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Vol 4 No 1: October - November 2019

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IT'S **NOT**
WEAK
TO **SPEAK**

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AFTRMTH WAS FOUNDED BY BROCK MENDYK, JAI BROOK & JYE DORSETT TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF SUICIDE.

FREE

POOR PLANNING



THE RECENT
DECISION TO
REFUSE THE BYLONG
PROJECT COST OVER
A BILLION DOLLARS
IN INVESTMENT AND
1100 JOBS.

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PROUD PAGE 8-9

NEW PREMISES

THE UNGOOROO ABORIGINAL CORPORATION HAVE PROUDLY OPENED THE DOORS OF THEIR NEW HOME TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.



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CREATING CONNECTIONS

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE IS THE CONNECTIONS WE MAKE WITH PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY.

When you share someone’s story, it’s hard not to become emotionally invested. Which is great when you are sharing a story of success or happiness, but can be difficult when sharing a story of sorrow or loss. This month there were two in particular that tugged on our heartstrings.

First, we paid tribute to Kurri Kurri historian Brian Andrews. We met Brian a couple years back when we interviewed him in his role as curator of the Edgeworth David Museum and his love of history and the Hunter was infectious. A founding member of the Coalfields Heritage Group, Brian made an incalculable contribution in the preservation of the Hunter’s history and his legacy will live on.

We also share the story of Bulga coalminer Brock Mendyk who after losing two of his family members to suicide, now determinedly works to raise awareness and break the stigma associated with suicide. The story of how he and his family have taken their tragedy and used it to help others is truly inspiring.

We hope this month’s edition helps you connect with your community.



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STEPHEN GALILEE,
CEO, NSW MINERALS
COUNCIL

THROUGH THICK AND THIN

THE MARK OF A STRONG PARTNERSHIP IS BEING PREPARED TO SHOW SUPPORT THROUGH THE TOUGH TIMES AS WELL AS THE GOOD TIMES. WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH, MATES STICK TOGETHER.

I recently attended the Newcastle Knights awards dinner to mark the end of the season for the team. Most Knights fans would acknowledge it’s been a tough couple of months for the club, so the awards night was not quite the end of season celebration that it could have been.

The Knights finished the season at eleventh on the ladder, which was a strong improvement on the result of recent years. However, the brilliance shown by the team at stages during the year gave fans hope for a better end to the season. While this was not to be, it’s important to acknowledge all the hard work from the players and management during 2019 as we look forward to next year.

OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS HAS BEEN GOING STRONG FOR EIGHT YEARS AND THE VOICE FOR MINING FAMILY DAY AT McDONALD JONES STADIUM HAS BECOME A HIGHLIGHT FOR FANS AND PLAYERS.

Every year, the Knights wear their hi-vis replica mining jerseys for one home game and one away game to stand up and show support for the 22,300 coal miners and their families in the Hunter and across NSW. This year’s Voice for Mining Family Day saw around 20,000 miners and footy fans pack McDonald Jones Stadium to watch a nail-biter between the Knights and Manly.

Tough times will come and go, but NSW Mining continues to support the Knights because they’ve stuck with us, including when the coal price last fell heavily during the previous cyclical downturn, and our industry was really doing it tough. Seeing the Knights play in their mining jerseys was a tremendous show of support that was appreciated by miners and their families across the region.

So as we look forward to next season, NSW Mining and the Newcastle Knights will continue to support one another into 2020 - because that’s what good mates do.

Stephen Galilee, CEO, NSW Minerals Council

OPINION



TANIA CONSTABLE

WE NEED MINING JOBS

AT THE LAST FEDERAL ELECTION, COMMUNITIES ACROSS REGIONAL AND REMOTE AUSTRALIA REALLY GOT BEHIND THE MORRISON GOVERNMENT BECAUSE IT SUPPORTED RESOURCES – AND THAT MEANS JOBS FOR THE COMMUNITY.

The mining sector is the highest paying sector in Australia, with almost a quarter of a million highly paid, highly skilled direct jobs in mining and one in ten jobs across the economy provided by mining and related industries.

That’s why the MCA was disturbed recently to hear of yet another mining project that has been derailed by an unelected, unaccountable body and urban anti-jobs activists.

Yet the Independent Planning Commission ignored the fact that none of the 14 NSW Government agencies consulted — including Department of Primary Industries experts on water, fisheries, lands and agriculture — objected to the project.

It’s also notable that in relation to the KEPCO Bylong project, 80 per cent of the objections came in the guise of standard form letters, mostly submitted by green activists from Lane Cove in Sydney’s wealthy north shore. One of the activists even claimed that he was ‘not saying country people are dumb, but they can be taken in by deliberately misleading and slick representations’.

IT’S CLEAR THAT OUR POLITICIANS HAVE TO START PAYING MORE ATTENTION TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND LESS ATTENTION TO OUT-OF-TOWN GREEN ACTIVISTS IF OUR WORLD-CLASS MINING SECTOR IS TO GET THE SUPPORT IT DESERVES.

Our companies already take the environmental and social needs of communities into account when they are planning for and operating mines.

Two weeks ago, the MCA was out visiting Peabody’s Wilpinjong mine near Mudgee, where the company is doing great work on rehabilitation, protecting birds like the regent honeyeater and putting back into local communities.

Communities want to know that the mining industry is going to be a great

KOREA ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION, BETTER KNOWN AS KEPCO, WANTED TO DEVELOP THE RICH COAL RESOURCES OF THE MUDGEЕ REGION THROUGH A NEW MINE IN THE BYLONG VALLEY AND CREATE 1100 BADLY-NEEDED JOBS IN THE REGION.

contributor and will leave a positive legacy for the future.

That’s pretty evident at Wilpinjong, where the mine has supported wonderful local groups such as Riding for the Disabled for many years and also works with the local Gulgong Men’s Shed to create nesting boxes for wildlife and insects.

The Nesting Box program will encourage possums, small owls, cockatoos, parrots, quolls, tree creepers and gliders from the adjacent Munghorn Nature Reserve and Goulburn River National Park into the mine site’s rehabilitation and offset areas over the next few years.

THIS IS ALL PART OF OUR MEMBER COMPANIES COEXISTING WITH AND GIVING BACK TO THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY.

There are plenty of stories from the industry on how we work in partnership to create jobs, build communities and sustain a better future for locals.

Yet without support from our politicians for quicker approvals and more streamlined regulation, our companies can’t get the big projects off the ground to create the jobs which our communities want.

One hopeful sign emerged recently at the Federal level when the Morrison Government proposed reforms to greenfields workplace agreements to cover the life of projects.

THIS IS A SENSIBLE REFORM THAT WILL STIMULATE NEW INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.

There are billions of dollars’ worth of potential resources projects being developed in Australia that will benefit from the greater certainty and confidence which this reform would support.

All parliamentarians should commit to supporting this important reform and get behind our great mining industry, its workforce and local communities.

Tania Constable
CEO, Minerals Council of Australia

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IN THE NEWS...

TAP GETTING TIGHTER

Water restrictions are getting even tougher in the New England region. From now Tamworth, Moonbi and Kootingal are moving to Level 5 water restrictions.

Nundle is on level 4 restrictions, Tenterfield is already on level 4.5 and Armidale will move to level 5 restrictions on October 1.

Murrurundi remains on Level 6 restrictions with 50 percent of water being trucked in by 4 to 6 trucks a day and the remainder coming from an emergency water bore.

So far 14 kilometres of the Scone to Murrurundi pipeline has been laid, the \$14.2 million project will see 40 kilometres of pipeline built from Scone to Murrurundi, as well as pump stations and reservoirs built along the stretch.

DAVID BSHOFF GONESKIES

BHP Mount Arthur’s General Manager David Boshoff is off to the Adani mine in Queensland.

BHP announced after three years he would be resigning and is expected to finish on November 15.

David will be the Project Director for the Adani Carmichael Mine and Rail Project and then take on the Chief Operating Officer role.

An Adani Mining spokesperson told Radio Hunter Valley David’s expertise will be extremely valuable.

POLICE INVESTIGATE HORROR MURDER SUICIDE

Police are investigating a suspected murder suicide near Jerrys Plains.

Hunter Valley Police District officers say at about 4pm Thursday 26 September they were called to a property on Doyles Creek Road and discovered the bodies of a 48-year-old man and a 49-year-old woman both suffering gunshot wounds.

Police are awaiting the results of post mortems, but at this stage believe it was a murder suicide.

A travel agent sparked the check on the pair who failed to board a flight.

It’s understood the pair worked at Mount Arthur mine at Muswellbrook.

CFMEU LAUNCHES ATTACK ON BHP

The CFMEU has launched an advertising offensive against BHP and their new form of employment, Operations Services.

BHP said the new program would employ permanent workers on market competitive rates for jobs that would normally be outsourced to labor hire companies.

But the mineworkers union has labelled it as a “cheap move by the big Australian”.

“We’ve accused BHP many years ago of being very aggressive about converting good permanent jobs at the Mount Arthur mine into casual hire labor,” said CFMEU northern

district mining and energy secretary Peter Jordan.

The CFMEU also said there is a \$53,000 difference between an employee at the mine and one through Operations Services.

“It’s a cheap deceptive deal about permanent work,” said Peter Jordan.

According to the union there’s also issues with work being unsafe and workers being taxed in from outside of the area just to fill the positions.

BHP has given comment, denying people are being taxed in and also adding that everyone is being paid above the award wage.

REWARD FOR INFORMATION ON IAN PULLEN’S DEATH

The NSW Government has announced a \$350,000 reward for any information on the tragic hit and run death of Ian Pullen near Singleton last year.

The New Zealander, aged 43, was found at 5:35am on Saturday 29 September on the side of Carrington Road, Glenridding.

Inquiries suggest Mr Pullen had been struck and killed by a car with the driver fleeing the scene without rendering assistance.

“He was here as a volunteer firefighter ahead of what was going to be a tough bushfire season,” said Crime Manager Detective Acting Inspector Steve Benson.

“What’s not lost on the Singleton community is that he was here helping.”

Police believe there are people who know more and are urging them to come forward.

GYMNASTICS CENTRE MORE THAN JUST A SHED

The Gymnastics Centre dream has become a reality for the Muswellbrook PCYC.

It started 18 months ago when Bengalla Mining Company gave the PCYC a generous amount of funding so they could construct the shed for the centre, and then a number of other donations including from the NSW Government made it possible to fill the shed with some amazing gymnastics equipment.

“Honestly I keep saying it just

takes my breath away. You look at this shed and it’s more than just a shed, it’s something that this community built with the support that we got from every person from start to finish has been a part of this journey with us,” said Manager De-anne Douglas.

“Being able to use local contractors, that was something that PCYC prided itself on from the beginning, that was our goal it wasn’t just using local money but it was putting that local money back into this community,” she said.

SINGLETON SNUBBED

Hunter MP and Shadow Agriculture Minister Joel Fitzgibbon is asking why Singleton has been snubbed for drought funding.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced 13 more Councils would be added to the Drought Communities Programme.

Upper Hunter Shire and Muswellbrook have already received funding, but Singleton missed out again.

“Scott Morrison says Muswellbrook is in drought but Singleton is not and everyone in the Singleton community including the Mayor knows that not to be true and yet he gave the same level of funding to Moyne Shire Council in Victoria and the Mayor there says look we’re not in drought, we don’t need this money,” said Joel Fitzgibbon.

Joel Fitzgibbon said he fears the Coalition isn’t giving Labor held seats funding.

“Those represented by Nats are getting money even though they don’t need it, now we’ll give the government the benefit of the doubt but I think they need to clarify this question.”

KEPCO SPENT BIG FOR NOTHING

It’s been the talk of the Bylong Valley for some time now, and now the IPC has rejected the proposal from Korean mining company KEPCO who were looking to develop an open cut and underground mine producing up to 120 million tonnes of coal over 25 years.

The company spent \$750 million developing the project after they bought the exploration license from Anglo American in 2010.

The IPC rejected it for a number of reasons and concerns about the “long-lasting environmental, agricultural and heritage impacts”.

The NSW Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee has labelled the decision as a “lost opportunity” for the regions.

NEWS ANNOUNCER JESSICA ROUSE FROM RADIO HUNTER VALLEY HAS THE LATEST NEWS STORIES

PRESERVING Heritage

GLENDELL MINE IS SEEKING APPROVAL TO CONTINUE CURRENT OPEN CUT MINING TO THE NORTH OF ITS EXISTING CUSTOMERS, PROPOSING TO RELOCATE THE HISTORICAL RAVENSWORTH HOMESTEAD.

Mining activities at Glendell Mine commenced in 2008, currently with approval to mine up to 4.5 million tonnes per annum of coal resources through to June 2024. The Glendell Continued Operations Project hopes to continue operations within a new area located to the north to produce an additional 135 Mt of additional coal through to 2044.

Along with proposed mining operations, construction activities, benefits and conceptual final landform, the project includes the proposal to relocate the Ravensworth Homestead to a new site.

The Ravensworth Homestead is a collection of buildings built in the 19th century, considered to have State significant heritage values as a

remnant of an early pastoral station that retains evidence of the colonial period of development.

A number of important historic persons have been associated with the estate, including Colonial Surgeon, Dr James Bowman, for whom the homestead was constructed in 1832.

GLENDELL HAVE PROPOSED TWO RELOCATION OPTIONS FOR THE RAVENSWORTH HOMESTEAD, KEEPING ITS HERITAGE AND THE SURROUNDED COMMUNITY AT THE TOP OF THEIR MINDS.

One option is to relocate the buildings, intact, to a newly created ‘Ravensworth Farm’ site that is located adjacent to Bowmans Creek and the proposed Hebden Road realignment. The Homestead and associated buildings would be used by Glencore for administration purposes,

of course with the idea of it becoming a rural homestead post-mining to support its strong heritage focus.

The second option is to relocate to McNamara Park in Broke Village, functioning as a village square and creating administration and exhibition space, café and restaurant, cellar/door wine tasting, market space and space for annual events. This option has a major focus on community, with relocating requiring the dismantling of buildings ‘stone-by-stone’ and rebuilding in the new location.

Both options focus on the heritage of the estate and the community, with Glencore establishing a community-based committee, the Ravensworth Homestead Advisory Committee, to assist with its assessment.

The detail and thought process that has gone into the Glendell Continued Operations Project, including the careful consideration of relocating Ravensworth Homestead, has had a major community focus.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? GO TO WWW.MTOWENCOMPLEX.COM.AU/EN/FUTURE-MINING/PAGES/OVERVIEW.ASPX

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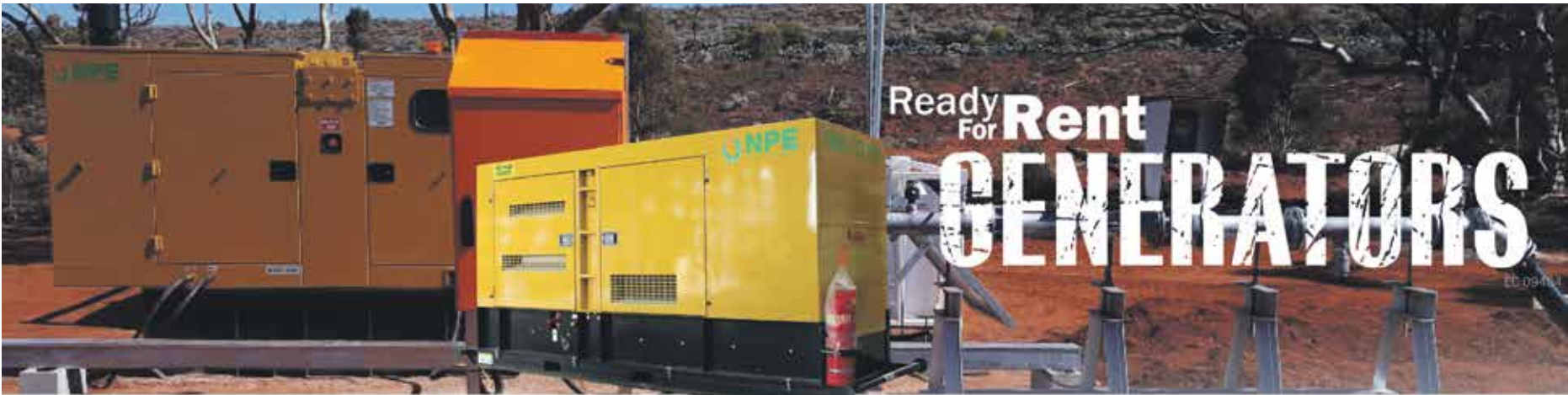
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THE UNGOOROO ABORIGINAL CORPORATION HAVE PROUDLY OPENED THE DOORS OF THEIR NEW HOME, WELCOMING ALL THE COMMUNITY INSIDE. WE TOOK THEM UP ON THE OPPORTUNITY TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS WONDERFUL ORGANISATION.

Since 1994 Ungooroo have been working to empower the Upper Hunter Indigenous community. As a not-for-profit organisation, all income streams generated by Ungooroo are returned to the Indigenous community through a range of constantly evolving programs and services. In this way the community as a whole benefits from the work done at Ungooroo. They've come a long way over the

years, with their services expanding to include health, business development, social services and employment and youth support and as they've grown so did the need for new premises.

"We'd outgrown the old premises and they were no longer suitable," says Taasha Layer, Ungooroo's Chief Executive Officer. "Here we have ample car parking, easy accessibility, and we now have 8 consulting rooms as well as 8 offices for programs and staff. We are delighted with the new premises and are so happy to be opening up our doors to the community."

"These new premises have only been made possible through support from MACH Energy, Ministry of Health

and Glencore, who all supported the fit out of our Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (ACCHO)," Taasha acknowledges. "We cannot thank our industry partners enough for their support. The positive impact on community members with this industry support is immeasurable."

THANKS TO THAT SUPPORT, UNGOOROO'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY. ALTHOUGH THEIR CORE PASSION IS ABORIGINAL HEALTH, THE GENERAL PRACTICE IS OPEN TO EVERYONE. "IT'S ABOUT BEING INCLUSIVE TO ALL," SAYS TAASHA.

As we sit down for a chat in the bright new premises, decorated with traditional Aboriginal artwork and warm earthy colours, Taasha reflects

on the Ungooroo's journey over the years and what they have achieved.

"In 1994 Ungooroo was set up a community organisation to offer predominately health services to the Upper Hunter Indigenous community. Our core business was cultural heritage site work, working mainly on mine sites in the region. That was the main source of income and it supported providing a space for health provision and services."

Then in 2007 Taasha came onboard. Her core objective was to build different income streams that would help the organisation be sustainable and grow. Taasha explained that with the downturn of the mining industry looming and the loss of their cultural heritage work imminent, it was time to look for other ways to sustain the business.

"Initially we had Dookal which was purely a labour hire service, but we then diversified it to incorporate workwear and PPE and merchandising. Dookal was supported at the time by Coal & Allied and still continues on today," says Taasha.

Another program that Ungooroo established around that time was

has had long term partners such as MACH Energy and Glencore.

"WUPA became a great vehicle to help support local Aboriginal artists and to create an economy for local artists around that process. It started off with just two artists over a weekend 10 years ago and it has grown immensely since then," says Taasha with a proud smile.

This free Aboriginal art trail runs for 6 months of the year and takes you on a journey through almost a dozen venues in the Hunter Valley, showcasing more than 100 pieces of contemporary and traditional artwork produced by experienced and emerging Aboriginal artists from the local Wanaruah people and surrounding areas. The 2018/2019 event finished in May and they are already at work on making the next one even bigger.

accredited. Our health services continue to grow, and we will soon have even more services available as we are increasing our footprint with NDIS."

Another important part of the work Ungooroo does is their social service programs like Special Homelessness Services for Youths. Through it they deliver services, programs and initiatives that support young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. It's grown to involve the Upper and Lower Hunter.

Then there are their employment programs that assist members of the Indigenous community to obtain and retain long term employment and Indigenous entrepreneurs to start, develop and grow their business. But there's still more. The newest program is the Wattaka Café.



"One of the biggest things I think made a difference was having the board all do their Cert IV in Business & Governance. This created a good foundation for the organisation and sets a benchmark for good business ethics and practices," says Taasha.

we have achieved so much. To see the potential back when I started and now to see how many people are benefiting every day. It's such a great team here who are passionate about community services. I've seen the support that industry has given and the outcomes from it, people working in partnerships. But most of all to see community coming together and being inclusive."

TAASHA SAYS SOMETIMES IT'S THE SMALLEST THINGS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

"I've learnt that it doesn't take much to make a positive difference in someone's life. Things most of us take for granted. If we are talking about the Muswellbrook Outreach Clinic, it's about providing a service that simply was not available. For someone to have their health concerns addressed for the first time in years in a culturally appropriate setting might not seem like much from the outside, but to that person it makes an incredible difference."

"Seeing someone find the right long-term employment or helping someone go from transition housing to sustainable private rental and independent living. These are all the game changers that are impacting on people's lives. These are the things that make you want to come to work every day."

"It's really about empowering people. If you are genuine, if you are keen, and if you really want to make a difference in your life then we have the people here to support you with that process. Our doors are always open."



WWW.UNGOROO.COM.AU

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ONE OF THE MOST VITAL SERVICES THAT UNGOOROO OFFER ARE THEIR HEALTH SERVICES. "WE RECOGNISED THERE WAS A LACK OF HEALTH CARE THAT WAS CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE IN THE UPPER HUNTER," EXPLAINS TAASHA.

"We had always provided a space for Awabakal medical services to come to the Upper Hunter, but sometimes it would be months or years between visits. And so, we commenced the lengthy process to become an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (ACCHO) and by 2017 we were endorsed and

Located across from Ungooroo's new premises in The Singleton Centre, this unique patisserie offers fresh, modern pastries and light meals that are infused with Indigenous flavours. Wattaka Café is an inclusive employer and will not only provide supported employment opportunities, but also educate and inform the community on Aboriginal food and culture.

"Then there is the support we receive. Over the years we've received a lot of support from the mining industry which we are so grateful for. We've been funded to open a Welcome Centre, there's our Muswellbrook Outreach Clinic which MACH Energy is currently funding. Glencore have also funded different programs, such as training and employment." "It's been a fantastic journey and

SO HOW DOES A SMALL LOCAL ORGANISATION WHOSE MAIN FOCUS WAS CULTURAL HERITAGE WORK, DIVERSIFY AND GROW INTO SUCH AN INVALUABLE ORGANISATION WITH SO MANY WONDERFUL PROGRAMS?



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FORUM RETURNS

COMMUNITY AND THE MINING INDUSTRY WILL COME TOGETHER FOR A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP LOCAL BUSINESS AND SHARE IDEAS AT THE UPPER HUNTER MINING DIALOGUE'S ANNUAL FORUM ON NOVEMBER 19.

Following last year's hugely successful forum, the event at the Singleton Civic Centre will again feature a major networking session where business people can talk directly to the procurement departments of the Upper Hunter mining companies.

The 90-minute networking session will also feature displays by the Dialogue, mining companies and government departments to give

community members the opportunity to talk with representatives about what they believe are current issues and learn more about Dialogue's work and the progress of its ongoing projects.

AS WELL AS PROCUREMENT AND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, THE DISPLAYS WILL FEATURE INFORMATION ON COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS, WATER USAGE AND STEWARDSHIP, REHABILITATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT, AIR QUALITY AND LONG-TERM LAND-USE.

The Dialogue's new Virtual Reality Experience will also be available for attendees to take a virtual reality tour of a working mine without leaving the auditorium of the Civic Centre.



SPACES FOR THE FORUM ARE LIMITED; PEOPLE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING SHOULD REGISTER THEIR INTEREST IN ATTENDING VIA EMAIL TO INFO@NSWMINING.COM.AU BY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

As well as the networking and information-sharing sessions, the Annual Forum will also include presentations updating:

- the outcomes and progress of Dialogue's 2019 projects
- Upper Hunter air quality initiatives
- The NSW Government's long-term land use planning projects

Following the presentations and networking sessions, attendees will have the opportunity to help shape the future work of the Dialogue through group discussions aimed at prioritising ideas and potential projects.

The forum will also be part of a live broadcast of Hunter Valley Today on Radio 2NM.

FULL DETAILS OF THE FORUM ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.NSWMINING.COM.AU/DIALOGUE/EVENTS OR [f](#) @ THE DIALOGUE

AUSTIN CELEBRATES

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Austin employs over 2000 people globally including engineering designers, specialist steel fabricators and tradespeople, in 10 offices and manufacturing centres in the world's mining markets.

From 2003 Austin acquired Western Australia Metals, Western Technology Services in Casper US, Conyment and Sergruit in Chile, Pilbara Hire Group and Phillips Engineering in Western Australia.

In 2012 the company went on to acquire V8V Calama in Chile, Petroaceros SAC in Lima Peru and COR Cooling in QLD, NSW and SA, later selling COR Cooling in 2016, constantly evolving and expanding to become the globally recognised company they are today.



"We have just released a new dump tray – Austin ULTIMA and the Austin Two Piece Excavator Bucket - both products have exclusive IP developed by Austin and have patents pending," David added.

Providing unique products, engineered to meet and exceed the challenges of the global mining sector, speciality designs that can be infinitely modified to meet local operating and

environmental conditions and components that are fit for purpose, Austin Engineering strive to be at the top of their game.

"Austin's point of difference is that we custom engineer every product that we manufacture to provide unique solutions for our clients," said David.

"Our products provide the lowest cost per tonne and maximise profitability for our clients."

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PUBLISHERS OPINION

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING



BE IT SCHOOL STRIKES OR PASSIONATE SPEECHES, OUR NOBLE YOUTH HAVE A POINT THEY WANT TO MAKE. I FULLY SUPPORT THAT. MY PROBLEM IS THAT VERY FEW ARE PREPARED TO TAKE THE ACTIONS TO BACK IT UP OR EVEN UNDERSTAND THE REALITIES OF THE ISSUE.

Up front I will state that I am no militant climate change denier, more a realist in what is a complex issue surrounded by an even more complex world we live in and how we can change and improve things.

The fact is that the world we have created, and all of us totally indulged 'Lucky Country' citizens, means many have a distorted view of reality. Solving 'the problem' just isn't as easy as turning off the power, industry and society as we know it. Below are some words I stole from someone writing on social media. It sounds sensationalist, but it's not only true, but probably understating the reality.



'MOST KIDS VALUE THEIR IPHONE MORE THAN THIS CHILD'

No, none of this will happen because you are over indulged, selfish, poorly educated, virtue signalling little so and so's, inspired by well-meaning adults around you who crave a feeling of having a 'noble cause' while they indulge themselves in Western luxury and unprecedented quality of life.

In short, the young eco warriors are equal owners and creators of the actual problem. I also believe that the school protests should have been held on a non-school day to fully test their commitment. I believe that the attendance would only have been a fraction of the numbers if that were the case. My reasoning? Because actual real kids have told me as much.

THE 'WESTERN' CIVILIZATION WE LIVE IN MAKES US THE LUCKIEST TO EVER HAVE LIVED. IT'S ABOUT TIME THESE KIDS REALISED THIS AND WORKED FROM THERE ABOUT HOW THEY CAN REALLY CHANGE THE WORLD FOR THE BETTER. MANY OTHERS WITH LESS FORTUNATE LIVING CONDITIONS ON OUR PLANET OFTEN LIVE A LIFE OF HARDSHIP AND POVERTY THAT ONLY SECURE ENERGY CAN LIFT THEM OUT OF.

So, if the kids out there really want to save something, why not start by selling your Xbox and iPhone, and donate the proceeds to saving a life in a third world country – or maybe give it to our struggling farmers or take a march in support of them. I won't hold my breath.

TO ALL THE SCHOOL KIDS GOING ON 'STRIKE' FOR CLIMATE CHANGE:

- You are the first generation who have required air-conditioning in every classroom.
- You want TV in every room and your classes are all computerised.
- You spend all day and night on electronic devices.
- More than ever, you don't walk or ride bikes to school but arrive in caravans of private cars that choke local roads and worsen rush hour traffic.
- You are the biggest consumers of manufactured goods ever and update perfectly good expensive luxury items to stay trendy.
- Your entertainment comes from electric devices.



HOW ABOUT THIS...

- Tell your teachers to switch off the air-con.
- Walk or ride to school. Switch off your devices and read a book.
- Make a sandwich instead of buying manufactured fast food.



LOCAL LAUNCH

PROGRAMMED SKILLED WORKFORCE OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED THEIR NEW SINGLETON OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 27 BRINGING TOGETHER MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY TO COME CHECK IT OUT.



September 27 saw dozens gathered for the launch of Programmed's new Singleton office that specialises in the provision of labour and training services to the black coal mining industry in the Hunter Valley and surrounding areas.

Programmed's General Manager, Mining East Craig Allen welcomed the audience before providing a tour of their new facilities, followed by a lunch.

"Programmed has provided skilled, and safety focused workforces to the mining industry in the Hunter Valley for over 20 years," said Craig.

"THE SINGLETON TEAM CURRENTLY MANAGE OVER 700 PEOPLE, INCLUDING OVER 200 TRAINEES AND APPRENTICES, ACROSS ALL MAJOR MINING SITES IN THE HUNTER VALLEY."

The tour of the new facility included the advanced training room, used for the candidate selection process where they go through a variety of assessments to assess suitability for the role.

Programmed Skilled Workforce Singleton traditionally offer Certificate II and Certificate III in Surface Extraction Operations. These nationally recognised qualifications are made up of both theory and practical units of competency, with Cert II requiring 9 units completed and Cert III 13 units completed.

"These qualifications are completed over either a 12 or 24 month period and includes a week in our training room prior to starting on a customer's site," said Customer Delivery Manager Joel Cribb.

All in all, the launch was a success, with Programmed Skilled Workforce Singleton setting high standards for recruiting and training in the Hunter region.

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BHP MT ARTHUR COAL HAS RECEIVED THE INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE AWARD AT THE CLEAN AIR SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (CASANZ) INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE IN AIR QUALITY AWARDS.

The awards were presented at the CASANZ conference in Queenstown, New Zealand which brings together delegates from a variety of disciplines within the air quality industry. The Industry Excellence Award is given to an organisation that is having a demonstrable effect improving air quality.

In the Upper Hunter, mines are subject to heavy scrutiny when it comes to high airborne particulate levels. In the ongoing drought conditions the visibility of dust is increasing at a noticeable rate.

Mt Arthur Coal has been working closely with regulators (DPIE and EPA), their community consultative committee and mine neighbours, to identify dust problems and find practical solutions. As a result the mine has developed a new Dust Control System using the latest technology. This system involves an extensive network of real-time dust and meteorological monitors, which trigger alerts via a Business Intelligence Platform when the risk of airborne particulates is high, enabling timely decision-making on site and rapid determination of dust sources.

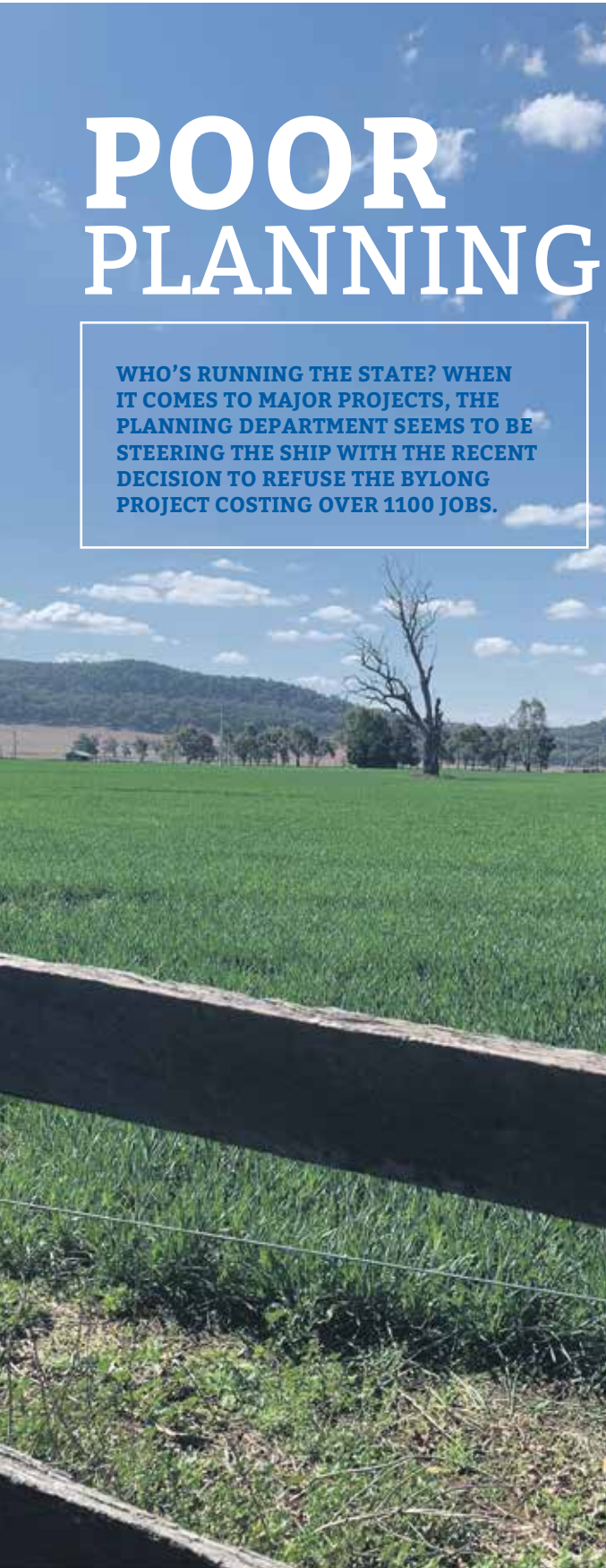
Kris Sheehan heads up Mt Arthur Coal's Safety & Environment team and explains the benefits of the system.

"FIRSTLY, IT'S A SIMPLE SYSTEM THAT IS EASY TO OPERATE. ONE OF THE MAIN ADVANTAGES WE HAVE SEEN IS A MARKED INCREASE IN OUR EFFECTIVENESS RESPONDING TO DUST ISSUES. OUR ALERTS ARE DOWN BY 80%. IT'S ACCURACY AND CAPABILITY FAR EXCEED WHAT WE HAD BEFORE. IT ALSO PROVIDES MUCH MORE DETAILED INFORMATION SUCH AS DUST PATH TRAJECTORY AND DETERMINING WHERE THE DUST IS ORIGINATING FROM," SAYS KRIS.

"We also have a series of high-resolution cameras which reduce the response time of investigations. It's a big site here and by using the cameras we can identify the problem quickly. With all this information we are in a much better position to implement the best controls rapidly."

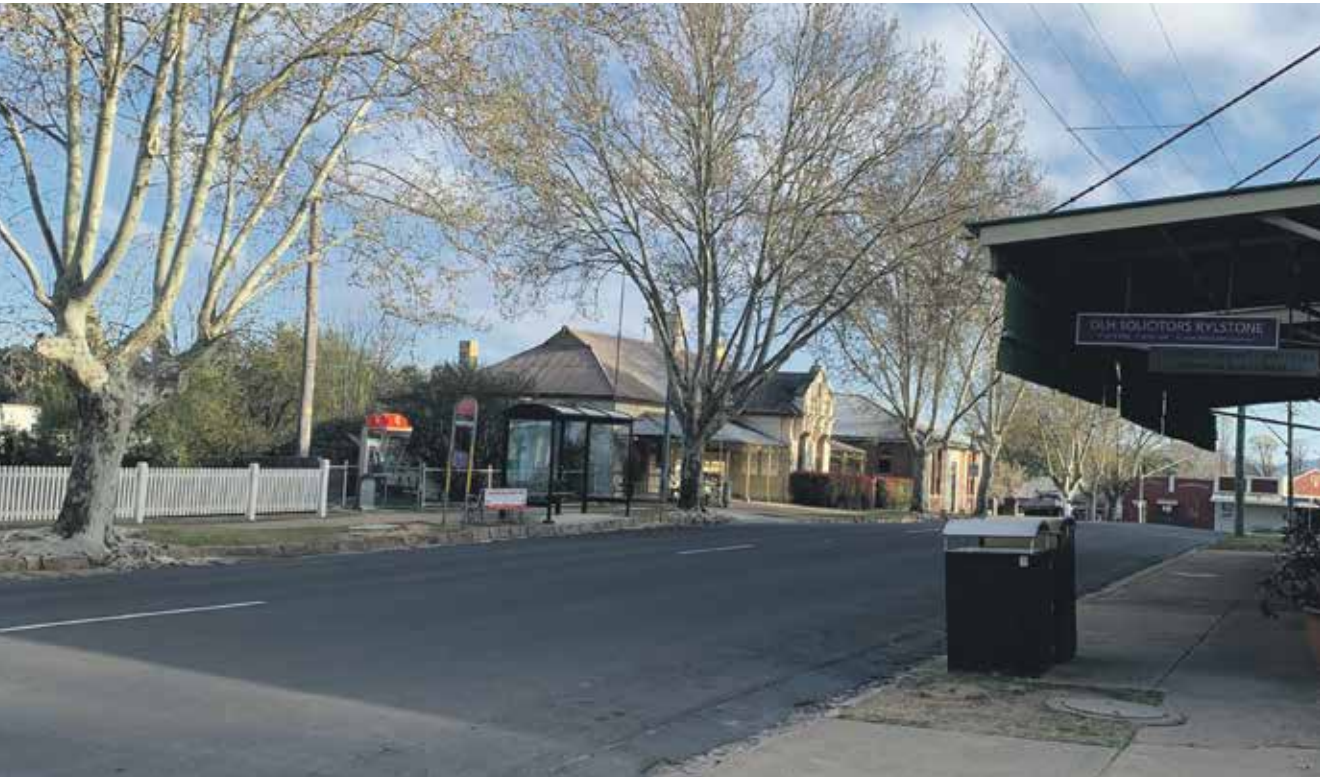
Kris says that BHP is looking to roll out the new system across other Australian sites, and is also sharing its advantages with neighbours Mount Pleasant and Bengalla, which continue to work with them on dust management.

"What's really great about receiving this award is that it recognises the joint efforts of many teams working together. I don't think this award has ever gone to a mining company before, so we don't just see it as a win for Mt Arthur Coal, we see it as a win for the industry," says Kris proudly.



POOR PLANNING

WHO'S RUNNING THE STATE? WHEN IT COMES TO MAJOR PROJECTS, THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT SEEMS TO BE STEERING THE SHIP WITH THE RECENT DECISION TO REFUSE THE BYLONG PROJECT COSTING OVER 1100 JOBS.



It perplexes us here @ The Coalface how the Government actually works. How do they open up areas for exploration, take major amounts of money from investors who in good faith decide to invest that money and considerable time in regional NSW, to then decide they can't do business.

IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. PEOPLE HAVE HAD ENOUGH.

The NSW Minerals Council is drawing a line in the sand over poor decision making around planning and what is a broken system capable only of vague and intangible decision making at best. To make sure it is heard loud and clear to the Government, a new campaign has been launched to bring about sensible change.

In a statement from CEO Stephen Galilee he had this to say, "While the Deputy Premier and others in the NSW Government have shown strong support for mining projects and mining communities, the Planning

Minister seems oblivious to the damage being done by the crisis in his planning system, especially in the regions."

"The industry has repeatedly warned the Planning Minister of the risks to the NSW economy and has been reassured that reforms to planning timeframes government agencies consulted on the project objected. Yet the IPC chose to ignore all this and refused the project, apparently giving greater weight to 'cut-and-paste' form letters from anti-mining activists from as far away as Sydney's North Shore."

"THIS REFUSAL HAS MEANT THE LOSS OF 1,100 JOBS FOR THE LOCAL REGION AND OVER A BILLION DOLLARS IN INVESTMENT TO NSW, AND YET THE MINISTER SEEMS HAPPY TO LET THESE OPPORTUNITIES SLIP AWAY," MR GALILEE CONCLUDED.

The time is up for this kind of hijacking of regional prosperity. Let's hope that the Government takes back control and puts NSW and the Hunter region back in the driver's seat as the most powerful and sensible state in the country. Industry, agriculture and the environment can make this work, all we need now is a Government that lets that happen.

Overhaul the Planning Department now!



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LEARN FROM THE LAWMAN

STUART BARNETT IS OUR MINING INDUSTRY'S LEADING PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER. THIS MONTH HE HAS SOME IMPORTANT ADVICE IN RELATION TO THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES WHILST DRIVING OR RIDING.

Recently the NSW Government has announced the rollout of fixed and relocatable trailer mounted cameras that can detect a motorist using their mobile phone whilst driving. There will be no warning signs about the existence of the camera. The trials indicate that a significant number of motorists will come under surveillance. The rollout will commence in December and for the first three months those detected will receive a warning letter but after that fines will apply.

The fine for using a mobile phone whilst driving is currently \$344 or \$457 if you are detected in a school zone. There is however a potentially more serious ramification for drivers in that the offence also carries 5 demerit points against your license, that means 10 demerit points during a double demerit period such as over a long weekend. For some motorists that could mean the suspension of their license if they are already carrying some demerit points.

Motorists who hold a full license can make or answer a call, play music from the phone or use it as a navigation aid ONLY if the phone is in a cradle fixed to the car and does not obscure your vision of the road and ONLY if it can be operated without you touching any part of the phone, so by voice activation or Bluetooth. If you are a Learner or P plate driver then you cannot use a phone at all in any circumstances whilst operating a vehicle.



This is general advice and because your individual circumstances will vary, I recommend seeking out specific advice for your needs.

STUART BARNETT, SLATER & GORDON LAWYERS

Whilst you are permitted to have a phone in your pocket if you hold an unrestricted license you can only use it if you can do so without touching it, on the other hand the phone cannot be on your lap or in any other way in contact with your body.

It is interesting to note that the Government is moving towards digital licenses, that is, a driver's license can, in some circumstances be stored digitally in your phone. However, it would be an offence to touch the phone for the purpose of showing your license to a police officer BEFORE the police officer instructs you to do so. So, if you have a digital license and are pulled over don't rush to get the license up on the screen, wait to be told to do so.

There are many rules around the use of phones in cars, those mentioned are just a taste and what it demonstrates is that it's a complicated area of the motor traffic law. It's been done for our safety on the road and perhaps the simplest way to avoid falling foul is to leave the phone alone and have it out of reach when driving.

I SUSPECT SOME MOTORISTS MISTAKENLY BELIEVE THAT IF YOU ARE STOPPED IN THE LINE OF TRAFFIC THAT IT IS OK TO HANDLE THE PHONE. THE LAW SAYS THAT YOU CANNOT. IF YOU WANT TO HANDLE THE PHONE YOUR VEHICLE MUST BE PARKED OUT OF THE LINE OF TRAFFIC. TO BE COMPLETELY SAFE FROM A FINE THAT MEANS ENGINE OFF AND PARK BRAKE ON.

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MORE MINERS

STRONG GLOBAL DEMAND FOR NSW COAL FROM OUR TRADITIONAL AND DEVELOPING EXPORT MARKETS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC IS DELIVERING MORE COAL MINING JOBS ACROSS REGIONAL NSW.

The most recent figures from Coal Services Pty Ltd for the 2018/19 financial year show that there were just over 22,300 hardworking coal miners in NSW - nearly 1,000 more than at the same time in 2018.

Here in the Hunter there are nearly 350 more coal miners than a year earlier, helping to boost the Hunter economy, particularly in mining communities like Singleton, Muswellbrook, Cessnock and Maitland. This brings the total of coal miners working in the Hunter region to a whopping 13,300.

THIS GROWTH IN COAL MINING JOBS ACROSS REGIONAL NSW IS ALSO GOOD FOR THE MORE THAN 7,100 BUSINESSES ACROSS THE STATE THAT SUPPLY MINING OPERATIONS IN NSW.

"Strong demand for NSW coal means more NSW coal mining jobs. A recent report by Commodity Insights found that the current power generation policies of governments in the Asia Pacific region will drive an increase in demand for thermal coal imports of 495 million tonnes across the region by 2040," said NSW Minerals Council CEO, Stephen Galilee.

"This represents significant growth opportunities for NSW coal exports with the potential to provide more job opportunities to people in regional mining communities. With the right policy settings that make the most of growing opportunities, our coal mining industry can continue to deliver employment, investment and economic stability well into the future," he said.



FUNDING FARMERS

BHP MT ARTHUR COAL HAS JOINED FORCES WITH CHANDLER MACLEOD TO HELP ALLEVIATE SOME OF THE FINANCIAL BURDEN AND HARDSHIP PLAGUING LOCAL FAMERS.

COURTNEY RAWSON & MARGO CHIPLIN

BHP and Chandler Macleod have devised a unique program which will offer supplementary employment for local drought affected farmers. They are seeking applications from Upper Hunter Farmers with a strong agricultural background and who have operated various types of machinery within a farming environment to undertake a role as a Haul Truck Operator in Muswellbrook NSW.

Courtney Rawson, Lead Contract Coordinator, Production Projects at BHP Mt Arthur says she is all too aware of the pressures facing local farmers.

"WE HAVE MANY EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE LEFT JOBS ON THE LAND BECAUSE OF THE IMPACTS OF THE DROUGHT AND THE LONG LAST IMPACTS UPON THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE TRULY DEVASTATING," SAID COURTNEY.

"We've had some applications for the program already, with applicants mentioning that an opportunity like this would allow them to continue to feed the few stock they still have," she said.


The positions will allow the benefits of three different roster patterns to provide flexibility to working farmers and their families, allowing farmers to return home on days off while providing an extra income.

"The program will provide 6 - 12 weeks paid training on site to gain both Mechanical and Electric Haul Truck skills. We would then give applicants the opportunity to remain on site as a casual Haul Truck Operator once their training is completed," said Courtney.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO EMAIL THEIR CV TO WORKFORCEHUNTERVALLEY@CHANDLERMACLEOD.COM OR GIVE MEGAN A CALL ON (02) 6572 5900 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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IT'S NOT WEAK TO SPEAK

BROCK MENDYK

BROCK MENDYK IS A COALMINER AT BULGA COAL, AND AFTER TRAGICALLY LOSING BOTH HIS FATHER AND YOUNGER SISTER TO SUICIDE NOW WORKS TIRELESSLY TO INSPIRE AND RAISE AWARENESS TO HELP OTHERS THAT MAY BE DOING IT TOUGH.

Brock Mendyk grew up in a tight and happy family of 6, with his dad Peter, mother Vicki, 2 younger brothers Bailey and Callan and younger sister Chelsey in Maitland, NSW.

In 2017, Brock and his family's lives were turned upside down following the loss of their loving father and husband Peter. "In December 2017 I was on my way to my work Christmas party as I got a call to go straight to my parents' house but wasn't sure why," said Brock.

"AS I ARRIVED THERE WERE AMBULANCES OUT THE FRONT AND I WAS TOLD MY DAD HAD TRIED TO TAKE HIS LIFE, WE RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL TO SEE DAD LYING THERE AND WAS TOLD THERE WAS NOTHING MORE THEY COULD DO."

From that day onwards, the family's lives changed forever. No one saw any of it coming, with Brock describing his dad as a bright and happy man who loved life, was always going on holidays and always working hard to provide his family with the best life possible. "He was definitely the backbone of our family and always had the answer to any of our problems," said Brock.

"We felt safe when he was around, but deep down he must have been struggling with his own issues but kept it very secure."

Still grieving from the loss of Peter just 5 months later, Brock's younger sister Chelsey also took her own life. "This instantly tore us apart, losing our dad/husband, our sister/



CHELSEY MENDYK

daughter all within 5 months," Brock shared.

"There really are no words to describe it, it was heart breaking and we were left to face massive changes and life obstacles - nothing would be the same ever again."

Brock and Peter were both in the mining industry, with Peter securing his dream job of working for Glencore as Mt Owens Maintenance Planner just 3 months before his passing.

Brock started to go down a bad path following the loss of his father and younger sister, but one day decided to change that path and create his own, focusing on the future and not his past. "I had to focus on what I could control which is my reaction to what has happened."

"I REMEMBERED BACK TO BOTH OF THEIR VIEWINGS BEFORE THE FUNERALS, THE LAST TIME I SAW THEM AND WHAT MY LAST 3 THINGS I SAID TO THEM WERE - "I LOVE YOU", "I WILL DO MY BEST TO MAKE YOU PROUD" AND "I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO LEAD MY MOTHER AND 2 BROTHERS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION."

"Seeing my mum lose her lifetime partner since she was 15 years old tore me apart and I could not put any more stress on her."

Following the tragedies, Brock and his two best mates Jai Brook and Jye Dorsett started a clothing brand called AFTRMTH active, with the aim to inspire through the brand, raise awareness and help people through difficulties they may be facing.

"I PERSONALLY WANT TO SHOW PEOPLE THAT NO MATTER WHAT TERRIBLE THINGS YOU HAVE TO FACE IN LIFE THERE IS THE OPTION TO GO UPHILL NOT JUST DOWNHILL AND IF I CAN KEEP MOVING AFTER WHAT HAS HAPPENED OTHERS CAN TO," SAID BROCK.



PETER MENDYK

Brock's family has also work hard to do what they can to help and break the stigma. Brock's mother Vicki organised a high tea fundraiser for suicide awareness where they raised \$15,000 for Lifeline to help them help people that are suicidal and those with mental health issues.

Brock was also an ambassador for Anytime Fitness Greenhills for their 'R U OK' Fundraiser earlier this year, currently in the process of helping a close family friend organise a men's mental health fundraiser golf day. "Although nothing we possibly can do can change our situation, we are doing our best to try and minimise other families having to go through what we have," said Brock.

Liddell Coal Operations also approached Brock and Vicki to give a talk to their crews about their story



L-R: BROCK, VICKI, CALLAN & BAILEY MENDYK

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AFTRMTH FOUNDERS AND OWNERS BROCK MENDYK, JAI BROOK & JYE DORSETT

AFTRMTH

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to raise awareness in the industry, and gave their first talk late September, with more talks organised for October.

According to a report by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2017 roughly 45 men will take their own lives this week and that number continues to rise.

ON THE LIFELINE WEBSITE YOU WILL FIND THAT BLOKES MAKE UP AN AVERAGE SIX OUT OF EVERY EIGHT SUICIDES EVERY SINGLE DAY IN AUSTRALIA. THE NUMBER OF MEN WHO DIE BY SUICIDE IN AUSTRALIA EVERY YEAR IS NEARLY DOUBLE THE NATIONAL ROAD TOLL.

"Suicide is starting to be more spoken about now and people are starting to speak up but personally I believe the older generations that have been brought up in a time that men are made believe they need to be tough and not show emotions needs to be thrown out and that has to be changed," said Brock.

"I'm not saying that if you are in a dark place letting someone you know is going to make it instantly go away but it will make people aware of what's going on and make a massive difference to overcome the situation and it could make another 25 year old like myself not have to go through this or your loved ones."

"We only get one life, so together we need to help make that last as long as possible."

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The Hunter is rich in Aboriginal culture, knowledge and Indigenous organisations with the capabilities to bringing well run businesses to life.

With that in mind, how good would it be to establish the nation's largest bush food farming enterprise on Hunter mine land. The idea would not only attract huge amounts of support in terms of grants and investment to establish, but also provide traditional owners of our land an amazing setting to create pathway opportunities to business, employment and culturally significant education and land care.

PROPERLY ESTABLISHED AND RUN, THERE WOULD ALMOST BE AN ENDLESS SUPPLY OF CUSTOMERS TO SUPPLY TO.

At the pointy end would be the high-end restaurants always on the lookout for unique and inspiring seasonal natural ingredients that are often hard to find, or perhaps new ones they have never even known about. The grow to order business is also very substantial and the blueprint for success in this area is already well written.

From there, there are the supermarket and

retail opportunities. Native produce areas in the fruit and vegetable sections of stores would not only be hugely popular in this day and age of sophisticated 'Master Chef' home cooks, but a unique, interesting and educational addition.

THEN YOU HAVE THE SUPPLIERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF PREMIUM SPECIALTY SUPERMARKET LINES SUCH AS SAUCES, READY TO EAT MEALS, UNIQUE HERBS AND SPICES AND THE LIST GOES ON AND ON.

From there, a sideline seedling business could see unique new plantings going into the gardens of homes Australia wide. Nursery's everywhere could be selling shrubs and indigenous education and knowledge to everyday Australians.

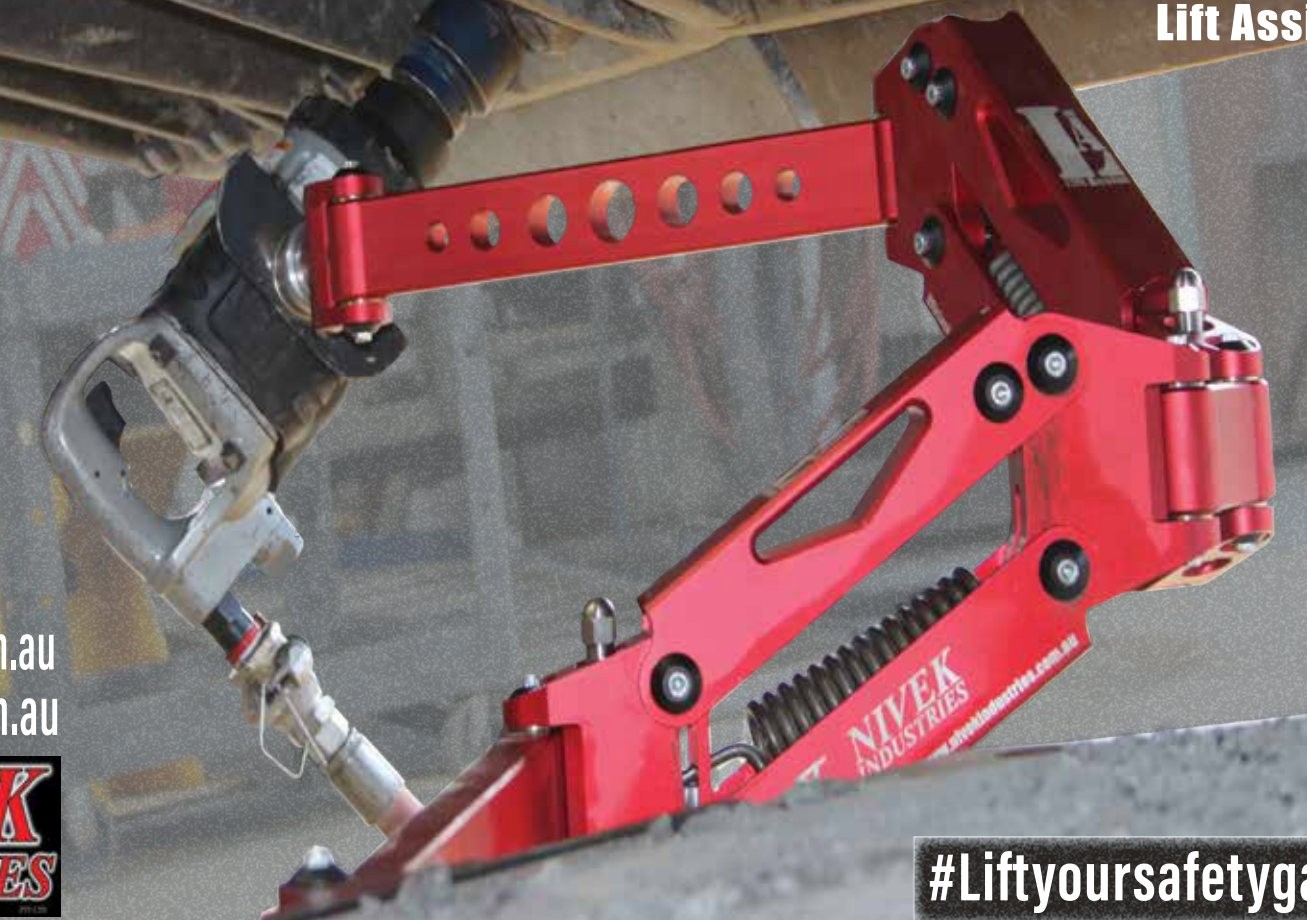
Done right there could quite possibly be more demand than ability to supply.

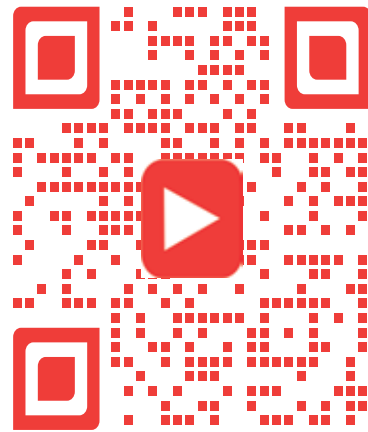
It's a tempting and tasty idea that has great legs and would be a truly amazing partnership with our resources industry and indigenous population and heritage.

Bush tomato sauce on those yam chips with native pepper anyone?

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BENJAMIN SINGLETON'S SINGLETON

AS THE AREA WE NOW KNOW AS SINGLETON PREPARES TO MARK 200 YEARS SINCE EUROPEAN EXPLORATION, TWO NAMES ARE SYNONYMOUS WITH PROSPERITY AND OPPORTUNITY AND HAVE BECOME HALLMARKS OF OUR REGION.

There's no evidence that John Howe named St Patricks Plains in honour of the primary patron saint of Ireland, but history has recorded it was indeed Howe and his party that opened the route between Windsor and the Hunter and sowed the seeds for European settlement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BACK TO SINGLETON 2020 VISIT WWW.SINGLETON.NSW.GOV.AU



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The richness of the luxuriant plains of the middle reaches of the Hunter River have sustained Aboriginal societies for thousands of years, with evidence of artefacts at ancient camp sites along creeks.

So too the promise of rich land fit for cultivation, along with an overland route between Wallis Plains and Windsor, captured the imagination of Governor Macquarie and a number of exploration parties that set out to cut through the precipitous rocky mountains.

And so it was that Howe, after an attempt the previous year, set out from Windsor on 5 March 1820 at the helm of an unusually large party comprising George Loder junior, Daniel Philips, Jeremiah Butler, Samuel Marshall, Nicholas Connely, Frederick Rhodes, James House, Robert Bridle, Andrew Loder, Thomas Dargin junior, Philip Thorley, two Aboriginal trackers Myles and Mullaboy, and the man who would eventually give his name to the settlement, Benjamin Singleton.

WHILE HARD EVIDENCE DOES NOT EXIST, HISTORY HAS WRITTEN THAT HOWE AND HIS PARTY TRAVERSED BULGA AND CROSSED TO THE LOWER PART OF WOLLOMBI BROOK TO COME UPON THE HUNTER RIVER AT WHITTINGHAM ON 15 MARCH 1820, BESTOWING THE NAME "ST PATRICK'S PLAINS" IN HONOUR OF THE FORTHCOMING ST PATRICK'S DAY TWO DAYS' HENCE.

What does survive is Howe's report back to Governor Macquarie, written from Wallis Plains (modern day Maitland) some days later on 21 March 1820. Howe wrote that he "embraced the earliest opportunity to inform Your Excellency that I reached the river on Wednesday last, the 15th instant", and, on the party's way down the river, "we came thro as fine a country as imagination can form".

Howe may lay claim to leading the successful expedition, but it was Benjamin Singleton, the son of a convict, who is credited as establishing the township. By 1824, Benjamin and his wife Mary were well established on his grant of 240 acres at a natural ford over the Hunter River. There they built an inn and a mill on the banks of the river described as "very steep, and certainly not as wide as they are now", according to Allen Wood's Dawn in the Valley.

Benjamin added to his own land grant by acquiring an adjoining 100 acres, and thereafter in the Sydney Gazette on 2 January 1836, an advertisement appeared for 103 quarter acre allotments offered for sale in what would be known as Singleton (A Private Town).

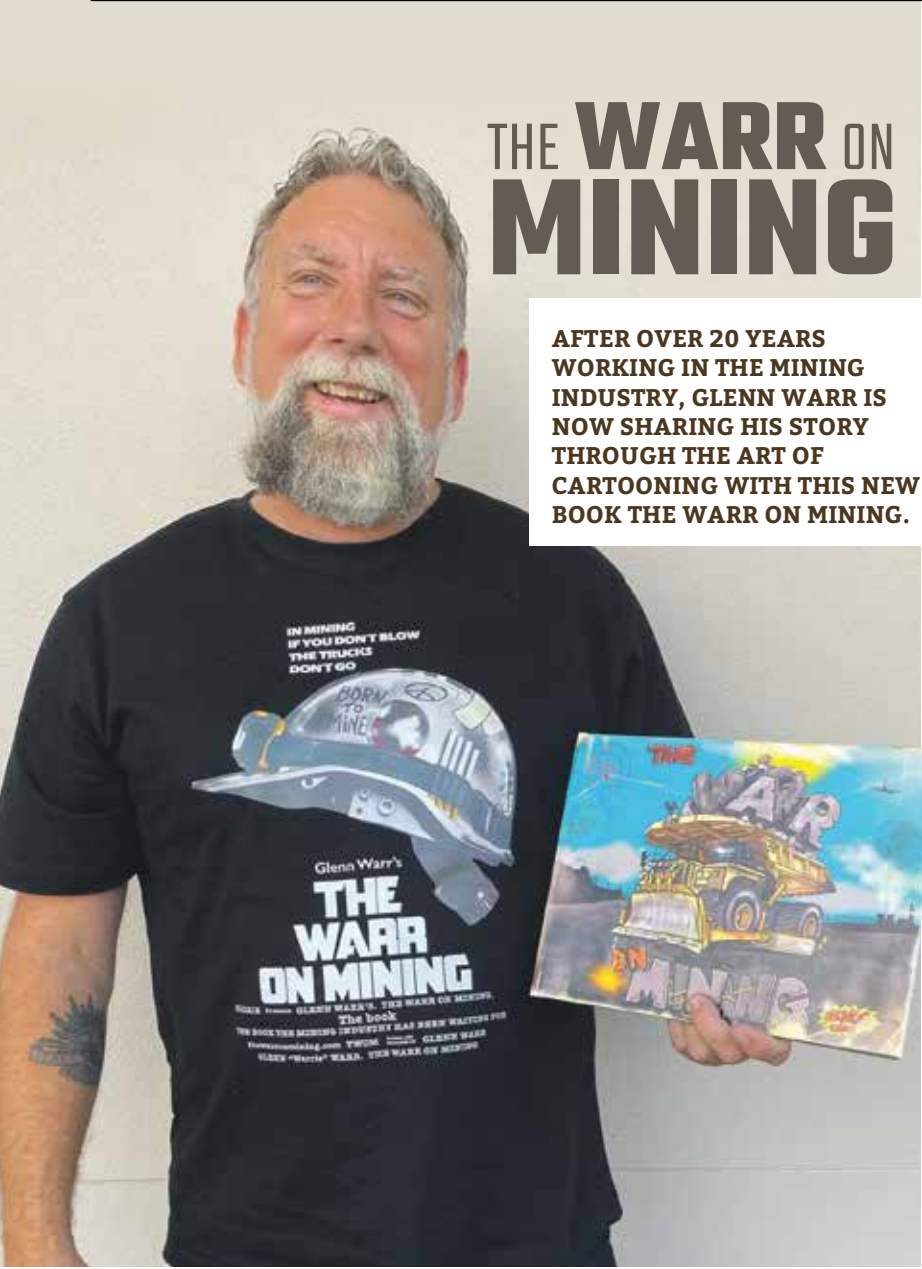
HOWEVER, DEPRESSION STRUCK THE COLONY IN THE 1840S AND BENJAMIN BECAME BANKRUPT IN 1842. HE DIED IN SINGLETON ON 3 MAY 1853 AND WAS BURIED AT WHITTINGHAM CEMETERY. THE MAITLAND MERCURY DESCRIBED HIM AS "A MAN OF FRUGAL AND TEMPERATE HABITS WHOSE ONLY FAULT WAS THAT HE WAS A GREATER FRIEND TO EVERYONE THAN HIMSELF".

To experience Benjamin Singleton's Singleton, start in Pearce's Park, beside the Dunolly Bridge, where the Barley Mow, or later the Plough Inn looked onto Campbell Street and about where the mill wheel cut into the river. Then head down John Street, which may or may not have been named for Benjamin's son, the first European baby to be born in the area.

Turn left at Bourke Street and head to Burdekin Park, which Benjamin Singleton donated to the town for a market square and where he erected, at his own expense, a courthouse and jail which stood in front of the current Singleton Museum.



BENJAMIN SINGLETON'S GRAVE.



THE WARR ON MINING

AFTER OVER 20 YEARS WORKING IN THE MINING INDUSTRY, GLENN WARR IS NOW SHARING HIS STORY THROUGH THE ART OF CARTOONING WITH THIS NEW BOOK THE WARR ON MINING.

For the past 5 years Glenn Warr has worked with Fleet Management System implementing their GPS based equipment. Prior to that he worked with Vale putting in systems at Integra and prior to that worked as a Dispatcher and Operator. Throughout those years, one thing has remained a passion of Glenn's, and that's his artwork.

Over the past 12 to 15 months Glenn has been putting together his drawings, illustrating mishaps that would happen during shift, to create a unique and witty insight into the world of mining. IT ALL STARTED WHEN GLENN WAS IN THE MILITARY AND WAS POSTED TO OUR BEAUTIFUL RURAL TOWN OF SINGLETON. WHEN ON EXERCISE, HE WOULD NOTICE MANY MISHAPS AND WOULD DRAW CARTOONS TO ILLUSTRATE THEM. WHEN HE GOT BACK, HE WOULD PUT IT ALL TOGETHER TO MAKE IT LIKE AN UNDERGROUND COMIC, REMAINING ANONYMOUS, AND HE COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH DEMAND.

Soon after, Glenn left the army and moved into the mining industry. "In the mining industry I was doing the same thing, but I was drawing those mishaps on the walls of the crib hut," said Glenn.

"People would come in and look and have a laugh about it not knowing who it was originally - so all those pictures for many years were on the wall but in the end the manager wanted to clean the crib huts and they all got painted over unfortunately."

Always using his talents to draw for others, Glenn decided to put some of his own stories to paper after many years

in the mining industry and travelling. "I have all this information in my head, it's just endless," said Glenn.

SO, GLENN DECIDED TO PUT OUT THE WARR ON MINING, FOR NOT ONLY THOSE IN THE MINING INDUSTRY, BUT ALSO FOR THE WIDER COMMUNITY. IT'S A BOOK THAT ANYONE CAN ENJOY.

Amazingly, Glenn is a self-taught cartoonist with memories right back to his schooling days of going above and beyond with his artwork. He has now completed his Diploma in Cartooning and Illustrating at the College of Journalism. "I'm my own worst critic - you think you're finished, then you look and think I might just do this or do that, but these I have finished," Glenn said referring to his latest book.

When asked about his favourite cartoon in the book, he couldn't choose. "They all have some meaning to me and the people that look at them they will know who they will be," Glenn said.

EVERYONE THAT BUYS THE BOOK GETS A LIMITED-EDITION STICKER, JUST LIKE THOSE THAT WERE LIKE MINERS' CURRENCY BACK IN THE DAY. THE VIVID COLOURS AND THE EXTENSIVE DETAIL IN EVERY CARTOON WILL LEAVE YOU MESMERISED, IT'S TRULY A BOOK THAT CATCHES THE EYE AND KEEPS YOU WANTING MORE.

Glenn said, "The biggest thing is that it's great to have something that the industry hasn't had, and not only that for me it's just sharing my art."

"I'm looking forward to see where it goes and what happens."

2020 FEE REDUCTION SERVING A WIDER COMMUNITY

Our well rounded education approach contributes to wellbeing and learning throughout our co-educational classes from Preschool right through to Year 12.

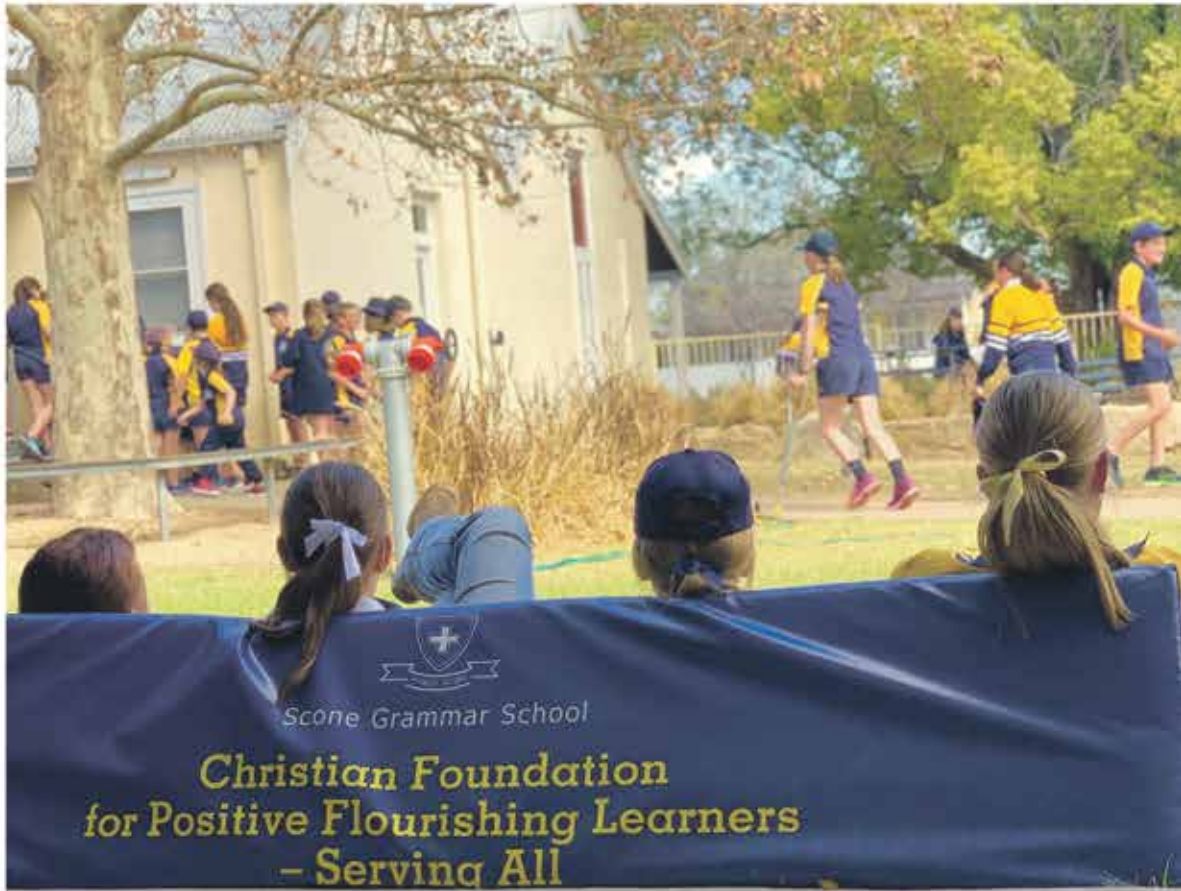
The growth of Scone Grammar School through this approach has enabled us to reduce our fees in 2020 to serve a wider community.

A bus extension is underway, to support families from Singleton.



ENROLMENT TRANSITION DAY 24 OCTOBER 2019

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- Ability to undergo a National Police Check
- Possess a high level of initiative and the ability to work well under pressure
- An understanding that safety is paramount, with a high attention to detail to abide by site safety procedures

For further questions please contact Michael Bernard E: Michael.Bernard@downergroup.com

PLEASE NOTE Downer do not accept resumes via email and please ensure you attach copies of your Resume, Licences, Trade Papers/tickets and proof of eligibility to work in Australia i.e. passport/birth certificate to your online application. Notwithstanding the location of this position, all qualified Australian citizens and permanent residents from all locations are encouraged to apply. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those under consideration will be contacted.

A HISTORY OF AUSSIE MINING

FORMER NSW MINERALS COUNCIL CEO, DENIS PORTER HAS RECENTLY LAUNCHED HIS NEW BOOK COAL: THE AUSTRALIAN STORY, A FASCINATING READ INTO OUR RICH HISTORY OF MINING.

Inspired by Daniel Yergin on the history of the international oil industry, Denis Porter has launched Coal: The Australian Story, providing an in-depth insight into coal mining in Australia from the early days of colonisation to the 1960's when the industry was undergoing the start of its major re-orientation to the export market. From convict mining to the birth of a world leader.

Denis worked for the NSW Coal Association and the NSW Minerals Council for 12 years – from 1989 to 2001 - and was Executive Director of the Council for the last 3 years. Denis was also joint Executive Director of the Australian Coal Association from 1998 to 2001, a period of massive change for the industry.

Denis also worked as a consultant for several years after 2001 and was involved for many years with the industry's superannuation fund (Mine Super) as a trustee Director and Director of the fund's administration company.

While Denis was familiar with the major issues and developments in the industry from the late 1980's, there was also a lot of research to be done to paint an accurate and credible historical picture. "I hope that

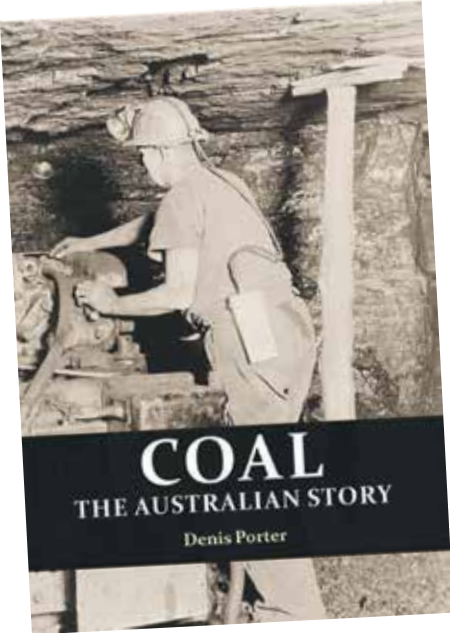
the book will appeal to a wide range of people – not only those who have worked in the industry, are currently working in it, or are closely related to it, but also the general public interested to

learn more about one of our major industries which has played a key role in the economy for most of the past 200 years," said Denis.

"AND WITH THE CURRENT FOCUS ON COAL AS THE PRIME "VILLAIN" IN THE CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE, I HOPED THAT THE BOOK WOULD PUT THE INDUSTRY IN PERSPECTIVE AND PERHAPS HELP TO ENGENDER A LITTLE MORE PRIDE IN THOSE WHO WORK IN IT."

Denis found his time working for the mining industry a very interesting one, and the more he learnt about the industry, the more he wanted to learn even more. "The industry certainly has a rich and turbulent history, but it has evolved from a basket case at the end of World War Two, to a world leader," said Denis.

"DURING THE WAR AND IN THE EARLY YEARS AFTER IT ENDED, THE INDUSTRY WAS NOT EVEN ABLE TO PRODUCE SUFFICIENT COAL FOR THE NATION'S NEEDS AND THERE WAS A BRIEF PERIOD WHEN AUSTRALIA HAD TO IMPORT SOME COAL TO MAKE UP FOR THE SHORTAGE OF LOCALLY PRODUCED COAL."





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A LASTING Legacy

With such an extensive background in the industry, a passion for the rich history of coal in Australia and his storytelling talent, Coal: The Australian Story is a must read. "The evolution of the industry since the end of the war has been a fascinating one to study," Dennis added.

And it's definitely a fascinating one to read. Grab your copy today at www.connorcourtpublishing.com.au.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH



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BUY ANY TORO MOWER AND YOU COULD WIN THE PRICE OF YOUR MOWER BACK!

I told my wife she drew her eyebrows too high.
She seemed surprised.

I first met Brian at the Sir Edgeworth David Memorial Museum in Kurri Kurri when I interviewed him about the Coalfields Heritage Group of which he was Secretary/Treasurer. Here among the countless books, photos and memorabilia that tell the story of the Hunter's history was where Brian truly belonged.

So it was with sadness that I returned to the Museum to sit down with Brian's niece Jennifer Collier and Coalfields Heritage Group Secretary, Lexie Matthews, to learn the history of the man who was dedicated to preserving history.

BRIAN'S BIOGRAPHY IS NOT A SIMPLE NOR SHORT ONE, THIS SELFLESS AND HARDWORKING MAN LED AN EXTREMELY ACTIVE LIFE, ACHIEVING MANY AWARDS AND ACCOLADES. BRIAN DIED AT THE AGE OF 76 AFTER SPENDING OVER FOUR DECADES CONTRIBUTING TO, AND CONSERVING THE HISTORY OF THE HUNTER.

Born in 1943 in Moree, Brian left school at 15 as his parents could not afford to continue his education fees. He started as a Technician in Training with the Postmaster's General Department and went on to have a very successful career. At the age of 49 he took a redundancy along with thousands of others in the industry and because of many year's hard work and smart investment he was able to retire and settle in Kurri Kurri.

Although his writing career began in 1984 when he recorded the history of the Hunter's Mulbring Valley, it was on retirement that Brian began to dedicate himself completely to recording and preserving the Hunter's history

"He was always looking for a new venture to sink his teeth into," says Lexie. "He never stopped and was always looking to fill in the gaps of the Hunter's history and more than anything he loved sharing that history with other people. He would always say to us, you have to talk to people. There's always more to learn."



ON SEPTEMBER 10, WE SAID FAREWELL TO LOCAL HISTORIAN BRIAN JOHN ANDREWS OAM. ALTHOUGH HIS TIME HAS PASSED, HIS LEGACY WILL LONG LIVE ON.

he declined payment and instead Coal Services paid \$50,000 to the Museum. **"THIS IS WHAT KEEPS US OPERATING," SAYS LEXIE. "THESE SELFLESS ACTS ARE WHO HE WAS. WE HAVE BEEN PROUD TO BE ABLE TO TELL PEOPLE THERE IS NO CHARGE TO COME INTO THE MUSEUM. THAT'S THANKS TO BRIAN'S GENEROSITY."**

An active member of the Catholic Church, Brian served on his local Pastoral Council and was a scripture teacher and local area Coordinator for more than 10 years, enriching the lives of thousands of children. He was a Member of the Kurri Kurri Probus Club for over 20 years and served as their President in 2001. All of the volunteer work Brian did for churches and schools and community organisations, everything from guest speaking to radio talks to heritage tours, was all done entirely gratis.

Brian received the Inaugural State Heritage Volunteers Award in 2003, has sat numerous times on the Cessnock City Council's Cultural Heritage Committee and was awarded the Order of Australia in 2009 for his community work. In his last days Brian became the first person to be awarded a Lifetime Member of the Coalfields Heritage Group.

"It wasn't a major award like those he has received, rather, it was a service award from his team. The people who really understood just how significant a contribution he has made. On the night before he passed, he was seen sleeping holding tightly to his trophy, so I like to think this last award meant the most to him," says Lexie.

Over the years Brian produced numerous journals, over 180 books and countless newspaper features. He personally researched and produced over 1 million pages on various aspects of the Hunter's history as well as being acknowledged in the work of many others. What an incredible contribution to the Hunter and what an amazing legacy he leaves behind.

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BOSS GOSS



WHEN HE'S NOT HARD AT WORK AS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR AUSTRALIA'S LEADING HEAVY EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT RENTAL PROVIDER EMECO GROUP, RYAN FINN IS ON SITE DECONSTRUCTING OUR INDUSTRY LEADERS. THIS MONTH RYAN CHATTED WITH MT ARTHUR COAL'S KIRSTY LIDDICOAT.

KIRSTY LIDDICOAT IS MT ARTHUR'S MANAGER PRODUCTION COAL, BUT PRIOR TO THAT HAS HELD MANY TITLES, INCLUDING MINE MANAGER, ENGINEER AND GEOLOGIST. HOWEVER KIRSTY ORIGINALLY HAD ASPIRATIONS TO BECOME A FIGHTER PILOT.

Recently Kirsty won a scholarship through Chief Executive Women, allowing her to attend the Leading for Results program at the INSEAD Business School in Singapore. She's also a big advocate for women in mining and would like to see more women enter the mining industry in the future as it provides an opportunity to grow, travel and establish a successful career.

Kirsty shared a lot of insightful knowledge, but the most important advice she had was not to be scared to jump into things that you're not sure about, because being out of your depth is a good thing.

FROM FIRST JOB TO NOW

Kirsty's very first job was a paper route in Adelaide in her local community however her first job in mining was at the age of 20 as a "fieldy" at North Parkes Mine which 6 months later lead her into a full time Geology role after completing her Science/Geology Degree. Kirsty tossed up mining and medicine for a potential career path but decided on mining as a result of the challenges involved and her attraction to the outdoors.

Kirsty has worked in mining for over 16 years in roles including long term planning, geoscience, projects, engineering and management roles and all have helped her build up the experience needed to manage a mining operation. Kirsty has also studied extensively and holds degrees in Geoscience, Mining Engineering along with an MBA resulting in ten years of studying.

A TYPICAL WORKDAY

Kirsty starts her workday at the Production pre-start meeting and

then typically heads into the mining operation to review the site safety and production performance. Depending on the day Kirsty also checks in with the services on site including the pump crew and rehabilitation team. Kirsty then attends the daily production meeting providing feedback and advice to the team. From there Kirsty spends time with her people, solving problems, identifying production opportunities, working with the marketing team or co-chairing the diversity and inclusion team.

CHANGES AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

Kirsty believes that the biggest challenges facing the mining industry include the social license to operate a mine given the increasing pressure to reduce the impact on the environment and to work closer with local communities. Kirsty also believes that technology is going to fundamentally change the environment in which mines operate, resulting in a skill set change across the industry where the challenge will be in transitioning the current workforce into a more technology augmented world. Kirsty is of the opinion there will be a greater need for roles based around instrument technology and IT and this should be considered now at a school level. Kirsty was involved in the first autonomous pit in Australia, and has seen the safety benefits automation brings.

JOB PROS AND CONS

Kirsty believes that the best thing about her job is the people and being able to aid in their development, skills and witnessing their achievements. Conversely, she also believes that managing people can also be the worst part about her job as some of the decisions she has to make in her role can be very difficult. Kirsty also does a lot of mentoring in house with BHP and

externally through women in mining and states that as a result of her fortunate career in mining that it is important to give back and help others experience

ALWAYS LEARNING

Kirsty states that she has been given a lot of great advice over the years but for her "just give it a go" is up there with the best. In relation to leadership "find your own way, there are no set rules written for leadership".

Like us all Kirsty has expressed she has had her share of failures, big and small but what is most important

is learning from the failure and implementing that learning to prevent something similar happening in the future.

At the INSEAD Program in Singapore Kirsty was exposed to people from sectors such as farming and finance, with this allowing her to broaden her thinking in non-conventional ways. In relation to the actual content of the course, Kirsty gained insights around the importance of presence, communication, influencing and networking and how these skills can be implemented effectively to achieve results.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR KIRSTY LIDDICOAT?

Kirsty would like to take the leap into a General Manager's role for a large mining operation as she enjoys the strategic component of operations and being able to help shape an organisations trajectory. Kirsty also has ambitions to work and travel overseas to gain multinational experience however believes that she will remain in the mining industry.

"You'd never know all this used to be a mine."

Australian miners and farmers are working together towards a common goal. Mining land is being rehabilitated to graze cattle and grow crops. When the mining is gone, the rehabilitated land will be here to stay – preserving it for future generations.

There's more to Australian mining.



Authorised by Tania Constable, Minerals Council of Australia, 44 Sydney Avenue, Forrest, ACT, 2603.

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SUPPLIER INSIDER

Who are you and what do you do?

I'm Kevin Cant, Managing Director and founder of Nivek Industries.

Where did you start and how did you end up where you are now?

I started in my back shed 'the doghouse' at Greta. I mucked around making things in my spare time while I was a fitter in the mines.

Describe a typical day at 'The office'.

Well, there really isn't a typical day in my life; I'm not a typical person. I prefer the workshop to the office.

What's the best thing about your business?

Getting to create useful stuff with all the challenges along the way. Mostly though, the great little work family I have been lucky enough to put together.

What is the big news in your part of the mining industry right now?

The LA40 and a whole spate of other design projects that we have nearing completion. I can't tell you what they are yet, but they're all about helping fitters.

What is the biggest opportunity for your business right now?

We have so many! We're currently finalists in the Premier's Export Awards, Hunter Manufacturing Awards, and the Mining Prospect Awards. It seems we're not the only ones excited about the future of the Lift Assist40 and its benefits. We're also looking for a distributor in the UK next year and heading to Vegas for the world's biggest mining show.

What are the biggest challenges facing your business?

Keeping up with demand.

How long have you been doing business and business in the Valley?

Nivek Industries was founded in 2011, from 'the back shed' in Greta. We moved into a commercial facility in Singleton in late 2017.

Community or other causes close to its heart and values?

Quality workmanship and supporting other local suppliers are core values for us. We're also sponsoring 3 local sport teams this year.

It has been really important to me in building the business, that it's a place where the employees want to be and feel valued. There's nothing worse than rolling out of bed and hating the idea of going to work in the morning. Our products are about quality of life, and that all starts in our work environment.

How big is the crew in the Hunter Valley?

There are currently 9 employees.

What's the best thing about your job?

The flexibility and the happy faces I work with every day.

The worst thing?

Photos and speeches! I usually hide from them.

Anything else you want to say?

Buy a TED. Your fitters will love you for it – so will their families.



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Since 1975, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service has been there for our community. You can become a supporter of this life saving service which operates 24-7 by becoming a regular donor.

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BRANXTON BORN AND RAISED JORDYN HUNTER STARTED WORK IN THE MINING INDUSTRY IN 2013 AND TODAY WORKS AS A DISPATCHER AT HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS COAL MINE.

Who are you and what do you do?

My name is Jordyn Hunter I'm 25 and I work as a Dispatcher at Hunter Valley Operations coal mine.

Any nicknames good or bad?

Nothing out of the ordinary, I mostly get Jordo or Jordy.

Where do you live and how long have you been in the Valley?

I have lived in the Hunter Valley my whole life – born and raised in Branxton. I currently live in East Maitland though, where I purchased my first house last year. I live with my loveable golden Labrador Ollie.

When did you start and what's the ride been like?

I started my career in mining in 2013 at Hunter Valley Operations with ResCo services and then Programmed, when I was 19 as a Trainee Haul Truck Operator. I started out working through different crews on the crib relief roster and eventually progressed to my crew that I'm in now.

During my time in the pit I also obtained my trainer and assessor certificate to complete training and assessing on crew for new starters. The most recent journey of my mining career was having the opportunity to work with the dispatch team here at HVO which began about 17 months ago. Initially I was given the opportunity to be a step up for the crew but got given the opportunity to have a full-time gig in dispatch. Since the start of the year I became permanent with HVO, so I could say that the ride has been a pretty good one so far!

JORDYN HUNTER

MY MINING LIFE

What's a usual day at work entail?

Every day in dispatch is different! After a quick hand over with the outgoing crew and phone calls with our pit supervisors about the day its GO GO GO as soon as you put your headset on and sit in the chair. Our day involves managing the haul truck and shovel fleet efficiently according to the mine plan and priorities as well as crew management, fatigue management and communication to pit supervisors and crew.

How big is the crew?

166 people with multiple skills including truck, shovel, excavator, dozer, grader, loader and drills.

What's the best thing about your job?

I would have to say the challenge and every day is different in dispatch. My team of three that I work with in the office are amazing as well as the crew out in the pit.

The worst thing?

Shift work. But I wouldn't have got what I have today without this job, so you have to take the bad with the good.

What's a funny story about work that you can tell?

I can't recall any funny stories, but night shift is

fun sometimes when the fatigue kicks in and we get a bit delirious and have a bit of banter amongst each other in the office.

How different is your job to what you wanted to be when you were a kid?

I'm not sure... but I was always fascinated by big trucks as a kid so you could say I've got to do that but bigger than I ever imagined and about 400 tones heavier.

What would your mum say about you when you were a kid?

Probably nothing bad, I'm the baby so I was probably a little spoilt.

Family?

I'm very close with my family, we always call and chat pretty much every day. And I have two nephews that I adore and love to see when I get a chance.

What do you do in your downtime?

I always like a bit of down time watching Netflix or a movie, but also like to be out and enjoying catching up with family, friends and enjoying good food (and a beer) as well as the beach in summer.

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BERNIE WITH PARTNER FOR THE FUTURE CHRIS BENNET

Proud history, bright future.

BERNIE WOOD AND SINGLETON EARTHMOVING HAVE BEEN PART OF THE FABRIC OF LIFE IN SINGLETON FOR 39 YEARS. WE SAT WITH BERNIE TO TALK ABOUT HIS LOVE FOR DOING CIVIL AND MINING WORK, WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS, AND HOW HEAVY EARTHMOVING AND STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY HAVE ENRICHED HIS LIFE.

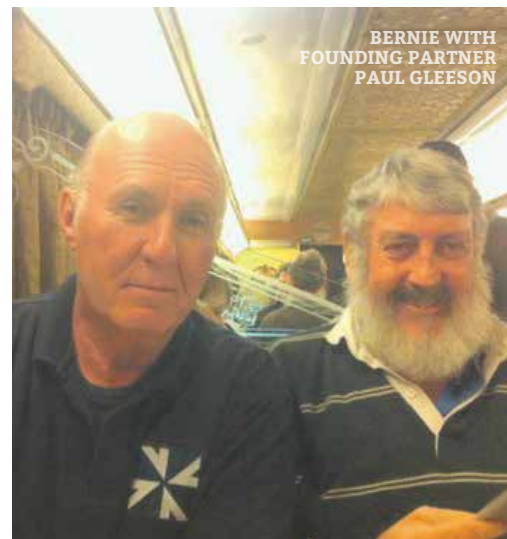
Bernie continued, "From a humble start with one old bulldozer and a super spreader, we commenced at Costain mine. Within a decade we were rehabilitating ten different mines from Gloucester to Newcastle and out as far as Ulan in Mudgee."

"Mine rehabilitation has been our specialisation over the time and companies like Rio, Wambo, Camberwell Coal, Theiss, Bengalla and others have been a pleasure to work with. Some of which we still work with to this day. I want to thank them for the opportunities they have given me. I also want to go on the record saying that as much the media gives them a hard time about rehab, they have in fact been extremely progressive, proactive and willing to invest in returning the land back to better than before."

But Bernie certainly didn't do it all alone. He was very insistent on this story attributing whatever success that came along was built by a team of local farm boys with well-known surnames such as Hedges, Brooker, Cox, Bailey and Moore to name a few. Bernie told us with a grin that Mirranie was a very good place to source a great crew.

The other foundation of the business was community as Bernie recalled, "I've tried to give back to the community through sponsorship of just about anything worthwhile. I have always had a great sense of giving back to this community that has given me so much. I'm a 25-year sponsor of the Singleton Bulls which I am very proud of. Beyond sport, supporting everything from netball, to the hospital and local schools or whatever it might be. It's not something I'm that comfortable crowing about but the sense of personal satisfaction of being able to be a part of a place that has given me so much is very gratifying."

NOT BEING ONE TO LIKE STANDING AROUND FOR LONG, BERNIE IS STILL GOING HARD IN THE BUSINESS, BUT THE LAST FEW YEARS IT HAS BEEN IMPORTANT TO SET THE BUSINESS UP FOR THE FUTURE WHICH HE BEGRUDGINGLY ACCEPTS WILL BE TAKEN FORWARD BY OTHERS.



"I'm very pleased and fortunate that local identity and farmer Chris 'Bango' Bennett joined forces 7 years ago to make that happen. Since coming together a new energy and more success has come our way," Bernie told us.

With Bango's tremendous range of skills and work ethic, Bernie is confident Singleton Earthmoving is in great hands to go the next 37 seven years and beyond.

To sum up the journey Bernie told us that along with the heavy equipment and hard work, getting behind the Singleton community will always be a very, very important part of the business.

"To be honest the way I feel is that Singleton has given this Kiwi boy more than I can ever have dreamt of including two boys and a girl, and more friends than a man could hope for. To people past and present thanks so very much! With Bango's help, tomorrow looks brighter than ever!"

A grateful Kiwi from Taranaki, Bernie was introduced to Singleton in 1980 by a friend with an idea to get a job in the mines. From there it all went to plan; well sort of...

With so much happening like Bayswater Power Station, Muswellbrook Coal, Glennies Creek Dam and new coal mines opening up, he knew this was the place where he could fulfill his dream of owning his own earthmoving business.

Bernie then added to the tale, "I was fortunate a legendary person by the name of Paul Gleeson saw the potential. Anyway, on the day that the rest of the world was sitting down to watch Prince Charles marry Lady Di, we decided to grab lunch at a legendary restaurant in Singleton called 'Ripples'. That was a good lunch and where Singleton Earthmoving was formed in 1981".

The next five years saw them undertaking general earthworks like tennis courts, roads and that kind of thing.

IN 1988 BERNIE WAS APPROACHED BY A YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALIST AT COSTAIN'S BY THE NAME OF JAMES BAILEY TO FOCUS ON SOMETHING THAT HAD NOT ONLY BEEN NEGLECTED, BUT KIND OF DIDN'T REALLY EXIST THEN - 'MINE REHABILITATION'.

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DONATION FOR THE HEART

SINGLETON RUGBY UNION CLUB PLAYERS, SPECTATORS AND OFFICIALS CAN PARTICIPATE WITH PEACE OF MIND THANKS TO A DONATION FROM YANCOAL AUSTRALIA'S MOUNT THORLEY WARKWORTH (MTW) OPERATION FOR A DEFIBRILLATOR SYSTEM AT THE CLUB.

The defibrillator system is clearly marked and accessible on the wall next to the downstairs bar area, making it a safer environment for over 400 local people that visit Rugby Park each week.

John Tyne, Senior Vice President of The Singleton Rugby Club thanked Yancoal for the lifesaving system.

"We have a proud history at our Club and we are committed to ensuring our field is at a National playing level for our senior and junior rugby teams, women's rugby team, over 30's touch football teams, school football teams, fitness classes and family and community events," said John.

COMMUNITY @ THE COALFACE

"ALL MEMBERS OF THE CLUB ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YANCOAL'S KIND DONATION. THE INSTALLATION OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR SYSTEM IS AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO OUR CLUB. WITH THIS ENHANCEMENT TO OUR FIRST AID EQUIPMENT, WE CAN NOW GIVE SOMEONE IN CARDIAC TROUBLE THE BEST CHANCE OF SURVIVAL," HE ADDED.

Mount Thorley Warkworth General Manager Jason McCallum recognised the importance of the new equipment to the football club.

"Sport unites a community and brings many of the local and the surrounding areas together and we are proud we have helped make it a safer environment for all with the installation of the defibrillator system," said Jason.

The donation was part of the Yancoal Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW) Community Support Program, which aims to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in the areas it operates.

COMMUNITY GIFT

BOOGIE Monsters

THIS MONTH COMPLETE PARTS AND @ THE COALFACE'S \$500 COMMUNITY GIFT GOES TO A GHOSTLY GOOD CAUSE. A HALLOWEEN THEMED DISCO AT SINGLETON PCYC FOR OUR KIDS!



The Singleton PCYC will once again be hosting a Blue Light 'Halloween' themed disco on Thursday October 31, and are inviting all monsters, witches, ghouls, ghosts and vampires to come down and boogie.

These days most parents are not comfortable letting their kids go door knocking on Halloween, so it's great to see the PCYC opening their doors to provide a safe (and spooky) place for our kids to go.

WWW.PCYNSW.ORG.AU/SINGLETON/

FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SINGLETON FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES HAVE JOINED THE FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, LAUNCHING A TOOLBOX TALKS PROGRAM TO RAISE AWARENESS AND HELP PREVENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE MINING INDUSTRY.

Domestic Violence is a social issue that can impact anyone, from friends and families to the workplace and wider community. It is an issue that needs to be tackled head on, and that's exactly what Singleton Family Support Services are doing.

The coal mining industry is one of the largest employers in the Hunter Valley, with 86% of the industry being male. The Toolbox Talks program has been designed to engage and educate men about violence against women in safe and interactive training sessions. One of the most important learnings of the program is how men and women can get involved to prevent domestic violence, through awareness and the strength to speak up.

"IT'S ABOUT SAFETY, EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE AT WORK AND EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE AT HOME," SAID SOCIAL WORKER AND TOOLBOX TALK FACILITATOR LINDSAY SMITH.

Singleton Family Support Services (SFSS) has been around for almost 30 years, supporting local families in the Hunter Valley. A not for profit charity organisation, SFSS focuses on early intervention and prevention programs ranging from domestic violence, financial hardship and mental illness to parenting concerns, homelessness and child protection. One of seven first round successful applicants in the Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund

announced in June 2017, Toolbox Talks has been proudly rolled out throughout the Coal Mining Industry across the Hunter Valley by SFSS.



COMMUNITY @ THE COALFACE

ACCORDING TO THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS 1 IN 3 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN WILL EXPERIENCE PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, 1 IN 4 WOMEN WILL EXPERIENCE EMOTIONAL ABUSE AND 1 IN 5 WOMEN WILL EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THEIR LIFETIME. SHOCKINGLY LESS THAN 1 IN 3 INCIDENTS ARE REPORTED.

"If I hear something that makes me feel uncomfortable, someone else would be feeling uncomfortable too. It's important to have these conversations," said Lindsay.

As of September 30, 2019, Destroy the Joint has counted 44 women killed in Australia so far this year, with 2018 hitting a staggering 71 women killed due to Domestic Violence.

You might think, why the focus on the mining industry? With 86% of those employed in mining being male, and women at much greater risk of experiencing violence from a male, these talks aim to facilitate discussion and safety.

By rolling out talks in the industry, the aim is to reduce these staggering figures and educate the entire workplace from the worker to top level management to increase supports at work and empower men with tools to speak up in a safe way.

The talks are free and if any site is interested in rolling them out SFSS are happy to tailor the time and length of the talks to suit the organisation's needs.

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JARROD McDONALD



TEN TEAMS COMPETED AT THE 2019 HUNTER VALLEY OPEN CUT MINES RESCUE COMPETITION WITH PEABODY'S WAMBO TEAM TAKING THE TITLE.

Nine teams from across the Hunter Valley and one Queensland team were put under pressure at this year's annual open cut mines rescue competition, which was held at Bengalla Mine on September 13.

The teams worked their way through a complex series of simulated emergencies including fire fighting, light and heavy vehicle collisions, vertical rescues, high voltage rescue, general and industrial first aid, heavy lifting and application of knowledge via a theory test.

Teams put in significant training in the lead up to the fiercely contested event, with Peabody's Wambo team named the best team on the day, closely followed by Thiess Glencore's Mt Owen Team. The other competing teams were Glendell, Jeebropilly, Mount Thorley Operations, Ravensworth, Mangoola, Bulga, Liddell and Whitehaven.

THE WINNING WAMBO CAPTAIN, MICK TURNER WAS BOTH THRILLED AND VERY HUMBLLED WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE RESULT.

"It was both surprising and fantastic. We went into the event with a very positive mindset and saw the competition, regardless of the outcome, as an opportunity to learn, test and improve our skills," Mick said.

"I was very proud of the efforts of the team. I couldn't have asked for anymore, they should be commended for their commitment to the task at hand on the day, and their preparation and training into the lead up of the competition. We had two relatively inexperienced team members, so this win is a real reflection on the efforts of the team as a whole."

THIS IS THE SECOND WIN FOR PEABODY'S WAMBO THIS YEAR, WHICH IS AN EXCEPTIONAL FEAT BY ALL ACCOUNTS.

"Wambo is extremely proud of every one of our talented employees, and when they are formally recognised for their skills, it makes our day a little brighter," said Acting General Manager

Wambo, Micheal Alexander.

"Despite the industry making significant technological advances to enhance mine safety, we will always require the human element in an emergency. We hope to never see a significant incident at our mine, but the Wambo Open Cut Emergency Response Team have demonstrated they have the winning formula should we need to call on them."

"I congratulate the team led by Mick Turner and am happy to see them build on the success of our Wambo Underground Mines Rescue team. It's a testament to the strong safety culture and commitment to looking after your mates that extends across all mining operations at our Wambo complex."

WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF EVENTS LIKE THIS ONE, DAVID CONNELL, HUNTER VALLEY MINES RESCUE REGIONAL MANAGER ECHOED THE COMMENTS OF THE WAMBO CAPTAIN, AND THEIR ACTING GENERAL MANAGER.

"It's a testament to today's mining operations and the skills of emergency response teams across NSW that the number of major incidents are limited," he said.

"The specialised skills of the men and women who competed at the event also transcends their workplaces. They provide not only day to day safety leadership at site, but their training and associated benefits extend deep into our communities, with team members also fulfilling roles as fire fighters, medical leaders at sports clubs, and the like."



Don't be a fool. Check your stool.

THE UPPER HUNTER CANCER COUNCIL HAVE LAUNCHED THE BOWEL CANCER ACTIVATION TO COMBAT LOW BOWEL SCREENING PARTICIPATION RATES AND POTENTIALLY SAVE HUNDREDS OF LIVES ACROSS THE UPPER HUNTER.

The new mass media campaign to promote Australia's National Bowel Cancer Screening Program in NSW is part of a government funded national campaign. With low participation rates, it's hoped the campaign will act as an urgent call for more Upper Hunter locals to complete the free life-saving test.

The national campaign, funded by a \$10 million Federal Government grant, is the biggest campaign ever run in Australia to promote participation in the bowel cancer screening program.



THE FACTS ON BOWEL CANCER

Bowel cancer is one of Australia's most common cancers, especially for people aged over 50.

In Australia, the lifetime risk of developing bowel cancer before the age of 75 is around one in 22 for men and one in 30 for women.

More than 100 Australians die each week from bowel cancer, but if found early, 90% of cases could be treated successfully.

"To give our locals the best chance to find out more we are running a number of bowel cancer activations. In addition, local radio station Power FM & 2NM will join us in 6 towns across the Upper Hunter to spread the word on how important it is to, "Do the Test."

"Bowel cancer is Australia's second biggest cancer killer. Many people don't realise it kills more Australians each year than breast, prostate or skin cancer. This is a scary statistic, but the good news is that over 90% of bowel cancer cases can be cured if detected early. So, if you're aged 50-74 when the test arrives in the mail, don't put it in the cupboard and forget about it - delaying can easily become ignoring, forgetting and ultimately not doing."

"The test is quick, simple and you can complete it in the comfort of

THE CANCER COUNCIL UPPER HUNTER ACTIVATION DATES/ LOCATIONS

Wednesday, October 23:	Power FM in Muswellbrook (10am - 1pm)
Wednesday, October 30:	2NM in Scone (10am - 1pm)
Wednesday, November 20:	2NM in Murrurundi (10am - 1pm)
Wednesday, November 27:	Power FM in Denman (10am - 1pm)
Wednesday, December 11:	Power FM in Merriwa (10am - 1pm)
Wednesday, December 18:	2NM in Singleton (10am - 1pm)

your own home. We know that after doing the test, 78 per cent of people go on to repeat the test when next invited. All Upper Hunter residents have a part to play in raising our participation rates. The bowel cancer screening test detects blood in poo, which can be a sign of pre-cancerous lesions and cancers in the early stages and often these don't have any symptoms."

GLEN PARSONS, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS COORDINATOR FOR CANCER COUNCIL'S UPPER HUNTER COMMUNITY, SAID THAT AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL BOWEL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM PROMISES TO BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CANCER CONTROL INITIATIVES IN AUSTRALIAN HISTORY - BUT MORE RESIDENTS NEED TO TAKE PART.

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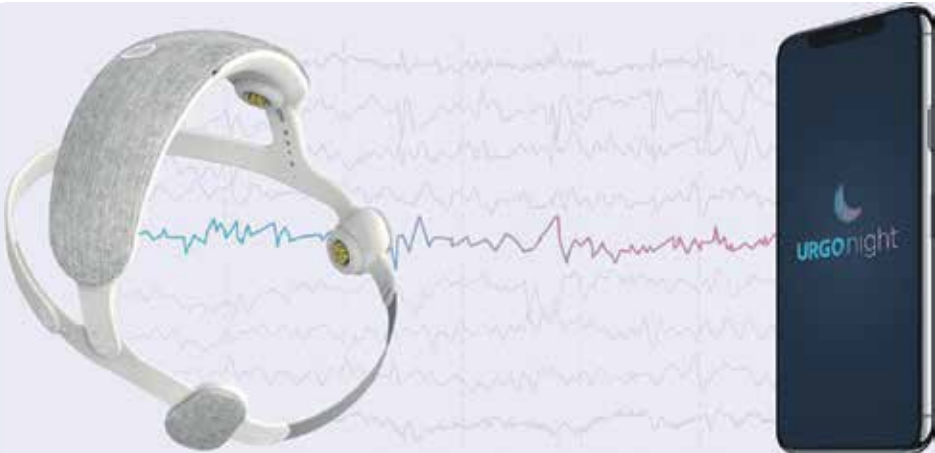
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MAGIC Muscats

NORTHWEST MINING SPONSORED THE MUSWELLBROOK MUSCATS TO HELP THEM TAKE HOME THE 2019 EAST COAST MASTERS WIN IN STYLE.

The Muswellbrook Muscats are the men's over 35's basketball team, who recently took home the trophy at the 2019 East Coast Masters over September 7 and 8 at Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium.

Northwest Mining generously came on board as major sponsors for the team, funding the uniforms and polos for the event. And although this year's event has passed, the team hope for continued support to continue training for upcoming events and next year's Masters. "The boys have asked to keep training as they enjoyed it so much," said Coach Emily Huggins.

CAPTAIN TIMOTHY HUGGINS, CHRIS EDMONDS, BEN COPLAND, DARRYL SPICER, MATT PASSMORE, COREY BAKER, MARC WATERS, ANTHONY CUBILLO, MITCH GOOG AND JONO WALSH MADE UP THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE SQUAD.

"I had a great weekend at the East Coast Masters basketball championships - our team represented our community with great sportsmanship and respect for everyone involved and these things cannot go ahead without the support of sponsors such as Northwest Mining, so a big thank you for helping make this happen and I hope your support continues into the future," said number 28 Anthony Cubillo.

It was clear the friendships formed, and the sense of community felt by all players is what drove the men to success. Training for 4 months prior to the event, they hope to continue training for the rest of the year. "I was once asked why I wanted to play in the East Coast Masters basketball tournament by a friend and my answer to them was to feel a sense of community, Northwest Mining sponsorship helped that happen," said number 98 Daryl Spicer.

"I really hope that we are able to do it again next year and the year after that. Thank you for your support Northwest," Daryl added.

MAKING THEIR DEBUT ON THE COURT IN BRIGHT BLUE AND YELLOW PATTERNS, THE MUSWELLBROOK MUSCATS DEFINITELY LOOKED THE PART. "WE WERE THE BEST DRESSED TEAM THERE," SAID CAPTAIN TIM HUGGINS.

If you're looking to join a team, get in touch with the Muswellbrook Amateur Basketball Association today.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH



PH 6571 1589

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A guy is in a toy shop and asks the shop assistant for a Barbie Doll for his daughter.

The shop assistant looks at him in a condescending manner and asks, "Sir, which Barbie would that be?"

The man looks surprised, so the assistant adds, "We have Barbie Goes To the Ball at \$19.99, Barbie goes Shopping at \$19.99, Barbie goes Clubbing at \$19.99, Barbie Goes To The Gym at \$19.99 and Divorced Barbie at \$249.99."

The man asks, "Why is Divorced Barbie \$249.99 when all those other Barbies are selling for \$19.99?"

"Well Sir, that's quite obvious!" says the assistant,

"Divorced Barbie comes with Ken's house, Ken's car, Ken's furniture..."

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COUNTDOWN TO COAL COMP

COAL MINERS THROUGHOUT THE HUNTER AND BEYOND HAVE BEGUN TRAINING IN PREPARATION FOR THIS YEAR'S A-PLUS CONTRACTING HUNTER VALLEY MINING CHARITY RUGBY LEAGUE DAY IN SUPPORT OF THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE.

Each year the event continues to grow in popularity and this year a record 400 coal mining employees will make up the 23 teams that will represent their respective mines and compete in the rugby league competition at Singleton's Pirtek Park on October 19.

This year, several new teams will be joining the men's competition with teams even travelling from Lake Macquarie, Mudgee and Narrabri. As well as the much-anticipated "Women of Mining Series" which will see 30 of the regions female miners hit it out in a best of three series.

LAST YEAR THE DAY RAISED \$85,000 FOR THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE WITH A RECORD BREAKING NUMBER OF SPECTATORS ATTENDING AND ALL SIGNS POINT TO ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT THIS YEAR. EVENT ORGANISER AND THE SERVICE'S COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER, DANNY EATHER BELIEVES THAT THIS YEAR'S COMPETITION IS SHAPING UP TO BE THE BEST SO FAR.

"With the addition of the new teams to the event from mine sites both in the Hunter Valley and beyond, there is a

lot of interest in what the new teams will bring to the day's games. Equally it reinforces the importance that the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service has in providing vital lifesaving assistance in the regional communities" said Danny.

"As a Service, we are extremely grateful for the continued support we receive from our local mining community, who ensure that the Rescue Helicopter can continue to fly 24-7, especially when we average over 1,500 missions yearly throughout Northern NSW from our three bases in Newcastle, Tamworth and Lismore."

"I'd also like to thank all our partners who have made this event possible. A-Plus Contracting who have again come on board as major sponsors, and our other event partners, Jennings Print, Mine Super, Pirtek, Slater & Gordon, Tyre Doctor, Aletek, NSW Mining, Mader NSW, Yancoal Mount Thorley Warkworth, Bowers Heavy Haulage, Coal Services, Hunter Isuzu, Hunter Valley Operations, Oiltest and of course the Rugby Club," Danny added.



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manufacturers full tow rating to tackle those tough site environments. The integrated recovery points engineered into the Mine Spec range allow for safe use of the towbar in recovery applications and are fully compliant to Australian Standards and ADR certified for highest performance.



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SUPERBIKE STAR

BORN AND BRED IN NULKABA, NSW MATT WALTERS HAS BEEN RACING MOTORBIKES SINCE HE WAS 5 AND NOW RACES THE 2019 AUSTRALIAN SUPERBIKE SERIES.

At age 5 Matt’s parents took him down to the local minibike club at Kurri Kurri and after watching his friends race knew he wanted to do the same. Coming from a family of racing enthusiasts - his parents always around fast cars, bikes, boats, sprint cars or speedway bikes - jumping on the bike was natural to Matt.

With his brother Mitch also into racing, his family has been the biggest support along the way including his father-in-law. “If there is anyone at Wambo Coal reading this, please tell my father-in-law John Blackham to have a good day at work,” Matt laughed.

WHEN MATT ISN’T RACING, HE IS WORKING AS A MECHANIC AT HIS FAMILY OWNED BIKE SHOP, KAWASAKI CONNECTION CESSNOCK. WHETHER IT’S ON THE TRACK OR AT WORK, HE IS EXTREMELY PASSIONATE ABOUT WHAT HE DOES.

Throughout his junior days, Matt took home top place at a few Australian and State dirt track championships before moving to road racing where he won the Australian Superstock 600cc Championship in 2010. Matt went on the win the 1000cc Pro Stock Championship as well as the Australasian Superbike Championship.

Achievement after achievement, Matt continues to make a name for himself in the motorcycle racing arena and was awarded best rider for the year of 2013. “A definite highlight for me was when I had the opportunity to race as a wild card in the World Superbike Championship at Phillip Island (VIC) for an Italian team in 2014 and 2015,” said Matt.



“I LEARNT A LOT ABOUT HOW A FACTORY TEAM OPERATES WHICH WAS A BIG EYE OPENER... UNFORTUNATELY IT DIDN’T GO TO PLAN, AND I CRASHED OUT OF IT BOTH YEARS,” MATT ADDED.

Learning lessons from the moment he started, his racing journey has had its fair share of ups and downs. “When I first started road racing, I was learning about how to set up for a race weekend and what we needed to pack and be prepared for, my mum and dad transported me to all events,” said Matt.

“We had two race weekends back to back and I crashed the first weekend at Eastern Creek (NSW). In between the two weekends I had unpacked and repacked the van with the bike in pieces and once we got to Warwick (QLD) I realised I had left the tank at home in Cessnock,” Matt laughed.

With sponsors Kawasaki Australia, Kawasaki Connection Cessnock, Pirelli Motorcycle Tyres, Repsol Oil, Monza Imports, RST Leathers, Bell Helmets, SBS Brakes and Rover Coaches supporting Matt over the past 10 years, his next goal is competing in the world championships.



“I definitely want to have a crack at a world championship and have an opportunity to mix it with the best. Until then I will keep racing here in Australia and try to win an Australian Superbike Championship.”



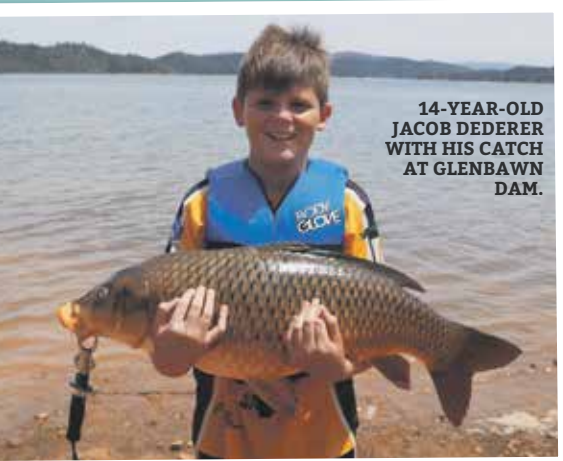
OCTOBER Fishfest

THE JEWIE EXCITEMENT IS EVERYWHERE WITH ALL THE LOCAL ESTUARIES PRODUCING SOME GREAT FISH FOR THOSE TARGETING THEM WITH EITHER LURES OR LIVE BAITS. THE STANDOUT SPOTS BEING NEWCASTLE AND STOCKTON BREAKWALLS, BOTH PRODUCING THE GOODS.

A FISHERMAN’S TAIL... Beau decides to hit Nelson Bay solo to target a few Flathead after his mate bails on him. Fishing soft plastics in about a metre of water, after a few casts he gets a bite. “What is this?” he wonders. “It isn’t a Flattie, it’s way too heavy.” The water is dirty and he can’t see anything. Then the fish clues on to something is wrong and wakes up. The epic battle begins. To spice things up Beau’s running light gear and the tide has brought a bit of weed in with it. As the battle of the fittest starts, his line becomes covered in weed and is caught up in his guides. He’s still trying to figure out what it could be. Beau finishes the fight hand lining the fish to the boat! This is when the excitement starts, as a Jewie that maxed the Tackle World Port Stephens scales out at 25kg pops up boat side! “You have got to be kidding!?!?” bells out over the water a few times before he gathers himself to land the fish. Fishing dreams do come true.

From the estuaries we are seeing great numbers of Flathead reacting well to soft plastics around the edges. They should continue to fish better as we move closer to summer and the Prawns also start to move. The up and coming game fishing season is near and during October we usually see the first push of good water filled with Blue and Striped Marlin. The charts definitely look to be stirring something up for us. We can only hope history repeats itself and we get a quick sniff of things to come. The offshore reefs are continuing to produce plenty of Snapper and a rise in the numbers of hoodlum Kingfish

active on the reefs. For those looking for an arm stretching, now’s the time. The Dams, apart from all the Hunters impoundments, have been on fire. Finding a fish or two throughout this month shouldn’t be too much of a stretch, no matter what the preferred method of finding a bite is.



14-YEAR-OLD JACOB DEDERER WITH HIS CATCH AT GLENBAWN DAM.

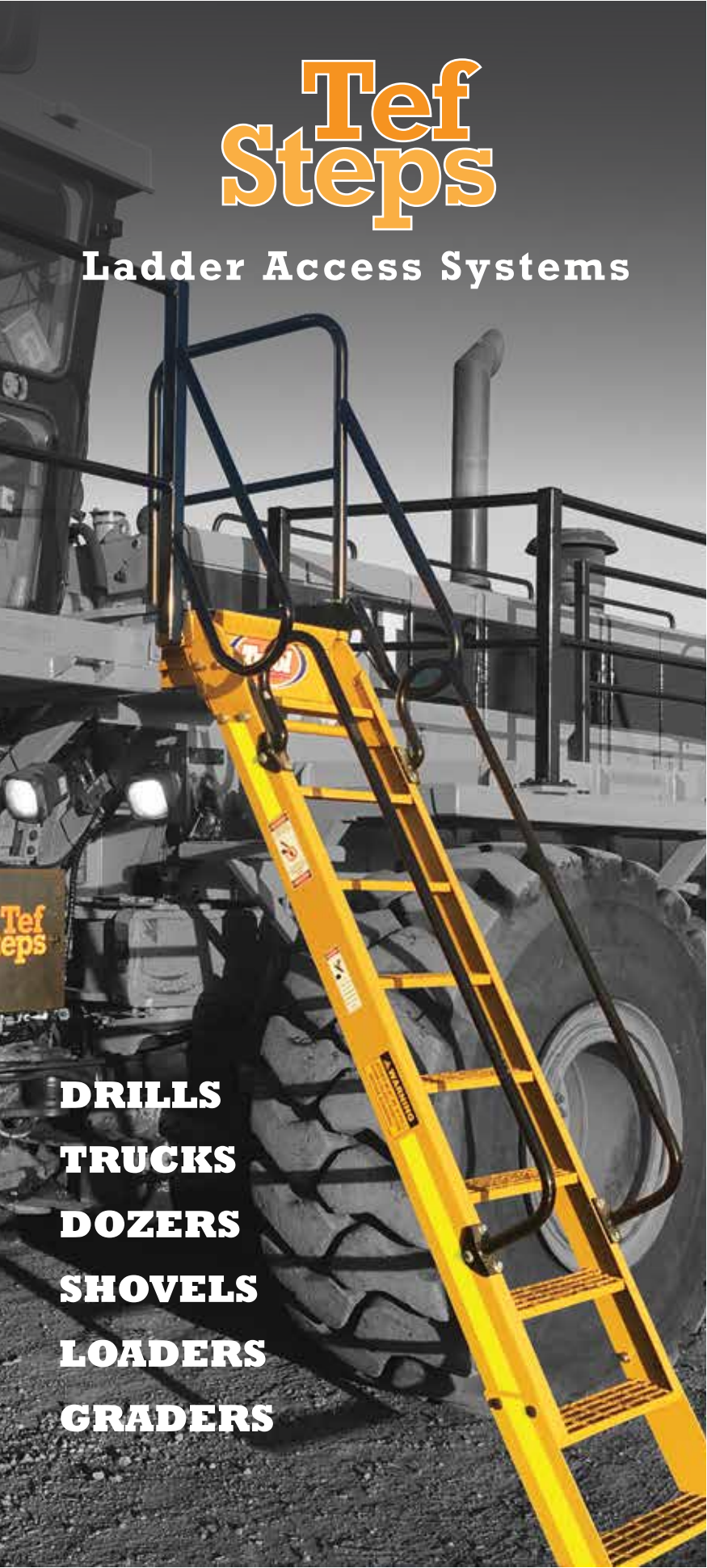
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SOAR LIKE A BIRD

WE HAVE ALL DREAMT OF FLYING LIKE A BIRD AND THAT’S EXACTLY WHAT I DID WHEN I WENT HANG-GLIDING OFF STRZELECKI LOOKOUT, NEWCASTLE EARLIER THIS MONTH.

A stunning sunlit day with a perfect wind for flying saw me take a leap off the cliffs of Strzelecki Lookout for the experience of a lifetime. Air Sports Newcastle gave me the opportunity to enjoy a tandem Hang-Glide over the picturesque cliffs and local Bar and Newcastle Beaches.

INSTRUCTOR AND UNITED STATES NATIONAL HANG-GLIDING CHAMPION TONY BARTON SHOWED ME THE ROPES AND STRAPPED ME IN. AFTER A BIT OF DIRECTION AND ME ABSOLUTELY CRAPPING MYSELF, OFF WE WENT. RUNNING OFF THE CLIFF WE TOOK OFF INTO THE WIND AND OVER THE OCEAN, A THRILL THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET.

I’ll admit, the only hurdle is trusting yourself to let your body hang into the secure harness, but the sooner you relax the better the experience. As I started to settle into my harness and release my tight grip of the bar in front, I took in what can only be described as a magical view. Seeing everything from up there, a birds-eye view as they say, just floating through the sky was like a dream.

As we glided through the air, we made our way towards Newcastle Beach, overlooking the city along the way. We then made a loop back towards Bar Beach, passing over the lookout, Memorial Walk and Susan Gilmore Beach with Bar Beach in sight.

After a few minutes, my instructor Tony gave me the controls and taught me how it’s done, a daunting yet exhilarating experience. And no, I didn’t make us crash to my surprise. Thirty minutes of pure bliss passed,

which honestly felt like a lifetime, and it was time to make our landing on a nearby oval. “Try to run as we land and stay standing if you can,” Tony said as I again felt those initial nerves kick in. If anyone was going to stack the landing, it was going to be me.



ONE MASSIVE LOOP AROUND THE FIELD LATER, AND TO MY SURPRISE WE CAME TO A RUNNING STOP AND LANDED ON THE GROUND COMFORTABLY WITHOUT A SINGLE FALL. THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE WAS AMAZING AND TO BE COMPLETELY HONEST WAS ONE OF THE COOLEST THINGS I HAVE EVER DONE.

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Soulful SOLOIST

BORN IN CHILE, SINGER/SONGWRITER NANO ADDS A BRILLIANT MIX OF LATIN AND SPANISH CULTURE TO HIS ENERGETIC AND LIVELY PERFORMANCES.

Newcastle and Hunter Valley performer Nano moved to Australia with his family from Chile at 8-years-old and has since built a successful music career in the Hunter with his partner and two kids by his side.

Being born into a musical family, Nano fell in love with music from a young age with his dad a guitarist and singer in Chile, along with many of his cousins and uncles who were musicians.

Nano first realised he wanted to be a musician in Year 7 when his fascination and love for performing became clear. “I clearly remember telling my Year 7 music teacher that I wanted to be a musician when I finished school,” said Nano. “I can still see her face of surprise and then of half doubt and half smiling since she thought it was cute but perhaps wouldn’t really happen since she had heard that one before,” he added.

THIS DIDN’T DETER THE SMOOTH SPANISH ARTIST AS HE CONTINUED TO DRIVE HIS PASSION FOR MUSIC, ENDING UP THE LEAD SINGER OF A ROCK BAND CALLED ‘SOULFREECITY’ IN YEAR 12 AND PERFORMING EVER SINCE.

Regularly booked out up to 3 months in advance, Nano has performed at almost all the well-known pubs and venues throughout Newcastle and the Hunter Valley. From places like the Lambton Park Hotel, The Northumberland Hotel and The Clarendon Hotel to venues like Customs House, Murray’s Brewery, Shoal Bay Country Club, Battlesticks, Bar Petite and Spicer’s Vineyard Estate, just to name a few.

“I really do love them all as it gives me a lot of variety of what I can do, however I do love hosting Latino parties the best,” Nano said speaking of his favourite venues.

Being a musician who plays live music in front of all types of different people, Nano said there has been some comical moments throughout his career that still to this day make him laugh.

“I have seen it all as they say, but some of the highlights are; getting asked to sing “Hips Don’t Lie” by Shakira, seeing a grown man jump into the fountains at Customs House mid song and do some laps, seeing a buck from a buck’s party do a ‘shoey’ right next to me whilst his mates filmed him, getting asked by a bloke to marry him while I was singing and him getting on one knee in front of me, and so many more,” he laughed.

AS A SONGWRITER, NANO HAS BEEN WORKING HARD ON UNRELEASED SONGS AND PLANS TO RECORD AND RELEASE HIS FIRST SINGLE IN THE COMING MONTHS. THE SINGLE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON ITUNES, SPOTIFY AND OTHER MUSIC FORUMS LATER THIS YEAR.

Working as an Office Manager during the week, Nano spends the remainder of his time either performing or spending time with his family. “Weekends are always full on for me though, either I have my kids visiting or I am performing. All in all, I am glad to say I do have a nice balance going for me,” said Nano.

Reflecting on his career, Nano noted the ride hasn’t always been smooth sailing. “I had many struggles early on that discouraged me from continuing to pursue music, and even though I went through all that, to now know that I am getting booked 3+ months in advance (sometimes 12 months for weddings, etc) makes me feel like I made something quite improbable become a reality,” he said.

Be sure to check out Nano at his next charismatic performance. All gig dates can be found on Nano’s Facebook page. If you can’t get to the live gig, then be sure to follow his Facebook page as Nano live streams every performance.



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Walking down a gorgeous stone path surrounded by flowers and greenery, you'll find yourself at the restaurant. With gorgeous indoor and outdoor seating for those warmer summer days.



I WAS GREETED AT THE DOOR WITH A SMILE BY SOMMELIER PAT HESTER AND TOOK A SEAT OUTSIDE WITH THE MENU AND A CHAMPAGNE SOON TO FOLLOW. THE THING ABOUT YELLOW BILLY IS THAT THE ENTIRE TEAM ABSOLUTELY LOVE WHAT THEY DO, AND THEIR PASSIONATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE FOOD AND MEATS THEY COOK AND SERVE IS INTRIGUING.

A PARADISE IN POKOLBIN

The menu is a flexible sharing menu to suit any of you dining needs, unique to the Valley. It's perfect for a family or work function or a beautiful lunch or dinner between friends.

I let Pat choose my dishes, 'surprise me' I thought as I scoured the menu and struggled to choose between the list of delicious meals, and he did not disappoint.

Pat gave me a detailed explanation of every dish served, from the ingredients to how it was cooked to where it was sourced. My entrées arrived promptly, the Baba Ghanoush served with binnorie feta, pinenuts and flatbread, and the Pork Jowl and Ham Croquettes with dijon mustard and shaved smoked pigs' heart. Both dishes were absolutely delicious. One interesting thing Pat noted was the shaved pig's heart – Yellow Billy ensure they use all of the beast with no waste.

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FOR THE MAINS, I WAS SERVED THE MERRIFIELD SUCKLING PIG WITH JUS, APPLE JAM AND CRACKLING, AND THE PUKARA ESTATE LAMB WITH JUS AND PIGS PEAKE VERJUICE MINT JELLY. MY SIDES INCLUDED THE CRISPY KIPFLER POTATOES WITH CONFIT GARLIC, LONG RED CHILLIES, ROSEMARY AND PRESERVED LEMON, AND THE GREEN SALAD WITH FRESH PEAS, ZUCCHINI AND ASPARAGUS.

The meat was succulent and perfectly cooked and paired with the potatoes and fresh salad it was a yummy combination. The apple jam and mint jelly complemented the meats with each mouthful.

It was time for dessert, and I swear I had already put on a few kilos, but the show must go on. Out came the Wood Roasted Pineapple and Coconut Trifle and all I can say is, oh my gosh. I was in heaven with the sweet fire roasted pineapple and fresh sponge creating a fresh and fruity flavour. It's safe to say that it was the perfect ending to a delectable 3 courses.

Not to forget the progressive list of local, national and International wines, the selection is perfectly paired with anything off the grill. Go visit the team at Yellow Billy today, it will be a dining experience to remember.

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A man said to me that he hadn't been to the toilet for 2 years.

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Cold pie SEASON IS HERE!

PIE MINISTER

WELCOME TO DAYLIGHT SAVINGS, THE START OF THE SUMMER SEASON, ENDLESS COLD BEERS AND ICY COLD PIES!

Icy cold pies I hear you say? Yes my friends, as the weather heats up, I like to cool down my meat bags, and not just for breakfast, lunch and dinner. You see the meat bag is the national dish the whole country has been proud of for generations because they are as versatile as they are tasty.

On the eating side it's never worried me when the pie warmer ain't performing, because a pie is a pie whether it's burning the roof off your mouth or fridge fresh and straight in the gob. True experts of pie perfection like myself understand greatness regardless of temperature.

COLD PIES HAVE PLENTY OF OTHER USES YOU MAY NOT HAVE DISCOVERED AS WELL.

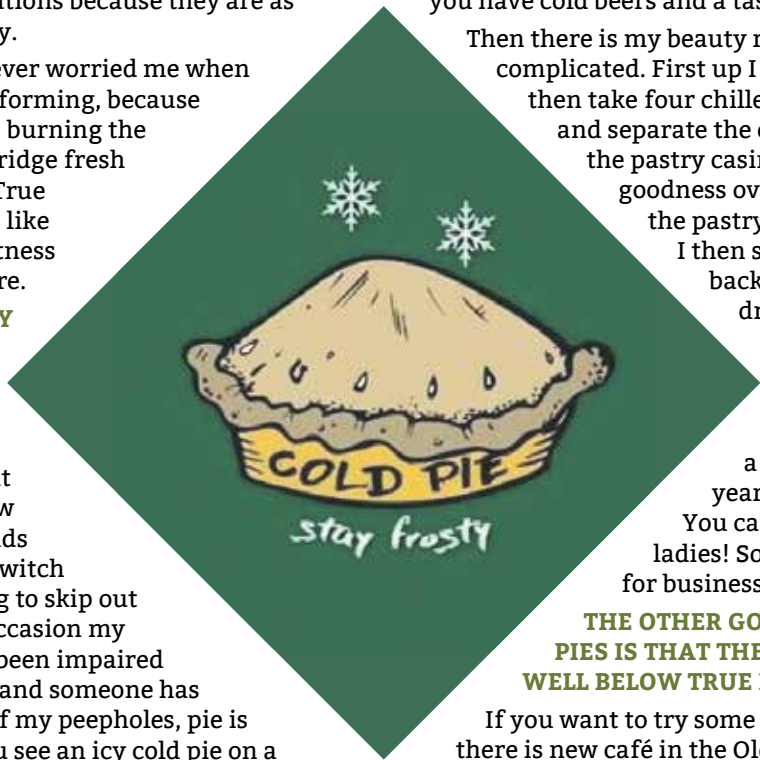
Take Friday fight night at the pub for example. Now it is rare that anyone lands a punch on me before I switch their lights out for trying to skip out on a shout. On the odd occasion my focus and reflexes have been impaired by a bad batch of Bundy and someone has landed a shiner on one of my peepholes, pie is the perfect patch up. You see an icy cold pie on a black eye is like a miracle cure. I just peel the top of and smash the gravy side up on to the affected part of my noggin for 5 or ten minutes and voila! A miracle of religious proportions mends any trace of biff. It must be something to do with the enzymes in the gravy.

Another ingenious life hack I can share combines pies and beer in a surprising twist. Going fishing? Forget the ice! Simply pack a dozen frozen pies around the same quantity of tinnys and in 15 minutes to half an hour later you have cold beers and a tasty refreshing snack to boot.

Then there is my beauty routine which is a bit more complicated. First up I get completely naked. I then take four chilled pies from the fridge and separate the cool meaty filling from the pastry casing. I then smear the meaty goodness over my whole body and use the pastry I set aside as a face mask. I then stand out in the sun in the backyard and wait for it all to dry and set in the sun. I then get the Gerni from the shed and wash it all off. The combination dried meat on skin, pastry on face and a high-pressure wash take years off my age everyone says. You can keep your Estee lauder ladies! Sol's school of beauty is open for business!

THE OTHER GOOD THING ABOUT COLD PIES IS THAT THEY GENERALLY SELL FOR WELL BELOW TRUE MARKET VALUE.

If you want to try some thing new this month, there is new café in the Old Town Square in Singo called Wattaka. They're doing a homemade rustic beef and potato. There is even a few carrots in there. Bloody delicious! Cold, hot or as beauty treatment, try one today. Welcome to the warmer days and the colder pies. Cheers Sol.



Clubhouse
HOTEL
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BEER O'CLOCK

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BOWDLER'S BEER REVIEW

MORNINGTON PORTER

@ THE COALFACE BEER EXPERT RICHARD BOWDLER BRINGS YOU THIS MONTH'S BEER REVIEW.

Name: Mornington Porter.
Made: Mornington, Victoria, Australia.
Info: A robust porter with a refined attitude.
Cost: \$20.00 / 4pak.
Alcohol: 6.0% - Packs a Punch.
Color: Jet Black, even held up to a light.
Nose: A sweet malty aroma, really nice.
Taste: Sweet and smooth and classy, a tiny hint of chocolate.

Mouth: A full bodied black - black drinkers rejoice.
Aftertaste: At the start it's a mild hops finish that keeps on building right out to 14 seconds.
Comments: A sophisticated and well brewed black beer. To be honest this is the best porter I've ever tried. Totally kickass. Works extremely well with hot chilli foods.
Score: 9.8%

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Z	E	A	Y	S	G	N	Y	N	U	A	L	A	O	M
U	Y	M	L	A	M	B	O	R	G	H	I	N	I	P
V	D	Q	V	W	L	U	S	R	O	E	N	Z	H	N
N	A	M	J	A	G	E	U	O	T	R	E	P	H	S
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H	I	I	J	E	I	L	G	F	M	U	N	T	I	A
Q	D	U	B	E	N	E	L	L	I	I	Z	A	C	M
A	S	X	Q	W	D	R	K	R	K	E	S	C	T	A
H	O	N	D	A	I	B	T	V	X	C	L	U	O	H
S	N	E	I	Y	A	U	M	A	H	I	N	D	R	A
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BENELLI	HONDA	MOTO GUZZI	TVS
BMW	HYOSUNG	MV AGUSTA	VICTORY
BUELL	INDIAN	NORTON	WALTON
DUCATI	KAWASAKI	ROYAL ENFIELD	YAMAHA
HAOJUE	KEEWAY	RUSI	
KTM	LAMBORGHINI	SKYGO	

@ THE COALFACE
PRIZE WINNERS

VOLUME 3 – NO 11: SEPTEMBER OCTOBER 2019

Components Only Crib for the Crew	Stuart Inglis
Roberts Meats Raffle	Catherine Woods
Café La Luna Cake	Michael Kriesch
Beer’s On Us	Bruce Pearson
Crib Bag	Mark Fleming
F45 Cessnock	Justin Carter
Denman Pig Races	Paul Bowman
Dashville Skyline	Ryan Bitschkat

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!

THIS MONTH’S
@ THE COALFACE TRIVIA
COALFACE CONUNDRUMS

- Q1. What English word retains the same pronunciation, even after you take away four of its five letters?
- Q2. If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you don’t have me. What am I?
- Q3. If I am holding a bee, what do I have in my eye?
- Q4. Turn me on my side and I am everything. Cut me in half and I am nothing. What am I?
- Q5. You’re in a dark room with a candle, a wood stove, and a gas lamp. You only have one match, so what do you light first?
- Q6. What always ends everything?
- Q7. A boy and a Doctor went fishing. The boy was the Doctor’s son, but the Doctor wasn’t the boy’s father. Who is the Doctor?
- Q8. I’m as light as a feather but the strongest of people cannot hold me for over a minute. What am I?

ANSWERS
A1: Queue
A2: A Secret
A3: Beauty
A4: A Secret
A5: The number 8
A6: The letter G
A7: The Dr was the boy’s mother
A8: Breath

A TASTE OF
FREEDOM



ON A LONELY STRETCH OF ROAD IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS, THERE’S A SOLITARY, WHITEWASHED COTTAGE AT THE FOOT OF A GREAT HILL. A WIDE, ROCKY RIVER WINDS PAST THE FRONT OF THE SMALL HUT AND DISAPPEARS INTO A VALLEY OF STEEP PEAKS AND GRASSY MOORS. THIS IS LAGANGARBH HUT IN THE GLENCOE VALLEY, AND IT EPITOMISES EVERYTHING THAT IS ROMANTIC AND WILD ABOUT THE HIGHLANDS.

To see it, you’ll need to take Scotland’s scenic A82 highway – a road that will take you through the awe-inspiring valley, past Loch Ness and the small town of Drumnadrochit, and through to Inverness and the Culloden Battlefield.

The Glencoe Valley is as awe-inspiring as you’d expect Scottish wilderness to be. Wide open, alpine moors give way to rugged, rock-strewn mountains. In winter, these peaks are covered in snow; in spring, they’re covered in small, purple wildflowers.

The cottage itself was thought to be a ‘crofter’s’ hut. Crofting was a style of farming particular to the Scottish Highlands, where the better land held individual crofts, and the less fertile areas were shared by the community for grazing. The produce or profits would also be shared.

In keeping with Scotland’s warlike history, Glencoe was also the scene of a massacre back in 1692. It’s infamous not for its death-toll, (which was 38), but because the soldiers who carried out the killings had been offered the hospitality of the clan for 12 days beforehand.

The National Trust for Scotland Glencoe Visitors’ Centre commemorates this massacre in an exhibition, and also has a viewing platform and ranger information. **CONTINUE ALONG THE A82 AND YOU’LL PASS THROUGH FORT WILLIAM, SCOTLAND’S ‘OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CAPITAL’, AND SEE BEN NEVIS – SCOTLAND’S TALLEST MOUNTAIN.**

Just over 100 kilometres from Glencoe, on the Northern edge of the great Loch Ness, you’ll reach a small village called Drumnadrochit. It’s so small, in fact, that most maps of the area don’t even show it.

It has a population of just over 1,000 people, but despite its size, Drumnadrochit is still a tourist draw,

partly because of the Loch’s infamous resident, ‘Nessie’, the Loch Ness Monster.

If you believe the tales about ‘Nessie’, you’ll know that she lives somewhere in that 36 kilometre, 227m deep stretch of water.

BUT WHAT IS NESSIE, AND DOES SHE REALLY EXIST?

Anything you want to know about the elusive ‘monster’ can be found at one of Drumnadrochit’s two Nessie exhibitions.

‘Nessieland’ features eleven different ‘caves’ – interactive rooms – that explore the Loch’s history and geography, and of course the varying theories about Nessie herself.

The Loch Ness Centre and Exhibition has seven themed areas and uses multi-media presentations to take visitors through the history and legends of the Loch.

If you fancy your chances at spotting Nessie yourself, you can book a cruise on the ‘Nessie Hunter’, with Loch Ness Cruises. The boat is equipped with Radar, Colour Sonar an even GPS to help passengers pinpoint the shy creature.



THE DRUMNADROCHIT AREA IS AN ATTRACTION IN ITSELF.

The town has a village green surrounded by whitewashed, stone houses and shops (and pubs) – most featuring traditional slate roofs, and just three kilometres down the road is the historic Urquhart Castle.

Dating from Medieval times (around the 1200s), the castle ruin sits on a windswept rocky bluff, overlooking the Loch.

Even touring this tiny part of the country is enough to make you fall in love with Scotland as a whole. Whether you’re looking for castles, wilderness, adventure, military history or just relaxing in a traditional pub, Scotland has something for everyone.



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Back to
Singleton
2020

Back to Singleton 2020 is a whole-of-community commemoration focusing on the history of St Patricks Plains with the arrival of the exploration party, led by John Howe and including two Aboriginal guides along with Benjamin Singleton, on 15 March 1820. It’s also an occasion for everyone in our community to come together to mark what we love about living, working and playing in Singleton.

The Singleton Bicentennial Commemorations Working Group, representing all sectors of the community, is overseeing an inclusive series of events to mark the occasion in keeping with the significance of our area to all cultures.

You can start planning your bicentennial weekend (and invite family and friends to come and stay) with the program to include:

- **Friday 13 March 2020:** Community street party - John Street
- **Saturday 14 March 2020:** Community festival - Civic Precinct
- **Saturday 14 March 2020:** Formal dinner - Civic Centre

The working group is also considering other events and commemorations, based on suggestions from the community, all throughout 2020.

GET INVOLVED

If you’re from a community organisation, sports club, a local business or are just passionate about Singleton, you can hold your own event as part of the Back to Singleton 2020 program. It may be on the weekend of 13-15 March 2020, or at another time during the year.

For more information and some suggestions for an event you could host, view the Back to Singleton 2020 Event Prospectus at W.singleton.nsw.gov.au and submit an Expression of Interest form for your event by **31 October 2019**.

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news about Back to Singleton 2020 events, visit singleton.nsw.gov.au/backtosingleton2020



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