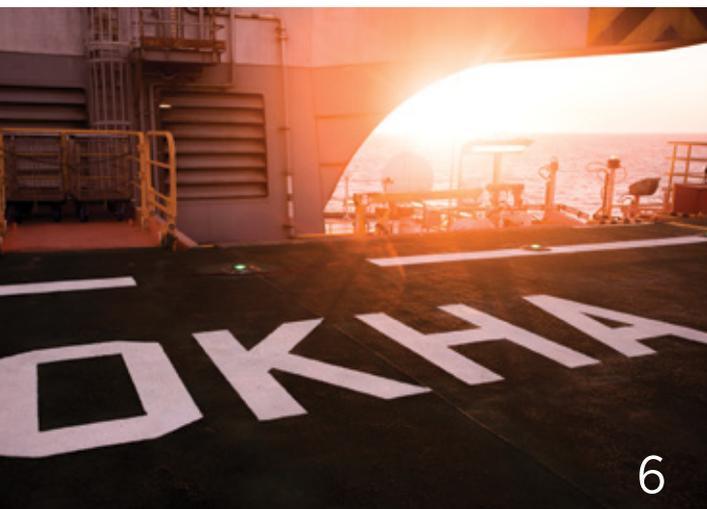


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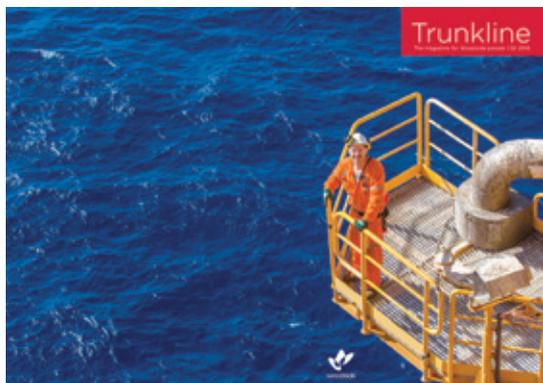
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On the cover

Positive outlook: Production maintenance coordinator Allan Campbell enjoys the view from our Okha floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) facility, one of three FPSOs in our fleet. Picture: James Campbell

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Trunkline is published four times a year by Woodside Energy Ltd. Back issues of Trunkline are available for viewing on the Woodside intranet.

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With clear priorities set for 2018, Woodsiders have begun the new year with precision and pace.

Those priorities, which support our growth horizons, are galvanising strong and supportive teamwork across the company.

We have five key focus areas — the Burrup Hub, Wheatstone, Senegal, Myanmar and base business.

It's about delivering on committed projects, progressing major developments, maximising the value of existing infrastructure and maintaining base business excellence.

The following pages offer a snapshot of our progress.

Notes on Petroleum Resource Estimates: All petroleum resource estimates in this publication are to be read in conjunction with the Reserves Statement in Woodside's most recent annual report, as updated by subsequent ASX announcements available at <http://www.woodside.com.au/Investors-Media/Announcements>. This publication may contain forward-looking statements that are subject to risk factors associated with oil and gas businesses.

Trunkline is printed on New Life Recycled coated paper, which is sourced from a sustainably managed forest and uses manufacturing processes of the highest environmental standards. Trunkline is printed by a Level 2 Environmental Accredited printer. The magazine is 100% recyclable.

Consider our acquisition of a larger share of the Scarborough field and the strong performance of our fleet of floating storage and offloading (FPSO) facilities.

Look at the efficiencies being explored via technology, including the virtual desktops to be offered at our new headquarters and the potential of the cognitive adviser Willow.

Also take into account efforts to develop workforce talent and set the scene for innovative ideas to thrive.

It all adds up to lots of well-focused activity. Read on to discover more.



Burrup Hub shapes up

Woodside is set to become operator of the Scarborough Development, advancing its plans for a Burrup Hub.

The resource, estimated to hold 7.3 Tcf of dry gas, lies about 300 km off the West Australian coast, within proximity of existing infrastructure.

In February, the company announced its intention to acquire ExxonMobil's 50% interest in the Scarborough field, growing Woodside's share to 75%.

BHP owns the remaining 25% and retains an option to buy another 10% before the end of next year. It also shares 50-50 ownership of the nearby Thebe and Jupiter fields, also operated by Woodside.

Chief executive officer Peter Coleman says the joint venture is now focused on finalising a development concept for the resource, before beginning front end engineering and design, with a view to making a final investment decision in 2020.

To guide this progress, Daniel Kalms was

recently appointed senior vice president of Scarborough and Kimberly Walpot has been named development manager.

They are working towards phased development of 12 subsea high-rate gas wells tied back to a semi-submersible platform.

That platform would feed back to our onshore Pluto gas plant, which was designed to efficiently accommodate brownfields expansion.

Also looking to leverage synergies is the Browse Development.

Incorporating the Torosa, Brecknock and Calliance fields and positioned about 425 km off the coast of Broome, Browse holds an estimated 16 Tcf of dry gas and 466 MMbbl of condensate.

Its proposed development concept involves two gas floating production storage and offloading facilities that could feed back to existing Burrup infrastructure.

The Browse and North West Shelf (NWS) joint ventures are currently

in discussions on a tariff structure for bringing Browse gas through the Karratha Gas Plant.

These negotiations are expected to lead to a preliminary agreement before the end of the year with a final investment decision targeted for 2021.

In Woodside's annual report, the CEO talked of the Burrup Hub as a means to "ensure efficient use of the facilities of the Pluto and North West Shelf Projects, and the timely and cost-effective development of resources.

"On the Burrup Hub, Woodside is in the valuable position of having equity in both the gas and the world-class infrastructure to develop it," he explained.

In short, the hub provides low-cost, high-value opportunity for the company and its shareholders.

And the time is right to reap that opportunity.

Trends show rising demand for LNG with a supply gap emerging in the early 2020s.



Hub of activity: Senior vice president Scarborough Daniel Kalms, Scarborough development manager Kimberly Walpot and senior vice president Browse Richard van Lent discuss progress on the Burrup Hub; which is shaping up as per the diagram below; opposite page, with a gas floating production storage and offloading facility being considered for Browse.

This means Woodside needs to act swiftly to ensure its developments are ready to meet that demand.

Plans for a Pluto-NWS interconnector (put simply, a pipeline connection between the two gas plants) are intended to unlock incremental value and add to the potential size of the prize.

Studies are now under way to determine whether an interconnector could accelerate Pluto area gas reserves and leverage existing Pluto offshore capacity as well as NWS LNG ullage.

With both Scarborough and Browse developments looming, Woodside is keen to make the most of its infrastructure as it advances both options.

Peter Coleman told media that progress on the Burrup Hub concept was a significant turning point in Woodside's journey.

"It puts us on a tremendous growth pathway. We will be a significant player in the new wave of LNG coming into the market," he said.

Also on the imminent projects agenda is Senegal's SNE Phase-1 development.

Woodside, as development lead, is now

progressing detailed concept definition work with the aim of beginning front-end engineering and design in Q4 of this year.

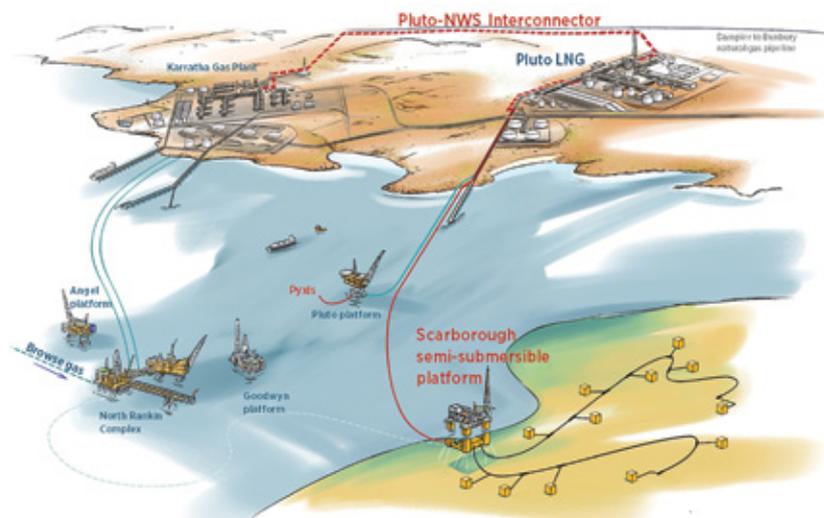
The phase one concept involves a stand-alone floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) facility, designed to allow for subsequent SNE development phases.

Invitations to tender for the FPSO and supporting subsea facilities have been issued and first oil is targeted for 2022.

Activity in our current growth horizon is clearly ramping up. Woodside has the opportunity to deliver increased production in line with rising oil and gas demand.

To support this, an equity raising was announced earlier in the year, a move designed to support the Scarborough acquisition and accelerate efforts to advance our development portfolio.

It immediately raised strong support from institutional investors, with 90% of eligible shareholders taking up their entitlements.





Salute to FPSO fleet

In 2017, our Australia oil business exceeded its targets on three key fronts – safety, reliability and production.

The crews aboard our fleet of three floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) facilities, backed by onshore support, certainly met their objective of optimising performance.

In fact, as Niall Myles, the senior vice president of our Australia Operating Unit (AOU), put it: “They nailed it.

“There is a lot of hard work behind these results,” Niall says. “High standards were set and met.

“The focus and forward thinking of everyone involved has been fantastic. The FPSOs made and continue to make an amazing contribution to our AOU.”

Together, the Okha, Ngujima-Yin and Nganhurra achieved 95% reliability, a 14% improvement on the year before.

This contributed to higher-than-projected production, with 18% more barrels of oil delivered than planned.

And it was all achieved amid improved safety performance, including no tier 1 or 2 hydrocarbon releases and more than a year without any recordable injuries on two of the assets.

Gerard Ransom, our asset manager for Australia oil, highlights the broad and enduring team effort behind these outcomes.

“It is the culmination of many years’ work,” he says

“I started on the FPSOs in early 2017 and my immediate and overwhelming impression was of a great team of people who are really proud of their assets.

“And that impression is reinforced every day.”

Gerard points out that each of the three assets faces unique challenges and meets them with drive and determination.

“For example, Nganhurra is a great example of how Woodside is flexible enough to manage smaller late-life assets just as successfully as we do with the big new LNG facilities,” he says.

“Early in 2017, we made the decision to extend production from the facility by 12 months, with final production now scheduled for Q4 of this year.

“This decision recognised the asset’s outstanding safety, production and cost performance.

“It also required a significant change in plans, including the addition of a significant shutdown late last year to execute maintenance needed to get us through 2018.

“The team managed all this really well and repaid the confidence we have in them with another great year.”

Okha moved into 2017 on the back of a challenging year in which the 2016 drydock campaign had kept the vessel offline for several months.

“The efforts to move forward from this and deliver their best ever reliability performance in 2017 shows the pride they have in their asset and their absolute focus on getting the best from it,” Gerard says.



Shipshape: Opposite page, designated master Steve Lovell, chief executive officer Peter Coleman and asset manager Australia oil Gerard Ransom take a safety walk on the deck of the Okha; above, production maintenance technician Marty Palmer enjoys the view above the heli-deck; the crew assembles for a team photo before the day of activity begins throughout the vessel.

“The fact that Peter Coleman, our chief executive officer, made an overnight trip to meet some of the people behind this great result is fitting.”

Ngujima-Yin is another very busy asset, with the crew preparing for a drydock campaign scheduled to start in June this year. This campaign is part of the Greater Enfield Project, which will more than double the daily production from our Australian oil facilities, when it starts up in 2019.

“The team has been working really hard to prepare themselves for this campaign, all the while delivering safely and reliably,” Gerard says.

“This commitment to setting the scene for success stands us in good stead.”

Gerard says the teams across the fleet of FPSOs are dedicated to sustaining or improving on their 2017 results.

“2018 promises to be another busy year on the floaters, with significant activity across all three facilities,” he says.

“And we’re looking forward to the challenge.

“Given the capability and spirit of the teams we have working on and supporting our FPSOs, we are on target to deliver great things.”





Information sharing: Data science manager James Baxter is among the team working to build up Willow's pool of knowledge.

You asked for it

Woodsiders are getting to know Willow.

Who is Willow, you may ask? Well, Trunkline did and this was its reply: "I'm a cognitive adviser who takes in natural language input."

Willow is the name of a sophisticated software that takes the questions staff ask and finds the best possible answer from within its pool of knowledge.

Capable of digesting vast amounts of information, its potential to help people do their work more efficiently is huge.

The software was launched to the business last December, during our annual Woodside Week program of knowledge sharing.

As the team behind its development made clear, the more information we feed into Willow, the more useful it becomes.

"I am constantly learning, so stay tuned for more and provide feedback about what you would like me to learn," Willow says.

In some areas, such as people information, leave balances and Helpdesk call updates, the system is very proficient.

For example, in the first two months of the year, more than 5000 requests were made for colleagues' details such as location, job titles and contact numbers.

Another 2000 entries were made searching for Woodsiders with specialist knowledge. In fact, the most requested feature has been to add specialised subject information and the Willow team is already working on it.

So there is still a lot for Willow to learn.

"By the end of the year, we plan for Willow to be integrated across many more systems and processes, providing our people a central workspace from which to access information, communicate and complete tasks," says chief digital officer Shelley Kalms.

"There will be hooks into our new Spark board and instant messaging technology and it will provide mobile support for both office and field workers."

Willow will, based on your preferences and direction, provide your notifications and workflows. It will start to learn what you want and need to know.

The system's strength is bolstered by the quality of the feedback its users provide.

If Willow doesn't understand a question or simply doesn't know the answer, people can note this via the Got Feedback feature. This alerts the Willow team which uses the information to improve functionality.

"The more Willow learns, the smarter it becomes and the more it helps you and the people around you," says Shelley.

"Just as importantly, if your team has vast amounts of information you would like ingested so that it can be more readily accessed and shared, just contact the Willow team directly and we'll work to incorporate this knowledge.

"Our goal for the year is simple – to embed Willow as a central workspace from which to access information, communicate and complete tasks.

"And why are we doing all this? To enable the company to more effectively achieve our business priorities and increase our productivity by making information and systems easier to work with."

Want to know what this means for you? Just ask Willow "Who knows about Willow" and it will direct you to a member of the team.

New ways of working

Better connected and better understanding. More reliable, more choices, and more mobile.

These are the goals for the new information technology being installed at the new Woodside headquarters, Mia Yellagonga, and beyond.

“Connected technology will mean different ways of working,” says Deb Morrow, general manager global property and workplace.

For example, secure rooms and printing will use biometric technology.

Virtual desktops will deliver the ability for all users to work anywhere at any time.

Cisco Spark boards, which combine a presentation screen with a digital whiteboard and video conferencing capabilities, will allow teams outside the physical room to be connected through the desk or mobile device of their choice.

“Our aim is to create a dynamic and energised workplace that uses the right technology to seamlessly connect us to our global operations 24/7,” says Deb.

That last point is critical.

Deb says those based outside Perth – whether in regional Australia, offshore, or overseas – will have access to the same technology and ease of experience as those in Mia Yellagonga.

“We’re making sure we have all the backbone infrastructure we’ll need – we’re providing the brand new technologies, software and hardware so Woodsiders can connect much better and more easily,” she says.

Sara Braund, vice president WHQ technology, says the mantra adopted by those planning and installing the new IT is that it must work “first time, every time”.

Sara says: “Reliability will be at a level that we’ve never had before. Both wired and wireless networks will be robust, fast and future proofed.

“And the video conferencing technology will be much easier to use. It will be one touch to join a meeting.

“In the past we’ve had to rely on technicians coming in to set up video conference meetings; but the new technology we’re sourcing will be so easy to use that Woodsiders will be able to do that themselves.”

And it’s not new technology for the sake of new technology. The driver is to enable the company to be as productive as it can.

“For example, digital whiteboards will allow people in a video conference to see what someone is drawing on the other side of the video call,” says Sara.

“We’ll be able to mark things up in real time – better connectivity leads to better

understanding and better working relationships. And making better connections with people will mean less travel.”

And because we’ll be better connected and more mobile, we’ll have more choices to keep informed and freer to make decisions on where we work.

“The software to be used will be available on mobile phones, tablets, and the like,” Sara explains.

“So in the past, where you might have had to go into the office to hold a meeting you’ll soon be able to do it from anywhere.”

It’s a bold new way of working and it’s coming soon to a workplace near you.

Fun facts

Mia Yellagonga will be home to more than:

- 250 Cisco Spark boards
- 750 visual management enabled screens
- 682 wireless access points
- 1400 km of Cat6A cable (capable of supporting data rates of 10G up to 100 metres)
- 30 km of fibre
- 2500 servers, routers, etc; and
- a data centre half as big as the one in Woodside Plaza



Coming soon: WHQ technology project lead Simon Waters, right, demonstrates to software engineer Ross Hartley and business administration trainee Terique Farmer the Cisco Spark boards we’ll be using at Mia Yellagonga.



Making it count: Sherry Duhe joins management accountant Richard Nolan, asset manager Andrew Lobb and chief operations officer Mike Utsler at the Karratha Gas Plant; before relaxing at Kings Park with husband James and their children, Eva and Alexander.

It all adds up for Sherry



Sherry Duhe jokes that there is oil and gas in her blood.

Born and bred in the petroleum-rich US state of Louisiana, she has had several family members, including both parents, forge successful careers in the industry.

But she never set out to follow in their footsteps, originally favouring a career as a psychologist.

It was only when organisational psychology loomed as the best fit for her interests that a personal mentor suggested she study accounting, believing it would give her a sound base from which to explore such themes as high performance and motivational management.

“I have always liked numbers, logic and people so it sounded like a good idea,” Sherry says.

And so it has proven to be.

A Bachelor Degree of Science in Accounting from the Louisiana State University, later backed up with an MBA from the University of South Carolina, has led to rewarding work that has taken Sherry around the world, including the UK, Netherlands and Qatar, as well as the US and now, of course, Australia.

It has also led her to the oil and gas industry, where she has enjoyed a variety of finance-related roles for companies including ExxonMobil and Dutch Royal Shell.

In December, Sherry joined Woodside as our new chief financial officer, a role she describes as a dream come true.

“I remember giving a keynote speech in my final year of uni where I talked about a CFO role as an aspiration, so to gain such a position in a company with a vision I believe so strongly in motivates me to make the most of my opportunity,” she says.

It was also a dream move for her family – husband James, daughter Eva and son Alexander.

“James’ brother lived and worked in Perth for a while and he raved about it, so we knew it was a place where we would feel right at home,” Sherry says.

She was right. The family has settled in well, enjoying the weather and living by the water, fully embracing the lifestyle.

Sherry has also hit the ground running at work.

She joined at what is a traditionally hectic period for the division she leads; a period made even busier by the announcement of a sales and purchase agreement to acquire a larger share of the Scarborough field as well as an equity raising in support of accelerating our growth plans.

“Difficulty level 10,” says Sherry, about her first few months in the company. “It has been all go right from the start.

“But what an exciting time to join. Woodside is entering a significant period of progress and there is so much to look forward to.”

Sherry is enjoying the buzz this is creating.

“I have been extremely impressed with the pride and dedication of people within the company,” she says. “The fact that staff call themselves Woodsiders is a testament to that sense of teamwork.

“This spirit is essential to supporting our growth and evolution. It is also incredibly energising.”

So, despite the busy start to her tenure, Sherry is not putting her feet up.

She has spent significant time with her leadership group aligning their approach to driving world-class outcomes. In a nod to her original career choice, she gives careful consideration to how best to enable teams to achieve.

“The aim is to create a positive and rewarding environment in which we can achieve and evolve along with the company’s aims,” Sherry says.

“We want to set the scene for people to innovate, collaborate and accelerate in the most productive way possible. And we want them to have fun doing it.”

Enablement is also a key driver for Sherry’s involvement with GEM (Gender Equality Matters). As executive sponsor

of this in-house community group, formerly known as WoW (Women of Woodside), she takes a long-term focus.

“The industry has really picked up its pace in attracting women to roles in our industry but retention rates need attention,” she says. “We have a drop-off rate that is more marked than other industries.

“If we want a diverse and inclusive workplace in which everyone thrives, we need to turn our attention to this. GEM helps drive the conversation.”

So with such a busy schedule at work, how does Sherry unwind away from the office?

“I spend time with my family,” she says “I take every moment I can to enjoy the company of my children.

“We love to travel and explore but we also just like hanging out together.”

Sherry is also an avid reader, especially non-fiction, with philosophy a particular passion. But there hasn’t been much time for that lately.

“It is enough keeping up with the news... and great that Woodside is featuring so positively in much of that news.

“These are exciting times.”





Keeping posted: Reservoir Management's Elliot Leah, Ian Sylvester, Amy Nielsen, and Ruslan Badamshin look out for team members with a new web-based interface.

Getting in the Mood

As part of the “Perfect HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) Day” initiative during Stand Together for Safety week, Reservoir Management organised activities to identify key HSE risks in the function.

“We don’t necessarily have the same physical risks that present themselves in daily operations on site,” says reservoir engineer Elliot Leah.

“However, there are other prevalent risks associated with our work.”

Feedback suggested that mental health and wellbeing were perceived as the areas of greatest risk.

Elliot adds it was also clear that there was a real desire to monitor this area, allowing awareness, transparency, voices to be heard and improvements to take place.

This prompted Elliot and graduate petroleum engineer Ruslan Badamshin to launch a search for the best solution to achieve this goal.

The result was Team Mood, a simple-to-use web-based interface, for which Elliot and Ruslan are now the focal points.

Team Mood has the ability to easily check and track the mood of teams and the function as a whole, accompanied with the capacity to receive anonymous comment to provide qualitative and honest feedback.

“We really needed something that allowed us to reach everybody, be very time efficient and auditable,” explains Ruslan.

“Most importantly, it needed to allow comments so that when we are witnessing trends we can pin point the cause and act upon this information.”

Team Mood has been set up so an email is automatically sent at 3pm each work day, asking receivers to rank their day from “very bad” to “outstanding”. It also allows for anonymous comment.

“This only takes two clicks of the mouse or phone touchscreen,” says Ruslan.

“The results are then visible in numerous dashboards from the functional level right down to individual teams, making it easy to identify when things are on track or problems are starting to arise.”

Positive feedback prompted Reservoir Management to take advantage of the tool on a permanent basis after a trial concluded.

Amy Nielsen, gas long term production forecasting manager, says: “We used to start our week by drawing emoticons to reflect our moods on the team whiteboard.

“Team Mood has given us a better way of checking in with each other – one that’s anonymous, simple and trackable. It has really helped me to understand

when the team is under pressure so I can do something about it.”

News of the initiative is spreading outside Reservoir Management.

Several areas have expressed interest in adopting the tool including Subsea and Pipelines, flow assurance and brownfields engineering.

“We have seen great positives from this tool and envisage it could be utilised in many areas of the company,” notes Elliot.

“At the end of the day, it is about promoting open discussions around our mental health and wellbeing and improving our culture within Woodside.”

Ian Sylvester, vice president Reservoir Management, says: “Team Mood is a wonderful initiative that allows managers and team members to look out for each other.

“During 2018 all Reservoir Management leaders will complete mental health first aid training to better equip them to support their team’s mental health.”

Chief petrophysicist Tim Conroy says that as we transition to Mia Yellagonga and develop new ways of working it will be more important than ever for teams to stay connected.

“Team Mood can help provide that connection,” Tim says.

Golden rules have a simple goal



For the excited children of Woodsiders at Families Night trying on personal protective equipment and participating in hands-on experiments, Woodside Week was simply great fun.

But there was a deeper message.

Health, Safety, Environment and Quality (HSEQ) used such activities to teach families about our Golden Safety Rules (GSR).

The GSR are 10 rules with simple icons and instructions on actions to be taken to protect ourselves and each other. When the rules are followed, they keep people safe by addressing fatality risks.

The Foundations rule sets the safety standard for all work, and the other nine rules apply to specific work such as driving, electrical and working at heights.

“Since the GSR were introduced in 2005, there has been a 60% improvement in personal safety performance,” explains vice president HSEQ Fiona Hick.

Fiona notes that the goal of the GSR is simple.

“The rules exist because we care about our people. We want them to go home to their families the same way they came to work. These rules are integral

to our safety mindset and how we work, supporting us to achieve a Perfect HSE Day every day,” she says.

But after 13 years of changes in Woodside and the oil and gas industry, it was important to ensure that the GSR remain relevant.

A review that involved more than 700 Woodside staff and contractors, plus comparisons to external benchmarking, found that Woodside’s GSR were easy to understand and fit for purpose.

However, the review highlighted that opportunity existed to increase recognition of the GSR icons, simplify language, and increase their application across all locations.

“The GSR were refreshed to align icons with international guidance and ensure legislative and policy changes were captured,” says business resilience manager Bruce Towie.

Based in Woodside’s Yangon office in Myanmar, Bruce understands the importance of ensuring the GSR are applicable globally.

“Not only did the Exploration HSEQ team visit us and support the refreshed GSR roll-out, but we also had the rules translated into the Myanmar language so we could share them with staff and contractors,” he adds.

“This has enabled us to apply the rules in our office, and ensure those we work

with understand and apply the GSR in their work too.”

Operations process owner Ross Trainer was based in Karratha for 16 years, and has been working in our Perth office since 2016.

Ross says he’s supportive of the refresh because the rules can be applied in the office, site, and even at home.

“When people have personal accountability that is reinforced through leading by example, doing the right thing even when no one is looking becomes second nature,” he points out.

“This is good because the GSR are portable and should be shared at home with family.”

Many injuries that require time off work occur at home, often caused by household chores such as climbing ladders to clean the gutters, DIY electrical work and driving, he adds.

“If people’s mindsets include the GSR at work and at home, the amount of injuries that happen to staff and contractors will reduce,” Ross says.

“At the end of the day, family comes first – and that’s a great reason to take the rules home.”

If you’d like to refresh your GSR knowledge, visit the HSEQ intranet page.



Safety first: Above, Phil Germain, Wai Mon, Shwe Yi Win Oo, Pyae Phyo Zaw from the Yangon office sporting the new Golden Safety Rules booklets. Top, as well as having fun, children like Ethan Kifer learnt about safety at Woodside Week’s Families Night.

Far from norm-al

How long would it take to complete a standard, routine maintenance task at Woodside?

The answer, of course, depends largely on what that task comprises.

But the estimate can also vary widely depending on who is giving the answer, the level of their personal knowledge and experience of the work scope, and only limited information about standard tool time.

This variability causes significant issues, not least when organising schedules and planning activities.

“Work planning in this manner causes many inconsistencies,” says maintenance team lead Brian Bruce.

“For example, we requested the same six scopes and received in response a resource requirement that varied from -60% to +180%.

“This type of variability impacts our resource planning, as well as our ability to analyse maintenance work data and identify optimisation opportunities.”

Enter mPower – an automated tool helping standardise the work planning for our maintenance scopes.

The latest example of innovation at Woodside, mPower went live on 15 January.

Brian explains that mPower is a maintenance resource estimating software tool.

Based on the pre-defined criteria selected, it automatically generates task lists and “norm” hours (based on standard average tool-time) required to complete our most common corrective maintenance work tasks.

“About 60% of these stand-alone corrective work orders are so similar in scope that they can be comparative in planning,” he explains.

Now, they are.

The Turnaround Team drove the successful solution over 18 months with a team of four working full time (including initial team lead Thu Nguyen) and collaboration with 20 people from across the business.

Although mPower was already in use for commissioning within the Turnaround Team, more was required. The team designed the automated Tasks List generator, and created applicable norms.

It is this generator that uses pre-defined queries to pull data from an extensive catalogue of tasks, creating work steps, each with a predetermined tool time. This is the real engine of the mPower norms resource estimating tool.

“To ensure the norms created were of excellent quality, our Discipline teams, led by Nathan Skidmore and Jason Flutter, connected with many subject matter experts,” explains Brian.

User feedback so far has been extremely positive.

“Given the ease of the user interface, usability of the product has been given an overall rating of 8.5/10 from users,” Brian reports.

“With other improvements in the pipeline, that score is expected to improve.”

Turnaround excellence manager Russell Probert notes that the successful delivery was the result of the sustained collaboration of 20 key personnel over 18 months.

“They displayed striking levels of effort and passion, striving for excellence through the rigorous application of the principles of quality and best practice,” he says, describing support across Maintenance, Engineering and Operations as “the key to our success”.

“Such accumulation of data has not previously been attempted by any of the oil majors in Australia and it places Woodside in an exclusive position,” Russell says.

“This is a step change in enabling more efficient and productive maintenance resource planning,” says Jeroen Buren, senior vice president Production, who points to its long-term benefits.

“It’s only when we know how much time standard activities take that we can work on continuously improving how we work and how to generate ideas on working differently.

“So mPower will not only improve the way we plan, it will also enable us to think differently about execution.”



Stormin' Norm: sustained collaboration on the “norm” time to complete routine maintenance task has resulted in mPower – a maintenance resource estimating software tool that delivers a step change in maintenance planning.



Step changes: Some of the 25 volunteers from the Engineering function who took part in a bold bid to generate new ideas.

Bold **initiative** identifies **new ideas**

How can Engineering respond to a rapidly changing business environment?

Today's world demands agility while simultaneously handling disruptive technology and enhancing and managing integrity of existing assets. And there's also the need to enable our engineers so they can implement alternative ideas and new ways of thinking to lead to step change in value.

A desire to drive such step-change improvements was behind a bold initiative that attracted 25 volunteers from across Engineering in Q1.

Its wider goals included enabling and empowering those in Engineering to recognise that good ideas will be embraced by the function's leadership team.

Most impressively, it went from go to whoa in little more than one month, drawing input from Woodside senior leaders and leveraging existing tools and innovation hubs.

Driven by Scott Marshall, the then operational technology team lead (and now adviser to the senior vice president of the Australia Operating Unit), the initiators included vice president innovation capability Brian Haggerty and Engineering functional business manager Ivan Jordan.

Volunteers were sought among the Engineering function, and 25 responded.

They attended workshops on three consecutive Wednesdays after work at the University of WA and Curtin University innovation hubs.

"Brian and I followed the hackathon model already championed and proven by our technology function as we knew this was a great way for teams to develop innovative ideas," explains Scott.

Brian provided the role of innovation coach and mentor to the group. A competitive element and short time frames are drawn from the successful hackathon format.

The result?

Eighty ideas in Week One.

The following week, senior vice president and chief technology officer Shaun Gregory and floating systems lead Steve Pegrum from Browse were brought in to offer different perspectives on delivering innovation and the technology demands from new projects.

A shortlist of five ideas was selected and a pitching coach invited to instruct how to present and pitch business ideas. As Brian explains: "We were eager to include a training element to the experience."

The group was offered a chance to get behind the idea that each individual felt most passionate about and given two weeks to develop and pitch their ideas.

Posters included augmented reality and artificial intelligence; targeted problem-solving; capabilities and setting up skillpools to handle things of the future like robotics; collaboration and how best Engineering could collaborate with Projects and Technology; and the fifth promoted evolving how engineers are perceived "from Engineering to ingenuity".

Scott says the decision to run the program in January was deliberate because the results could feed directly into the Engineering functional planning process in March.

In late February, the ideas were pitched to a panel which included new vice president Engineering Menno Weustink.

"This was a great pilot program to test how Engineering considers our customers' needs and the way we work tomorrow," says Menno.

"I look forward to seeing these ideas develop."

Scott hopes that such an initiative becomes a common activity across Engineering.

Ivan notes the fact that it wasn't a "top down" initiative was important, as was the fact participation was purely voluntary.

"It shows people have pride in their function and it shows people are enabled to do things," he says.



All aboard: Pilot/loadmaster Tim King with Gemma Shields, Steve Brameld (partly obscured) and Mike Utsler on the bridge of LNG carrier NW Swan.

Window to the world

Did you know Woodside berths more than 430 oil and gas carriers every year?

Due to the multiplicity of our assets and loading facilities, as many as four vessels might berth in a single day.

The majority of these berthings take place on the LNG jetties at Karratha Gas Plant (KGP) on the Burrup Peninsula.

“Manoeuvring one of these giant carriers alongside is no mean feat,” notes our chief operations officer Mike Utsler, who was recently on board the NW Swan during a berthing operation.

The NW Swan is 278m long, 43m wide and has a summer loaded displacement of 105,000 tonnes.

Berthing such a vessel requires great precision.

After manoeuvring in the shipping channel, a vessel enters a 600m diameter turning basin where it is maneuvered 180 degrees by four tugs and then comes to rest at berth, port side facing to sea.

“This delicate operation is critical to Woodside’s asset integrity,” explains Mike. Any damage to the LNG jetty has

the potential to disrupt our supply chain and even to cease production.

While we may think of our jetties as the end of our production process, for our customers they represent the beginning of the supply chain.

Moreover, vessels visiting our facilities experience first-hand our operating environment – our infrastructure, our processes and our behaviours.

The ship-shore interface is a unique interaction between Woodside’s pilot and loading master and the ship’s crew providing comfort and key controls for safe loading and operations whilst along-side our terminal.

KGP is on a life extension journey with LNG berths 1 and 3 the recipient of a 22-month refurbishment.

“It doesn’t look like a 30-year-old jetty,” says vice president logistics, Steve Brameld, who was onboard the NW Swan with Mike, and port operations manager Zubin Bhada.

“It looks as it should – a first-class facility fit for purpose and well maintained.”

As Steve notes, for many customers and ship operators this may be their

only view of Woodside and “it is most important that first impressions are good ones”.

Mike was simply “amazed” by the berthing operation.

“The intricate communication between ship and shore that takes place to marry these assets within centimetre precision is outstanding,” he says.

“I was particularly impressed with the culture of trust required and displayed between the vessel captain, crew and our senior pilot and operating staff.

“Investing in assets like LNG berths 1 and 3 and continuing to maintain and operate to the highest standards is a demonstration of our commitment to our customers.”

He adds: “We understand this is the customer’s window to our world and that millions of people rely on this supply chain to heat their homes and power their business.”

KGP has been a globally significant facility for many years and the refurbishment supports the vision it will be that way for many years to come.

We are here for the long haul.

Tipster has the good oil

It was Woodside's share price movements that sparked Philip West's interest in the external business environment.

"I'd see the change in share price on the monitors by the lift," Philip recalls.

"And I'd wonder how much of that was specific to Woodside and how much was market driven."

It was his curiosity that led Philip, a senior process engineer in development planning, to become one of the 100 Woodsiders who participated in the forecasting challenge.

The competition was developed in February 2017 by George Gilboy, vice president business environment and chief economist, and Hannah Richards, graduate commercial analyst (see Trunkline's Q1 2017 edition).

During the 10-month challenge, more than 1200 predictions were made on questions including "What will the average Brent oil spot price for 2017 be closest to?" and "Will OPEC renew an OPEC and non-OPEC supply deal in May 2017?" and "Will the US pass tax cuts in 2017?"

George says his goal was to encourage people across the business – some of whom do not deal with business environment issues directly in their

current roles – to challenge themselves to forecast how external issues might affect the business.

"And if there's any superforecasters hiding away in other parts of the business, we're interested to know who they are," he adds with a smile.

Philip was one such superforecaster and he narrowly pipped corporate econometrician Matthew Ironside to first prize.

"Philip's mindset demonstrates that of a fox – keen to learn and discover, with a diverse set of skills, and willing to change strategy in response to new information," says George.

"One of the major challenges is identifying when the weight of new information should cause you to make a different prediction to one you've already made. People have a bias for their original beliefs.

"One purpose is to utilise the expertise throughout the company to help us in our forecasting get a little more information and perhaps question our own biases in the business environment team."

Georgia McClanachan, the commercial analyst who ran the competition, notes: "It was amazing to see how the market perception changed over time.

"Originally, the 'crowd' told us that there was a greater than 50% chance that the oil price would average over \$60 a barrel in 2017.

"A few months later, the odds were 1%. Between May and September, the market unequivocally told us that the oil price would be \$50, on average."

The 2017 average closed closest to \$55/bbl, at \$54.19/bbl.

Woodsiders correctly predicted that Labor would win the State Election and the US would pass tax cuts in 2017.

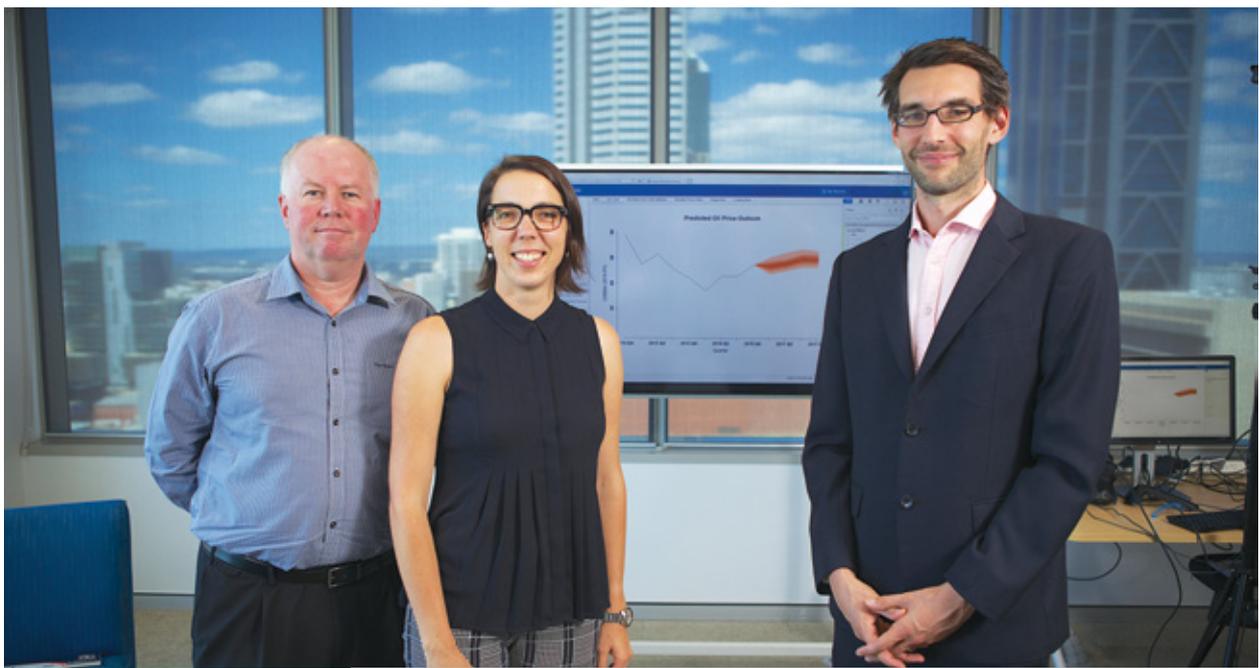
However, they overestimated how many nuclear restarts would happen in Japan – an important indicator of spot LNG demand.

A team comprising members of Corporate and Legal and People and Global Capability took out the team prize.

The competition will be run again in 2018 by the newest member of the business environment team, graduate commercial analyst Bianca Aranha.

"It's an exciting way for everyone at Woodside to get interested in the challenges and opportunities there are for us in the market," says George.

"We're looking for people who are willing to learn, without a fixed mindset."



Close race: Runner-up Matthew Ironside, left, with Georgia McClanachan and tipping competition winner Philip West.



A day in the life of ... a health, safety and environmental coordinator

Health Safety and Environment (HSE) coordinator Chris Cunningham describes himself as an avid traveller constantly seeking an “adventure fix” who fell into the oil and gas sector.

Chris had studied nursing at Sydney University, then specialised in critical care at the Intensive Care Unit of Sydney’s Royal Prince Alfred Hospital before moving overseas.

“I was living in Europe where I was surfing and snowboarding,” he recalls.

“Towards the end of another winter in the French Alps I made a decision not to return to a hospital career but seek a lifestyle-medical role in remote and austere environments.”

While travelling Chris had heard about the oil and gas industry and the role for medics. The idea of working away in blocks while maintaining the travelling lifestyle (seeking snow and surf adventures) appealed greatly.

So he invested weeks of research and remaining travel funds to secure the necessary courses and certificates to enable him to become an oil and gas medic.

While completing the course, he relentlessly chased work.

“I got lucky and got a call up on the last day of my final course,” he says.

The next day he was on a plane heading to Africa.

For the next few years, Chris worked for a gas operator in Tunisia, with stints in the North Sea for a seismic surveyor then ROV (Remotely Operated Underwater Vehicle) operations in the Arctic Circle out of Norway.

“After three years I started looking at options for returning home and Woodside gave me an opportunity via a third party contractor,” he says.

In 2013, Chris joined Woodside in the HSEC role and has since drawn on his marine background “floating” between the Northern Endeavour, Nganhurra and Okha floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) facilities.

In 2015 he joined the company as staff and has since developed skills in safety management, industrial hygiene and leadership while also completing a masters degree in occupational health and safety.

“In addition to the safety management skills, to maintain my medical expertise I completed a post graduate university diploma in paramedicine as well as completing some international medical repatriation work and teaching nurses in Nepal with a friend’s start-up NGO (non-government organisation),” he adds.

Below is a typical day in Chris’ life aboard an FPSO.

4.30am: The alarm goes off and I hit the gym for a morning wake-up run and stretch.

6am: The HSE coordinator role supports the offshore installation manager to lead the pre-start meeting covering safety performance for the previous 24 hours and discussing the day’s forward plan, throwing in some HSEQ (health, safety, environment and quality) promotion wherever we can.

The HSE coordinator wears many hats - medical, industrial hygiene, safety, environment, emergency management, logistics, and personnel management.

Our position forms part of the offshore leadership team as focal point for all things HSEQ. We support the asset in



Ready for duty: Opposite page, Chris Cunningham began his health and safety career studying nursing and now provides emergency and primary health care to our offshore teams. The HSE coordinator wears many hats including coaching, monitoring, testing and instructing among others. Above, informal and casual conversations at lunchtime provide an opportunity to provide mental health and wellbeing support for all personnel. Right, Chris enjoys keeping fit and snowboarding the biggest mountains in the world.

maintaining its HSEQ commitments by conducting regular monitoring, inspecting, coaching and ongoing advice to all levels of the workforce.

The HSE coordinator position is a requirement of each asset's licence to operate, and those sitting in the chair are registered nurses with background careers in critical care who have adapted their skills to oil and gas safety, industrial hygiene and environmental management.

Our small group has had careers in a variety of industries with experience from the shop floor through to management, holding multiple university and trade qualifications. The knowledge and skill set across the HSE coordinators team provides a significant resource to Woodside's Operations and HSEQ functions.

6.30am - 9am: The industrial hygiene equipment gets turned on and calibrated and we prepare and plan for any monitoring needed. This can include monitoring of noise, water, mercury and benzene sampling, heat and hydration.

We conduct the industrial hygiene sampling and monitoring at various worksites taking the opportunity to have safety conversations with the work groups. If no monitoring is required we'll take a tour around the work sites, ensuring safe work practices are being adhered to and provide assurance the Golden Safety Rules are understood and being applied.

9am: Morning tea is perhaps the most important part of the day for those who like a morning snack and a chat. For us, it's a chance to check in with the guys informally to see how they're going on a personal level.

A unique aspect of our job is to monitor and support the mental wellbeing of those working offshore as well as providing medical care.

9.30am - noon: Mornings can often be filled with medical management tasks.

While part of the job includes providing emergency pre-hospital care and maintaining our offshore clinics, our primary role is in a remote nurse function providing daily healthcare and access to onshore medical support for everyone offshore. We also spend time managing Return To Work programs for those returning to the offshore work place.

On flight days we'll support the helicopter administration and radio operators then familiarise people new to the facility through the induction process.

Noon - 3pm: Afternoons are often packed with inductions, worksite safety conversations, HSEQ admin and management duties.

One of our main leadership duties involves leading team investigations into hazards and incidents. We coach and support HSE representatives and supervisors through the investigation process.

The HSE reps are integral to the safety management of our assets and we coach them to develop both their leadership skills and HSEQ knowledge.

3pm: Another break to hydrate and cool down. By this time the various teams have been working in the heat (in the vicinity of 35 degrees in summer) for hours. Regular breaks are imperative to preventing heat-related illnesses.

Afternoon duties include chemical risk approvals, work place assessor sign offs and preparing HSEQ awareness and training packages for our weekend HSEQ activities.

The weekends are busy work days for HSE coordinators where we lead teams in HSE representative and committee meetings, emergency response drills and HSEQ information sessions.

5pm: Daily management meeting. As part of the leadership team we provide HSEQ input on the past 24 hours performance and look ahead at the work over the next 24 to 48 hours.

6pm: Dinner, gym and usually some personal down-time. For my down-time, if I'm not buried in books and coursework studying, I'm chasing and planning my next travel adventure. With a passion for extreme sports, I'm lucky that I've got a career in the oil and gas industry that offers such a great work/lifestyle balance.

Growing our potential

To grow a business requires building capacity for the future, and that means a workforce that is continuously learning and growing.

And ensuring employees have maximum opportunities for career development is a goal for companies wanting highly engaged and motivated employees.

It's the reason Woodside is taking steps to ensure staff have access to more development opportunities and are encouraged to grow their potential and achieve personal career goals.

The learning, development and capability team in People and Global Capability (P&GC) has been developing a fresh approach to career development, taking on board feedback from the 2017 engagement survey to ensure employee expectations are met.

"We focused on the fundamentals first to make sure our employees and leaders were equipped with the right skills to hold high quality career development conversations," explains learning and development manager Anna Natalotto.

This is in line with our career development philosophy, built on

a partnership approach with joint responsibility between employees and the company.

Last August saw the launch of a new development plan and learning modules in Woodside's integrated talent management system, SuccessFactors.

Anna says the introduction of user-friendly technology has helped SuccessFactors become a major success.

"The result is that in only a couple of months we went from having only 10% or so of the organisation having an active development plan in our old system to 92% of staff having had formal career conversations with their manager and creating a development plan in SuccessFactors," she notes.

The benefits of the new approach are widespread.

"Investing time and effort in understanding career aspirations and providing a path for career development, together with coaching, leads to higher levels of engagement and commitment and improved performance," she says.

Two new training programs also have been developed.

One aims to improve the ability of leaders to hold quality conversations with their employees about career development.

The other, called Growing Your Potential, allows all Woodsiders to increase their knowledge and awareness of the tools and resources available for career development, and how to use them to create a development plan.

About 750 employees have elected to attend these courses since their launch in September 2017.

One key change introduced has been the separation of conversations between leaders and employees about career development and performance reviews.

"We found that discussion about a person's career aspirations and development goals was not getting the attention it deserved during conversations about performance, so we decided the two should be separated," Anna says.

Another initiative has been to create video demonstrations, featuring Woodsiders, to illustrate what good quality conversations about career development look like.

Before launching company wide, pilot courses were conducted with the Woodside Leadership Community and the Woodside Young Professionals, and feedback sought.

General manager science Shelley Kalms was involved in the pilot for career development conversations.

"Leaders who attended appreciated the opportunity to share and learn from one another's experiences," says Shelley, adding that the decision to separate the development plan from performance conversations has lifted the quality of the conversations.

Theo Anderson, general manager organisational development in P&GC, says: "Enabled by our SuccessFactors system and the training programs, we have an excellent chance to realise the mutual benefits that come when people can build their skills for their own careers, while Woodside grows to deliver our future business aspirations."



Growing their potential: Logistics adviser Aastha Khanna and People and Capability senior adviser Michelle Brydon attended the career development stand during Woodside Week.



Top tips: Vince Connelly and Ashleigh Kotula, (second and fourth from the left respectively) enjoyed coaching sessions with Jacky Connolly and Mike Utsler.

Winning coaches

Two Woodsiders had the benefit of a one-on-one coaching session with a senior leader in Q1, and they came away enthused at what they picked up.

The sessions were the brainchild of the learning and development team in People and Global Capability (P&GC).

The team encouraged employees to visit its stand at Woodside Week and offer suggestions on how to improve the career development experience at Woodside.

A draw was held for those who gave feedback, and two winners picked.

Vince Connelly, who works in Security and Emergency Management and is an active Army Reservist, was coached by vice president of People and Global Capability, Jacky Connolly.

He says the session has helped him consider how to maximise cross-over

benefits between his full-time work and part-time service.

“Jacky had some great suggestions and tips, one of which was to consider how different aspects of my life inside and outside Woodside can best complement each other,” Vince reports.

“We also discussed keeping long-term goals in sight and considering how to maximise activities which contribute to these goals.”

Jacky also reinforced the importance of investing time in developing strong relationships with others, both at Woodside and externally.

Ashleigh Kotula, a second-year graduate in P&GC, won a coaching session with chief operations officer Mike Utsler.

Ashleigh says she learnt about the importance of absorbing information that comes her way and building relationships as she progresses her career.

Woodside professor honoured

Nick Birbilis, the Woodside Chair and Head of Materials Science and Engineering at Monash University in Melbourne, has been awarded the prestigious Batterham Medal for his work in developing new materials.

The Batterham Medal is an Early Career Award to an engineer who has achieved substantial peer/industry recognition in the past five years.

Professor Birbilis’ goal is to create corrosion-resistant ultra-lightweight versions of aluminium and magnesium alloys to be used everywhere from portable electronics to structural materials.

Technology manager Voula Terzoudi says the medal was well merited.

“He understands what industry is trying to do and is working to help us on some of our big challenges like corrosion,” Voula says.

Woodside supports Professor Birbilis’ work at Monash in three inter-related areas: additive manufacturing, corrosion research and data science (which makes models using Artificial Intelligence to predict where corrosion exists).

His team has been using an advanced X Ray imaging machine, the only one of its type in Australia, to generate 3D images in its bid to prevent corrosion.

Professor Birbilis says it’s only one of several areas Woodside is sponsoring at Monash which has exciting potential, adding Monash was grateful for the company’s support and that collaboration was a key to success.

“It’s a true alliance because the ideas are coming equally from Monash and Woodside,” he notes.





Fresh faces: From left, project services' manager Sujay Karkhanis with vacation students Nivio Santos De Sa Benevides, Yash Ramlaul, Vishnu Sachidaran, Meg Sullivan, and Kelvin Sadikin.

Newcomers with **new** ideas

Project services looked in the mirror and decided some changes were needed.

And they weren't cosmetic.

"We reviewed our demographics and concluded that we weren't as balanced as we'd like to be in the spread of ages and experience in our skillpools," says Mark Palermo, general manager project services.

A clear skew towards mid to late career personnel was evident and there was a scarcity of young talent coming through to fill gaps that will emerge in the coming years.

As a first step, program coordinator for project services Sujay Karkhanis sought and received approval to recruit summer vacation students and graduates – for the first time.

The result?

Five university students successfully completed the first-ever 12-week program in Project Services.

"We were lucky that we hosted students with initiative and eagerness to learn so both sides benefitted from the experience," says project services lead Bjoern Schick and lead estimator Louis Anastas.

Project services provides support to the Woodside management, developments and project teams, covering planning,

estimating, cost control, reporting, governance and risk analysis.

"Most students are unfamiliar with the oil and gas industry and the role that Project Services plays, so we were able to enlighten them and give them food for thought about career options," explains Mark.

"At the same time, our teams were able to benefit from having the injection of young, willing newcomers into our groups."

The students were deployed to various teams and given specific tasks to complete in 12 weeks.

One of the students, Nivio Santos, participated through Woodside's Timor-Leste Development Program.

Nivio, a post graduate student of project management, says he was thrilled to get an opportunity to learn benchmarking.

"I am fortunate to be able to learn aspects of project management during the 12 weeks that will help me on projects in Timor-Leste," he says.

Megan Sullivan and Kelvin Sadikin were other participating students who worked on building front end estimating tools for Drilling and Completions and Subsea and Pipelines.

They said that at the beginning they had little idea about project services in oil and gas as a career option. But by the end of the 12 weeks, each had gained

enough understanding of both to give project services serious consideration.

Vishnu Sachidaran from Melbourne University was pleased that he chose the program and together with his line manager Alan Wiseman delivered mPower dashboards for Engineering.

As for Woodside, Steve McIntosh, project services manager on the Greater Enfield Project, says he was pleasantly surprised at the energy, problem-solving abilities and teamwork displayed by Yash Ramlaul – a student from RMIT University.

"Yash delivered various step ups ranging from developing tools for offshore spread rate calculation, logistics look ahead plan, and minimising efforts for document tagging," says Steve.

Mark says he was very encouraged to see the contribution made by the students.

"It made us realise what we have been missing for many years," Mark notes, adding that he "strongly supports to continue the program in future years".

Sujay says he also is very pleased with the program's success, and the contribution the students made towards improving business processes.

"My next challenge is to launch project services' first-ever Graduate Development Program in 2018," he says.

Fresh eyes from Monash students

Woodside benefitted from some fresh eyes for an ongoing project when four students from Monash University spent the summer in Perth lending their expertise.

They were part of the Monash Industry Team Initiative (MITI) which involves students working in industry in small teams to solve real problems.

The team that visited Woodside took on a project to create a best in class learning culture.

As general manager project capability Neil Maxfield explains, their work was a continuation of a project launched 18 months ago.

“We started with a pilot Student Action Learning Program (SALP) in the midterm of 2016 where the students mapped how we learn and proposed a roadmap to move forward,” says Neil.

Nicole Magill from People and Global Capability then suggested this was an opportunity to engage the Monash MITI program.

“Nicole saw the value that could be gained beyond the Woodside Future Lab-sponsored Innovation Centre and engaging students directly through MITI,” says Neil.

The inaugural MITI students implemented the roadmap during the summer of 2016/2017 which included canvassing support across the Project delivery functions.

“They identified best practice in the Subsea and Pipelines (SS&PL) function where Lewis Kemp and Karl Woods were applying lessons learnt so they engaged SS&PL to pilot a streamlined procedure suitable for use across the business,” Neil says.

Projects graduates Jonathan Ng and David Moyle took the output from the MITI team and published the new procedure in 2017 including a further trial by the SS&PL team.

This summer, the diverse MITI team helped Woodside move closer to

realising a learning culture across Developments and associated project delivery functions, including Engineering, Projects, SS&PL and Contracts and Procurement.

Vikram Singh, studying for his masters in business information systems at Monash, was one of the cross-discipline project team along with Prateek Jain, an undergraduate in civil engineering, Grace Shaw (arts and law), and Taiqing Zhang, known as Ken, undertaking a masters in IT.

Vikram says knowledge capture and knowledge transfer is not yet occurring at the optimum level.

“So we’re building a knowledge depository learning base which captures the journeys of the learning for new people and other people in the team,” he says.

Neil says the key output of the 2017/2018 team has been to create a communication plan focused on realising the short, medium and long-term journey to a learning culture and a best in class learning organisation.

“This plan was supported by Suzie Cracknell from employee engagement, and Jonathan and David, who undertook the supervision of the team,” he adds.

The journey is not yet done and the graduates who will replace David and Jonathan this year will continue to drive the learning culture journey through bringing the communication plan to life over the next 10 months

Neil notes the MITI team would not have been able to create the potential value they have without support and involvement of the functions, particularly SS&PL.

The MITI team presented their work to Woodside managers at the end of the program and outlined their own personal learning journey.

They thanked Woodside and the MITI program for the opportunity to help to solve a significant business problem.

Grace remarked: “I have now realised a passion for communications and the value of learning lessons thanks to the Monash MITI program and Woodside.”



Top class: Jonathan Ng, Neil Maxfield and David Moyle (back row) worked with Monash University students Taiqing Zhang, Vikram Singh, Grace Shaw and Prateek Jain over the summer months on creating a best in class learning culture.

Support for Indigenous students recognised

Woodside's innovative program to support Indigenous students attending St Catherine's College in Perth was a finalist in the Outstanding Company Initiative category of this year's Chamber of Minerals and Energy Women in Resources Awards.

The program's initiator at Woodside, Shanine Ryan, says she is thrilled at the acknowledgement of its success, which she says is due to the hard work and commitment of many people, including the college's staff.

The high number of female students awarded scholarships enabled the company to enter the awards.

For example, in semester 2 of 2017, 49% of Woodside scholarship recipients residing at St Catherine's were female.

Shanine is a senior corporate affairs adviser, Indigenous affairs.

The program was launched in 2014 in conjunction with St Catherine's College through the Dandjoo Darbalung (Indigenous Access Program).

"It's thanks to people like Lynn Webber and Fiona Crowe at St Catherine's

College that we've been able to develop a truly holistic scholarship program that meets the students' needs without jeopardising or undermining the academic accomplishments as part of the scholarship program," she says.

Shanine explains the program's aim is to address the need to support Indigenous students residing away from their homes, family and cultural lands in a holistic way.

"It's now in its fifth year and the program has provided a range of benefits to past and current students," she notes.

"And the growth in graduation numbers highlights the importance and success of this model."

The scholarships are offered for industry-specific roles that preferably lead to a future opportunity with Woodside.

However, Community Scholarships are also offered to build skills and capacity. These are aimed at enabling students studying disciplines that will contribute to growth and future skilled capability working in and for the broader community to be developed.

Shanine points to a number of students who have studied disciplines such as teaching, nursing and social work as examples of Community Scholarships.

Lynn Webber, the Dandjoo Darbalung Indigenous Program coordinator at St Catherine's College, says: "The scholarship partnership between St Catherine's and Woodside has been fundamental in offering financial support to 53 students, contributing to their successful university retention and graduation rates.

"Of this total number of students 50% are female students.

"The scholarships have enabled them to access financial support, as well as professional development, work experience and mentoring, attributing to their employability back into the community.

"These positive outcomes are clearly worth celebrating as Woodside continues to support the next generation of Indigenous leaders to fulfil their dreams."

Shanine believes the model Woodside has created in tandem with the Dandjoo Darbalung Program could be replicated across other colleges and organisations or companies in other industries.

"I believe there is a great deal of opportunity to expand on the model and create even more Indigenous graduates in the future," she says, noting that St Catherine's through the Dandjoo Darbalung Program has been successful in securing funding to expand the College facilities to offer more beds for Indigenous students.

Barry McGuire, a Balladong Nyoongar man and ambassador of the program, welcomed the announcement.

"This purpose-built accommodation will provide a space that is balanced for Aboriginal ways of life and learning. From this we will see many prosperous professionals come and stand in all walks of life and proudly represent our people," Barry said.



Good works: From left, Fiona Crowe, head of college at St Catherine's College, senior corporate affairs adviser Shanine Ryan and Lynn Webber, co-ordinator for the Dandjoo Darbalung Indigenous Access Program Coordinator at the Women in Resources Awards presentation.



Long haul: A female green turtle makes her way back to the ocean after laying eggs at the Muiron Islands. Right, Angus Parker and Tegan Box took part in the January turtle surveys.

Ensuring turtles count

Many animals share a remarkable aptitude for returning to their breeding grounds, as Denise McCorry discovered first hand recently.

Denise, a senior environment adviser, encountered a loggerhead turtle nesting on the Muiron Islands off Western Australia's North West Cape in January.

"She had been tagged 19 years ago to the day and almost in the exact spot," she says.

Denise was checking turtle numbers during the peak nesting season on the remote Muiron Islands in January for the long-running Ningaloo Turtle Program (NTP) which is a partnership between Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), and the Cape Conservation Group (CCG).

Apart from the Woodside support for the NTP, the Greater Enfield Project is supporting a program of environmental studies from 2018-19 to add to the environmental knowledge of the Ningaloo region with the surveys of the Muirons comprising phase one of a two-year study program.

Environment adviser Tegan Box, corporate affairs adviser Kate McCallum and environment graduate adviser Angus Parker joined her on the surveys.

Kate says: "It was a unique opportunity to step foot on these islands where access is limited to protect the fragile environment particularly during turtle nesting season."

The Ningaloo Coast and Pilbara Islands are significant nesting areas for green, loggerhead, flat-back and hawksbill turtles.

The DBCA (Parks and Wildlife Services in Exmouth) and local Exmouth Cape Conservation Group have been monitoring sea turtles through the volunteer-based NTP for more than 15 years and Woodside has been a supporter for the past 10 years, with the program providing valuable long-term data on threatened sea turtle populations.

"The addition of beaches on the Muiron Islands, Sunday Island and Ningaloo Coast in the 2017/18 turtle season will help address knowledge gaps in turtle nesting and support broader and more effective conservation and management," says Pete Barnes, Marine Program Coordinator (Ningaloo Marine Park), Parks and Wildlife Service-Exmouth District, DBCA.

Besides the Woodside volunteers, DBCA officers and Indigenous Rangers, Cape Conservation Group members and NTP volunteers all collaborated in data collection.

The survey also supported BirdLife Australia ornithologists in seabird and shorebird population counts of the Muiron Islands.

Denise reports that the preliminary results of the January surveys appear to indicate relatively high nesting activity on the islands for at least two species of turtles – green and loggerhead turtles.

She says benefits include:

- improved environmental understanding of the existing environment and key sensitive species in the Ningaloo region;
- collaboration between government and industry as well as the opportunity for involvement of Woodsiders to work together with staff of the Parks and Wildlife Service (DBCA), Traditional Owners, Birdlife Australia and members of the Exmouth community in the turtle and sea bird programs; and
- an understanding of a shared goal to better manage the environment.

"These surveys were a great example of the Woodside approach in collaborating with long-term environmental science partner Parks and Wildlife Service, DBCA to address gaps in environmental knowledge on sea turtle nesting populations in the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area and Ningaloo Marine Park," Denise concludes.

WoW gets a GEM makeover

Women of Woodside (WoW) has a new name and a new brand identity.

And it has a new-found resolve to increase its presence in the company and – most importantly – promote gender equity.

The identity change came at the end of January when WoW metamorphosed into Gender Equality Matters or GEM.

“It was decided we needed a name and brand identity which better aligned with WoW’s stated objectives and purpose,” explains Kelsie Clarke.

“We wanted to change the name so it was more in line with our current and future aspirations.

“So about six months ago, WoW’s two co-chairs committed to reviewing the name and we came up with a shortlist of four alternate names.”

A vote of both WoW and non-WoW members was taken and GEM was overwhelmingly the preferred option in both groups.

The new name fits in well with the group’s recent shift of focus.

As GEM co-chair Fiona Chow explains, WoW started around a dozen years ago as a social networking group providing support to women.

“But over that period it has transformed into a multi-faceted and action-oriented community for both men and women and has helped lift the bar on gender equality and inclusion,” she says.

Fiona and co-chair Rebecca McNicol, announced the new name at a sundowner where this year’s program was launched.

It coincided with the release of a five-year strategy for GEM, and the results of a root cause analysis into what are seen as the main causes of gender inequality today.

Twelve root causes were identified and condensed into four counter-measures. These form the four pillars of GEM’s new strategy house, which drives GEM’s five-year strategic plan.

GEM executive sponsor Sherry Duhe believes she can support GEM through one of those pillars – elevating role modelling and pathways.

“Having excellent role models in my career has helped encourage me to stay the course and not drop out like many women have done,” she says.

“I hope as the executive sponsor of GEM I can create the same sort of role modelling environment.”

Kelsie was one of two WoW members handling strategy and planning for the group; the other, Jay Wong, has a background in strategic planning.

Together they helped draft a strategy house and reform the strategic plan.

“The root cause analysis was a great place to start because it provided a diagnosis of our current state,” says Jay.

“We looked at where we were and formed a vision of where we wanted to be in the future. This then allowed us to map out a strategic plan to achieve that vision.”

GEM’s theme for 2018 is Gender Equality Benefits Everyone.

One of its focus areas for the year will be to seek an increase in GEM’s male membership at Woodside locations in Karratha, offshore and other international and remote areas.

“In locations outside of Perth, women represent only 12% of our workforce and male membership of GEM is a dismal 2%,” Fiona notes.

GEM is setting out on a new path as it transitions from what started out as a social group into an action-oriented group.

“GEM’s journey is an evolution and hopefully GEM continues to grow and expand,” says Jay.

“It’s really exciting – I can’t wait to see how it evolves.”



New name, new game: Rebecca McNicol, Kelsie Clarke, Jay Wong and Fiona Chow celebrate WoW’s metamorphosis into GEM.



Happy families: Parent Warriors members Kate Bardell, with children Molly and George, and Scott Cranston, with son George.

Warriors by name, caring by nature

A new network has been born with the aim of delivering support, information and camaraderie.

Called Parent Warriors, it has been formed by Woodside parents for Woodside parents, and it's accessible to all who work in the company.

"The idea is to provide a way for soon-to-be, new or even seasoned parents to connect with others with parenting experience and maybe learn a thing or two," explains Kate Bardill, maintenance engineering team lead and a founding parent warrior.

Parent Warriors helps identify someone in the company not only with similar experiences, but someone who has volunteered to share and talk about it.

"We wanted to make it personal and easily accessible, even for those on parental leave," Kate says.

The idea of a forum to bring parents together was first discussed in 2017 by members of Women of Woodside (WoW) – now GEM.

Emma Doyle, area planning team lead, says: "Parent Warriors was born out of a simple conversation in a context of the WoW theme at the time – 'being a bigger part of it' – which expresses an aspiration that together we can make a difference.

"Sandy Sibener, manager materials management, was mentoring someone who was about to go on parental leave and was sharing her tips on finding a nanny, and we wondered how we could share this and other hard-earned knowledge more widely.

"Many of us look to our parents and own upbringing for guidance on how to raise our own children, but many of the challenges we face today are not part of our parents' experiences."

Joining is as simple as visiting the Parent Warrior intranet site and the network is simple and self-managing.

The "warriors" are volunteers who self-register with a short parent biography. Kate says Warriors maintain their profile, and can remove themselves at any time.

Within the group, there are now 67 warriors across 11 "tribes" (a tribe having a common or shared experience).

Scott Cranston, integration project engineer, recounts how the Dad's tribe was formed.

"After the birth of my son George in October 2016, my family needed me at home for several weeks," he says.

"I was supported during a stressful time, and when I returned to work, I found myself having conversations with other fathers."

Scott discovered their experiences varied greatly, and there was a big lack of knowledge of policies so he set out to rectify the situation. He then joined the Man Up group under WoW and discussed the idea of a fathers' support group.

The support group then became the Parent Warriors Dads Tribe, and others include the FIFO, Heartbreak and Au Pair tribes.

Kate and Scott both hope the community can continue to develop and add further value.

"I would like to try and figure out – and focus on – the support most useful to Dads," says Scott.

"Perhaps we can inform future policies to address common challenges and better support the organisation."

Jacky Connolly, vice president People and Global Capability, says she is very pleased that a new network has been established at Woodside, and fully endorses its goals.

"I'm proud that Woodsiders have started such a community to support their colleagues," Jacky says.

"It demonstrates that we're aware of the challenges of parenthood and have a keen regard for each other's wellbeing."

Warm welcome for Karratha visitors

Everyone has something more to learn.

And that proved the case when Hongmei Sun from the University of Western Australia (UWA) visited Karratha Gas Plant (KGP) to test an electrical solution in a site environment.

Hongmei, a research officer at UWA'S Centre for Acoustics, Dynamics and Vibration, visited KGP to conduct on-site vibration measurements in collaboration with Production Technology.

But first she became one of the hundreds of people who visit the North West Shelf (NWS) Project Visitors Centre to be greeted by the centre coordinator of three years, Mandy Alexander.

Mandy looks after the general public and assists with protocol visits.

"Protocol visits are high-level visits from ministers, government officials, NWS joint venture participants and partner organisations," she explains.

Hongmei's was one of many protocol visits during 2017.

Other notables included Pluto joint venture participants, traditional custodians conducting Heritage Site

Inspections and representatives from Mitsui Iron Ore Development.

"During protocol visits the centre can be turned into a dining and reception area, and at night the gas plant provides a beautiful setting for important events," Mandy says.

She also take groups on town and site tours, and screens videos in the centre's 50-seat auditorium.

At other times she answers all manner of questions about KGP – the largest onshore gas plant in the southern hemisphere.

"We've had up to 30,000 visitors a year pass through the doors, but recently these numbers have halved," Mandy says.

She attributes this to the reduced numbers living and working in Karratha.

"During our peak season of June to September, the centre still receives between 150 and 180 visitors a day," she adds.

They come from all over Australia, and indeed the world.

International guests vary from backpackers to VIP delegations; and the

centre receives local school groups and bus tours from Broome or Perth.

To keep younger visitors engaged, the centre is filled with educative computer games and resources for children, as well as quizzes about information on display.

Visitors can also touch used drill bits, view replicas of the famous rock art from across the Burrup, and access a library of books, DVDs and Trunkline magazines dating back to 1978.

Scale models illustrate Woodside's offshore assets, while computer tablets (programmed also in Korean, Japanese and Mandarin) provide visitors with a glimpse inside KGP.

"We constantly update as new technology becomes available and we ensure the information is up to date as we continually expand and improve our community relationships," Mandy says.

With its posters promoting local events and local Indigenous artwork on sale for local artists, the visitors centre also enjoys a community vibe.

"It's nice to see return visitors who come back every few years – they enjoy finding their names in the visitor books from previous visits," Mandy adds.

Hongmei might well be one who returns one day.

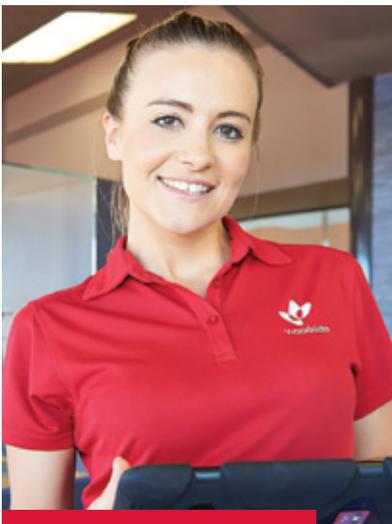
"Mandy was friendly and informative, helping me with a safety induction and equipment," she reports.

"I could tell just how much she loves her job."

Hongmei says she loved the exhibition space and the great view overlooking KGP.

So whether you're a Woodsider or curious visitor, why not pop into the NWS Visitors Centre next time you're in Karratha – and check out what's new as well as what's familiar.

The centre is open to the public on weekdays from April to November 9am to 4pm, and otherwise by appointment.



Visiting hours: Mandy Alexander, left, is the face of Woodside for the thousands of people, from children and grey nomads to researchers and VIPs, who flock to the Karratha Visitors Centre to learn more about our operations and activities.



Harvest time: Left, watering the crops at one of the community gardens in Timor-Leste funded by the Sunrise Joint Venture. Right, commercial analyst Rhyse Maughan with James Benjamin of AVI (formerly Australian Volunteers International).

Supporting communities across the globe

Rhyse Maughan often gets asked what he likes about his work at Woodside.

And what exactly is it that makes his job as a commercial analyst so interesting?

Having exposure to one of Australia's largest resource projects and being intimately involved in the commercial decision-making of the future of the North West Shelf is more than enough to get him out of bed each day, he answers.

However for Rhyse, the value in what Woodside delivers goes beyond being a world-class supplier of reliable energy.

It's also about the communities with which the company is involved, and the far-reaching impacts of its community programs.

So when an opportunity arose recently to travel to Timor-Leste and visit a number of non-government organisations (NGO) operating in the country, Rhyse was quite eager to inspect some of the work that Woodside, as operator of the Sunrise Joint Venture (SJV), supports.

"While my day job does not involve Sunrise, I still have a keen interest in seeing the impact Woodside has in its communities," he explains.

A day expedition in the Aileu municipality, south west of the capital Dili, was organised to enable Rhyse

to visit a number of communities supported by the SJV.

His first visit was to a number of HIAM Health's community vegetable gardens. This initiative aims to reduce childhood malnutrition in target areas through provision of high quality horticulture and nutrition training, as well as assisting community groups to maintain garden sustainability for long-term nutrition and economic empowerment.

There was also a visit to one of Alola Foundation's motherhood seminars focused on promoting infant and young child feeding, basic safe motherhood initiatives and birth spacing program.

The program offers monthly rural health promotion activities focused on initiatives for young mothers.

The last visit was to one of Rotary's Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) training centres that provides leadership skills training and capacity building for up to 100 Timorese youth.

Additionally the RYLA program also provides a three-month internship opportunity to 21 RYLA participants with three SJV community partners in Timor-Leste.

Rhyse's visit to these programs was hosted by country representative Antonio Dos Santos.

Antonio explains: "These community development programs supported

by the SJV play an important part in supporting the future of all Timorese.

"Many of the education-based programs have a grass roots impact by focusing on improving standards of living and health in small rural communities."

For Rhyse, seeing first-hand the impact Woodside is having on the ground was an eye-opening and rewarding experience.

"It was incredible," he says.

"The programs are not 'hand-out' programs; they are 'hand-up' because they bring sustainable development."

Rhyse says because the programs are education focused, it's hard to measure their immediate impact, but he is convinced by what he saw that they are having a really positive effect.

A keen photographer, Rhyse is hoping that the images he managed to capture of the good work that's being achieved will build exposure and awareness of the programs.

"It's probably something that many Woodsiders don't think about or are not aware of," he says.

"It was such a valuable learning to talk to community members and get their perspective of the value of our social investment programs.

"This really is just the beginning."

Having a ball

Volunteering brings numerous rewards and, for five community-minded Woodsiders, there is now another to add to the list.

In recognition of their commitment to coaching junior sport, the group was invited to join in the Fremantle Dockers' first training session at the new Optus Stadium.

Subsurface manager Yousof Hourani, taxation adviser Leanne Tomkinson, maintenance team leader Anthony Stretton, maintenance superintendent Aaron Bruce and offtake coordinator Pam Hospital all took to the field with a child that they coach.

"It was one of those once-in-a-lifetime experiences," says Anthony.

The group participated in drills alongside the AFL players, receiving instruction and encouragement from coach Ross Lyon.

"To be able to be out on the ground and join in some of their training drills was fantastic," says Leanne. "Ross and the players were very welcoming and open to conversation and questions."

The five Woodsiders were among many in the company who devote much time and effort to developing the skills and sportsmanship of children.

As Yousof explains, echoing the

sentiments of others, it's a satisfying experience.

"A primary driver for my coaching is to help the children grow in their self-confidence, and it always brings a great deal of contentment to see them realising their potential, one step at a time," he says.

The Woodside Board also recognises the value of such effort, endorsing 12 hours of paid volunteering leave for each employee each year.

Of course, a vast majority of Woodsiders put in countless more unpaid hours and it is this drive to go above and beyond that inspired the opportunity to train with the Dockers.

Niall Myles, our senior vice president of the Australia Operating Unit and a fierce Freo fan, says it was well-earned reward and enjoyed sitting in the stands watching the Woodsiders put through their paces with the footy stars.

"At the end of the day, this was recognition for the commitment that Woodsiders put into making a meaningful contribution to the communities in which we work," he says.

"Our staff's spirit of giving back is so strong, whether we are in remote communities such as Karratha or cities like Perth, that it was nice to recognise it in this way."



Field of dreams: Volunteer coaches from Woodside take to the grounds of Optus Stadium with their young charges to train with the Fremantle Dockers.



Present time: Marine superintendent James Barton stands in for Father Christmas as Woodsiders helped children celebrate Christmas in Singapore.

Santa in Singapore

Woodsiders based in Singapore teamed up in December with contractors from Keppel to take 40 young children from a student care centre on an excursion to celebrate Christmas.

The day began with an art workshop at Singapore National Gallery, followed by lunch at the DC Super Hero Cafe.

Then the party set off for popular attractions Cloud Forest and Flower Dome at Gardens By The Bay where the children tackled a quest before receiving Christmas presents.

Marine superintendent James Barton was the stand-in Father Christmas and reports the kids were very excited to see him.

"The volunteers also had a great day and felt a sense of pride being able to give their time to the children and create an exciting day for them at Christmas time," he says.

Senior adviser quality Emma Gould said it was wonderful watching creative minds at work.

Senior projects engineer Bill Syddall adds: "We all enjoyed helping the children and participating in the Christmas activities."

A spokeswoman from the care centre says the children had a great day, and that they felt they were treated like princes and princesses by their volunteers.

Trio set for **new** challenges

Three of the company's longest-serving staff members have farewelled the company in recent weeks, taking cherished memories into retirement from almost a century of combined Woodside experience.

But it won't be a lazy retirement.

Warwick Pointon, Brad Russell-Lane and John McConnell are setting themselves varied and busy schedules for their post-Woodside lives.

Warwick joined in April 1982 as a marine pilot in Karratha.

In December 1984 he was loadmaster and pilot for the tanker that loaded Woodside's first condensate export from Dampier. He was also pilot and loadmaster for our first LNG tanker in 1989.

Warwick was also manager of Woodside's former marine company, Mermaid Sound Port Marine Services. His final position was vice president oil and LNG shipping.

"I didn't visualise staying this long but it's been fantastic," Warwick said before retiring.

"Woodside offers so many opportunities and experiences. I'll be quite sad to leave the great people I work with, but I know it's time for a change of pace."

He intends keeping occupied with woodworking, gardening, travel and grandchildren, plus not-for-profit opportunities.

John McConnell joined the company in Karratha in February 1986 as a fitter, before becoming a mechanical supervisor.

He worked on LNG trains before becoming an offshore installation manager and then asset manager on several floating production storage and offloading facilities. He finished in Marine as specialist project manager.

Among the milestones with which he's been involved, John lists the pre-commissioning, start-up and operation of LNG trains 1 and 2; organisational changes brought about by the Goodwin model which changed how Woodside

works offshore, development of the organisational model for the Northern Endeavour; and finally the introduction of LNG-fuelled Siem Thiima.

John reckons the recipe for a good retirement is "fitness, friends, finances and a purpose". He says he's fortunate to enjoy the first three and will spend a gap year deciding what his "purpose" might be.

Brad Russell-Lane joined Woodside in 1989 from university as an economics graduate.

He worked for seven years in Supply (as Logistics was then called) before moving into gas marketing for the North West Shelf joint venture.

He then worked in LNG and gas business development. As soon as the Pluto field was discovered he jumped on a plane to Japan with Reinhardt Matisons (now executive vice president Marketing Trading and Shipping) to market the LNG.

"Pluto was a game changer," Brad says.

"It's one of those massive projects which

changes, for the better, companies, countries and the lives of people through the massive investment and flow-on benefits from these major projects.

"It changed Woodside, for the better, without a doubt."

Brad also spent time in Contracts and Procurement, drove Continuous Improvement and then moved into integrated activity planning before helping establish the Australia Operating Unit.

"I've enjoyed all my jobs but the best thing I've done is the people stuff — helping people succeed, mentoring young people coming through," he says.

Brad is planning a decade of volunteering in diabetes medical research and assisting Indigenous youth, adding: "I'm looking forward to spending more time with my wife Shelley and grown-up daughters and getting a few more waves and laps on the motocross track down south."

Trunkline wishes them and all retiring Woodsideers the very best.



Rest assured: John McConnell, Warwick Pointon and Brad Russell-Lane contemplate life after Woodside with almost a century of combined service to the company.

This is where Woodsiders discover a little bit more about their colleagues – and what they’ve been getting up to outside work hours. Think of it as Trunkline’s version of the water cooler.

Because whether it’s satisfying a passion for a sport, an unusual hobby or doing good deeds in the community, Woodside’s employees and contractors tend to live life to the full. As a result, they often have interesting stories or experiences to recount.

If that sounds like you or a colleague and you think it should be shared with the Woodside community, give us a call or drop us a line.



Rhino rescue

When Jodie Cooper went bush in Zimbabwe last November, it wasn’t for the sightseeing.

Jodie, a site services coordinator who looks after support services contractors across the Burrup and offshore facilities, was helping in the fight against poachers who have decimated Africa’s rhino population.

The slaughter of rhinos for their horns was something she had been aware of, but she hadn’t been fully conscious of the extent of the problem.

Her research revealed some graphic and confronting images – not only the slaughter of rhinos, but of other wildlife, too.

“I went to Africa with an open mind,” she says.

“I realise this is a complex issue and while non-Africans may not have the entire solution the least we can do is raise awareness and support those on the frontline risking their lives every day to save this cornerstone species from extinction.”

Jodie felt she had the time and capacity to give back to the international conservation community and lend her weight to the anti-poaching campaigns.

In November, she spent two weeks with another seven volunteers at the 2500ha Stanley and Livingstone Private Game Reserve next to the Victoria Falls, accompanying rangers who themselves are targets of the poachers.

She’s heading back to Zimbabwe in July and plans to launch a crowd funding campaign with proceeds going to an all-female anti-poaching unit Akashinga, meaning “The Brave Ones”.

She’s also working with like-minded Woodsiders in a group called Resources for Rhinos.

Curtin to Carnegie Hall

From singing in Perth high schools to the Fringe Festival and . . . Carnegie Hall.

Woodside graduates Yan Mei Ng and Mary Munroe will sing at one of the world’s most prestigious concert halls with the world-renowned King’s Singers in April.

They’re members of Rhythmos Choir – comprising mainly Curtin University students and graduates – invited to sing at a concert celebrating the King’s Singers 50th anniversary.

And that will come on the back of two performances by Yan Mei, a second-year graduate in subsea and pipelines, and Mary, a third-year graduate geologist, with the choir at this year’s Fringe Festival.

Mary studied flute at Perth Modern School.

“I wanted to keep in touch with music and in a choir you’re part of a team in a real creative environment,” she says.

“It’s great training for the corporate world because it’s all about listening to other people and creating something beautiful together.”

Mary and Mei performed twice during Fringe and both weekend shows sold out.

Says Mei: “We worked very hard but had great fun in the end.”

Now they’re busy fundraising for their trip to Carnegie Hall in New York.





Cold comforts

Not everyone is content to holiday only in Bali or Rottneest.

There are those who prefer adventure holidays in the cold rather than sunbathing by the pool.

They include a hardy bunch of Woodsiders who prefer the Antarctica and Arctic, and are prepared to brace snow storms and icy winds to experience amazing scenery and wildlife.

"It's life stripped back because you're much more into survival in the great outdoors," explains senior health manager Rory O'Connor (pictured bottom, centre). "You're sleeping in a tent which is all that's keeping you alive."

Rory was a doctor in a British hospital when, "in an idle moment", he read a newspaper advertisement seeking a doctor on Faraday Station, just north of the Antarctic circle.

He was "blown away" by the scenery and wildlife – the seals, penguins and whales.

But in 18 months on the base, he didn't get to see a great deal of Antarctica, so he determined to return. In 2011, he saw a lot: he skied 1800 km across Antarctica via the South Pole, pulling a sledge carrying his gear.

Senior health and safety adviser Libby Giroud (bottom, left) canvassed her family for a companion on a trip to Antarctica.

"We can't think of anything worse," they all chorused, except her dad, Peter, who said: "I'll come!"

They flew to King George Island, 120 km from Antarctica, and boarded a Russian icebreaker for their cruise.

"It exceeded expectations," says Libby, citing the wildlife as the highlight.

"You're living in the moment. And you're learning and challenging yourself at the same time."

The weather was "freezing cold", but the sun shone every day. And her well-travelled father declared it the trip of a lifetime.

For corporate affairs adviser Alishia Stearne (top, right), visiting Alaska in 2009 resulted in her catching the "polar bug".

Alaska was followed by a trip to Antarctica where Alishia got to climb an iceberg and swim in the cold waters of Deception Island. In 2015, she fulfilled her dream of driving a dog sled in Lapland.

As one of a small expedition, she drove four dogs 319 km to reach the most northern part of Finland, sleeping in remote wooden cabins by frozen lakes. "We had to drill by hand through ice lakes to bucket water for washing and drinking," she recalls.

"There was no noise at all apart from the sound of the dogs panting and the sled sliding across the ice and Arctic trail."

Technology manager Andre Gerhardt (bottom, right) has holidayed in Chile on many occasions, trekking in the winter months up some of the country's 3000 volcanoes.

In summer he heads for the glaciers of southern Chile.

"People from all over the world come to see a natural bridge of ice that forms every couple of years at the Perito Moreno Glacier in the Southern Patagonia Ice Field," he says.

Sarah Loh (top, left), corporate reserves coordinator in Reservoir Management, has holidayed to the extremes of the northern and southern hemisphere in pursuit of exciting holidays.

"I like going to places that contrast with the familiar. Often these environments challenge and amaze me," Sarah says.

"My hope is always that I'll broaden my mind and push the limits of what I think is possible."

All intrepid Woodsiders agree it's the wind that makes the frozen climes really cold.

And they all agree these extreme holidays are addictive.

"Beware of idle moments and catching polar fever," says Rory with a laugh, adding his life has never been the same since he applied for the job at Faraday Station.



Greatest **adventure** in the world

The Otto brothers from Karratha are planning what has modestly been billed as “the greatest adventure in the world”

– a 16,000 km car rally from London to eastern Russia, in a car that must have an engine no bigger than 1.2 litres.

Kane Otto, a King Bay Supply Base wharf coordinator, and his brother Liam, an instrument technician contractor at Karratha Gas Plant, will take about six weeks to complete the rally.

Their 2004 Fiat Panda (worth less than \$1000) is one of about 400 competing.

They’ll be raising funds for the Cool Earth rainforest charity, and the Black Dog Institute, which is a charity close to Kane’s heart.

“I’ve suffered from anxiety and depression myself and have made goals to help me improve my mental health,” he says. The rally is one such goal.

Thrills and spills are almost guaranteed.

As Wikipedia states in its Mongol Rally webpage: “None of the available routes is comfortable or safe: damage to cars, robberies and minor injuries are common.”

“We’ve got a mixture of nerves and excitement at the moment,” says Kane.

Find out more, donate and follow their progress on their website, silkypandas.com.



Lifesaver to the rescue

Trigg Island surf lifesaver Jarod Monaghan’s training proved vital this summer when he helped save the life of a badly injured skateboarder.

Jarod, an integrated logistics specialist, had just finished a lifesaving patrol stint at Trigg Island beach when he came across the prostrate figure of a man on the sidewalk next to West Coast Drive.

“He appeared to have suffered a traumatic head injury and there was a lot of blood,” said Jarod.

Another passer-by said he had seen through his rear view mirror the man fly off his electric skateboard.

Jarod, a surf lifesaver of 30 years, said his training sprang into action.

“I positioned his head so his airway was clear and kept him in a head brace to immobilize his neck to prevent any

further spinal injury,” he recalled.

“As a surf lifesaver, we have a competency assessment every 12 months and I’d done mine only two weeks previous.

“Because Trigg is a surf beach, we have a strong focus on neck and head injuries so that was still fresh in my mind.”

Other passers-by came to help, including another surf lifesaver, two doctors who lived nearby and a nurse. An ambulance arrived soon after.

The skateboarder suffered multiple head injuries and his wife has attributed his survival to the fact he was wearing a helmet and the actions of first responders including Jarod.

Jarod has been in touch with the skateboarder’s family and is watching from afar his slow progress to better health in a Perth hospital.



Operations adviser Paul Maloney is making waves with his amateur photography. Paul has been working with Production Excellence for the past few years, rolling out Ensure Safe Production (ESP). He has also been excelling at his hobby, taking photos that have graced the pages of

a freestyle motocross magazine. His specialty though is big wave photography. This stunning shot was taken from a jetski about 20 km off Cape Arid, east of Esperance, in 2016. It was captured with a Nikon D300S and 70-200mm f2.8 lens.





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