

Remote airstrips get upgrades

AIRSTRIPS at the isolated Pilbara communities of Parngurr, Jigalong, Punmu and Kunawarritji have been upgraded and repaired.

More than \$1 million was spent on airstrip resurfacing, widening and repair works as part of the Australian Government's Regional Aviation Access Program.

The airstrips are vital for sever-

al Pilbara renal patients needing regular transport to the Port Hedland Dialysis Service for treatment and allow them to return to their community between treatments.

Infrastructure and Transport parliamentary secretary Catherine King said safe, operational aerodromes and the air services they support were essential in connecting remote communities

with each other and with major regional towns.

"The Pilbara's isolation and distance from other population and economic centres make its air services especially important to the region," she said.

Ms King said the four aerodromes that received the upgrades were identified for their importance in servicing remote communities. "Road access is

unavailable, unreliable or disrupted for extended periods during the year due to extreme seasonal weather conditions.

"Upgrade works now completed include replaced windsocks and other safety equipment, cleared scrub and vegetation, and new animal-proof fencing." Punmu community members participated in the program, working alongside civil contractors.

Georgie puts mo on show

KIM KIRKMAN



Georgie Rose with a mo.

Picture: Kim Kirkman

IT WAS just a fortnight into the month when one particular Movember participant met the *North West Telegraph*; but on display is an overflowing lip-full of what is undoubtedly Hedland's most magnificent moustache.

Her name is Georgie Rose and she credits her fabulous facial hair to a bit of double-sided tape.

The 23-year-old Protector All Safe employee decided to jump on board with the boys growing mos around the world this month to raise funds for prostate cancer and depression.

Ms Rose, originally from Geraldton, tacks her huge artificial moustache to her top lip between 8am and 4.30pm every week day, grinning bravely at her customers from somewhere beneath it.

"I had a close family friend diagnosed with prostate cancer a few months ago," she said.

"It's hot, it's itchy and I have to drink through a straw," Ms Rose said.

But she had raised more than \$300 for the cause at the time of the interview.

Hairy fun continues

FIVE Town of Port Hedland employees have undertaken the Movember challenge this month, albeit with a slightly unconventional twist.

Sarah Cunningham, Caris Vuckovic, Lisa Bryen, Sheila Cleaver and Cecile Lucas are sporting fake mos to show their support towards the Movember movement for the remainder of the month.

The quintet will wear their fake moustaches to work for the whole month.

The aim of Movember is to raise vital funds and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and depression.

Ms Cunningham said it was about time the girls repaid the guys' support in recent fundraisers. "The guys always get behind




Town of Port Hedland employees Sheila Cleaver, Cecile Lucas, Ryan Djanegara and Sarah Cunningham.

Picture: Town of Port Hedland


our breast cancer fundraisers ... it will get a few laughs but it's also about raising awareness." Town

planning officers Luke Cervi and Ryan Djanegara will also be growing real moustaches as part of the

hairy fundraising effort. For more on Movember, visit www.movember.com.au.



bhpbilliton
resourcing the future



Through our Community Grants program, we are proud to support initiatives such as purchasing more than 600 new books for the Port Hedland School of the Air library.

Our next Community Grants funding round closes on Wednesday 1 February. For information, guidelines and application forms, please contact Lisa Lock, lisa.lock@bhpbilliton.com, or call into our Community Office at 1 Wedge Street, Port Hedland.

www.bhpbilliton.com