite holiday destination is Northern Ireland, where he loves to visit family and friends.