

# THE KEE BOARD

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KEE GROUP



Photo by KEE Surfacing's Alan Dagleish

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Did you know that although Western Australia only accounts for 11% of the country's population, it accounts for over 20% of the public road network? This is just the public road network and not the private roads that service WA's significant mining and agricultural industries.

The 2023-24 state budget reinforced a commitment of \$13.6bn towards the transport infrastructure pipeline, of which \$6.5bn will be allocated to the state's road network over the next four years.

This is why **KEE** Group continues to invest heavily in equipment to grow our **KEE** Surfacing Division. Over the last 12 months, our surfacing crews have been to some of the most remote areas in WA. You may have seen them in Wyalkatchem, Denmark, Albany, Onslow, Mt Magnet, Latham, Cape Preston, Tom Price and even West Musgrave, which is almost at the border of WA, NT and SA!

Over the next year, you will see us at a lot more places – so keep an eye out for The K-Team!

To our valued and loyal clients, we sincerely thank you for giving us the opportunities, for putting your trust in our teams and for your relentless support. Thank you to our magnificent team at **KEE** Group who Keep Exceeding our Expectations. Merry Christmas to all and here's to a prosperous 2024.

**DavidCox, CEO**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### KEE Hire:

Over the past six weeks, there has been a remarkable



# CHRISTMAS FUN FACTS

'Jingle Bells' was the first song ever broadcast from Space. It was played on 16th December 1965 during the NASA Gemini 6A Flight.

Measuring in at an impressive 93 metres and weighing in at 225 tons, the Statue of Liberty is the largest present ever received. It was given as a gift of friendship to the United States by the French on Christmas Day in 1886.



In Hawaii, Santa's name is Kanakaloka. In the Netherlands he is known as Sinterklaas, in France Pere Noel, in Germany Weihnachtsmann, Babbo Natale in Italy, and Shèngdàn Lǎorén in China.

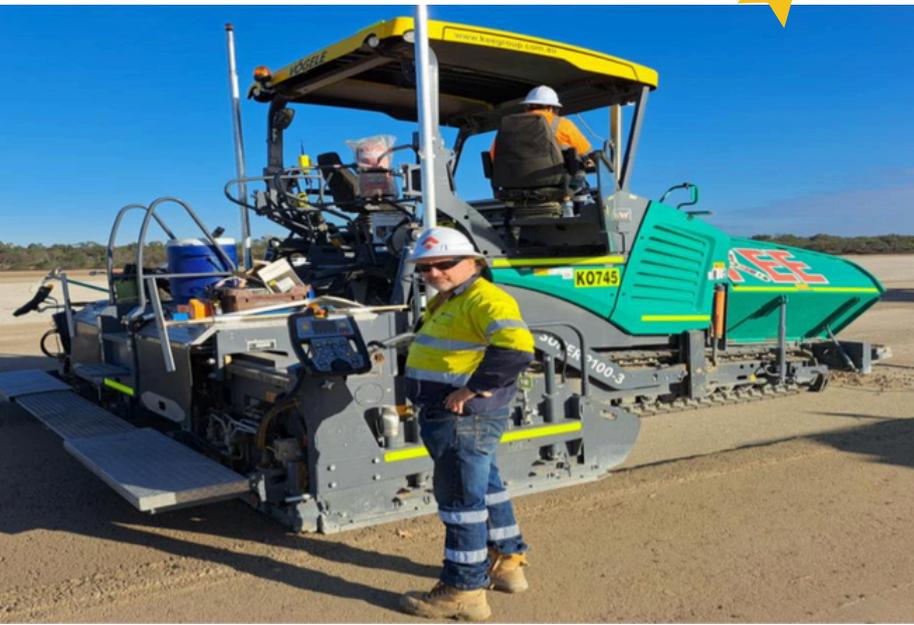
The word carol may derive from the French "carole" or the Latin "carula" meaning a circular dance.



Why do we celebrate Christmas on December 25?  
In A.D. 350, Pope Julius I, bishop of Rome, proclaimed December 25 the official celebration date for the birthday of Christ.

The Grinch is the biggest grossing Christmas movie ever, raking in \$526million worldwide. Sources: [News.com.au](http://News.com.au) [merryandbright.com.au](http://merryandbright.com.au)

Pictured below, our Super Model Vogele 2100



increase in hiring demands. Mitchell White, our 'Maintenance Manager Extraordinaire,' and his team have successfully executed 52 machine on-hires during this period. Similarly, Mario Bertone and Dean McWilliam, stationed at the **KEE** Group Northwest Command (KGNC) hub, have demonstrated exceptional performance by on-hiring 71 machines from our Wedgefield Depot within the same timeframe. This totals an impressive 123 machines on-hired in just six weeks, all while simultaneously providing field service support, conducting servicing, and performing off-hire inspections and repairs on equipment returning from hire. What an outstanding team effort! Congratulations to everyone involved.

**Natalie Martin, KEE On-Hire Manager**

## KEE Surfacing:

KEE Surfacing received an urgent request from a client seeking immediate assistance to deploy our base laying team. The client's existing contractor was using outdated equipment, prompting the need for a swift mobilisation. We reorganized our crews and promptly dispatched a team to embark on a 22-hour journey to one of the most secluded locations in Australia – the apex of the Northern Territory, South Australia, and Western Australia.

The contrast between our cutting-edge equipment and the antiquated machinery previously employed was akin to a supermodel making a grand entrance into a bar, captivating onlookers with her grace. Our "supermodel" (pictured left) was the state-of-the-art Vogele 2100, complete with a sophisticated GPS levelling system to ensure the required levels were achieved first time every time.

This technological superiority enabled the timely completion of the project, setting the stage for the surfacing team to execute the spray seal component.

While we may not claim to be the most economical option, the value we bring to your team is immeasurable.

Thanks to our valued client for providing us with an opportunity to showcase our expertise.

**Bumpy Samuel, KEE Surfacing Manager**



## INDUSTRY NEWS

The Federal Department has introduced a proposal to potentially mandate the installation of Tyre Pressure Monitoring Systems (TPMS).

TPMS are integrated units within vehicles designed to notify drivers of fluctuations in tyre pressure. More advanced systems go beyond this, monitoring both tyre pressures and internal temperatures, delivering specific warnings to drivers.

The Mandurah Estuary Bridge duplication project has reached a crucial juncture, as Georgiou Group Pty Ltd secures the contract to design and execute the initiative. We are happy to reveal, that KEE Bundu will be supplying the fuel for the project and is set for further operations with Georgiou in the new year.

The New Fitzroy River Bridge opened on Sunday, December 10. This surpassed the initial schedule by over six months. Main Roads and the Fitzroy Bridge Alliance have expressed their gratitude to the local community for their support and active participation in this pivotal project.

**"Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give... it's about how many you can take, and still keep moving forward."** — Sylvester Stallone

Our dad stood by this quote throughout his career. RIP Donald (Bob) Spiers, WA's trucking legend 11.04.1944- 20.11.2023

### KEE Fuel:

With a few new projects kicking off in Perth as of late, **KEE Fuel** has had to expand its driver fleet to accommodate the growth currently being shown. One of those drivers is Jordan Oaing.

Jordan came to us very green, having never worked in the industry, let alone in a truck! We worked closely with Jordan to get him trained up in fuel, and then supported him to get his HR licence, which he achieved in early October. Jordan is now a fully fledged **KEE Fuel** driver.

After asking Jordan what he likes about **KEE** he said, "I enjoy the responsibility and the trust **KEE** gives me to do my job. The fact **KEE** helped me achieve getting my licence really shows how much they care and value me." We look forward to seeing Jordan grow further and wish him a long and successful career here with us at **KEE!**

**Michael Thornton, KEE Fuel Manager**

### KEE Transport:

We give a warm welcome to Richard Harders who has taken on the important task of scheduling and logistics for the North West. Please don't hesitate to get in contact with Richard should you need his assistance on: 0417 113649.

Our operations team and drivers have been working hard into the lead up to Christmas. The team is always looking to raise to the challenge of last minute requests, challenges around equipment and complex machines. With the Christmas break comes additional restrictions to oversize transport. Customers please keep in mind the Christmas curfews with requests around oversize movements, as we are trying to give our drivers achievable targets to move equipment and have adequate breaks. Restrictions can be found on Mainroads RAV 1 operating conditions. Stay safe on the roads, and here's to a prosperous new year!

**Hale Preston-Samson, KEE Transport Mgr**

# EMPLOYEE PROFILE

CAROLE AIRD; CREDIT MANAGER



## OUR CHRISTMAS CAROLE

With her optimistic outlook and a wealth of life experiences, our dedicated Credit Manager, Carole Aird embodies resilience, independence, kindness and strength. Carole hails from the charming town of King's Lynn in Norfolk, UK. As the middle child (and of course the favourite!) in a family of six children, she has fond memories of her upbringing. Carole's family moved often, as her dad was in the Navy. After her father's untimely passing at the age of 37, Carole's mother became her inspiration, her beacon of strength. Her mother worked tirelessly, holding a 9 to 5 job at Barclays Bank and a night job cleaning to ensure her six children had the essentials – food on the table, clean clothes, and a roof over their heads.

"My mum always told me to be a lady. And for her, that meant be your own person, be independent, be strong! And that I am," says Carole. "She was a very capable and selfless woman, and she instilled her values in me, she was my inspiration." Carole had many cousins, aunts & uncles and holidays and Christmas's were spent in her uncle's motorhome with fond memories of Gibraltar, Spain, France, New Forest and Butlins. "We always had lots of fun and I remember getting up to things we shouldn't have (like apple scrumping and going onto local farmers land to catch fish). Reminds me of the movie Cheaper by the Dozen!"

Carole's career journey began in hospitality. She managed to secure an apprenticeship with Bass Taverns, and by the exceptionally young age of 21, she was running her own pub called The Fox & Hound in Fleet. Carole met her husband (an Ozzie) in the UK, when she was 22. "It was a bit of a knight in shining armour scenario," she said, "I was 'removing' someone from the pub as Glenn was coming in for a drink and he asked if I needed help!" Four years later, the couple travelled to Australia and spent eight months exploring the vast continent with only \$500, a car, and a two-man tent! "This was the best life experience. This was when I fell in love with this beautiful country," she said. They moved to Perth in 2002. Glenn had tragically been diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis and wanted to return to Australia for treatment. He had a DBL Lung and Heart Valve transplant in 2006. However, he sadly passed away in 2010. "I lost my soulmate, the best husband, and the best father to our children. I was very lucky to have had him in my life."

Carole now shares her life with her kids, partner, and two cats. "I am blessed with two children Aliesha, 24 and Kyle 19, a stepdaughter Georgia, 25 and my partner David and I feel privileged I get to call WA my home every day."

**KEE's** CEO David Cox says "Carole stands out with her upbeat personality, infectious humour, and unwavering dedication. Carole's self-motivation and patience creates a caring, positive and productive work environment. Her outstanding work makes her invaluable to **KEE**." Having worked mainly in corporate structured companies and after spending an admirable 18 years with her previous employer, Carole found **KEE** to be a nice change. "The difference with **KEE** is that it is family oriented. There is a good work/life balance and the management are more approachable. The connection to family values typically leads to strong company culture."