Teaming up to promote Be Crocwise in remote communities

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Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory and the NT Police have teamed up to deliver the Be Crocwise messages to remote communities in Arnhem Land.

Minister for Parks and Wildlife Bess Nungarrayi Price praised the efforts of PWCNT and the NT Police and the teamwork displayed.

“This is a great opportunity to expose students, staff and the people living in remote communities to positive messaging and male and female role models from the NT Police, PWCNT and local Ranger groups,” Minister Price said.

With the help of NT Police, PWCNT Community Engagement Officer, Clare Pearce, delivered 52 talks to more than 1500 kids in three weeks.

“The NT Police Community Engagement team contacted me in 2015 with the idea that our resources could be combined, enabling both our organisations to offer a better service to remote areas in delivering the Be Crocwise message,” Ms Pearce said.

“This grew into the possibility of transport via the Police Wing to very remote communities in the Arnhem region which has now seen us visit areas which were traditionally harder to get to due to the distance and remoteness of the schools.

“In previous years, the delivery of the Be Crocwise safety education campaign in very remote areas was driven by the necessity to make best use of chartered air transport, so the recent collaboration between PWCNT and the NT Police enabled the delivery of the Be Crocwise safety education campaign to four remote schools in Arnhem Land.”

Member for Arafura Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu said “this is a great opportunity for our kids to get involved in the Be Crocwise messaging and also learn about the positive role of police in our communities’

NT Police Community Engagement Officer First Class Constable, Paul Keightley, and Police Community Liaison Officers, Billy Williams and Ralph Garrawurra, took the opportunity to speak at
many presentations reinforcing the Be Crocwise and other ‘life skills’ messaging and emphasising the close collaboration that exists between the NT Police and PWCNT.

During the three weeks, the group visited Maningrida School, Milingimbi School, Ramingining School and Shepherdson College on Elcho Island.

“By using the Police Air Wing we minimised travel time, maximised opportunities to meet with groups outside of the schools including Traditional Owners, RJCP program members, school attendance officers and participants in the Families as First Teacher programs,” Ms Pearce said.

The Be Crocwise safety education campaign strives to raise and maintain community awareness about the real and present danger of saltwater crocodiles and change people’s behaviour in or around Top End waterways. It has been delivered in Top End schools by the PWCNT since 2009.

ATTACHED:

Pic One – PWCNT Community Engagement Officer Clare Pearce, Maningrida Police Community Liaison Officer Billy Williams and Police Community Engagement Officer Constable Paul Keightley, with local rangers and students.

Pic Two – Police Community Engagement Officer Constable Paul Keightley chatting to Maningrida students.

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Pic 1
Pic 2