

## KNIGHTS V TIGERS JULY 2 - BE THERE!





# GTHE COAL FACE

Vol 1 No 9: June - July 2017



YANCOAL HAS LAUNCHED A \$US710 MILLION (\$946.9 MILLION) OFFER FOR MITSUBISHI'S STAKE IN ITS HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS JOINT VENTURE (HVO JV) WITH RIO TINTO.

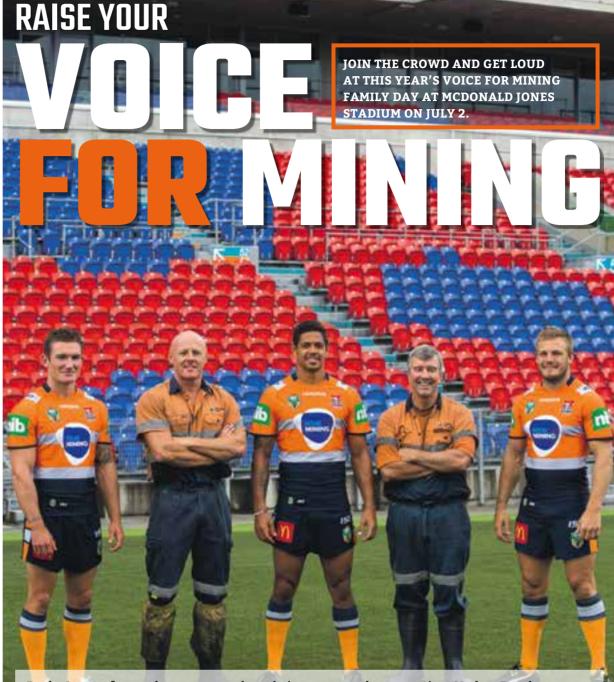
The bid fulfils Yancoal's obligation to make a 'tagalong offer' to Mitsubishi under its agreement to acquire Rio Tinto's Coal & Allied Industries.

Yancoal last month secured Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) approval to acquire Coal & Allied for \$US2.45 billion. If the Mitsubishi offer is accepted, Yancoal will secure a binding agreement to acquire its 32.4 per cent interest in the HVO JV.

Yancoal Australia chief executive officer Reinhold Schmidt said the offer was another important milestone in the strategic acquisition of Coal & Allied.

"We have negotiated a commercially robust offer in the best interests of all parties and the future growth of the Coal & Allied assets," Schmidt said.

"With Rio Tinto's support, we look forward to progressing the next steps in the Coal & Allied transaction to become Australia's largest independent coal producer."



Rugby League fans and mining supporters will again come together to celebrate two things we love here in the Hunter. The Newcastle Knights and our NSW miners!

The event is a chance to recognise the contribution mining makes to NSW and thousands of miners and their families, as well as thousands that work in mining related businesses, are expected to pack the stadium

to show their support at the Round 17 NRL clash with the West Tigers.

The Knights will play in their special high-vis replica miners jerseys and fans and mining supporters are encouraged to wear their own high-vis or orange workwear or grab a vest at the gate.

Mining and sport have both always played a huge role in the Hunter and Knights winger and former Hunter miner Nathan Ross knows this firsthand.

"I can tell you that mining is the beating heart of the Hunter and really important to thousands of families right up and down the Valley. That's why this partnership with NSW Mining is important. It brings together two things that are so significant to the people of the Hunter and NSW rugby league and mining." Nathan said.





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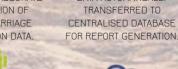
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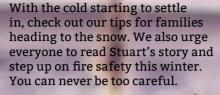
## IT'S A TOUGH JOB

EVERY MONTH, THE @ THE COALFACE TEAM PUT OUR BODIES ON THE LINE TO BRING THIS MAGAZINE TO YOU.

Ok, so maybe heading out to restaurants and pubs each month and eating and drinking until we're about to burst is not really putting your body on the line. But how about getting in the water with sharks and stingrays! Check out our review of Irukandji Shark & Ray Encounters and find out if I fed them or if the fed on me....

Jokes aside, sometimes this job can take a toll emotionally, we've seen the ups and downs of the industry and the toll it takes on miners and their families and we can't help but be affected by it.

That's why we believe it's so important to showcase the amazing things that are happening every day. To share the stories of people who give back to the community. Though it's a hard job convincing these unassuming heroes to let us tell their stories. Be proud of what you to do and share your stories as your example will surely encourage others to follow!



Stay warm and stay safe!



### **GAME ON!**

THE GREAT LINK BETWEEN MINING AND RUGBY LEAGUE IN THE HUNTER IS ONE OF THE REASONS THE NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS AND THE NSW MINERALS COUNCIL JOIN TOGETHER FOR THE VOICE FOR MINING FAMILY DAY IN NEWCASTLE EVERY YEAR. IT'S AN AWESOME EVENT THAT BRINGS THE MINING INDUSTRY AND RUGBY LEAGUE TOGETHER IN A BIG WAY.

Just like mining, rugby league has a long and proud history in the Hunter Valley. Way back in 1908 the Newcastle Rebels were a foundation team in the original NSW rugby league competition.

Newcastle Knights winger Nathan Ross virtually walked out of an underground coal mine and straight into a Knights Jersey. Nathan is one of many current or former Knights players who have worked in our industry or have a family connection to Hunter mining.

This year's Voice for Mining Family Day match on July 2 will see the Knights play a home game against the Wests Tigers. Thousands of miners and their families along with thousands more that work in mining-related businesses are expected to pack McDonald Jones Stadium for the game. It promises to be a great contest, with both teams doing it tough in the first half of the season and keen for a win to build some much needed momentum.

The Hunter has always been the beating heart of our state's mining industry, which is why we're looking for a big turnout from our Hunter mining community at this year's event. A big crowd in high-vis cheering the Knights and our miners



will send a message that of support for a strong mining industry and more jobs for mining communities.

So on 2 July, put on your high-vis and get to McDonald Jones Stadium to cheer on the Knights and all of our hardworking miners who contribute so much to the Hunter community and NSW.



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## MINING FOR **OUR FUTURE**

I PAID A VISIT TO THE HUNTER LAST MONTH WHERE I HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING WITH MANY OF THE HARD WORKERS THAT DRIVE THE REGION'S ECONOMY.

I visited the Mangoola mine where I witnessed some mine rehabilitation firsthand. I was impressed to hear and see birdlife and other native animals in land that had been rehabilitated only a few years ago.

I also toured Bulga mine to see the processes behind extracting coal whilst managing dust, noise, and other impacts. I appreciated being able to see how co-existence of mining and other land owners operates on a practical basis.

I also got to see where the coal goes visiting the Eraring Power Station after the two mines. Eraring uses some coal from Bulga to produce energy for NSW households and businesses. It was also at Eraring that I learnt how they are preparing for next summer.

Coal will play a large role in the coming decades for energy, and we need a market which delivers reliable power. However, coal-fired generation produces emissions, and fugitive emissions from the mining make up 10% of NSW's emissions.

We want a coal export industry in NSW - it's very important to regional communities, particularly the Hunter. That means the industry and Government need to show how it can be part of the transition, and how it can be sustainable into the long term.

We need to demonstrate how the NSW coal industry can operate sustainably in a low-emissions future. Mines are investigating alternative fuel sources, processes have become more efficient, and we've made great progress on capturing methane.

WE NEED TO HIGHLIGHT THE **ADVANCES BEING MADE AND I** KNOW THE SECTOR IS WORKING HARD TO MAKE MORE PROGRESS.

This is where the Coal Innovation NSW Fund comes in. The NSW Government has been carrying out and funding research to reduce emissions from the use of coal.

The Fund's competitive grants processes has the Government working closely with universities,



the CSIRO and industry on research programs examining the reduction of fugitive methane emissions from coal mining, improving coal combustion efficiency, CO2 capture technologies and the permanent storage of CO2.

The Government has undertaken drilling programs exploring for reservoirs to permanently store CO2 - a process known as geosequestration.

The Fund has undertaken a \$9 million research project led by the

University of Newcastle examining an alternative and novel CO2 storage technology.

The project aims to transform CO2 into stable solid materials for use in building products like cements, plasterboards, bricks and other valuable industrial products.

I was glad to see the best practice being achieved by our mining industry in the Hunter, and look forward to more demonstration low-emissions mining by the sector.



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## NO CASH FOR CLEAN COAL

EARLY IN THE YEAR WE SAW MALCOLM TURNBULL SUPPORTING 'CLEAN COAL' AND HE WASN'T ALONE. MANY POLITICIANS WERE TALKING ABOUT CLEAN COAL BEING THE BACKBONE OF OUR ENERGY MARKET AND HOW IT WOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR ENERGY SECURITY FOR YEARS TO COME.

But the 2017 budget tells another story with no money allocated for any feasibility studies for clean coal. \$265 million has been allocated for studies and initiatives for the Snowy Hydro expansion, gas pipelines, exploration and studies of the gas and electricity markets. These are aimed at delivering a secure, reliable and competitive energy system, without the inclusion of clean coal.

The NSW Minerals Council also released their prebudget submission and among their recommendations are urging the state government to use a \$100 million coal innovation fund to look at the option of developing HELE power plants.

Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee said it was critical for the state government to provide

THE NSW COAL MINING INDUSTRY IS STILL
STRONGLY ADVOCATING CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY
TO SECURE OUR ENERGY FUTURE.

greater support for minerals exploration to "fund the mines of tomorrow" noting the outlook for coal was strong given the lift in commodity prices.

"There's a real risk that when our current mines cease operating there will be nothing to replace them, with devastating results for jobs in regional NSW," Mr Galilee said. "Other states have identified this risk and are taking steps to support exploration, and the NSW Government must do the same."

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ROBERT'S MEATS



GLENCORE HAS BEGUN WORK THAT WILL ENABLE AN ADDITIONAL LONGWALL BLOCK TO BE DEVELOPED AT ITS INTEGRA UNDERGROUND MINE.

The decision follows the mine's restart earlier this year after Glencore acquired the mine from former owner Vale in 2015.

Operations Manager Peter Ostermann said they have begun work to add an additional longwall block to current mine plans, which will extend the current mine life by up to 12 months.

"In addition, we will require a second development crew which will add up to 30 extra positions to nearly 200 people working on site at present." Mr Ostermann said.

This decision is a reflection of the current market conditions, improvements to the existing infrastructure and initial development performance meeting targets.

An exploration drilling program across the Integra mine lease is continuing as part of a planning exercise that is looking at longer term options for Integra.

Integra is expected to produce 1.3 million tonnes of high fluidity saleable coking coal for 2017.





### **YOUNG STARS** SHINE BRIGHT

THE TAFE NSW 2017 MINING SKILLS PRESENTATION AT MUSWELLBROOK RSL ON MAY 25 CELEBRATED OUR YOUNG APPRENTICES AND THEIR PROMISING FUTURES IN THE INDUSTRY.

More than 100 guests from the region's mining, business and education communities attended the event to recognise the success of the graduates.

In its 12th consecutive year of operation the program is designed for first-year apprentices in partnership with the mining industry and the 15-week program places a strong emphasis on safety awareness to prepare them for work on-site.

TAFE NSW Regional General Manager North Elizabeth McGregor said the Mining Skills Centre program is a wonderful example of collaboration with council, industry and the wider community delivering great employment and education outcomes for the Upper Hunter.

"At TAFE NSW we are passionate about developing the skills and capabilities of our local workforce and understand the impact this has on shaping the future of the region," said Ms McGregor.

"This graduation is an important milestone for our ambitious first-year Mining Skills Centre apprentices as they embark on the next steps of their careers in the region's mining industry," she said.

MIGAS plant mechanic apprentice Christopher Scriven was recognised on the evening with the Highest Achiever Award for his dedication to work at Bengalla Mine, approach to study, and attaining the highest overall grade throughout the program.

Plant mechanic apprentices Jessica Bonnici and Jackson Hopkins were both presented with Outstanding Student awards for their application to their studies. Jessica is an apprentice with Programmed and employed by Coal & Allied, whilst Jackson is employed as an apprentice at BHP Mt Arthur Coal.

Qualified electrician Eila Mills was awarded a highly commended for her commitment to education and training.

The evening included the presentation of the annual MEMMES Scholarships awarded to BHP Mt Arthur Coal electrical apprentice Blake Pickham and plant mechanic Bradley Kirkwood.

The scholarship was established by the Mining Electrical and Mining Mechanical Engineering Society and provides financial assistance to past Mining Skills Program graduates who are pursuing post-trade qualifications in order to advance their careers in the industry.

only really existed over the last 10 years.

May I add that women still represent only about 5% of employees in this industry. As a woman who has achieved many firsts in construction and mining I stand shoulder to shoulder with my male colleges just getting on with the job. When the industry showcases a 50/50 employment ratio where female operators are dozer drivers and swinging shovels, I'll give credit to your pissing and moaning. Meanwhile suck it up.

Recognition is about promoting a minority to encourage involvement and opportunity. Long overdue Jack.

Stacey, we think your response to last month's Letter to Ed is such a good point. Awards should only be the same for both genders when the workforce is 100% equal.

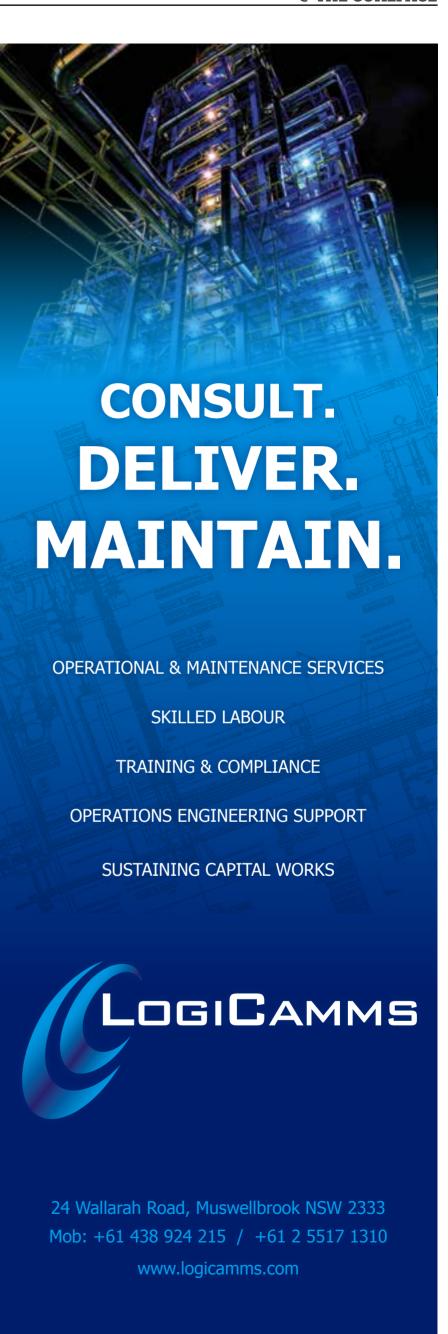
#### **LETTER FROM YOU**

EACH MONTH @ THE COALFACE FEATURES SOME FEEDBACK FROM OUR READERS. WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR OPINIONS ON EVERYTHING - THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE INTERESTING. DROP US A LINE.

Dear Editor,

With regards to Jack what is it with all this women in mining stuff?

Jack, you gave me a good laugh. Maybe finally you experienced a taste of what it's been like as a person working in a field where the majority is gender specifically geared. Moaning about equality for all of five minutes, while inequality towards minority has going on for centuries. I definitely agree about the best person for the job, as the increase in women clearly reflects this but in mining this has



## CFMEU SUPPORTS PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH





The Northern Mining NSW Energy District and the Mineworkers Trust are proud to support the potential to make a big difference in peoples lives with a \$100,000 donation to Hunter Medical Research Institute in their fourth year of prostate cancer support totalling \$400,000.

The project aims to determine by a blood test the type of prostate cancer allowing the patient to make an informed choice of what treatment is best.

"Knowing exactly what treatment is required will help alleviate the trauma and remove the heartache around decisions for the patient and their family. Thanks to the support from CFMEU the project is showing promising results that could not only help alleviate the trauma of dealing with prostate cancer but could also have wide ranging implications on other cancers and diseases."

- Dr. Judith Weidenhofer is a Lecturer with Newcastle University's School of Biomedical Sciences & Pharmacy



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### REHAB REPORT

THE RECENTLY RELEASED REPORT ON MINE REHABILITATION BY THE AUDITOR-GENERAL HAS MADE FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT.

The recommendations include improvements to security deposit scheme processes, mine rehabilitation and closure plans, government oversight and the review of funding for potential

future residual risk issues. Dr David Blackmore, Director Environmental Sustainability, said that a number of measures have already been employed by the Department to address the recommendations in the report.

"The report acknowledges that the Department's

security deposit scheme processes have improved in recent years and that there are well-advanced plans for further improvement," Dr. Blackmore said.

#### **NSW HAS NEVER** HAD A SITUATION WHERE A SECURITY **DEPOSIT HAS HAD** TO BE USED.

Jeremy Buckingham, the Greens' mining spokesman, described the report as "damning", highlighting that taxpayers may

foot the bill from the impacts of mining on the environment, particularly if old mines were being sold off for as little as one dollar.

**NSW Minerals Council** CEO Stephen Galilee said since the introduction of the system 12 years ago there had not been a single incident of a major mine becoming insolvent in NSW, while over the same period the amount held in rehabilitation bonds has grown to well over \$2 billion.

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As much as we love our Knights who are our coal industry ambassadors for unity and support, it's the everyday people of the industry who deserve 'match' honours. I'm talking here about the truly passionate ones. The ones who improve the industry, the ones who fight for the industry and

community, those with the smarts, vision and determination to work towards the future.

OUR PEOPLE HAVE KEPT THEIR VOICES STRONG THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD.

I mostly know mining men and women who are far better than

they give themselves credit for. The ones who understand the concept of teamwork and having a go, the ones who get embarrassed when they are called out for doing a great job. The ones who just get on with the job. This industry didn't get to where it is by talking about it itself, it got there by rolling up it's sleeves

and using it's considerable smarts.

When I first landed in the Hunter from Sydney a good 6 or 7 years ago, I like many other city slickers thought miners were a bunch of uneducated blue-collar workers who just dug dirt all day. My big city sense of superiority was ignorant to say the least, even though I grew up in the country. While those are big generalisations, I found out very quickly that the truth was the exact opposite.

#### MY REEDUCATION WAS HUMBLING TO SAY THE LEAST.

My misconceptions were almost immediately replaced with the realisation that while these people often got a bit dirty in the course of their job, they were also mostly smarter and better educated than me, worked harder than me and earned more and did better than I had ever done. Overlay that with an amazing sense of community and family, and I was as impressed as I was humbled. It was the voices and the actions of the people who told me the truth of what our industry does and represents and that's why this paper started.

To wrap up, as we head toward the official Voice for Mining day on July 2, I want our people to remember and celebrate just how much they do and have achieved. Go miners! Go Knights! Keep your voices strong. See you at the game.









### HIGHLIGHTING HOW MUCH OUR MINERS MATTER

On July 2 you're invited to help turn McDonald Jones Stadium bright orange and yellow in support for two great local teams – the Newcastle Knights and our NSW miners.

**Voice for Mining Family Day** is a major event for our mining community celebrating all the good things mining brings - from the thousands of local mining jobs and the hundreds of Hunter businesses that supply our mines, to the affordable and stable energy generated from Hunter coal.

Join the Knights when they wear their iconic orange hi-vis mining jersey against the Tigers. Be a supporter and bring the family in hi-vis to help us highlight how much our miners matter to the region and the economy of this great State.



### **LOOK WHO'S COME TO LUNCH**

**NSW MINISTER FOR RESOURCES DON HARWIN WAS GUEST** SPEAKER AT THE RECENT HUNTER BUSINESS MINING LUNCH AT THE MEREWETHER SURFHOUSE.

For many in our industry it was the first time they have had an opportunity to meet with Minister Harwin and hear his views on the Hunter mining industry since he took over the role from Minister

#### **SHARK & RAY ENCOUNTER**

THIS MONTH WE WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO REVIEW IRUKANDJI SHARK & RAY ENCOUNTERS AT BOB'S FARM AND BECAUSE WE THOUGHT THE EXPERIENCE WAS SO AMAZING WE WANT TO GIVE A LUCKY READER THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE IT FOR THEMSELVES.

We have a family pass up for grabs so you can get up close and personal with these awesome creatures.

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Roberts early this year.

Minister Harwin started by discussing the importance of the mining industry here in the Hunter and they huge economical contribution it makes to the state of NSW.

He then went on to discuss the future of the industry and the transition to renewables in the coming years, whilst acknowledging that coal would be critical as baseload through that transition period.

For an industry that receives more than its fair share of criticisms, it was encouraging to hear Minister Harwin say, "we must resist the knee jerk reactions of those wanting to shut down the industry," and that there would be a "bright, vibrant and prosperous future for coal."

rukandji

Minister Harwin also said that a task force on energy security would be releasing two reports, the first on preparedness in managing extreme weather events like the February heatwaves and the second on the broader issues of electricity pricing. He would be eagerly awaiting the results of the reports and the recommendations they had for our energy security.

Minister Harwin concluded by saying it was important for the energy debate to end and for everyone to come together with a sensible national approach to our energy security but even Minister Harwin did not appear confident that would happen anytime soon.





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## WHAT'S THE PLAN

MINING INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY AND NSW AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES HAVE TAKEN THE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS CREATING A RENEWED PLAN FOR THE POST-MINING LANDFORM OF THE UPPER HUNTER.

Representatives gathered at the Singleton Diggers Club on June 2 for the first instalment of a review of the "Synoptic Plan: Integrated Landscapes for Coal Mine Rehabilitation in the Hunter Valley".

The Synoptic Plan was created in 1999 and provides for an integrated approach to landscape management and post mining rehabilitation for the Hunter coalfields.

The review aims to provide an updated integrated plan across the Hunter for restoration of mined areas to achieve visual amenity, biodiversity conservation and land management practices for ecologically sustainable development. **UPPER HUNTER MINING** DIALOGUE CHAIRMAN DAVID O'BRIEN WELCOMED THE START OF THE REVIEW AND THE UPPER **HUNTER MINING DIALOGUE'S** 

"The Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue is pleased to be involved in this review," Mr O'Brien said. "This review of the synoptic plan

INVOLVEMENT.

is something the Dialogue has long been keen to see happen and it looks forward to playing an important role in the 18-24 month process of the review."

The June 2 workshop was the result of a government commitment given at the Dialogue's annual workshop in December 2016.

At the workshop, participants heard an overview of the 1999 Synoptic Plan, an explanation of how it fits in with other plans for the Upper Hunter and discussed objectives for the Synoptic Plan's replacement.

The workshop also focused on the development of options for opportunities for a co-operative approach to renewing the Synoptic Plan.

At the workshop's conclusion, the Government committed to providing a report back to key stakeholders on the feedback received from participants, as well as providing an overview of the next steps in the review process and a plan for undertaking community engagement.

#### **'AVE A LAUGH WITH**

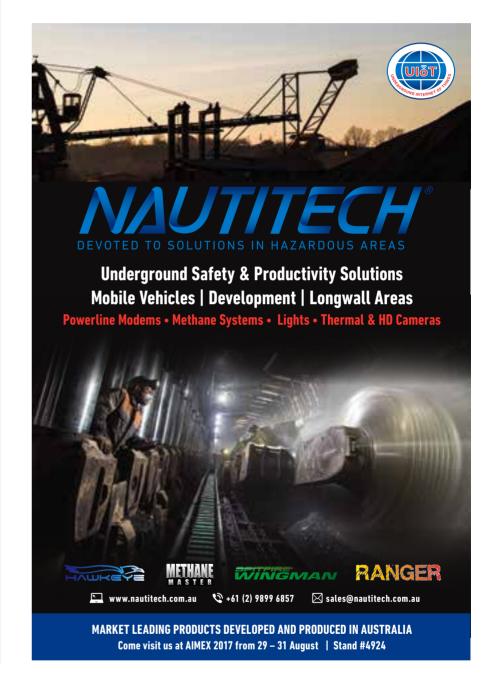


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Little Johnny's Chemistry teacher wanted to teach his class a lesson about the evils of liquor, so he set up an experiment that involved a glass of water, a glass of whiskey, and two worms. "Now, class. Observe what happens to the two the worms," said the teacher putting the first worm in the glass of water.

The worm in the water moved about, twisting and seemingly unharmed. He then dropped the second work in the whiskey glass. It writhed in pain for a moment, then quickly sank to the bottom and died. "Now kids, what lesson can we derive from this experiment?" he asked.

Little Johnny raised his hand and wisely responded, "Drink whiskey and you won't get worms!"





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A Smarter Alternative



LAST ISSUE WE BRIEFLY MENTIONED THE ACQUISITION OF DRAYTON BY THE OWNERS OF THE SPUR HILL PROJECT, MALABAR COAL.

Light on detail at the time, we spoke to Chairman Wayne Seabrook to better understand the project, the people and the company and just why this could be a big win for all including the studs.

After all the anguish and uncertainty there now appears to be a solution and plan that makes sense. The proposed project is exclusively an underground

longwall mining operation that will maximise the use of existing assets while minimising impacts.

Any future underground mine on the site would:

- Not mine underneath local horse studs
- Significantly reduce any impact on visual amenity and the landscape
- Leave no final hole or void at the

end of the project

- Address concerns regarding noise
- Address concerns regarding air quality and dust
- Not involve large scale blasting or removal and dumping of overburden
- Not consume or alter the large areas of land that an open cut mine covers

EXISTING AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES LIKE VINEYARDS AND GRAZING ABOVE AND SURROUNDING THE UNDERGROUND MINE WOULD CONTINUE TO OPERATE.

Malabar Coal's Chairman, Wayne Seabrook said, "That by using the existing Drayton infrastructure the company can realise efficiencies and, most importantly, reduce the impact of its operations on the local community, neighbours and the environment. It is also Malabar's intention to use reject stone and rock from washing underground coal from Spur Hill to fill open cut voids remaining at Drayton, subject to regulatory approval. This would greatly improve the final rehabilitated landforms and outcomes at Drayton."





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#### MALABAR COAL BELIEVES IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

The Drayton infrastructure suitable for use by Spur Hill includes the existing prep plant, stockpiling facilities, a rail loop, administration offices, workshops and other services and significantly reduces the cost required to bring Spur Hill into production.

Wayne continued, "There is a lot of technical work that must be completed before a firm development plan can be produced, but the community should be in no doubt that any development would reflect recent community concerns. In particular, Malabar confirms our commitment to investigate solely an underground mine. To reinforce this commitment, we will fully accept conditions imposed on EL5460 that prevent any open-cut development. We are also willing to relinquish that portion of the EL that is south of the Golden Highway.

As part of the acquisition, Malabar Coal will replace Anglo American's environmental bond and will take full responsibility for rehabilitating the former Drayton mine site and Malabar Coal is fully funded to meet these obligations.

The Department of Planning has also strengthened its requirements with some of the most stringent guarantees. The environmental impact statement for the proposed mine will have to certify it does not include false or misleading

information about possible impacts on the Hunter River, groundwater, nearby horse studs and wineries.

"It's no secret we are a small, community minded team with significant personal and professional links to the area, built up over many years. Our involvement in the community is something we are very proud of and ultimately we want the community to be proud of us too." Said Wayne

Over the years, Malabar has proven this by supporting a variety of community causes and events such as the Denman food and wine festival, local sporting organisations, emergency services, aged care and education to name just a few.

When it comes to community, let's be clear. Malabar Coal is already one of the most community minded and open-minded mining companies in the Valley and they haven't even sold a lump of coal.

The people behind the project are approachable, available and committed to a level of coexistence and impact mitigation that will guarantee the mine sets a high standard of how to do it right.

Still a few years away, this high-quality project will deliver significant local opportunities within an impact free spirit of coexistence. Lets hope all see the value in the plan for what it is – A win win situation for all.









#### **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

#### Ref 200182404

Monadelphous is a leading Australian engineering group providing construction, maintenance and industrial services to the resources, energy and infrastructure sectors. We are an S&P/ASX 200 company working for blue-chip customers on some of Australia's biggest projects.

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#### Successful applicants must:

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- Have a minimum of two years industry experience
- Produce Proof of Right to work in Australia
- Local Mine inductions would be favourable.

The successful applicants will have the highest regard for safety and will be required to actively contribute in HSE based activities to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of yourself and others.

You will have the ability to be flexible to deliver in a continually evolving environment and possess strong team work ethics.

As part of the recruitment process, suitable applicants will be required to complete pre-employment medical testing including drug and alcohol screening.

Please submit your application containing your resume with at least three contactable referees by clicking the 'Apply' button below. Alternatively, you can apply via our website **www.monadelphous.com.au/careers** and search for job reference number **200182404**.

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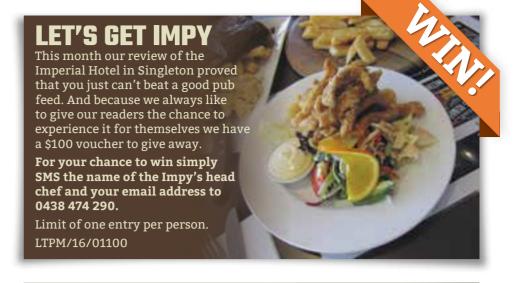
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THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF COAL & ALLIED'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND, THE SINGLETON BUSINESS CHAMBER NOW HAS A FULLTIME BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.

Darlene Flockhart has been appointed as the Chamber's new Business Development Officer and she is looking forward to what she can bring to the role and how she can help local businesses.

The goal of the Singleton Business Chamber is to offer support services for local businesses in the Singleton and regional area and having a committed Business Development Officer helps them achieve this.

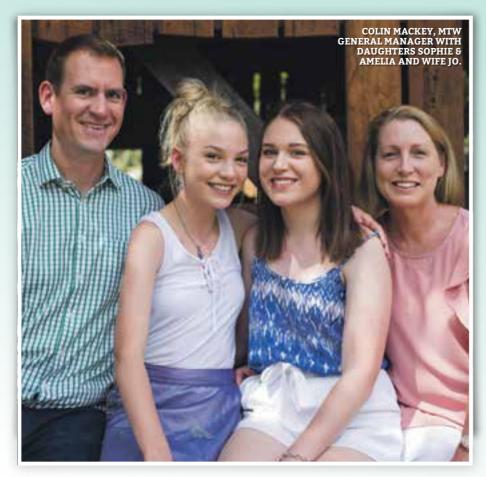
Darlene is committed to seeing the chamber grow from its current membership of 142 and she has also set herself the considerable goal of getting out and personally meeting each and every member. "I'll be out and about in the community networking and looking after members. I'm very passionate about small business and having run my own small business I know firsthand the challenges they have to deal with. This role is very important to the

ongoing success of the Chamber and without the support of Coal & Allied it would not be possible." Darlene said.

Coal & Allied's Community
Development Fund Executive
Officer Travis Bates said the
Chamber is a very important
business network within the
Singleton community.

"Coal & Allied is proud of its ongoing partnership with the Singleton Business Chamber as they continue to develop relationships with local businesses, promote local business capabilities and look to increase benefits to members." Travis said.

"It's great to be able to welcome Darlene into the BDO role. We have worked with the Chamber for a number of years and we look forward to continuing this relationship and watching the Chamber prosper into the future." The next monthly meeting will be on June 15 at Singleton Golf Club.



## GOING THE DISTANCE

WHEN COLIN MACKEY ISN'T BUSY RUNNING ONE OF THE HUNTER'S BIGGEST MINES, HE'S OUT RUNNING ULTRA-MARATHONS. @ THE COALFACE CHATTED TO THE MTW GENERAL MANAGER.

#### What is your background that has led to this role?

I have over 20 years' mining engineering experience and have worked for Rio Tinto on a diverse range of projects. My experience spans from working in an operational capacity to conducting feasibility studies and mine construction. I was very excited by the chance to manage one of the most productive mines in the Hunter region.

What are your goals for MTW?
Safety remains our top priority and we have an ongoing commitment to fatality and injury prevention. In terms of delivery we aim not only

to meet but exceed our targets. We are also committed to improving our local relationships and are always seeking opportunities for our workforce to participate in the community.

What community projects will you be working on in 2017? Local education is really important to us and we are involved with some great programmes at the moment. We support the Upper Hunter Where There's a Will Foundation which is a really special organisation promoting positive mental health throughout local schools. We also fund the University of Newcastle science and engineering challenge for

Upper Hunter students. We will also continue to support the Milbrodale Early Learning and Development programme which provides invaluable pre-school readiness skills for future learners.

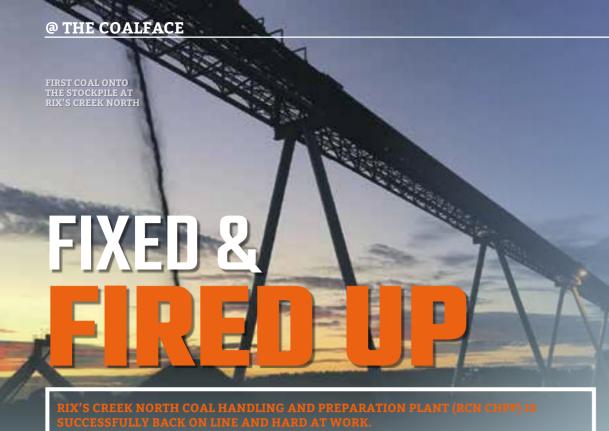
What rehabilitation projects are you currently working on at MTW? We take our environmental obligations seriously and will rehabilitate another 122 hectares of mine land this year. This will include rehabilitating outwardfacing parts of the mine to improve visual amenity to the east. We will also start the process for capping our tailings dam 2 and developing alternative land form designs to ensure our rehabilitation looks as natural as possible once completed.

How are you and the family enjoying the area? The Hunter Valley has so much to offer in terms of lifestyle and we have been enjoying it very much. We love the beautiful atmosphere of the wineries and taking advantage of outdoor activities such as visiting Wollemi National Park.

What do you like to do in your downtime? Spending time with my family is the priority and they are very tolerant of my ultra-running habits! Running has always been a passion of mine and I've competed in many ultra-marathons around the world. I've been recovering with an Achilles' heel injury so I'm looking forward to easing myself back in to the ultra-running scene soon.







In late 2016, the Bloomfield Group were notified of Glencore's intention to reopen Integra Underground and process their coal through the RCN CHPP.

The RCN CHPP (formerly Integra CHPP and owned by Vale), had been in care and maintenance since July 2014 and when Bloomfield acquired it in December 2015 the plant was in need of some love and attention.

At the time there was no

need to use the plant as there was excess capacity at the existing Rix's Creek South CHPP so when the request for recommissioning came it had been sitting in care and maintenance for over 2 years.

THE CHALLENGE FOR THE BLOOMFIELD GROUP WAS TO RECOMMISSION THE CHPP AND RAIL LOAD OUT FACILITIES, READY FOR OPERATION WITHIN A SIX MONTH PERIOD.

One of the major tasks of the

project was the replacement of the control system. The existing system was based on computer technology and hardware that was over 20 years old. The decision was made to upgrade the control system with the latest hardware and software programming technology. As this was a significant task in a short timeframe, Alliance Automation was engaged as a project partner.

Other major works included repairs to conveyor

systems, refurbishment of clean coal centrifuges, recommissioning of items of processing equipment within the plant and the rectification of the extensive corrosion which is common in most CHPP's of a certain age.

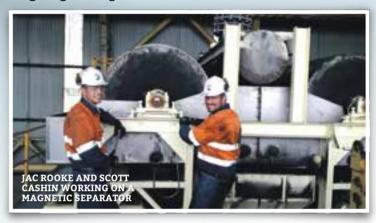
GREG HURNEY,
BLOOMFIELD GROUP ASSET
MANAGER HAS LEAD THE
RECOMMISSIONING OF THE
RCN CHPP AND SAYS IT
HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS
EFFORT BY ALL INVOLVED
TO ACCOMPLISH THE JOB TO
SUCH A HIGH STANDARD IN
SUCH A SHORT TIME.

"We are very proud of the job we have achieved and we couldn't have done it without the involvement of our own Project Management Team, Rix's Creek employees and local contractors like Kings Engineering, Alliance

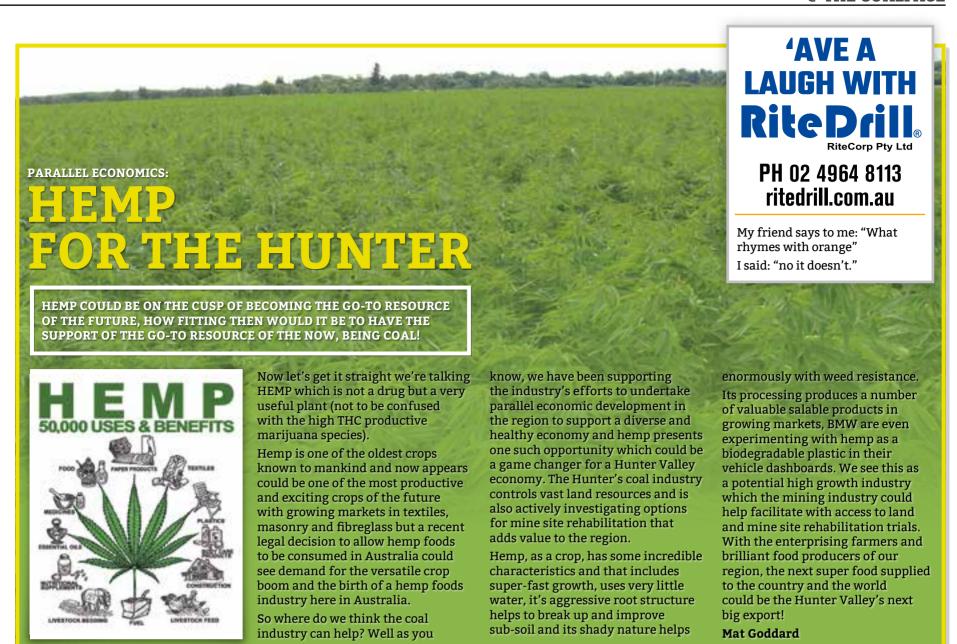
Automation, IMF, Induspray, P&J Welding, J.A Martin and Maitland Diesel Service." Greg said.

With the hard work finally done, RCN CHPP Manager, Steve Tipper is pleased to announce that the CHPP has been successfully re-commissioned and is currently processing development coal from Integra Underground with the Longwall operation swinging into full production in the near future.

This is another chapter in the great story of a mine that was closed during the recent industry down turn and has now been resurrected under two new owners with the outcome being jobs and prosperity for our community for many years to come.







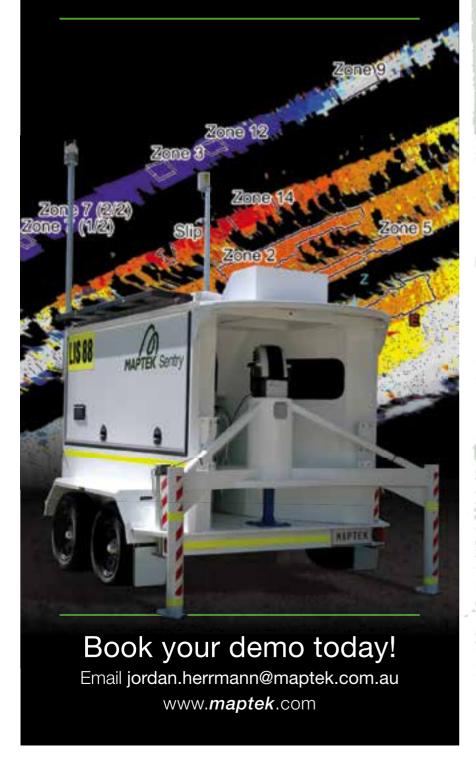




## Safe, reliable risk monitoring

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THIS IS THE STORY OF STEAM LOCOMOTIVE R.O.D NO. 2004 / J. & A. BROWN NO. 23 AND A CENTURY THAT SAW IT PARTICIPATING IN WORLD WAR 1, TRANSPORTING HUNTER COAL BEFORE FINALLY RETIRING TO RICHMOND VALE RAILWAY MUSEUM.

Piecing together the origin and the history of the locomotive has been a huge undertaking by museum member Graham Black who says it's been like an archaeological dig unpeeling all the hidden layers.

During the first world war, hundreds of locomotives were needed for the movement of supplies to the front and the Railway Operating Division (R.O.D) was formed. R.O.D. No 2004 was just one of the hundreds built in Manchester and in February 1919 it was the last R.O.D. to go to France before returning to England only 6 months later, the last locomotive home.

In 1926, it was purchased by Hunter mining company J. & A. Brown for 1200 pounds and dismantled and shipped on the SS Minmi arriving at Hexham in 1927. It was one of the last locomotives to be assembled at Hexham in around the mid 30's.

By 1936 it was working from the Pelaw Main shed and it was in and out of service transporting Hunter coal to until on June 8th 1973 when No. 23's fire dropped for the last time. It had run a total of 627,184 miles.

Ownership of the locomotive had changed during this time when in May 1962, the amalgamation of several large mining companies including what was once J. & A. Brown, formed Coal & Allied Industries.

In 1978, it was mistakenly given the road numbers from a different locomotive and sent to Freeman's Waterhole Mining Museum for display and it was not until 1986 when it was moved to Richmond Vale Railway that is was positively identified as No. 23 / R.O.D. 2004.

Thanks to the kind donation by Coal & Allied/Rio Tinto Coal Australia the locomotive has been gifted to the Richmond Vale Railway Museum where they have been hard at work restoring this historical locomotive to a pristine condition.

Rio Tinto Coal Australia Land and Tenements Manager, Thomas Holz said, "Rio Tinto congratulates Richmond Vale Railway & Preservation Society for preserving the legacy of one of our old workhorses. These trains link back into the long history of our original mining operations in the Lower Hunter where last century they played an important role in developing the region through the exportation of NSW coal to the world. The restoration will ensure this piece of history can now be enjoyed by all for many years to come."

RICHMOND VALE RAILWAY MUSEUM IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC THE FIRST THREE SUNDAYS OF EACH MONTH AND EVERY SUNDAY DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.











## "EVERYTHING ABOUT MODERN SOCIETY REQUIRES ELEMENTS WE GET FROM THE GROUND. WITHOUT MINING, WE DON'T HAVE ANY OF THAT."

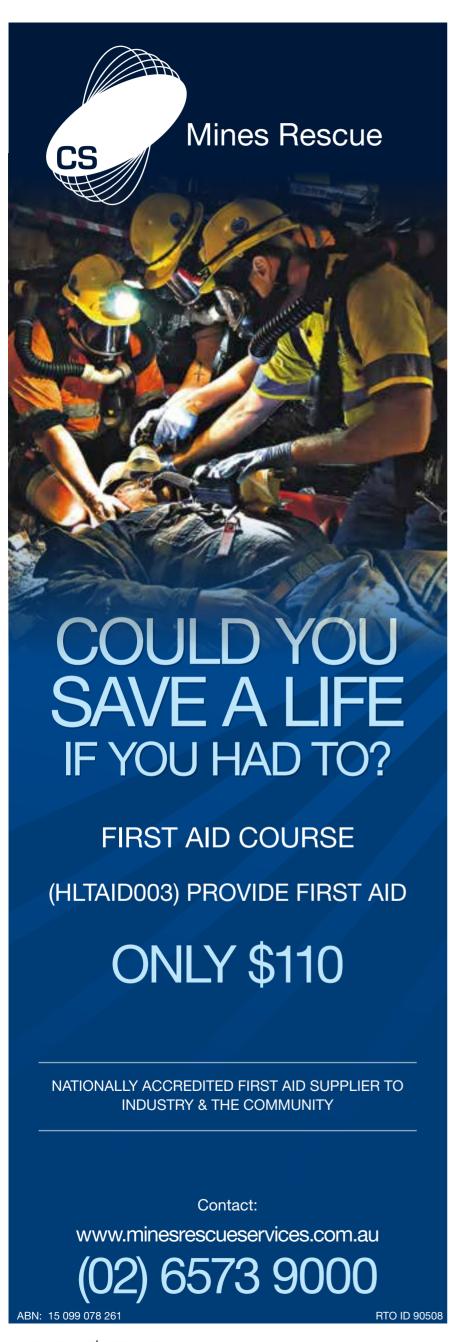
- KARI ARMITAGE, MANAGING DIRECTOR QUARRY MINING.

Quarry Mining once made a hundred parts for mining companies in a week. Now, they make a hundred in just one morning. For Kari Armitage, the key to growing was continually reinventing the way they worked. When they needed new skills they invested in retraining and discovered that old hands could learn new tricks in CAD design and computer programming.

When the market was in a downturn, they put on more apprentices and graduates, continuing to provide employment and support the local economy.

What began with Kari's father, then became one of the world's premier manufacturers of drilling consumables.

As Kari explains, "There will always be great opportunities for us because the world will always need what Australian mining produces. Our homes, our mobile devices, everything about modern society requires elements we get from the ground. Without mining, we don't have any of that."





#### **MENS SHED**

## **GOES WILD**

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MANGOOLA OPEN CUT AND DENMAN MEN'S SHED IS GIVING NATIVE WILD ANIMALS A HOME.

Mangoola Open Cut have been supporting Denman Men's Shed since 2011 but a few ago they began a project that benefited not just the Shed and the mine, but also many of our native furry and feathery friends.

Mangoola commissioned Denman Men's Shed to build nest boxes to be used in their benchmark rehabilitation and offset management works. Payment for the nest boxes helps the Shed to provide much needed services to the community of Denman. And the nest boxes help to ensure successful biodiversity of rehabilitated mine lands.

DENMAN MEN'S SHED BUILD UP TO 200 SUITABLY DESIGNED NEST BOXES EACH YEAR TO INSTALL IN THE VEGETATED AREAS THAT MANGOOLA MANAGES.

Mangoola's Operations Manager, Tony Israel, explained on how the partnership works for everyone.

"We approached the Men's Shed

some time ago about producing the nest boxes that we need for our rehabilitation and biodiversity offset work and in return the Shed has an income stream that helps cover their annual operating and insurance costs. They have been providing nest boxes of a quality that you just can't get off the shelf and the boxes are proving very successful, with a number of species such as squirrel gliders, possums and native birds now using them."

The nest boxes are monitored each year to check occupancy, evidence of use and condition of the boxes. 503 nest boxes were monitored in December with 60% showing signs of use. Possums, birds, gliders and bats were all found making the nest boxes home and the vulnerable Squirrel glider was also found in two nest boxes.

The project has proven to be such a success that other mines have also commenced similar projects.





## **COMMUNITY GIFT**

THIS MONTH THE RECIPIENT FOR OUR \$300 COMMUNITY GIFT IS THE COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

With so many branches working tirelessly we couldn't decide who was the more deserving so our donation will go directly to the CWA.

We all know how hard this fantastic organisation works on improving conditions for country women and children and many of us have probably been helped in some way

by these remarkable and selfless women even if we don't know it.

Since they were established in 1922 they have made a difference in so many communities and affected so many lives and we can't think of more deserving recipients of this month's gift.

www.cwaofnsw.org.au





## EATING FOR A **GOOD CAUSE**

WHAT IF YOU COULD ENJOY A DELICIOUS ICE-CREAM AND GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY AT THE SAME TIME. THE EMPLOYEES AT RIX'S CREEK ARE DOING JUST THAT.

It all started about 4 years ago when Rix's Creek employee Troy Peacock had the idea to start stocking a few treats like ice-creams for the 160 plus production guys at Rix's Creek to enjoy on their crib breaks.

This initiative was supported by

the Bloomfield Group and as the money from items started to roll in it, the little initiative quickly grew allowing them to purchase extra fridges and additional items like soft drinks and sausage rolls.

We all know how much our mining industry enjoys a treat or two so it wasn't long until the proceeds started to build up and then it was time to decide who else could benefit.

They began to make regular donations to charities like the Children's Ward at John Hunter Hospital, but they also found many other local individuals and families in need of a helping hand which they gladly provided.

Rix's Creek Mine Manager, Luke Murray, complemented Troy's passion and effort that he puts in for such worthy causes. Luke said that "Bloomfield is pleased to help facilitate these type of initiatives where they benefit those in need".

Paul Newman is the Lodge Secretary at Rix's Creek and says that it's all thanks to Troy and the hard work he has put in. "When you have a mindset for helping the community and are prepared to go the extra mile then good things can happen. It's true that we all might be adding a little more to our waistlines but hey, if you're helping the community it's worth putting your body on the line." Paul joked.

The CFMEU are always looking for ways to support the community and they saw straight off that Troy's little idea could make a big impact.

Jeremy McWilliams is the CFMEU District Vice President and says that the CFMEU loves to support initiatives like Troy's. "What they have set up at Rix's Creek is a great model that we encourage others to look at doing at their sites. Rix's Creek have strongly supported it from the get go and have helped make it possible and we can't thank them enough for their support in allowing it to happen." Jeremy said.



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For Stuart Bonds this is a message that he wants everyone to listen to. Stuart is a miner at Ravensworth North and last month found out firsthand just how dangerous fire can be.

Having spent the day racing motorbikes with mates, when the sun started to set and the cool crept in they did what most of us do and started a bonfire.

Sitting around the warmth still in their boots, the fire had started to dwindle and they all had unconsciously moved closer and closer. Stuart got up and as he was walking in front

of a mate tripped on his boot and fell with his arm landing straight on the hot coals.

#### **JUST ONE TINY TRIP...**

Rushed to hospital Stuart sustained a full thickness burn to 8% of his body and has required an A4 size skin graft from his thigh to replace the skin on his arm.

It will be 3 to 6 months before Stuart gets back to work and at least 12 months before his arm is back to full strength. Though he has undergone extensive treatment and is still in pain weeks later, Stuart has kept up his positive attitude, no doubt thanks to the support of his amazing wife Sini, and he counts himself lucky.

"At the burns unit in Sydney I saw people going through unimaginable suffering and heard their horrendous stories. I think it's important I tell my story to show just how easy accidents can happen around fire." Stuart said.

"I fell on flat ground, my arm touched the coals for just a couple seconds and yet that one little trip has changed my life. It happened so easy and I can't help thinking what if it had been a kid instead of me who tripped."

Stuart says an accident like his would have

been easily prevented with a few simple precautions. "I can't emphasise enough how important it is to cover your fire pits and think about the area you are putting them in. Think about all the things that could be adding to the danger like the clothes you are wearing and trip hazards. If I had of just been watching where I walked this wouldn't have happened. That's what really terrible about all the stories I've heard from other burns victims. So many of them were accidents that could have so easily been prevented."

Regardless of the precautions we take sometimes accidents still happen so make sure you know what to do when they occur. If you don't have a first aid certificate, book one today with your local Mines Rescue station.

Mines Rescue first aid treatment advice for burns.

- Cool the area with running water for 20 minutes but avoid hypothermia (useful up to three hours after the burn).
- Do not apply ice or ice slush.
- Burns to the eyes require water or saline to be flushed into the eyes immediately.
- Chemical burns require treatment with immediate and large volumes of water.



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IT'S BEEN LONG KNOWN THAT THE TOILET BOWL IS THE WINDOW TO OUR DIGESTIVE HEALTH, BUT FLATULENCE ALSO HAS A STORY TO TELL US.

When it comes to farting many of us are mortified by even the slightest toot and desperately try to pretend that nothing happened, but it's time we started listening and sniffing out the truth of what our farts are saying.

Farting is completely normal, and despite what society has told us in the past, both men and women fart at the same frequency and are both capable of producing the entire range of smells, from the subtle pong to the full-blown room evacuator.

Farts are mainly made up of nitrogen, hydrogen, carbon dioxide, methane and oxygen and occur because of chemical reactions in our intestines, swallowing air or even drinking a fizzy drink too quickly. An average person can produce between 2 to 6 cups of gas a day which is on average around 20 farts.

If you are farting more than usual it could be because of the way you eat. Eating too quickly, chatting while eating or chewing gum make you swallow more air which can lead to more farts. Or it could also just be the evidence that you are meeting all your fibre needs.

Most of what makes up a fart is odourless with only a tiny component caused by sulfurous intestinal gasses, so odourless farts are completely normal and indicate good health.

THE STINKIER THE FART, THE MORE IT'S TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

Eating foods like red meat, cauliflower and broccoli and of course the notorious beans, are the leading reasons why your farts will start to smell. Foods like these release hydrogen sulphide when digested. Although not conclusive, a study showed hydrogen sulphide could have positive effects on some health problems so it may be worth your while to take a deep breath.

If your farts seem much stinkier than usual than you may be lactose intolerant and dairy is to blame. Most people have some level of lactose intolerance so you might need to start using soy milk in your afternoon coffee if your co-workers are complaining.

However, the real stinkers are what you really need to pay attention to. (Not that you or people nearby have a choice.) They can be an indication of a problem with your digestive system or a chronic health problem and if they continue to occur frequently even when you've not been eating gassy foods than you should be investigating.

Loud farts don't signify anything different then quiet ones. Normally it has more to do with your body's alignment at the time of the fart, which helps explain why lifting one leg produces better results.

Lastly, don't hold it in. The gas cannot magically disappear and can lead to you feeling bloated and uncomfortable. Let the toot go and you will have harmony.

## 'AVE A LAUGH WITH RICE PILLS

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A dog is lost in an African jungle and is spotted by a lion. The lion thinks since the dog is so small he will be easy prey. When the dog sees the lion he gets scared and starts to run but then he sees some bones and gets an idea. As the lion approaches he says "Mmmm, that was some good lion." The lion immediately realises this dog is a lot tougher than he thought and runs off. But there was a monkey in a tree watching the whole time. The monkey decides if he tells the lion what had happened the lion might reward him. So he tells the lion and the lion tells him to get on his back so they can share the dog. As the lion and monkey find the dog, the dog spots them as well. The dog begins to run but has another idea and says out loud

"Where is that monkey? I told him to bring me another lion hours ago!"

## **MACHEnergy**

## INTERESTED IN CONSTRUCTION WORK AT MOUNT PLEASANT?

All the major contracts for the construction phase have now been awarded.

Various roles are now available including construction plant operators; labourers; building, mechanical and electrical trades people.

Women, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders, local residents

and trainees are strongly encouraged to apply.

Email your interest to







## DO YOU VESPA?

BE SURE TO ATTACH A SAND FLAG IF YOU'RE TAKING IT OUT ON THE MINE ROADS!

OK, it's not going to go down too well on the mine roads to and from work, but unleash this beast into the urban environment and you'll soon be getting from A to B in the

most stylish way possible.

The GTS Super is a vehicle in which the Vespa design is enhanced with sporting features like the grill that claws across the right hand side, the new black finish rims, the special hake friezes grill, and both analogue and digital instrumentation (in sweet back-lit red). Combine this with the frisky 125 cc engine and the powerful 300 cc and you've got the highest performing engine ever mounted on a Vespa.

vespa.com

### SIT & **SPIN**



EXPERIENCE THE PLUSH SOUND OF VINYL AND CONVERT THE TRACKS TO YOUR MP3 ON THE FLY...

The Archive LP is a simple allin-one turntable that makes it easy to enjoy yours (or your old man's) records and convert them to digital music files on your computer.

ION's Archive LP comes with stereo speakers built right into its body, so you can just kick back and listen to your records with no complicated setup or hassle. Its natural wood finish makes it a great addition to any room, and you can even connect Archive LP to your home stereo system using its standard RCA outputs. Chicks dig it.

ionaudio.com

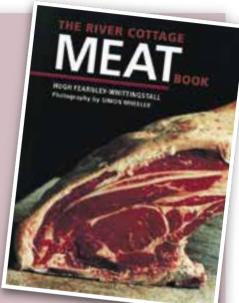
#### **MEAT EATER**

THE HIGHFALUTING, HYPHENATED HUGH FEARNLY-WHITTINGSTALL TEACHES YOU HOW TO BECOME A MASTER OF MEAT IN THE KITCHEN.

To become king of your kitchen you don't need to arm yourself with a hundred and twenty trendy new cookbooks. You just need a classic, something tried and true by one of the meanest men ever to wear one of those funny looking chef's hat...

The River Cottage Meat Book is the bloody carnivore's bible that will teach you, not only how to sear the perfect steak, but also where the cut of most actually comes from as well

of meat actually comes from, as well as how the farm animal is raised, slaughtered, butchered, and of course cooked. Are you man enough?



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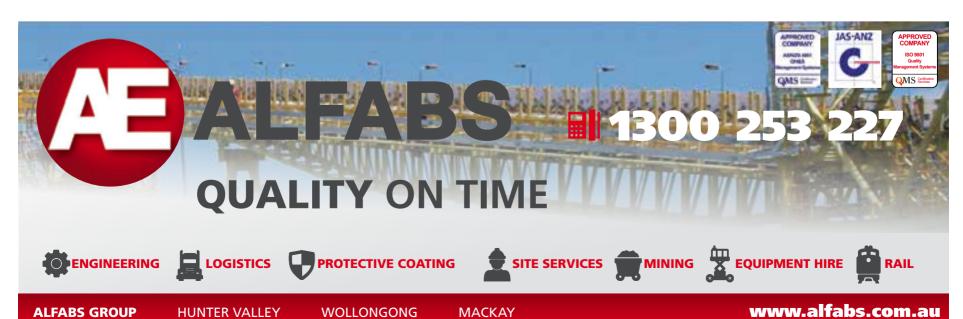
The Coleman Triton Instastart Stove is so easy to use that even the missus can cook up perfect sausages. And cleaning it up after is so simple that even a man can do it!

This impressive stove can easily handle up to one 12-inch pan and one 10 inch pan at the same time and the durable design includes a wind-block system and stainless steel rust-resistant burners.

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PICTURE THIS: TREES AND SCRUB RUSH PAST YOUR HEAD AT NEARLY 80 K'S AN HOUR AS YOU DIVE DOWN A NARROW STRIP OF DIRT, TRYING TO AVOID AN INVOLUNTARY DISMOUNT. WELCOME TO THE FAST AND FURIOUS WORLD OF MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDING.

Finding the need for speed amongst the trees is easy to do in God's country, aka, the Hunter Valley. There's plenty of back country tracks and trails to explore on your hard-tail pushy, like Deadman's Loop (which is a lot less scary than it sounds), located in the Werakata National Park, near Nulkaba.

The James's Estate trail, out near Denman, is made for maximum family fun. Load up the car with your bikes and head on up to the Upper Hunter for great day out.

The real fun, we reckon, for those who want to test out their dual suspension set ups on a fast downhill track is found at the Awaba Mountain Bike Park, high up in rainforest of the Watagans National Park. Located less than an hour's drive from Cessnock, Singleton, and Newcastle. It's the go-to destination for mountain bike racing in the Hunter Valley.

The track is excellent for all levels



of riders as the technical challenges are only of moderate difficulty for beginners. More experienced riders can appreciate linking up corner after corner for hours and hours on end, on a fairly well maintained and pretty smooth track.

There's also outstanding trails and lines to run on for the XC (cross

country) crowd with a 12 km well-marked loop that's nearly 100% single-track with tonnes of rocks and wooden bridges to navigate and traverse. The loop will send you soaring over some amazing, dense rainforest-style trails, and underneath bridges, as trees and ferns and boulders and branches rush past your eyes

and ears.

If you don't think the heart's up to it, and you'd prefer to watch all the action from the side lines, there's plenty of events you can attend over the calendar year. Check out Mountain Bike Australia's website, or 'Like' the Hunter Mountainbike Association on Facebook.







### FROM THE UNDERGROUND TO THE **FOOTY GROUND**

FORMER HUNTER VALLEY COAL MINER, NOW NEWCASTLE FOOTY SUPERSTAR, NATHAN ROSS SITS DOWN WITH @ THECOALFACE TO CHAT ABOUT HIS NEW KNIGHT-LIFE IN THE NRL... AND WE ASK HIM IF HE MISSES MINING AT ALL.

@TCF: G'day Nathan. Thanks for taking the time out to chat with @TheCoalface. How are you travelling at the Knights, this season?

NR: Coming into the Knights this season, we've made a lot of progressions from last year. We've made some new additions and as a team we've learnt a lot from last year. As long as we keep this upward trend we should be good.

**@TCF:** For sure. Do you believe the Knights have a shot at making the top eight this year?

NR: Look, without being too ambitious, I don't see why not. When it rains it pours, you know. So if we can start to string a couple of wins together then there's no reason to think that we can't. We've been competitive in the majority of the games this year, and it all comes down to a little lapse here and there, but, in all honesty, why not?

**@TCF: Exactly, why not. The** mining industry misses you, but we're all pleased to see how well you're doing at the Knights. Do you miss mining at all?

NR: I do miss mining. I really do. It means a lot to me and I know it means a lot to the Newcastle Knights. Being in a footy team is almost like being in a crew underground. Everyone's got to be there for each other and look out for each other and do their job well, as a team. There are a lot of similarities between the two. Once I finish football, you might actually see me back in the industry working alongside everyone in the industry.

**@TCF: We look forward to** welcoming you back, mate. **Balancing work and family** can be tough at the best of times. Where did you find the motivation to show up to training and keep working on your footy, especially

after working underground,

underground, it was a lot harder than footy. The motivation there was to provide for my family. rugby league is that I just love it. I love playing football. To be able to represent Newcastle Hunter region, as well as my

@TCF: Obviously, you're passionate about your footy and wanting to play for the region. Do you get much time to get out and see some of the sites of our beautiful place?

NR: Yeah, we duck out to the Hunter Valley quite a lot. I always enjoy going out there. Playing Aqua Golf and Putt Putt at the Hunter Valley Gardens is great fun with the family. My son, Ziah loves the Gardens, especially around Christmas time when the Christmas lights are on. Obviously, I love going to beach to have a surf, and a like to have a hit of golf every now

all day and night?

NR: When I was working whereas the motivation to play and the Knights and the whole family, that's now where I find my motivation.

> and then, as well. **@TCF: Nice. Muswellbrook's** got a great course, you should come for a hit with us sometime. Righto, last question... What's it like to prove Wayne Bennett wrong?

> NR: Ha... look, I wouldn't say I've proved anyone wrong. Maybe at that point of time in my career he might have thought I wasn't quite up to it. For me, it was about getting back to basics, training really hard and playing for the local league in Kurri, and just focusing on improving as a footballer. On the back

of dedication and hard work I've got to where I am today. So, you know, it's not about proving anyone wrong, it's about continuing to evolve and grow as a player and as a person.

**@TCF: Thanks mate, and** good luck for the rest of the season, we'll be cheering you on at the Voice for Mining Family Day on July 2nd.

NR: Cheers. I'm looking forward to pulling on the high-vis again and doing, not just the Knights proud, but the whole mining community proud as well.









WITH WINTER ARRIVING, THE MIGHTY MURRAY COD FISHING LOCATIONS OVER THE RANGE STARTED

And with local waters fishing extremely well there is plenty on offer for everyone making it the best time to layer up and make the most of it.

FIRING ON ALL CYLINDERS.

#### FROM THE SAND

Reports are in that the beaches

have been fishing extremely well, especially those chasing a Tailor and Jew with the salmon and bream filling in the gaps between bites.

IT'S COD TIME OF YEAR

Tailor have been easy pickings, fishing pillies and spinning

metals on dark or first light. **THE POND (LAKE)** 

It seems the Jew are growing up in the lake with plenty of fish over the magic meter mark reported lately taking soft vibes.

The flathead will also keep you busy between Jewie bites while fishing, with the bait holding in the deeper water over the winter months.

The talk is the snapper are really starting to fire over our local reefs whether it be float baiting or fishing soft plastics. Inker's Aka green eye squid have been on the hunt in big numbers over the local kelp beds, especially around Broughton island.

It's very hard to leave the calamari rings alone after a session chasing snapper at this time of year.

Bream, Drummer and Grouper with the odd snapper as well have been encountered around the washes.

#### **COD FEVER**

Plenty of news on some great Cod fishing of late from all the western Cod

We ventured up to Lake Misery "Copeton" to encounter one of these elusive mighty Cod, they definitely aren't for the faint hearted and would have to be one of the biggest challenges in the fishing world that we have encountered yet.

Having to overcome the freezing conditions, early mornings and late afternoons coupled with hundreds if not thousands of frustrating casts to score a few bites let alone a few hook ups to land a couple of fish was a privilege.

Let's not get into Alex landing on his feet with a monster Cod on his first ever session chasing these beasts on the surface. An experience we won't forget for a while.





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on-road performance and handling

springs, 20×9.0-inch 'Tickford' alloy

on beefing up the looks as well as

The suspension package includes

new Bilstein dampers and King

Yanks love their muscled-up pickups, and Aussies love muscle cars. Period. So, we reckon it was only a matter of time before someone decided to maximise our love affair with one-tonne utes by introducing some US-style performance and jacked-up kits for one of Australia's top-selling trucks.

The owners of Prodrive Racing Australia Supercars recently revived the Tickford brand in Australia wheels with full set of 265/50R20 Goodyear
Wrangler AT tyres as standard, plus a tyre pressure monitor, bolton black fender flares, a Tickford rear decal, and the option to install a two-inch lift kit. There are even some party tricks, like the custom black side steps with cutout lettering that casts

a reverse 'Tickford' shadow on the ground when the sun is shining in the sky.

The powertrain upgrade provides a noticeably sharper throttle response and more muscular feel up to 3000rpm, making it feel quicker to 100km/h, courtesy of the quick-thinking six-speed auto that helps retain that smooth, linear power delivery of the standard 3.2-litre five-cylinder turbo-diesel engine that lives under the hood

TICK FORD
IN YOUR FACE



alongside more upgrades, such as an air-filter, intercooler, pipe kits, 2.5-inch cat-back exhaust with side-exit dual carbon tips, and an ECU recalibration, which delivers up to 15 per cent more power and 20 per cent more torque (147kW/470Nm to approximately 169kW/564Nm).

We're not sure Cessnock Ford stock these yet, but it sure can't hurt to find out...

singletonford.com.au (02) 4040 6200





#### **A MASTER MANIPULATOR**

CHANGING A FLAT TYRE ON YOUR CAR CAN BE DIFFICULT AT THE BEST OF TIMES HOWEVER, GIVE A THOUGHT TO THE MINING CREWS FACED WITH THE MAMMOTH CHALLENGE OF CHANGING TYRES ON HEAVY EARTHMOVING MACHINES.

While there are tools to assist them with this process, changing these tyres is awkward and fraught with dangers that can be fatal if managed incorrectly.

So, when an option presents that is practical, efficient and safe, it seems only right that we lift the bonnet and take a little bopeep. Manufactured in the United

States by Greenfield Products, the Greenfield Handlers are a proprietary mast mounted droparm tyre manipulator paired with a Hyster forklift. Designed to engage the tyre at an angled and inward position, these manipulators provide the operator of the machine an unobstructed view and critically, affords ground staff a safe and crush free work area; an area that on other machines, can often trap an individual causing serious harm or death.

Designed to handle tires and wheels

with or without chains, Greenfield's largest machine, the TH35XR tops the bunch with a lifting capacity of 15,875kg and clamping arms that spread from 76" up a maximum of 172" (70/70R57 tyres). What excites me most however, is the ability for the manipulator to be used in the tyre/ rim break down process, with the machine able to provide a powerful yet safe downward pressure, to break the tyre bead and remove the bead

ring and flange from the tyre for disassembly.

COMPELLING AND A CAPABILITY THAT SETS THIS MACHINE ASIDE FROM THE REST.

As with any decision, there's almost always a leap of faith when purchasing a new asset and one must always way up the benefits versus the cons as well as the upfront and long-term economics. To me, these things make sense. If you'd like to know more, hit the web greenfieldhandlers.com or search 'Greenfield TH35' on YouTube.



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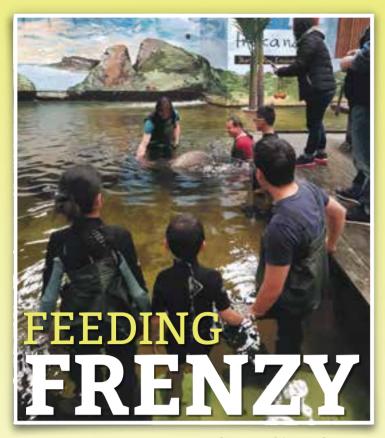
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THANKS TO IRUKANDJI SHARK & RAY ENCOUNTERS AT BOB'S FARM, I CAN NOW CROSS SWIMMING WITH SHARKS OFF MY BUCKET LIST. Is there anything cooler than being able to tell people you've swum with sharks? That you've fed enormous stingrays as they've glided over your feet and even given them a cuddle. Well it doesn't matter what age you are, spend a couple hours at Irukandji and you'll be telling this story too.

Well technically it was the sharks and stingrays doing the swimming while I stood in waist high water in a wetsuit and crocs, but as a girl who doesn't like getting her hair wet and is petrified of the idea of scuba diving, the encounters at Irukandji were exactly what I was looking for.

When the family arrived, we were greeted by the friendly team and got geared up into our wetsuits and listened to a quick safety talk. The talk was more about ensuring the safety of the sharks and rays as we were assured it was completely safe for us to get in the water with them. For those who weren't comfortable getting into wetsuits they also had the option of full body waders to keep you nice and dry and to ensure that your toes would stay nibble free.

OUR GUIDE FOR THE DAY
WAS MARINE BIOLOGIST
RYAN AND WE WERE
SOON CAUGHT UP IN
HIS ENTHUSIASM AND
COULDN'T WAIT TO GET INTO
THE WATER.

The tour starts off looking at the baby stingrays before you get in the first enclosure with the smaller sharks and rays. As soon as you get in with your feeding sticks the rays and sharks come over to investigate and once you get over your initial hesitation it's an amazing feeling having the sharks come up take the food from your hands while the rays glide effortlessly over your feet.

With your confidence built up it's time to head to the enclosure with the big guys, the rays are enormous and reaching down to slide my hands along their sleek bodies is one of the coolest things I've done.

There are hundreds of sharks and rays in the enclosures, and unbelievably Ryan has named each and every one. It was fascinating listening to his informative talks about these amazing animals. At Irukandji, they are passionate about conservation and while you are having fun you are also learning about what they are doing to ensure the future of all marine life and what you can do to help.

This is a great family experience and I especially recommend it for those who have young children. It's hard to find activities that the whole family can enjoy together equally and this is one that definitely achieves that.

They are open every day of the year except Christmas day and with heated pools winter is a great time to visit. For those who aren't up for getting in the water you can still take a tour and do the feeding. So what are you waiting for, head to Irukandji and cross swimming with sharks off your bucket list!

www.sharkencounters.com.au







#### **@ THE COALFACE CROSSWORD**

#### **ACROSS**

- 4 What sport do the NSW Patriots play (8)
- 8 Which athlete has won the most Olympic medals (7,6)
- 10 What is the real name of former wrestler 'The Rock' (6,7)
- 11 What tennis player has won the most men's Grand Slam titles (5,7)
- 12 Winner of six Ironman titles (5,5)
- 17 Where did the sport of curling originate (9)
- 18 The Newcastle soccer team name
- 19 Number of teams in the AFL (8) 20 Surfing event held at Bells Beach (3,4,3)
- 21 The eldest cricketing Chappell brother (3)

#### DOWN

- 1 The Bledisloe Cup is a trophy of this sport
- 2 A shuttlecock is used in this sport (9)
- 3 Number of Olympic medals won by Dawn Fraser
- 5 The name of the NSW netball team
  (6)
- 6 Which Australian won our first ever Winter Olympics Gold medal in 2002 (6,8)
- 7 What does the M in MVP stand for (4)
- 9 Three-time consecutive winner of the Melbourne Cup (6,4)
- 12 Winner of the 1993 British Open (4,7)
- 13 The Kangaroo Hoppet race is held here (8)
- 14 How many players are on the ice in a hockey game (6)
- 15 Where did table tennis originate (7)
- 16 Winner of the 2016 Super Bowl (6)

#### **WILL THE REAL NAKED CHEF**

### LEASE STAN

AS THE MAN WHO PUT THE HIP INTO HIPSTER, I UNDERSTAND FASHIONS AND TRENDS BETTER THAN MOST SO THIS MONTH I AM ROCKING THE FOOD WORLD WITH A CREATION THAT SHOWS THAT JAMIE OLIVER AND HIS POTTY MOUTHED MATE GORDON RAMSEY UP AS AMATEURS.

As I grabbed the first of my fresh ingredients – an ice cold stubby from a shiny new carton of beer - I also stripped down to my birthday suit as my naked beauty has always inspired my freest thinking. Half a carton and four rum chasers later

my mind and belly started to have the kind of visions and thoughts only a half drunk mad genius is

In a trance like state from the brews and having not eaten for over an hour and a half I sent myself to



## 'AVE A LAUGH WITH RICEDIII. PH 02 4964 8113 ritedrill.com.au

A new monk arrives at the monastery and is put in charge of copying holy texts. He notices that all of the monks are copying copies of the holy texts. He goes to the head monk, "If there is an error in one of the copies, all of the subsequent copies will have the same error."

The head monk replies, "We have been doing it this way for centuries, but I understand your concern." So he orders the monk to check all of the main copies against the original texts.

Hours later no one has seen the monk and they begin to get worried. They go to check on him and find him weeping and holding the main holy text. They ask him, "What's wrong? What did you find?"

The monk replies, "It says celebrate!"

the edge of insanity deciding what to create to feed my insatiable appetite. Into my mind a vision of the best burger I have ever wrapped my gob around consumed my thoughts but then the situation got complicated as the inevitable thought of gravy goodness exploding from a fresh pie confused my thinking.

#### PIE? BURGER? BURGER? PIE?

The anguish of choosing one from the other was as stressful as the time I had to tell the missus I'd be an hour and a half late for our wedding due to my bucks party going pear shaped and my best man getting arrested for an incident with a goat.

Anyway my mind became a mess before I blacked out and woke up to a blinding white light, from which a vision appeared that I believe to this day was the Lord placing his hand on my shoulder.

INTO MY MIND CAME THE WORD 'PIEBURGER' AND GOOSE BUMPS COVERED MY NAKED BODY.

With that I stormed out of Pielament House naked, and headed to the Vietnamese bakery in Singo for one of my favourite pies. Then with the cook at the pub interpreting my vision we created a match made in heaven by combining a heavenly burger with the revered Singo Vietnamese pie.. Amazing!

That's right folks, a burger with the lot that marries the beef patty with a beef bag. Enjoy my loyal subjects and rejoice in the shadow of my glory.

Sol... The Naked Pieminister.





THE EDWARDS IS NOT YOUR USUAL EATERY, INSTEAD THIS ECLECTIC RESTAURANT AND BAR CALLS ITSELF A CREATIVE WORKSPACE AND IS HOME TO ACTS BY LOCAL INDIE ARTISTS, UKULELE WORKSHOPS AND ALL TYPES OF COMMUNITY GATHERINGS.

I'm not one for ukulele workshops nor a fan of indie music and I figured if I showed up on a Friday night and tried to enter an alarm would go off alerting them that a non-hipster was in their midst.

So instead I decided to go for

a Sunday brunch and once
I'd been seated and looked
around at my fellow patrons
which included grandmas,
families, teenagers and
everything in between, I
realised my stereotypical view
needed to be left at the door.
Relaxing into my artfully

torn chair I checked out their breakfast menu and wasn't disappointed to find lots of tempting dishes to choose and a refreshing lack of over the top dish naming.

I ordered their 'Legit' bacon and egg roll, their brioche French toast and because



technically brunch is both breakfast and lunch figured a third dish of house made baked beans and egg on sourdough was called for.

While I waited, I took a walk around and decided that the industrial style architecture, the odd assortment of mixmatched furniture and the strange and random ornaments and memorabilia all came together to create a look that was interesting and relaxing.

I also took a browse of the vinyl shop but seeing as I only own an iPod I made a quick exit before they realised I was an imposter. Returning to the table I passed their laundromat which was a part of the original building and they decided to keep

going when they became a restaurant. You certainly must give it to them for originality. I noticed a guy in skinny jeans and a man bun was washing his sheets and I'm still suspicious he was a paid actor.

Even though the place was packed my food didn't take too long to arrive and I was happy to discover that my bacon and egg roll was one hundred percent 'legit'. When you stripped away the 'experience' you were left with delicious and unpretentious food.

This is the kind of place where you expect artists to meet their muses, where songs are written and where hearts are broken, all while doing your laundry. Oh, and where you can also get a damn fine feed.



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"Manufacturer's campaign driveaway price for MY17 new vehicles. "Vehicles must be sold and delivered by 30 June 2017. While stocks last. Options and metallic paint may be available for an additional cost. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Volkswagen Group Australia reserves the right to change or extend all offers. "App-Connect is compatible for selected apps with the latest smartphone versions of iOS and Android. "Safety technologies are not a substitute for the driver's responsibility of the vehicle.

VGACV0302/DTEMP/HORZ



## HOPE YOU'RE HUNGRY!

PUB FOOD RULES IN THE HUNTER, AND THE IMPY IN SINGLETON IS CURRENTLY SERVING IT UP AS ONE OF THE BEST.

Resident Coalface fisherperson Dan Thrift and I decided to step up to the plate for a Friday lunch feed this month in the interests of avoiding work and other responsibilities. We weren't disappointed.

Is there really anything better than a good pub feed? No, no and no would be the answer. While everyone does it a bit different, some are pretty average and there are some reliable old favourites, the team in the kitchen at this joint is clearly trying to up the anti. Head Chef Craig Imms



has only been steering the ship here for a few months but it's clear he wants it to be one of the best.

As a Singleton local I am no stranger to the Impy but for a while I was a bit underwhelmed by what was on offer. Don't get me wrong, it was ok but the fire wasn't burning as bright





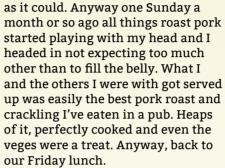
#### **BRING ON BUNNINGS**

FOR MANY OF US HEADING TO BUNNINGS ON THE WEEKEND

Checking out the latest tools, picking up those bits and pieces for your latest DIY project, or grabbing a coffee after dumping the kids in the play area, it's a handyman's heaven.

For your chance to win a \$100 voucher, simply SMS: BUNNINGS and your email address to 0438 474 290.

Limit of one entry per person. LTPM/16/01100



WE LEFT THE DECISIONS TO THE CHEF AND THE CHEF CAME UP WITH THE GOODS WHILE WE REFRESHED OURSELVES WITH A FEW BEERS.

For some reason Craig's eyesight must have been playing up and he very wrongly thought we were a bit underweight, because when the food started to roll we knew we would be rolling out.



Bang! Oven fresh cobb with three different butters hits the table and it was perfect. Bang, bang and bang! Sticky sweet Fred Flintstone beef ribs, a beef and bourbon burger and salt and pepper squid land. The presentation made the mouth water and it was restaurant quality. The ribs were cooked and tasted perfect. The burger, like the roast mentioned earlier, easily the best I've had in town. The squid – bang on with just the right crunch and bit of spice.

You know when a kitchen is on their game and right now Craig and his team are playing a cracker. Couple that with friendly service from people who look like they are enjoying themselves and it's easy to see why this place is getting much busier again. Will we be back? See you next week guys!





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#### @ THE COALFACE TRIVIA

#### BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE SINGLETON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Who are Maitland's traditional land owners? How high did the water reach in Maitland's 1955 flood? When was the Maitland Mercury first published?

Answers next month.

#### **LAST MONTHS ANSWERS**

- 1. What was the original name of Muswellbrook? Musclebrook
- 2. When did underground mining start in Muswellbrook? 1907
- 3. What famous Jockey was born in Muswellbrook? **Wayne Harris**



A LUCKY READER WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO HEAD TO THE BIG SCREEN AS WE ARE GIVING AWAY A \$100 EVENT CINEMAS GIFT VOUCHER.

Takes the mates to watch the new Arnie movie Aftermath in VMAX, or if you prefer, step it up a notch in gold class and watch, wine and dine without any annoying distractions!

For your chance to win, simply SMS: MOVIES and your email address to 0438 474 290.

Limit of one entry per person.

LTPM/16/01100

#### THE MYSTIC MINER'S JUNE 2017 HOROSCOPES FORECAST TAKEN STRAIGHT FROM THE STARS AND URANUS.

CHECK WHAT YOUR FUTURE HOLDS THIS MONTH WITH OUR ASTROLOGICAL



Cancer Jun 21 -

A birthday surprise could find you in a compromising situation this month Cancer – remember to stay clothed at all times, even if you think the house is empty.



Capricorn Dec 22 -Jan 19

You have two choices this month Capricorn – turn off the GPS and learn to navigate the back roads, or lose your mind sitting in traffic. You know what to do.



The full moon on 11 May will make you feel like a change Leo. Before you make any decisions, remember that the moon won't be paying your \$3million waterfront mortgage.



**Aquarius** Jan 20 -Feb 18

The onset of cooler weather is no excuse for your backyard to resemble a jungle Aquarius. Snakes love long grass more than you hate gardening in the cold.



If you are looking for love online Virgo, exercise caution. There is a high risk that the good looking funny one from Newcastle could be a cyber criminal texting you from Nigeria.



**Pisces** Feb 19 -Mar 20 A trip to the supermarket will prompt you to look at ways to reduce your weekly grocery bill Pisces. Trying to bake your own bread after a full day at work will make you happy to pay \$3 a loaf.



They say that summer bodies are made in winter Libra. Remember this as you treat yourself to "one more square" of chocolate whilst watching telly on the couch with the heater Oct 22



Aries Mar 21 -Apr 19

When enjoying a nice meal out with your partner, resist the temptation to mention the last time you were there especially if there is a risk you weren't there together.



Carefully check the pockets of all items of clothing before doing laundry Scorpio. The probability of tissue incidents is high this month, plus you will be amazed by what you find.



Taurus Apr 20 -May 20

The shortest day of the year is on 21 June, which often coincides with Taureans having the shortest fuse. It's too late to learn meditation, so avoid conflict by staying indoors with a box set.



Sagittarius Your partner will tell you a secret so unbelievable that you will feel compelled to share it with all your mates. If you value your life Sagittarius, do not do this.



Whatever you do this month, do not forget to buy your Powerball tickets Gemini. You should also stick to your usual numbers. You heard it here first.



## MELBOURNE









For less than it costs for a fancy dinner you can fly yourself to Melbourne and partake in what this sporting and cultural mecca offers.

The city centre is surrounding by a backdrop of religious buildings, no not churches, I'm talking about the sporting grounds that see millions of cheering fans every year pay homage to their sporting teams and idols.

Home to the iconic Flemington Race track, Albert Park, the MCG and Melbourne Park, Melbourne showcases the world's best in cricket, Grand Prix, Tennis, AFL and more.

#### **SOAK UP THE CULTURE**

For those unAustralians' who don't appreciate sport, Melbourne is also known as the hipster capital of Australia. It's a multicultural and progressive city with a definite edge and each bar you walk into is cooler than the last. Or maybe that's something to do with your intake of cocktails.

Although there's always a new fad or novelty to try, Melbourne is also rich in history. The National Gallery of Victoria is Australia's oldest gallery and sees more visitors than any of our other art museums.

But if museums are not your thing you may like to catch a performance at

#### 'AVE A **LAUGH WITH** RiteDri

PH 02 4964 8113 ritedrill.com.au

I couldn't figure out why the cricket ball kept getting larger. Then it hit me.

one of the many theatres, pubs, lounges where there is everything from comedy to cabaret, from indie punk to opera.

#### **EAT UP THE EXPERIENCE**

If there's one other thing that Melbourne is renowned for it is food, glorious food. With some of the best eateries in the country you'll be hard pressed to decide. Trip Advisor isn't going to make it any easier for you to pick as it will bring up over one thousand hits. My advice, hit the streets and let your senses take over, before long your nose is sure to have directed your feet to the right spot. Hitting the pavement is also a great way to take in the hustle and bustle of this vibrant city.

**BREATHE IN THE ATMOSPHERE** Melbourne is a place of

architectural and natural beauty. Whether wandering through the botanical gardens and national parks, taking a boat ride down the Yarra River or catching a tram through the city streets, there's so much to see and explore. The heritage buildings and landmarks tell a story that no words could possibly beat.

This is just a tiny snippet of what you can enjoy in Melbourne. This evolving city manages to be both modern and contemporary while retaining its historical and cultural heritage.

Lucky for us there are 52 weekends every year.





## A FAMILY WINTER WONDERLAND

EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW BY NOW, WINTER IS COMING. IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A SHORT-BREAK HOLIDAY THAT'S FULL OF FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, THE SNOW IS DEFINITELY THE WAY TO GO.

@TheCoalface has picked apart the best places for you and the kids to learn to ski and snowboard so that your family can rule the slopes this ski season.

Australia's favourite family winter playground, with so much more to do for the kids and parents together. Choose from alpine, or cross country skiing, snowboarding and snowtubing on either of the two adrenaline fuelled tube parks. There's two new dedicated Fun Parks, and a place for snowriders, snowbiking, snowshoeing, and tobogganing on the only resort toboggan run left in NSW. Selwyn Snowfields are firm family favourites with very low prices.

**PERISHER:** Perisher has seven mountain peaks and includes the villages of Perisher Valley, Smiggin Holes, Guthega and Blue Cow. For the mad-keen boardriders, the resort has a super pipe and a mini pipe, four terrain parks for freestyle skiing, plus 100 km of cross country trails, night skiing and a sweet snow tube park that is basically 21st Century tobogganing, where kids and adults slide down the hill on inflatable tyres. Perisher have great ski schools too. The resort's ski and snowboard school divides children into two groups, four to six years (sorry kids, skiing only) and six to 14yrs (choose between ski and snowboard). The overlap at six years means the more 'mature' kids, especially the ones

#### **THE COALFACE PRIZE WINNERS**

**VOLUME 1 - NO 8: MAY - JUNE** 

Taronga Zoo Family Pass - kaz5398@hotmail.com

Roberts Meats Monthly Meat Raffle - maree@scottysfab.com.au

**Nalgene Water Bottles** - brian2wendy@yahoo.com.au, kellieandben@gmail.com, plebby09@bigpond.com

**Clubhouse XXXX** - shanexr@gmail.com

Ironbark Hill Brewhouse Tasting Boards - keldar1@hotmail.com, 65jcowan@gmail.com, caellw@hotmail.com, jason.doyle099@gmail.com, johnroverton@hotmail.com

Adventure Kings Escape Swag – Jyh.Thompson@riotinto.com CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!

who've started school, can join the older group, while less experienced youngsters can learn at a bit of a slower pace.

CHARLOTTE PASS: One of NSW's smaller ski resorts, Charlotte Pass has a beginners' area with snow tube park and children's activities during the day and evening. The resort has a slope with a rope tow, which is free for children. Group lessons are available for children five years and older, and younger children can take private lessons.

THREDBO: For families, Thredbo offers a great range of activities,

including an indoor 50 metre heated pool with waterslide, perfect for when the weather turns and you and your family are forced inside. Thredbo features one of the youngest snowboarding schools, offering group lessons for children between four to six years old. Skiing lessons are also available for three to six years, while seven to 14 years can ski or board. Thredboland is a kids' only area with entertainment and a pretty sweet terrain park.

Just remember, the boss needs you fighting fit when you come back to work, so don't do anything stupid on the slopes. Have fun!





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## Alliance Labour Solutions

At Alliance Labour Solutions we create and drive a partnership which is sustainable in achieving our customers desired outcomes.

Currently in our industry with the duration between shutdowns extending, utilising the permanent workforce has become increasingly difficult. At Alliance we help tailor optimum solutions to eliminate utilisation issues.

At Alliance we provide best fit employees based on your individual requirements. We engage with you to understand what 'type' of employee will add value to your business.

Alliance have an unrivalled Candidate Care Program, centred around employee wellbeing, continuous communication which has allowed us to enjoy a high retention rate which in turn gives you consistent faces on site.

We are uncompromising in our commitment to the wellbeing and safety of our people; we drive a safety culture and to continuously achieve this outcome we attend morning pre-starts and toolbox talks and adopt a 'go look see' program on site which is interactive with you and our employees.

Our partnership model promotes 'one team' that is seamless in its integration.



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