



Fortescue and the Kookaburras pitch in for a good cause

Roebourne, 25 May 2013: The Australian men's hockey team, the world class Kookaburras, swapped their hockey sticks for shovels and paint brushes on Saturday as they joined Fortescue Metals Group and its contracting partners in Roebourne for the company's annual working bee.

Fortescue Chief Executive Nev Power, Kookaburra Des Abbott, who is also Hockey Australia's National Indigenous Program ambassador, and six of his teammates were among 100 volunteers who rolled up their sleeves and put their handyman skills to work at Roebourne District High School. Nev and the Kookaburras worked alongside school principal Erica Prosser and dozens of students as they painted and landscaped sections of the school.

A number of representatives from Fortescue's contracting partners, including Leighton Contractors, Macmahon Holdings, Ngarda, ICRG and Goodline also gathered in Roebourne to help brighten up the administration building and the grounds.

Nev said the Kookaburras were great role models for the students, with those travelling to Roebourne having won medals at the Olympic Games, World Cup, Commonwealth Games and Champions Trophy between them. Their off-field skills were also in high demand, with working bee coordinator, Fortescue's Damien Ardagh, making the most of carpenter Jake Whetton and electrician Glenn Simpson's talent.

Fortescue is a Gold Partner of the Kookaburras and sponsor of Hockey Australia's National Indigenous Program. On Friday, Des and teammate Tim Deavin ran hockey coaching sessions at the school and participated in the morning assembly. The program, which is in its second year, has introduced hockey into the local area and is helping students to integrate into the wider community through participation in sport.

"An important aspect of the National Indigenous Hockey Program is to promote positive behaviour such as school attendance, participation in sport and a healthy lifestyle." Nev said. "It's great to have Des and Tim running hockey sessions and inspiring the kids to lead healthy lifestyles in Roebourne and, with their teammates, volunteer their time to brighten up the school."

Fortescue has a significant presence in Roebourne through its Vocational, Training and Employment Centre (VTEC), which is located at the Pilbara Institute's Minurmarghali Mia campus. Fortescue's VTEC program develops and trains members of the local Aboriginal communities and graduates are guaranteed a job with Fortescue or one of its contracting partners.

More than 11% of Fortescue's direct workforce is Aboriginal and we have so far awarded \$630 million of contracts to Aboriginal businesses as part of our Billion Opportunities Program.

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