

HUNTER INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY, SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Vol 5 No 3: April 2021

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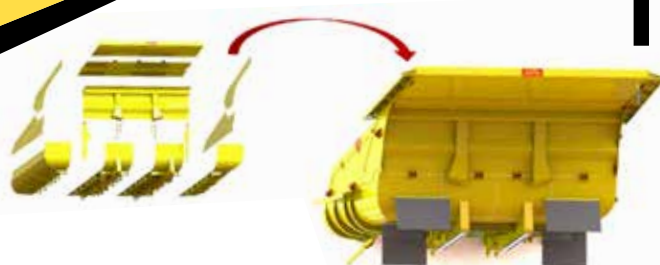
CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE

THIS YEAR OUR INDUSTRY PROUDLY CELEBRATED INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021 AND WE SAW BOTH THE MEN AND WOMEN OF OUR INDUSTRY TAKE ACTION FOR EQUALITY AND STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN MINING.

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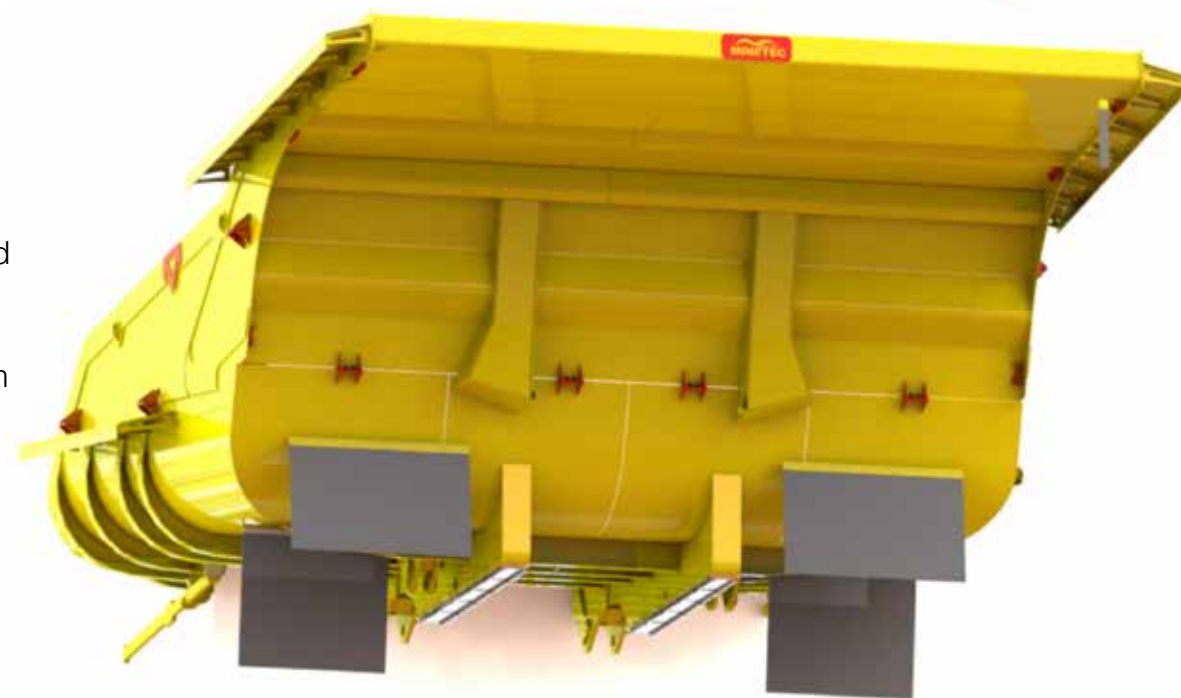
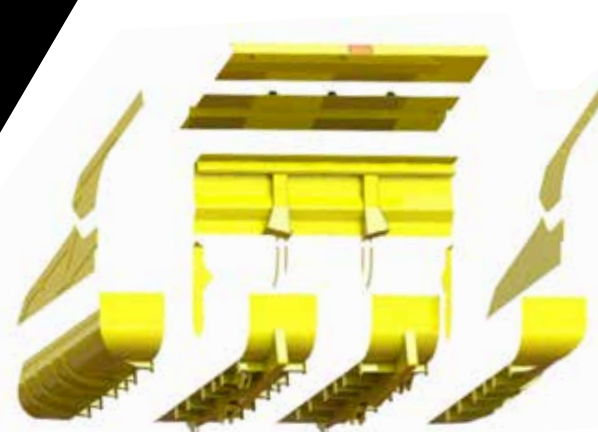


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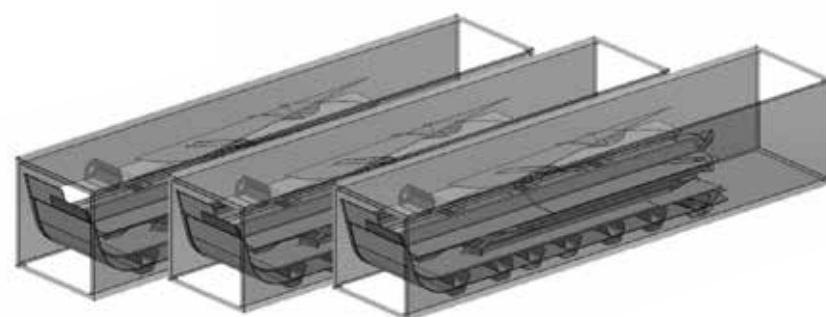
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OPINION

KEEP ON TRYING

THE RECENT FLOODS ARE JUST THE LATEST CHALLENGE FOR THE HUNTER REGION AND AS ALWAYS OUR MINING COMMUNITIES STAND STRONG. OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH EVERYONE AFFECTED BY THE FLOODING, AND WE ALSO THANK THOSE WHO WORKED HARD OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS TO ASSIST PEOPLE IN NEED.

The flooding also had a negative impact on the transport of coal to the Port, but these supply disruptions also had a positive impact on coal prices. It's the latest reminder of how conditions for our sector are so often influenced by factors beyond our control here and globally.

The last few years have thrown a drought, a flood and a pandemic at us. It's been a challenging time for us all. However, there was a reason to cheer this month with the Voice for Mining Family Day returning to McDonald Jones Stadium.

It was fantastic to see the Knights play in their now famous hi-vis mining jersey and celebrate all the good things our miners and their families contribute to the Hunter. It was also great to see thousands of fans back in the stadium wearing their own hi-vis while cheering on the Knights.

At the recent launch of this year's Voice for Mining Family Day, Knights legend Kurt Gidley spoke of

his emotions when he first wore the hi-vis jersey back in 2014, and the pride he felt representing his father who had a long career working as a coal train driver.

IT WAS A STRONG REMINDER OF JUST HOW MUCH MINING IS PART OF THE HERITAGE AND HEART OF THE HUNTER.

Our miners have done an amazing job over the last year to maintain safe operations of our mines during the pandemic, securing jobs and continuing to underpin the strength of the Hunter and NSW economies.

As the pandemic is brought under control the rebuilding of our local and state economies continues. The Hunter mining industry will once again be doing some of the heavy lifting to help our region and our state recover.

Thankfully, the people of our industry have proven time and again that we're up to the challenge.

Stephen Galilee, CEO, NSW Minerals Council

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Coal Careers

THIS MONTH WE SHOWCASE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR INDUSTRY AND THE BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD.

Ensuring that we have a skilled workforce well into the future is critical and something our industry remains focused on. This month we shine the spotlight on just a few of the programs and businesses doing just that.

BHP has partnered with the Government and is investing \$30 million in the Future of Work Program, which is aimed at creating new training opportunities for up to 1000 Australians in regional areas. Applications are now open.

The award-winning Mining and Energy Skills Program at TAFE NSW Muswellbrook is back again helping 24 new Hunter based apprentices launch their careers. It's the 16th consecutive year for this program that works in collaboration with some of the Hunter's biggest companies.

Glencore have welcomed almost 50 new graduates to their Australian

coal business this year through their Graduate Development Program. It's just one of their many programs aimed at developing the skills of young Australians.

AGL has also kickstarted the careers of 5 new apprentices who will develop skills in electrical and mechanical trades through AGL's award-winning apprentice program.

All of these programs have one thing in common which is a focus on fostering the talent of young people in regional areas and giving them the opportunity to boost their skills and improve their employability.

This month we also celebrate International Women's Day. And with an increase in female participants across the board in programs like these it's an encouraging sign on the progress our industry is making on equal gender representation.

@THE COALFACE

Publisher

Shane Davey
shane@thecoalface.net.au
0408 759 088

Editor

Rebecca Connolly
rebecca@thecoalface.net.au
0408 769 699

Journalist

Ashley Grogan
ashley@thecoalface.net.au
0402 348 341

Design

CarrollMel Design

@ THE COALFACE
Shop 10, 157-159 John Street, Singleton NSW 2330
www.thecoalface.net.au



OPINION ONE STEP FORWARD, ONE STEP BACK

ADVOCATING FOR OUR WORLD-LEADING MINERALS SECTOR AND DEALING WITH PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY CAN BRING BOTH JOY AND FRUSTRATION.



A couple of recent examples spring to mind where on the one hand government action resulted in a great outcome for mining, while on the other the Senate blocked – at least for now – sensible progress.

The Morrison Government recently announced that occupational licences and registration would be recognised Australia-wide.

This means mining skills will become more transferable under a new uniform scheme for automatic mutual recognition of state and territory based occupational licences and registration.

What a great step this is for electricians, plumbers, fitters, diesel mechanics and many other skilled professionals who want to move from the Hunter (unusual, I know) to mining areas in Queensland or WA to go to the next level in their career or get experience in other commodities.

IT ALSO MEANS THAT COMPANIES IN THE HUNTER CAN BRING IN THE SKILLED TRADES THEY NEED FROM OTHER STATES AND GET THEM ON THE JOB QUICKER WITHOUT HAVING TO REVALIDATE THE QUALIFICATIONS THEY ALREADY HOLD.

The success of Australia's resources sector depends on a highly skilled workforce which

includes access to traditional and emerging trades across Australia.

Increasing technology adoption gives workers the expectation that VET sector qualifications will make them job-ready or allow them to move between jobs in the mining industry.

It will also create more incentive to start an apprenticeship, with mutual recognition opening up the ability for tradies to move across our great nation and get on the tools more quickly wherever they go.

On the downside, the recent failure of the Senate to open up the opportunity for greenfields agreements for large mining projects shows that the Opposition, the Greens and some crossbench Senators don't understand the crucial need to encourage investment, jobs and wage increases.

Australia already has a poor global reputation for complex and inflexible workplace relations, and we need changes to speed up post-COVID economic recovery.

Speeding up the approval of enterprise agreements and allowing longer greenfields agreements for major projects were hardly radical changes.

These measures were compromise solutions that emerged from extensive discussions

between employers and unions in the industrial relations working groups conducted last year by the government.

YET MUCH-NEEDED REFORMS TO DRIVE ECONOMIC RECOVERY HAVE BEEN SACRIFICED FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

When the minerals industry is Australia's largest export earner, pays high wages and accounts for approximately one-quarter of company tax, politicians should be more focused on how to convert more than 108 minerals projects from drawing board to job generators.

Together, these projects are worth \$47 billion and entail approximately 30,000 construction jobs and 21,000 ongoing jobs.

Every project that doesn't go ahead means a slower recovery and fewer jobs.

And every project that is delayed sends a negative signal to investors and leaves Australians unemployed longer than necessary.

It's encouraging that the Treasurer indicated that greenfields agreements are still on the table for future reform.

The MCA will keep fighting for our industry because we can't take future success for granted.

**Tania Constable
CEO, Minerals Council of Australia**

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IN THE NEWS...

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



MANGOOLA PROJECT GETS ANOTHER STEP CLOSER

The Independent Planning Commission held hearings in March into the Mangoola Continued Operations Project.

Glencore is seeking to extract some additional coal resources that have been identified to the north of the existing mine by continuing the existing coal mine into this new mining area.

The project would provide access to approximately 52 million tonnes of additional coal resources which would also mean another eight years of mining life.

In a surprise move, Muswellbrook Shire Council submitted an application against the expansion, the CFMEU Northern Mining and NSW Energy Division labelled the move as "bizarre".

The union is urging Council to reconsider their position on the mine and back local jobs as 88 per cent of the works live in Muswellbrook, the Upper Hunter and Singleton areas.

GOVERNMENT PUSHING INNOVATION

The NSW Government has announced another program to help modernise technology and reduce emissions.

The \$750 million Net Zero Industry and Innovation Program is set to benefit Hunter manufacturers and miners providing high value grants to support major capital upgrades for play and equipment for the biggest emitters in the state.

Funding will be split to support existing industries and future proof their businesses; set up low carbon industries such as green hydrogen and funding to research and develop new clean technologies to decarbonise in ways that grow the economy.

Almost 30 per cent of the State's carbon emissions are created by the top 55 industrial facilities.

KEPCO KEEPING ON

Korean mining company KEPCO isn't giving up their proposal for a coal mine in the Bylong Valley.

The Independent Planning Commission (IPC) ruled last year that the company's mine would pose too great a threat to the pristine valley and was ultimately not in the public interest.

That was in September, and in December the NSW Land and Environment Court upheld

the IPC's decision after KEPCO appealed it.

KEPCO has now advised they are launching another appeal, this time against the court ruling.

Kepeco argues the mine would see 6.5 million tonnes of coal a year and inject around \$290 million into the NSW economy.

It is estimated the company has spent about \$700 million buying up land in the Bylong Valley over the last 10 years.

CLEAN AIR COMMENT

The Upper Hunter community, one of the most affected by the impacts of air quality, is being urged to have their say on a Draft Clean Air Strategy.

The NSW Government's strategy has five key action areas that include better preparedness for pollution events; cleaner industry; cleaner transport, engines and fuels; healthier households; and better places. The draft Strategy also considers the recommendations of inquiries into the 2019-20 bushfire season to minimise health impacts from bushfire smoke.

SCONE TAFE CAMPUS IN THE HANDS OF RACING NSW

The Scone TAFE NSW site is now confirmed to have been bought by Racing NSW.

The NSW Government has confirmed the sale with the revenue secured from the \$4 million sale to stay and be invested in additional modern teaching and learning facilities

for the region such as at the Scone Connected Learning Centre with a new storage and multitrade workshop.

There has been a lot of concern that the course wouldn't stay the same or they'd be lessened at the Flemington Drive site but TAFE NSW Managing Director Steggen Faurby says he will guarantee the courses will remain.

MICHAEL JOHNSEN DONE

Michael Johnsen announced his resignation as the Upper Hunter MP with a "heavy heart" at the end of March.

He was suspended from the Nationals Party over allegations he raped a woman in the Blue Mountains in 2019 and released a statement to say he was cooperating with police and he was confident the investigation would find him the innocent party.

There were also reports of lewd text messages between him and the sex worker while he was at Parliament House including plans to meet up there.

He released a lengthy statement saying he had no choice but to exit public life, particularly as NSW Police investigations continue.

There will now need to be a by-election in the Upper Hunter.

UPPER HUNTER ROADS TO FEEL SAFER

The Upper Hunter will be getting a substantial share in some \$400 million announced in road safety funding to reduce road trauma.

The funding will be spread across NSW between the State and Federal Governments and 11 projects in the Upper Hunter are getting funding including on the New England Highway at Whittingham, shoulder widening on the Golden Highway at Dalswinton Road in Denman and also projects in Merriwa, Stroud, Bunnab and Dungog.

HUNTER HYDRO HUB

The NSW Government has committed \$70 million for the state's first Hydrogen Hub and it will be in the Hunter Region.

Energy Minister Matt Kean said they have made the Hunter a key site due to its access to existing infrastructure, suitable water sources, ports and logistics capabilities and a future supply of cheap, reliable renewable energy.

The hub has the potential to drive \$350 billion in investment across Australia and will align with the NSW Renewable Energy Zones.

THE EARTH MOVED UNDER OUR FEET AGAIN

The Upper Hunter recorded two earthquakes in March. The first measured 3 on the Richter Scale, and the second measured 3.4.

Both were between Edderton and Muswellbrook with many residents reporting their whole houses shook during the earthquakes.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Water restrictions are being lowered across the Upper Hunter.

Muswellbrook Shire Council is moving Denman, Sandy Hollow and Muswellbrook from Level 2 to Level 1 water restrictions on May 3rd.

Upper Hunter Shire Council is doing the same for Scone, Aberdeen and Murrumbidgee.

Singleton Council is also expected to follow suit as all Councils have been in consultation with one another.

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While attendees are limited due to COVID Restrictions, Creightons will be live-streaming the services for all to watch from the comfort and safety of their homes.

Watch the services by going to the website below, visit the 'Events' page for ANZAC Day, then follow the instructions to watch on the 25th of April.

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We Choose To CHALLENGE

THIS YEAR WE CELEBRATED WOMEN EVERYWHERE FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021 UNDER THE THEME CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE. HELD ON MARCH 8, WE SAW BOTH THE MEN AND WOMEN OF OUR INDUSTRY TAKE ACTION FOR EQUALITY AND STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN MINING.



MASTERMYNE/WILSON MINING

In celebration of International Women's Day 2021, the Mastermyne/Wilson Mining team attended the AusIMM International Women's Day Luncheon on March 8 in Sydney to celebrate the achievements of women in mining. CSIRO's Chief Scientist Dr Cathy Foley gave a keynote presentation, inspiring attendees on how they can choose to challenge gender stereotypes, celebrate women's achievements and collectively create an inclusive world. "The learning from the day was that to create change we need to challenge those gender bias and inequality concepts," said Karen Wilson, Sales & Marketing Coordinator, Wilson Mining.

"We were able to acknowledge how far women have come while reminding ourselves of the progress we still need to make."

"I CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE...CREATING A POSITIVE SPACE OF EMPOWERMENT FOR OTHER WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE."
- KAREN WILSON



MACH ENERGY

Omnipotent, limitless and passionate were just a few of the words suggested to feature on a letter board put together by the Mount Pleasant Operation team in celebration of International Women's Day. "On IWD over quiche and cake, our team discussed the words that came to mind when thinking about the women in our lives," said Ngaire Baker, External Relations Manager - Aboriginal Community Development Fund Executive Officer, Mount Pleasant Operation, MACH Energy Australia.

"We're proud to support #IWD and strive to support the women in our business and community each and every day."

"Like all things at Mount Pleasant I like to think 'outside the square' and didn't want IWD to just tick a box. I wanted the team to take a joint approach; I wanted everyone to think about all the women in their lives not just at work but in all they do, that's why I asked them to come up with a word."

"So, in terms of what I choose to challenge, I guess it is 'the norm'."

"I CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE...WHAT HAS BECOME NORMAL IN OUR INDUSTRY, TO ENCOURAGE OUR TEAM TO THINK OUTSIDE THE SQUARE."
- NGAIRE BAKER



WESTRAC

Westrac held an event at their Tomago branch head office for IWD2021, inviting all local employees to attend and hear from guest speakers who gave presentations on their personal journeys, and how they have been helping to create and advocate for gender equality. Among those guest speakers was Adrian Howard, Chief Operating Officer for Westrac and his daughter Elliana Howard, an aspiring architect aged 11. The event was also live streamed so employees who couldn't attend in person could still participate.

"The key takeaway from our celebrations was that we all need to be advocates for women, especially in the workplace," said Claire Pavey, People & Culture Advisor, Westrac.

"We need to challenge our mindsets and our practices and ensure we continue to measure our progress towards a more gender balanced workforce, and as individuals we need to support each other and recognise the value of the contribution of individuals."

"I CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE...BY BEING A DRIVING FORCE BEHIND IMPROVEMENTS TO POLICIES, PRACTICES AND CHAMPIONING A WORKPLACE CULTURE THAT SUPPORTS AND ENABLES WOMEN TO HAVE A REWARDING CAREER IN OUR INDUSTRY."
- CLAIRE PAVEY

CR MINING

Across the globe, CR employees celebrated their female talent and International Women's Day on March 8. Locally, the team at CR attended AusIMM's International Women's Day event in Sydney and heard from a variety of speakers including Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Cathy Foley. "One of the main themes discussed on the day was the importance of female support, and ensuring we promote and celebrate the amazing achievements women accomplish," said Stephanie Saunders, Communications Lead, CR Mining.



"I CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE... INEQUALITY BY CELEBRATING FEMALE ACHIEVEMENTS."
- STEPHANIE SAUNDERS

COAL SERVICES

To acknowledge the day, teams in each of their regions across NSW were encouraged to host morning teas or (meet virtually over zoom) to talk about what the day means to them and how they will choose to challenge gender stereotypes. "At Coal Services, International Women's Day reminds us that we all have an important role to play in ensuring diversity and equal opportunity," said Lucy Flemming, CEO, Coal Services.

"Across our business we have women and men working in traditional and non-traditional roles, for example administrative roles and occupational health nurses, mines rescue cadets, occupational hygienists and IT specialists."



"I CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE... THE STEREOTYPE OF WHAT SOME PEOPLE THINK A SUCCESSFUL LEADER SHOULD BE. IT IS NOT ABOUT WHETHER THEY ARE MALE OR FEMALE. IT IS NOT THE SUIT THEY WEAR OR THE CAR THEY DRIVE - IT IS WHO THEY REALLY ARE, WHAT THEY STAND FOR AND HOW THEY EARN THE RIGHT TO BE A LEADER. RESPECT IS EARNED AND CANNOT BE DEMANDED. LEADERSHIP IS A CONSTANT BALANCING ACT OF STRENGTH AND EMPATHY; A BALANCE THAT YOU SOMETIMES FEEL YOU NEVER GET QUITE RIGHT BUT WAKE UP EVERY MORNING WITH THE COURAGE TO GIVE IT ANOTHER GO!"
- LUCY FLEMMING

BHP

This year, International Women's Day at BHP / Mt Arthur Coal was all about having those important conversations. Over the course of the week the BHP team heard from a variety of females and males on what they #choosetochallenge including those at BHP's own Mt Arthur Coal Lunch & Learn event. "These fantastic role models put the challenge of gender equality to our workforce, asking us to be curious, to become educated, to open a dialogue and have the tough conversations, and to recognise that diversity and inclusion doesn't stop at our gate; it goes beyond," said Adam Lancey, General Manager, BHP - Mt Arthur Coal.

"On #IWD2021 I have been inspired to see many of our 2,000 strong workforce walk out of Mt Arthur Coal with their eyes open to the benefits and possibilities of gender balance."

"We have collectively recognised that diversity is not a problem but a solution that can drive better outcomes for our teams, business, community and broader society."



"I CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE...BY PLAYING A SMALL PART, WHERE I CAN, IN SUPPORTING AND CHALLENGING FEMALES WITHIN THE INDUSTRY TO ACHIEVE THEIR POSSIBLE!"
- ADAM LANCEY



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THE END OF AN ERA

AFTER BEING PLACED IN 'CARE AND MAINTENANCE' IN MARCH, THE DECISION HAS NOW BEEN MADE TO CLOSE AUSTAR COAL MINE AFTER MORE THAN A CENTURY OF COAL MINING.

Austar is one of the oldest mines in NSW. On 15 April 1916 surface operations commenced at Pelton Colliery in the South Maitland Coalfields. For more than a century, various operations of both underground and open cut mining were conducted at Pelton and nearby Ellalong and Bellbird until in 1998 they were amalgamated and became Southland Colliery. In 2004, Yancoal purchased the mine, renamed it Austar Coal Mine and continued the proud heritage of mining the rich Greta seam.

Austar was placed in care and maintenance in March 2020 and on Friday 26 February 2021 a decision was made by the Yancoal board to transition the Austar Coal Mine from care and maintenance to closure. This decision followed a review that evaluated the viability of re-commencing production at Austar, however closure was considered the best option.

Closure activities will prepare the site for post-mining use and will include: removal of mine equipment; sealing of the mine workings; dismantling of infrastructure; extensive rehabilitation; and monitoring of the final landform. These activities are anticipated to take up to 10 years to complete before relinquishment of the mining lease could be undertaken.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH

Poop jokes aren't my favourite. But they're a solid number two.

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THE BEGINNING OF PELTON COLLIERY - PHOTO COURTESY OF A. GALLOWAY, ED TONKS COLLECTION

THE CESSNOCK REGION HAS ALWAYS HAD A LONG AND PROUD ASSOCIATION WITH COAL MINING AND AT THE HEART OF IT WAS AUSTAR. THROUGHOUT ITS MANY OWNERS AND OPERATORS, THE MINE HAS PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF THE REGION, PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTIRE GENERATIONS OF LOCAL FAMILIES.

For the 43 employees still currently employed at Austar, plus the thousands that have worked at the mine over the years, the closure of the last remaining coal producing mine in the Cessnock area will mark the end of an era.

FORUM FIRST

NSW'S FIRST OCE MINING FORUM IS COMING TO SINGLETON DIGGERS ON THURSDAY APRIL 22.

If you are practicing for your Open Cut Examiners (OCE) or are thinking about obtaining an OCE qualification, then you won't want to miss this event. The forum has been designed specifically to meet the needs of OCE's and to provide tools and learning to enhance their capability in their roles.

A line up of guest speakers from across the industry will be sharing their wealth of experience on a myriad of topics including technology, leadership, management, development, and legislation.

This very first OCE Mining Forum in NSW is thanks to Kim Nguyen, Director of Core Mine Training, who is passionate about providing a networking event for OCE's to be able share their knowledge.

"I'm extremely proud to bring this forum to life as it has been something that has been very much needed in our industry. I intend on holding this event at least twice a year and aim to make it a significant event on the statutory training calendar for all of NSW."

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OPINION NO JUSTICE FOR CASUAL MINERS

ONE NATION HAS TEAMED UP WITH THE MORRISON GOVERNMENT TO OVERTURN RIGHTS AND COMPENSATION FOR CASUAL COAL MINERS.

Our union has spent many years and substantial amounts of money proving in court what is well known across our coalfields.

That is, that mining and labour hire companies have for years been ripping off casual mineworkers whose jobs are, in real terms, permanent jobs.

We have had some important wins, for example the Federal Court decisions in the well-known WorkPac v Skene and WorkPac v Rossato matters.

THESE DECISIONS DETERMINED THAT CASUAL MINeworkers WITH FULL-TIME HOURS AND ROSTERS SET MANY MONTHS OR A YEAR IN ADVANCE WERE NOT GENUINE CASUALS, AND THAT THEY DESERVED PERMANENT ENTITLEMENTS LIKE ANNUAL LEAVE.

Our members and workers across the coal industry have been buoyed by these successes which clarify that the 'permanent casual' work model is unlawful.

These rulings have also underpinned some class actions aimed at winning justice for exploited casuals through securing backpaid leave entitlements.

Our union has launched one such class action against WorkPac and class action law firms have launched several others.

But these class actions – and future claims for

rightful compensation – have been dealt a cruel blow by laws passed through Parliament in March. The Morrison Government was embarrassingly forced to abandon much of its IR Omnibus Bill due to failing to win the necessary support from cross-bench Senators.

However, the Government did salvage and push through its proposed changes for casuals, which were passed with the support of One Nation Senators Malcolm Roberts and Pauline Hanson. These changes regarding casuals are specifically designed to overturn the wins our union has had in the court to end the 'permanent casual' rort and deliver justice to exploited casual mineworkers.

The new legislation enshrines a definition of casual in the Fair Work Act based on the words in the employment contract, not the reality of the working conditions.

The definition says in part: "The question of whether a person is a casual employee of an employer is to be assessed on the basis of the offer of employment and the acceptance of that offer, not on the basis of any subsequent conduct of either party".

This overturns multiple Federal Court decisions saying it is the nature of work that counts, that regular, full-time hours with firm, advance commitment is permanent work, regardless of the contract.

THIS IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO PROTECT EMPLOYERS FROM FACING THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNLAWFULLY EMPLOYING PERMANENT WORKERS AS CASUALS OVER MANY YEARS – AND ALLOW THEM TO CONTINUE DOING SO.



One Nation Senator Malcolm Roberts has tried to convince Hunter Valley casual coal miners that he is a champion for their cause.

I note that casualisation is worse in the coalfields across Queensland, his home state, but he never says anything about their plight. He prefers to see casualisation as the result of a conspiracy, not a problem caused by workplace laws too weak to pull big mining companies into line.

With this vote, Malcolm Roberts has sold out the casual coal miners he was pretending to stand up for – costing them the hope of compensation and condemning them to a casual future.

One Nation Hunter candidate Stuart Bonds says he is surprised and disappointed by One Nation's vote for the Government on casuals. If that's the case, he didn't do his due diligence before signing up for One Nation. One Nation has a consistent record of using their powerful position in Parliament to oppose workers' rights – whether on penalty rates, workplace safety improvements or unions.

They are a voice for business and a reliable supporter of the Liberal Party.

We will continue to fight to end the 'permanent casual' rort in coal mining, but there's no doubt that the new legislation delivered by One Nation is a major setback.

Peter Jordan, CFMEU Northern Mining and NSW Energy District President

THE UPPER HUNTER MINING DIALOGUE IS "BACK IN BUSINESS"

THE DIALOGUE LAUNCHED ITS 2021 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR WITH A DISPLAY AT THE UPPER HUNTER SHOW AT MUSWELLBROOK ON MARCH 19 AND 20 AND HAS ALSO ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR TWO EVENTS AIMED AT NURTURING LINKS BETWEEN LOCAL SUPPLIERS AND UPPER HUNTER MINES.

The Upper Hunter Show appearance marked a return to community engagement activity for the Dialogue after the 2020 calendar of events had to be shelved due to Covid-19 restrictions forcing the cancellation of most community events last year.

Throughout the year, the Dialogue attends local events and shows across the Hunter with its interactive displays to educate and inform people about the Dialogue's activities as well as conduct surveys to pinpoint the community's current issues and interests.

ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMUNITY EVENTS IS VALUABLE AS IT ALLOWS THE DIALOGUE TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO OTHERWISE MAY NOT HAVE ANY CONNECTION WITH THE DIALOGUE.

While the show appearance marked a return to "business as usual" in terms of community engagement,

the Dialogue is also taking a more literal focus on business with plans to co-host two business events with the Muswellbrook and Singleton chambers of commerce.

The events will allow local suppliers to network directly with Upper Hunter mine procurement personnel and develop relationships valuable to both business and the mining industry. Plans are still being finalised, but the Muswellbrook event is scheduled for June 16 and Singleton's event for August 19.

The procurement-based events were very popular when last held in 2019, but had to be cancelled in 2020 due to Covid restrictions. More details on the events will be released when plans are finalised.

In the coming months, the Dialogue display is scheduled to attend Tocal Field Days, Broke Village Fair, Singleton Show and the Hunter Coal Festival.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE UPPER HUNTER MINING DIALOGUE SEE WWW.MININGDIALOGUE.COM.AU



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PROVIDING SOLUTIONS FOR THE HUNTER VALLEY, NEWCASTLE, CENTRAL COAST AND MID NORTH COAST

BHP IS INVESTING \$30 MILLION INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S FUTURE OF WORK PROGRAM AND APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR AUSTRALIANS LIVING IN REGIONAL AREAS.

FUTURE OF WORK

BHP and the Commonwealth Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) will create new training opportunities for up to 1000 Australians in regional areas through a new partnership to help support the country's economic recovery.

The Future of Work Program will help strengthen economic resilience in regional communities through advanced apprenticeships, skills and short-course training opportunities, targeted to address the specific needs of local workforces and small businesses.

BHP's President Minerals Australia, Edgar Basto, said: "BHP is supporting a business-led recovery through our ongoing operations and significant investments in regional Australia. We will help Australia bounce back by creating new opportunities for regional jobseekers and economies.

"THE ADVANCED APPRENTICESHIPS AND SHORT COURSES OFFERED BY THE FUTURE OF WORK PROGRAM WILL HELP DEVELOP THE WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE. AUSTRALIANS WILL BE ABLE TO RESKILL, EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY AND FIND NEW JOBS IN MANY SECTORS, NOT JUST MINING. WE ARE PROUD TO

PLAY OUR PART IN HELPING AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY."

Minister for Education and Youth Alan Tudge said the partnership was part of the Government's focus on giving Australians, particularly in regional Australia, the opportunity to boost their skills and improve their employability.

"This Government is all about getting more people into work and skilling Australians for the jobs of the future," Minister Tudge said.

"The partnership will also support growth in regional areas by improving access to education, upskilling locals and creating pathways to employment."

RECORD RESOURCES

A NEW REPORT HAS CONFIRMED THE REMARKABLE PERFORMANCE OF AUSTRALIA'S RESOURCE AND ENERGY SECTOR WHICH IS NOW ON TRACK FOR A RECORD YEAR OF EXPORTS VALUED AT \$296 BILLION.

The latest Resources and Energy Quarterly from the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources covers a five-year outlook and highlights how the mining sector is poised to capture growth opportunities from the COVID-19 recovery.

Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia Keith Pitt said the forecast result shows how well the resources sector has managed the challenges of the past year and just how important it remains to our national economic success.

"Exports are forecast to earn a record \$296 billion in 2020-21 and remain strong over the next five years, driven by ongoing demand for iron ore and growth in technology-related commodities such as lithium, nickel and copper," Minister Pitt said.

"This report confirms the remarkable resilience and strength of Australia's resources and energy sector. The industry has remained safe and reliable suppliers to domestic and global markets throughout the pandemic.

"The increasing demand for Australian commodities has allowed export earnings to overcome challenging conditions for the benefit of the Australian economy and Australian jobs.

"The rollout of COVID-19 vaccines presents an opportunity to bring the pandemic under control and boost global economic activity and further demand for Australian commodities."

THE OUTLOOK FOR COAL HAS IMPROVED SINCE THE DECEMBER RESOURCE AND ENERGY QUARTERLY AND EXPORT REVENUE AND VOLUMES HAVE RECOVERED.

Exports of metallurgical coal, used in steel making, are forecast to rise from a low of 173 million tonnes in 2020-21 to reach 191 million tonnes by 2025-26. Revenue is forecast to fall to \$23 billion in 2020-21 from \$35 billion in 2019-20 due to lower world prices, before recovering to \$31 billion by 2025-26.

Thermal coal exports fell marginally from 213 million tonnes in 2019-20 to 206 million tonnes in 2020-21, but are projected to rebound to 231 million tonnes by 2025-26.



MINISTER FOR RESOURCES, WATER AND NORTHERN AUSTRALIA KEITH PITT

Proud PARTNERSHIP

MINING'S SUPPORT FOR THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE WILL STRETCH TO MORE THAN 40 YEARS UNDER A NEW \$300,000 SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE NSW MINERALS COUNCIL.

The announcement of the three-year partnership extension came a couple days before the annual Voice for Mining Family Day in Newcastle, a major event for the state's mining communities with the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service as the official charity partner.

The mining industry has been supporting this vital service since at least the mid-1980s and it is valued by thousands in mining communities across Northern NSW.

NSW Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee says the long-standing partnership grows stronger every year.

"We are very proud to continue our long term sponsorship of this important community service, especially after what has been a challenging year for everyone in health and emergency services," Mr Galilee said

"We commend everyone at the Helicopter Service for the way they responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, continuing operations safely just like our mines were able to do across NSW.

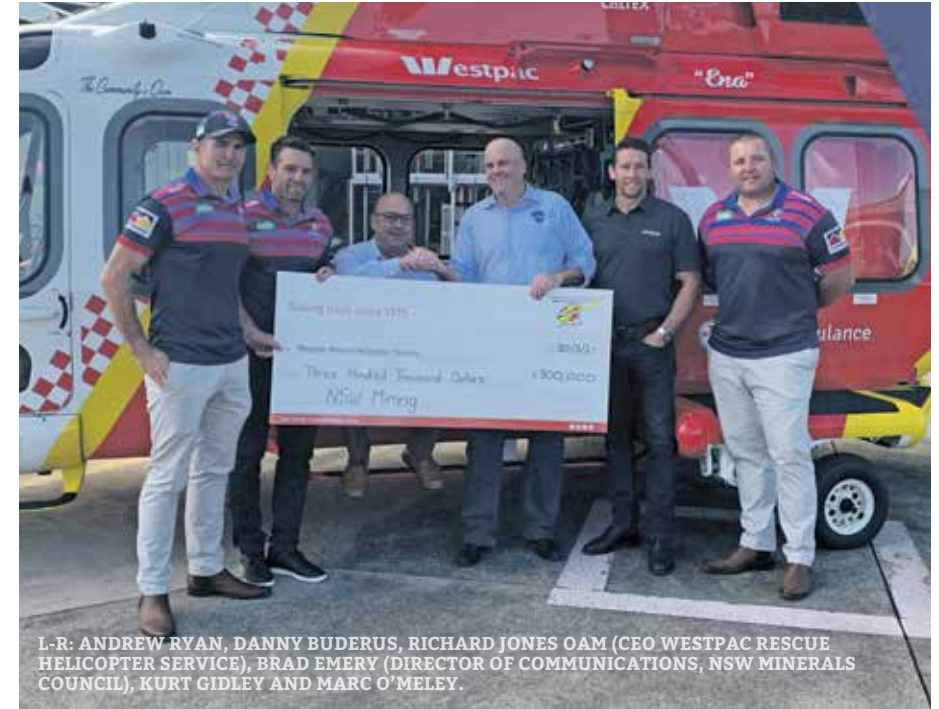
"Those working at the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service are highly trained professionals and they provide the highest level of care to people in our community when they are in need.

"OUR INDUSTRY'S SUPPORT FOR THIS VITAL SERVICE HAS NEVER WAVERED AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE IMPORTANT WORK THEY DO FOR COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE STATE."

Mining's support includes annual contributions from mining companies, mining supplier businesses and mining-related unions, and thousands of mine workers also make regular donations from their pay.

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service CEO Richard Jones OAM said the Service was immensely grateful for the support of the NSW Minerals Council.

"This year alone, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service has undertaken hundreds of flights to assist in emergency situations. Our dedicated team wouldn't be able to carry out this lifesaving work



L-R: ANDREW RYAN, DANNY BUDERUS, RICHARD JONES OAM (CEO WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE), BRAD EMERY (DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, NSW MINERALS COUNCIL), KURT GIDLEY AND MARC O' MELEY.

without the support of our valued partners like the NSW Minerals Council," Mr Jones said.

"Mining is at the heart of so many regional communities covered by our Service, so the support we receive from the industry is connected and meaningful to what we all do.

"There's a strong bond between the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and the mining industry that's developed over decades in partnership and it's fantastic that we can keep working together," he said.

A NUMBER OF EVENTS ARE STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY MINING COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING THE ANNUAL HUNTER VALLEY MINING CHARITY RUGBY LEAGUE DAY IN SINGLETON WHICH HAS RAISED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FOR THE SERVICE.

HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM NOW OPEN



Applications for funding through the Hunter Valley Operations (HVO) Community Grants Program are now invited from community groups and organisations that make a positive contribution to the local communities where HVO operates.

The Community Grants Program supports local initiatives in the areas of:

- Education/Training
- Enterprise development and Economic diversification
- Environment • Health • Local need

Visit our Public Grants website for guidelines for applicants and application form: <https://hvo.smartygrants.com.au/RoundOne2021>

Or contact us on: Phone: 0455 782 292
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APPLICATIONS OPEN FRIDAY 2ND APRIL AND THE ROUND WILL CLOSE FRIDAY 30TH APRIL 2021

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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 ABOUT PARTICULAR ISSUES THAT ARISE WHEN BRINGING A CLAIM FOR A PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

A Compensable injury can be either a physical or a psychological injury. Whilst the right to receive weekly compensation and to be covered for medical expenses is the same as for physical injuries, there are some aspects of a psychological claim that are different. One of those is a defense available to an employer.

A Psychological injury is a psychological or psychiatric disorder and extends to include the physical effects of the disorder on the nervous system. To be potentially compensable it must arise in the course of your employment in the mining industry and the employment must be a contributing factor.

The Workers Compensation legislation provides that compensation is not payable where the psychological injury is caused by the reasonable actions of an employer in certain circumstances.

THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE DEFENSE IS AVAILABLE TO THE EMPLOYER ARE WHERE THE INJURY WHOLLY OR PREDOMINATELY ARISES OUT OF THE REASONABLE ACTION TAKEN OR PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE EMPLOYER WITH RESPECT TO TRANSFER, DEMOTION, PROMOTION, PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL, DISCIPLINE, RETRENCHMENT OR DISMISSAL OR THE PROVISION OF EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO WORKERS.

In circumstances where the psychological injury arises because of multiple causes then there may still be a claim if the main cause does not arise out of the exceptions set out in the preceding paragraph. To put it another way if the main cause of the injury was other work-related issues, for example being involved in a near miss and the discipline aspect was only a small

part of the cause then the worker may receive compensation.

The other important factor is that the actions of the employer must be reasonable in order for the employer to have the benefit of the defense. Ultimately if there is a dispute, their actions must be reasonable in the eyes of the Court. So, even though the injury may arise out of transfer demotion, discipline and the like if the actions of the employer were not reasonable then the worker will potentially be entitled to compensation.

The law in relation to workers compensation arising out of psychological injuries can be complicated. I recommended that anyone suffering from such an injury take legal advice to ensure their rights are protected.



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**

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MENTORING FOR MINERS

The face-to-face group mentoring can be held at a mine's workplace and customised to meet participants needs.

The program is being run by Forsythes Training's newly appointed and well-known accredited mining trainer, Jeff Hanlon.

Jeff said the OCE exams are difficult, have high failure rates and that it is expensive to re-sit examinations.

"Many people doing the OCE exams have not studied for these types of exams for some time or at all," Jeff said.

Jeff said the mentoring service will help those seeking accreditation to understand the exam process and learn effective study methods and exam techniques. The sessions will include reviews of recent exam papers as well as reviews of legislation and recent mining incidents.

The NSW OCE examinations are essential for people wanting to work as an Open Cut Examiner (OCE), a Mine Supervisor, or a Mine Manager. An OCE is responsible for ensuring a safe work environment by applying the safety and health management system in and around work areas of surface excavation, including monitoring the quantity and quality of output, supervising others, and applying solutions to non-routine problems.

In NSW, people need to have completed a Bachelor of Mining Engineering or Certificate IV in Surface Coal Mining (Open Cut Examiner) before being able to undertake the accreditation examinations.

Forsythes Training CEO Chad White said Jeff



is highly experienced and qualified to help participants to pass the exams with flying colours.

"JEFF KNOWS EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT MINING AND THE OCE EXAMINATIONS. HE'S DONE THE EXAM HIMSELF, HAS SUCCESSFULLY MENTORED OTHERS, AND HAS SERVED ON THE EXAMINATIONS PANEL," CHAD SAID.

"We believe that group mentoring is cost effective and helps participants to learn from the mentor and from each other. This new service is part of a suite of nationally recognised, mining and resources qualifications, as well as other courses, programs, and training plans for the mining and resources sector."

Forsythes Training are an approved training provider under the NSW Resources Regulators' learning from mining disasters training package and can assist mining companies to meet the regulator's Maintenance of Competence

HUNTER-BASED REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATION, FORSYTHES TRAINING, HAS LAUNCHED A NEW MENTORING SERVICE FOR MINING EMPLOYEES WHO ARE UNDERTAKING THE NSW OPEN CUT EXAMINERS (OCE) WRITTEN OR ORAL EXAMINATIONS.

Scheme. The company is planning to offer a Certificate IV in Surface Coal Mining and has just launched a new WHS Responsibilities for Supervisors Workshop which is relevant for all sectors, including mining.

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OPINION

COAL INVESTMENT STILL HIGH

LAST OCTOBER ANZ ANNOUNCED IT WOULD STOP LENDING MONEY FOR THERMAL COAL PROJECTS. THE BANK WAS AT IT AGAIN IN FEBRUARY, PROCLAIMING IT WOULD STOP FUNDING NEWCASTLE'S COAL PORT. WHAT'S NEXT, HIGH SUGAR DRINKS? FATTY FOOD?

Our miners need not panic just yet. A spokesman for green lobby group Reclaim Finance recently lamented that while 88 commercial banks around the world have adopted some form of anti-coal mantra, only four have embraced “robust coal exclusion policies”. This subterfuge is not unique to lending institutions. Governments around the world are committing to Net Zero Emissions without any realistic implementation plans or, in some cases, any intention to achieve it. The United States of America remains home to coal's the biggest institutional investors. Between them they hold 58 per cent of global

coal investments, totalling \$US602 billion. Japan's banks are the biggest lenders for coal projects, with loans totalling \$US76 billion. They are also big consumers, buying billions of dollars of Australian thermal coal each year to fuel their growing fleet of electricity generators. Australia's other thermal coal customers both invest and consume too. Between them our Asian customers are building or plan to build more than 200 coal generators between them. **IN NSW, AROUND \$4.5 BILLION HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO NEW COAL MINES AND TO THE EXPANSION OF EXISTING MINES. THOSE WHO RAIL OUR COAL TO PORT ARE INVESTING**

TOO. THOSE LOOKING FOR A GOOD RETURN KNOW THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF MONEY TO BE MADE IN THE COAL INDUSTRY. But none of this means we shouldn't be concerned about the ANZ's attitude. Their debt finance remains important to the coal mining industry and there's a risk the Bank's behaviour will put pressure on other corporates struggling in the face of shareholder and other green activists. In 2015 Newcastle Council decided to divest itself of any investments in fossil fuel industries. Yet its coal loaders are significant employers. Last year, the University of NSW – home to one of Australia's proudest mining schools – took the same decision. The University's Richard Holden is doubling down. Sharing his wisdom in the UNSW's online news bulletin last week, the Economics Professor saw opportunity in the earlier-than-expected closure of Yallourn power station when he wrote: “The crucial question in all of this is whether Australia's coal-fired power stations are being closed too slowly – or even too quickly. It's hard to know without a price on carbon to create a level playing field for renewable energy and fossil fuels.” Professor Holden went on to insist that we need a carbon tax that reflects the “social cost of carbon” before suggesting that cost is \$65 per metric tonne. In doing so he answered his own question. His carbon tax would shut down our coal-fired generators sooner. They are already closing prior to the end of their physical lives as a result of government

policies. Professor Holden wants to accelerate that process. He says we risk “blackouts or brownouts”. But the real threat to supply reliability is his proposed carbon tax and all those who believe we can keep putting more and more renewable energy into the grid without holding on to our coal generators for all their physical lives. **WE'VE ACHIEVED A LOT, IN BOTH ADDING VARIABLE SOLAR GENERATION TO THE SYSTEM EQUAL TO THE CAPACITY OF NINE YALLOURN POWERS STATIONS AND ACHIEVING A 46 PER CENT REDUCTION IN OUR PER CAPITA EMISSIONS SINCE 1990.**

But we can't close base-load coal-fired power stations and reject new gas-fired power stations without causing blackouts and driving up energy prices. And we can't hope to put more renewables into the grid without new supplies of firming power, namely gas fuelled. If the banks, state governments, and our public institutions want to desert our fossil fuel industries, they surely have a responsibility to tell us what they are prepared to do to manage the impact on our economy, jobs and our energy system. Remember, the banks benefit from funding guarantees provided by the same government which purports to represent the interests of those who will lose their jobs and suffer bigger electricity bills as a result of bank behaviour. You can be sure those participating in the looming parliamentary inquiry will labour that point. **Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP Federal Member for Hunter**

PARALLEL ECONOMICS

DANCING DOWN UNDER

WHEN IT COMES TO REPURPOSING CLOSED MINE SITES, THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ONLY LIMITED BY OUR IMAGINATION. ALL AROUND THE WORLD MINES HAVE BEEN REPURPOSED IN ENVIRONMENTALLY, SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY SUSTAINABLE MANNERS. THIS MONTH WE BRING YOU AN EXAMPLE OF PARALLEL ECONOMICS THAT WILL HAVE YOU DANCING IN DELIGHT.

The mining and colonial city of Zacatecas, Mexico was declared a World Cultural Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1993. It is a 'must see' for those who are interested in the history of the mining industry in Zacatecas and the best way to do this is by visiting the famous 'Mina El Eden' mine, located 10 minutes from the historic center. The mine started way back in 1586, and its glory days were between the 16th and 18th centuries. Thousands of workers, mostly natives, mined and ground silver and gold for the Spanish empire's wealth. When the mine was functioning, worker death was common, whether from scaffolding falls, explosions or rampant pulmonary disease. Officially closing in 1960, the mine was shut down mostly because of urbanisation, flooding and its proximity to the city. Then in 1975 it opened for tourism. During the day you can take a guided tour of the old silver mine, see exhibits and visit the gift shop. Before the mine was opened as a tourist attraction it was remodeled with hanging rope bridges, stairs, a funicular train, special lighting, a section where you can see a mining demonstration, as well as a museum where a beautiful collection of rocks and minerals from the region are displayed.

The tour is approximately a mile long and is enriched by the entertaining stories and legends told by the expert guides. **BUT IT'S WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN THAT THE REAL ENTERTAINMENT BEGINS.** Three years after it opened as a tourist attraction the mine became a unique space for music lovers. 'La Mina Club' claims to be the world's only nightclub located inside a mine. 320 metres beneath the surface you can dance the night away in a cavern that was once part of the working mine. The innovative nightclub is located in a vault that was once used to grind the minerals and can accommodate up to 400 hyped-up, fist-pumping partygoers under the pulsating lights of the carved dome. Imagine a Hunter Valley mine repurposed in a similar style. Not only would it be a tourist attraction guaranteeing a range of economic benefits, but it would also provide an educational experience ensuring that the rich mining heritage of our area is not forgotten in years to come. And as far as I know the only mine that will encourage a couple of drinks while you're on site!

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Bill is walking on the beach and realises he has forgotten his cigarette lighter. He asks a man sitting on the beach if he has a lighter he can borrow. The man says yes and pulls out a gigantic lighter. Bill's amazed at the size and asks him where he got it. The man tells him there's a Genie in a Bottle in his bag, but she is so old that he thinks she is deaf. Bill doesn't believe him so the man pulls out an old bottle and tells

him to try it for himself. Bill rubs the bottle and out pops this old wrinkled-up Genie and say she will grant him one wish. Bill wishes for a million bucks and instantly the sky darkens and ducks started falling from the sky. “WTF?” says Bill. The man laughs and says, “I told you she's old and deaf. How do you think I ended up with a 12-inch Bic?”

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KICK STARTING Careers

GLENCORE WELCOMED ALMOST 50 NEW GRADUATES TO THEIR AUSTRALIAN COAL BUSINESS THIS YEAR, WITH A FOCUS ON LOCAL TALENT FROM REGIONAL COMMUNITIES.

Glencore’s Graduate Development Program is just one of their many programs aimed at developing the skills of young Australians. The program combines structured, professional development with on-the-job experience and mentoring from some of the best in the business.

GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE ACROSS MANY DISCIPLINES, INCLUDING ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS, INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND IT, ACCOUNTING, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, HUMAN RESOURCES AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY.

Participants of the two-year program are given the opportunity to be hands-on and rotate throughout different areas of operations from day one, equipping them with practical industry knowledge and allowing for maximum exposure to the different areas of operations.

“I was interested as it is a very structured program. It also provides many opportunities, and I was keen to explore that.”
SACHIN FERNANDO – INFORMATION SYSTEMS

SOME OF THIS YEAR’S GRADUATES SHARE WHAT IT MEANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

“With mining there is such a broad range of operations that occur, and this program will really allow me to develop and grow as an engineer. It’s been amazing how welcoming people have been.”
JOCK LITTLEWOOD – MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

“I love science and I wanted to work in science, so the mining industry was a great opportunity for me as I was able to apply my science as a part of a big team and a big industry.”
MARGARET JAMES – GEOLOGY

“I had a few industry contacts and the resounding message I was getting was that Glencore had an outstanding grad program that was really focused on developing young leaders and I’m excited to be a part of that.”
STEVIE VAN MIERLO – COMMERCIAL

“Being a mining engineer, what interested me most was the variability between technical and soft skills. You get the opportunity not only to design, but then to project manage those designs.”
WILLIAM JONES - MINING ENGINEER

“Being a residential role meant that it provides more hands-on experience, allowing you to spend more time with the plant and understand all the processes and become more technically proficient.”
SANDEEPA FERNANDO – PROCESS ENGINEERING

STRENGTHENING SKILLS

THE AWARD-WINNING MINING AND ENERGY SKILLS PROGRAM AT TAFE NSW MUSWELLBROOK IS HELPING 24 NEW HUNTER BASED APPRENTICES LAUNCH THEIR CAREERS.

Now in its 16th consecutive year, the 18 week program provides apprentices with training in light automotive technology, mechanical engineering, metal fabrication and electrotechnology trades.

The Mining and Energy Skills Program’s effectiveness is due to a close collaboration with some of the Hunter’s biggest companies, including AGL Macquarie, Bengalla, BHP Mount Arthur, Hitachi Construction Machinery Australia, Port Waratah Coal Services, MIGAS and Programmed Skilled Workforce.

IN ADDITION TO EQUIPPING STUDENTS WITH TRADE SKILLS TO BE JOB READY, THE PROGRAM EQUIPS STUDENTS WITH THE SKILLS TO THRIVE IN THEIR CAREER, BY TRAINING IN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS, DRUG AND ALCOHOL SAFETY, FATIGUE MANAGEMENT, ROAD SAFETY, HEARING CONSERVATION AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT.

TAFE NSW Teacher of Electrotechnology, Industry and Resources Darren Ward said the value of custom training tailored to industry partners’ needs is evident through the continued support the program enjoys and the contribution our partners have made to its evolution over the years. “Some of these organisation’s have partnered with the program since it’s conception in 2006, which is testament to the outcomes it has achieved and the calibre of the apprentices whom have gone on to advance their skills in the energy and resources sector and excel.”

“We are thrilled the program continues to attract both male and female apprentices with 10 of our 24 apprentices being female,” he said.



L-R JOSHUA MOORE, NADIA OWEN, BROOKE RISBY, KRISTIN COX, BEN JONES.

AGL LIDDELL AND BAYSWATER POWER STATIONS HAVE WELCOMED FIVE NEW APPRENTICES THIS YEAR, WITH THREE WOMEN AMONGST THE NEW RECRUITS.

With hard hats in hand and steel-capped boots in tow, the new apprentices are ready to go and were selected from a pool of just under 1000.

AGL’s Chief Operating Officer and Executive Sponsor of AGL Equality, Markus Brokhof said it was great to welcome new recruits to our two sites.

“I am always proud to see the next generation of young AGL employees get started and have the opportunity to build a rewarding career in this dynamic and changing industry,” Mr Brokhof said.

“This year, across our coal generation sites, we are also seeing more women choose to take on a trade

in energy. At AGL we are committed to improving equality across the business and I hope to see more women consider this field in the years to come.”

“We value diversity and inclusion and are on the lookout for new talent across all walks of life. No matter their gender or background, each and every apprentice at AGL is given the opportunity to learn and develop the skills needed to foster successful careers.”

THIS YEAR’S APPRENTICES WILL BE DEVELOPING SKILLS IN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL TRADES, THROUGH AGL’S AWARD- WINNING APPRENTICE PROGRAM.

AGL electrical apprentice, Brooke Risby said she is proud to be an apprentice at AGL and celebrate her new chosen career.

“My experience in my apprenticeship with AGL

has been second to none,” Brooke said. “I already feel in the past five weeks I’ve grown so much in my capabilities and understanding of my trade and others. I’m looking forward to the next four years with AGL.”

AGL electrical apprentice, Kristen Vox said the apprenticeship was helping her to develop capabilities in a range of areas.

“Since starting my apprenticeship, I’ve attended the Mining and Energy Skills course which has been beneficial for my confidence regarding tools, workshop awareness and safety within the industry,” said Kristin. “I’m enjoying the different trade classes each day, especially the trades which I am not completing.”

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SUPPLIER INSIDER

P J Welding

Tell us about the business?

P J Welding is a small family owned engineering business specialising in mining maintenance in the Hunter Valley. We have well equipped workshops at both Cardiff and Singleton. We offer a large range of services including Steel, Aluminium, Stainless Steel and Plastic Fabrication. We carry out ferrous and non-ferrous welding repairs, poly

pipe welding, fitting and machining, abrasive blasting and painting all with mobile mine site capabilities. Our highly skilled workforce holds relevant trade certificates and high risk licenses to ensure all our client needs are met. All our equipment meets current mine site specifications. This enables us to minimise downtime on site and maximise production.

How long have you been doing business?

Established in 1974, we are currently celebrating our 47th year in business.

How many people work for the business?

We typically employ 20-30 people and are continually looking for quality, dependable people, including boilermakers, fitters, blasters and painters.

Describe a typical day at 'The office'.

A typical day for us would be fabricating a job to customer requirements in one of our workshops, then transporting the item to site for installation by one of our specialist onsite teams.

What's the best thing about the business?

The best thing about our business is our people. We cherish the friendships we make along the way with colleagues, customers and suppliers.

What are the biggest challenges facing your business?

The biggest challenge we confront is finding and training employees to meet our extremely high standards. We have trained many quality apprentices with 2 becoming 'Hunter Valley Apprentice of the Year' and others reaching the finals of that assessment.

What is the business most proud of?

We are proud to be a small family owned business that has been the source of income for our employee's families for 47 years. Without our loyal customers we wouldn't have been able to achieve this. Our loyal customers have continued to support us through the tough times (including COVID-19) as well as the good times.

Community or other causes close to its heart and values?

P J Welding have always tried to support our community and region, a few causes stand out including The Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Rural Bush Fire Brigade and the Cancer Council.

Any funny or heartwarming stories to share?

We have had many funny times and stories over the years, but I don't think they should be published haha.

Any employees that deserve a shout out?

We recognise that we are only as good as our workforce and would like to formally thank our entire workforce for their continued hard work. The business would not be where it is today without their diligence.

Who are you and what do you do?

Shaun Fitzgibbon – I work for Thiess at a coal mining operation in the Hunter Valley. My title is Pit Coordinator (dispatcher), but first and foremost I am an Operator (aka truckie). I am also a Peer Support Officer and a member of our Emergency Response Team.

When did you start in the mining industry and what was your first job?

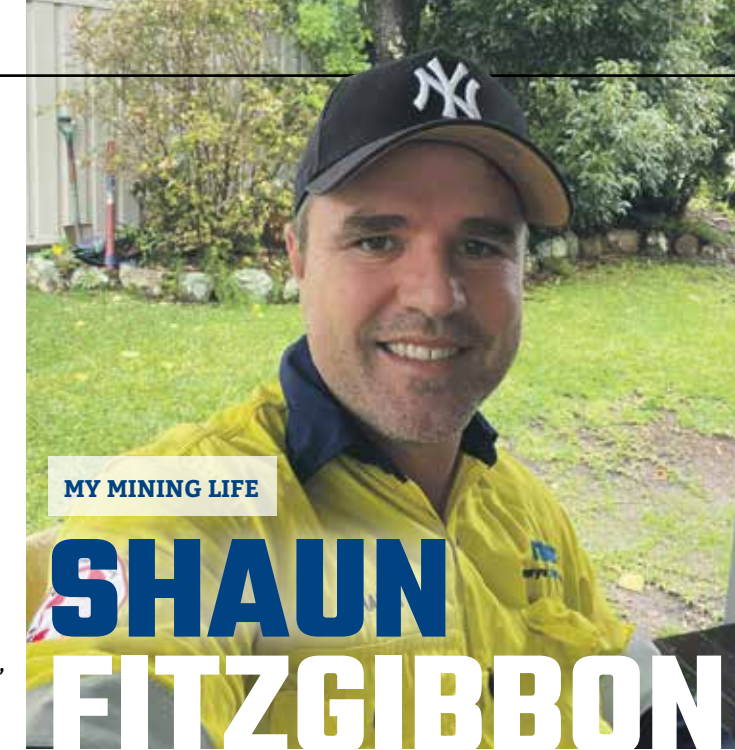
I am a late mining bloomer. I started two and half years ago, at the age of 42, as a Trainee Operator with Bengalla.

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

I never knew what I wanted to be. I've always enjoyed learning new things but navigating this thing we call life has always been my first priority. I will admit growing up in the Hunter Valley, I never wanted to be a coal miner and today, at 44, here I am. Mining saved me in many ways. It's provided me with more opportunities, both in and out of the workplace. I will always be grateful to the mining industry because of this. Mining came to me at the perfect time!

What's a usual day at work entail?

When I have my Pit



MY MINING LIFE

SHAUN FITZGIBBON

Coordinator hat on it's a juggle and a very full on day. It doesn't stop. Anything that happens out in the pit you need to be across. You are constantly on the two way and it can be a rollercoaster ride.

As a truckie your main job is to move dirt and coal. You start each task with a safety check and then you are focused on safely driving the truck from A to B.

What's the best thing about your job?

For me and my family right now it would be the pay and lifestyle roster. The pay keeps things ticking over (bills are paid on time) and the lifestyle

roster affords me the time for extra circular activities that wouldn't exist within a normal 9am to 5pm weekday job.

Also, for me personally my current employer Thiess is committed to the development of their employees. It's a great company to work for and I'm grateful to be part of their team.

The worst thing?

Without a doubt nightshift. You have to be on top of your health game for this not to impact you.

What's the biggest challenge you've had to overcome?

I believe people everywhere,

generally speaking, are under a lot of stress due to Covid. It's a big reason I have established a business and wrote a book about mindset (mental health).

What has been your proudest achievement?

Mining wise, well I haven't been in the industry for too long, so my biggest achievement was getting a start. After that it was securing a fulltime shirt with Thiess and the opportunities and support, they have provided me.

Outside of mining, well my children, of course, and 31-year relationship with my wife – my rock!

Also, for 10 years I had my own sports coaching business where I developed sports programs for young children. Through this, I've also been lucky enough to work with big sporting organisations such as Cricket Australia, Cricket NSW, Newcastle Jets, Northern NSW Football, ISNSW and Wheelchair Sports NSW.

What's something about your job that would surprise people to know?

As with many industries in these troubled times, mental health is something that affects everyone – even miners!

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

When I first started in the

mining industry, I had a beeping sound going off in my truck, not an alarm but a constant beeping. I couldn't work out what it was and whether it was serious. It wouldn't go away so I called the maintenance team on the two way, "copy maintenance...have a constant beeping sound..."

To which they replied, "is your blinker still on?"

Yep, it was.

To my defence, the blinker light was not working, but it provided a good laugh for all involved for many weeks and beyond lol.

What do you do in your downtime?
My kids' sports keep me busy, and I also enjoy going to the beach. I have a side hustle, my book and business, which is all coming along slowly but surely. When it's live, check it out at www.shaunfitzgibbon.com.

The mining industry gets more than its fair share of criticism. What is your view of our industry and the impact it has?

My tip - don't listen to the views of the far left or far right. This is often what you hear in the mainstream news. The truth is always somewhere in the middle, mixed with an important ingredient we call time. Change takes time.

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Aboriginal Community Development Fund

MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation

MACH Energy Australia oversees commitments relating to the Aboriginal Community Development Fund (ACDF).

The Fund seeks to support partnerships that target issues, needs and opportunities which are priorities for local Aboriginal communities in areas such as health; economic development; cultural and community development and education in the Upper Hunter Valley, NSW.

For Applications or further information about the ACDF please visit: www.machenergy.com.au/acdf

ACDF - "Targeting issues, needs & opportunities of local Aboriginal communities"





CASH FOR CLUBS

THE MANGOOLA WORKFORCE AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE RECENTLY VISITED TWO LOCAL SPORTING CLUBS TO DELIVER SOME GOOD NEWS.

The site donated \$500 each to Muswellbrook and Merriwa Junior Rugby League Football Clubs after raising the money through 100 club fundraisers on site. In addition, Mangoola is also kindly donating two old ice machines to each junior club. Mitchell Green, Environment

and Community Coordinator at Mangoola Coal said he was proud to be part of a workforce that fostered such strong community engagement and assistance. "Well done to everyone at Mangoola. It's fantastic to see our employees supporting their local communities."

BOOSTS FOR GROUPS

FIVE LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN THE UPPER HUNTER VALLEY REGION WILL SHARE IN OVER \$25,000 OF FUNDING THANKS TO ASHTON COAL'S COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM.

The 2021 community grants program is funding solar panels for Singleton Heights Pre-School, instructor training at Singleton Pony Club, facility upgrades at Singleton PCYC, water filtration points at Australian Christian College and education and training at Singleton Gymkhana. Ashton Coal Operations Manager Aaron McGuigan met with representatives from the successful organisations at a recent event to confirm the funding. "Congratulations to all the community groups receiving donations this year as part of our Community Support Program. Community groups are the backbone of our community and we value the important contribution they make to maintaining and creating a strong and sustainable community. "We are proud to be part of the Upper Hunter Valley region and we hope with this funding you can continue to operate and grow the invaluable service you offer the people of our community. "Community organisations rely on funding to purchase new equipment, run events or enhance

their services and we are pleased we could be of assistance. "IN ITS TENTH YEAR, OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM DONATES FUNDS TO SUPPORT PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES THAT MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE TO THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTRIBUTING OVER MANY YEARS TO COME," SAID AARON. Tim Shields, Principal of Australian Christian College Singleton welcomed the addition of the new filtered water system for the teachers and students. "We are constantly adapting to the changing world and enhancing our safe practices at the school. We recognised the need to install two new filtered water stations to ensure we have fresh drinking water for everyone on campus. "The new system provides easy access and



L-R AARON MCGUIGAN (ASHTON COAL OPERATIONS MANAGER), GEORGIA MERCECA - YEAR 6 AND LESIA TAU - YEAR 5 FROM AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE SINGLETON AND MR TIM SHIELDS (PRINCIPAL AT AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE SINGLETON).

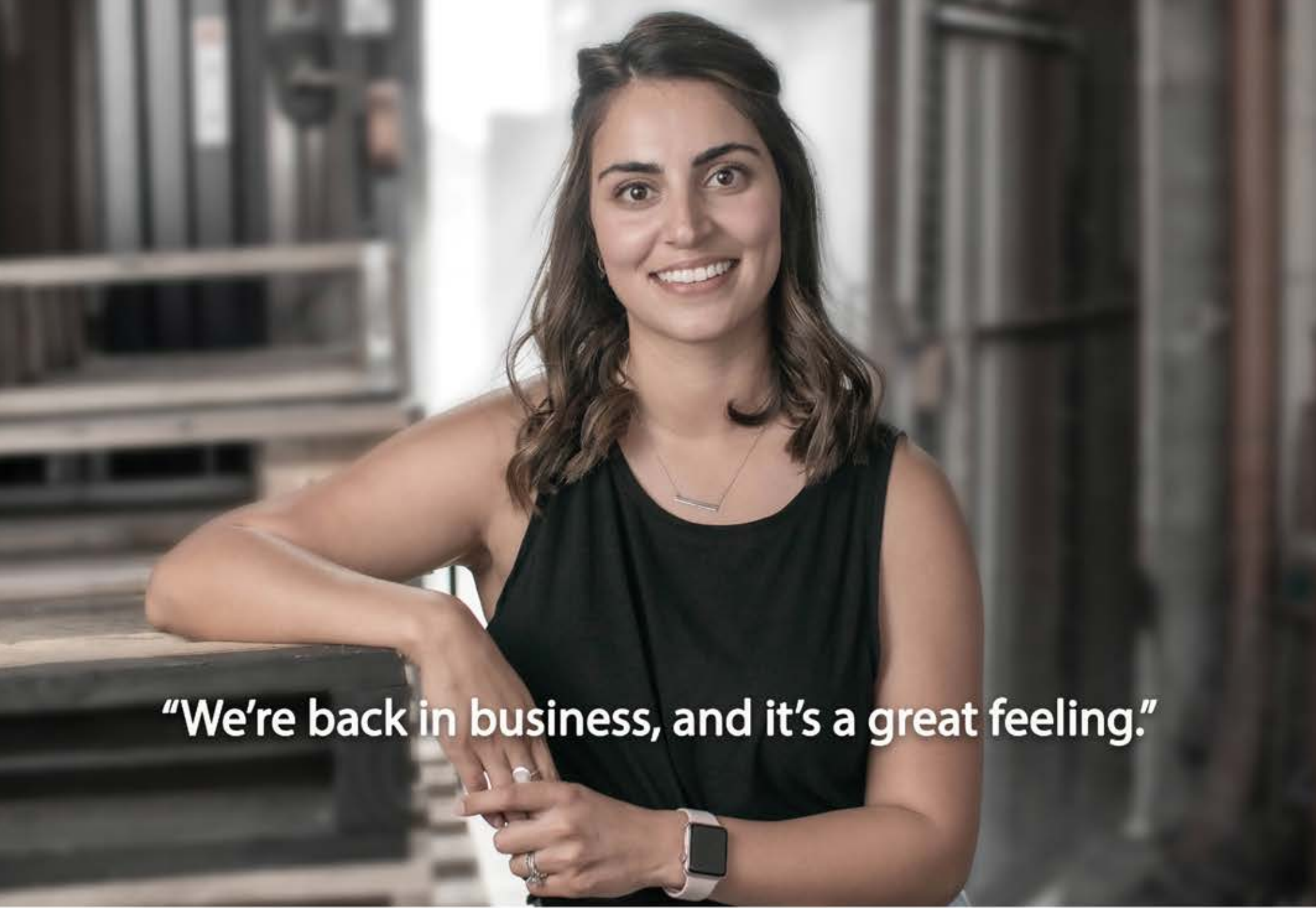
hygienic drinking water, and we are grateful to Ashton Coal for their kind donation," said Tim. The Ashton Community Support Program runs annually and invests in community groups working in the areas of health, social and community, environment, and education and training. It aims to make a positive difference in the local community, and to the lives of the people who work and live in the local area.



Charity Day
CANCELLED

THE A-PLUS CONTRACTING HUNTER VALLEY MINING CHARITY RUGBY LEAGUE DAY HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

The popular event was postponed last year due to the global pandemic and rescheduled to be held on March 20th. Then the unforeseen torrential rain left no choice but to officially call off the event. Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Community Liaison Officer Danny Eather said that it was disappointing to make the call to cancel, but the safety of the participants and spectators was the priority. "While it's disappointing after all the hard work and support from our sponsors and volunteers, we still have the 2021 event to look forward to," says Danny. "ON OCTOBER 16, 2021, WE WILL BE BACK AT PIRTEK PARK TO WATCH OUR LOCAL COAL MINERS BATTLE IT OUT. NOT ONLY WILL IT BE A DAY OF GOOD FOOTY AND GOOD FUN, BUT WE HOPE WE CAN CONTINUE TO RAISE MUCH NEEDED FUNDS TO ENSURE THE SERVICE STAYS IN THE AIR."



"We're back in business, and it's a great feeling."

COVID-19 hit a lot of regional small businesses hard. Australian mining stepped up to back small business and support local jobs and communities. As Australia recovers, mining will stand by small business to keep our regions strong.

There's more to
Australian Mining
Still backing small business





SINGLETON TOWN BAND

Starting from a town meeting in 1878, the Singleton Town Band (STB) celebrates 143 years of continuous service this year as one of the oldest continuous running bands in Australia.

The concert band, made up of brass and woodwind instruments, brings together the Singleton

THIS MONTH THE COMPLETE PARTS AND @ THE COALFACE \$500 COMMUNITY GIFT GOES TO THE SINGLETON TOWN BAND, AN ORGANISATION THAT HAS BEEN PASSIONATELY INGRAINED IN THE SINGLETON COMMUNITY FOR OVER A CENTURY.

community to celebrate, practice and perform music at community occasions and events.

With 3 bands forming STB including the Intermediate Band for younger and new starting players, the Late Starters Band for 'more mature' learners of instruments and the Senior Band usually seen on parades and at functions, there truly is a place for any member of the community looking to get involved.

Singleton Town Band President, Peter Knight said, "anyone is welcome to join, just come down!"

"Our next major performance is the annual event we are most proud of – the ANZAC Day march and services on April 25."



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Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When little Logan received his plate, he started eating right away.

"Logan, wait until we say our prayer," his mother reminded him.

"I don't have to," the little boy replied.

"Of course you do," his mother insisted, "we say a prayer before eating at our house."

"That's at our house," Logan explained, "but this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook."

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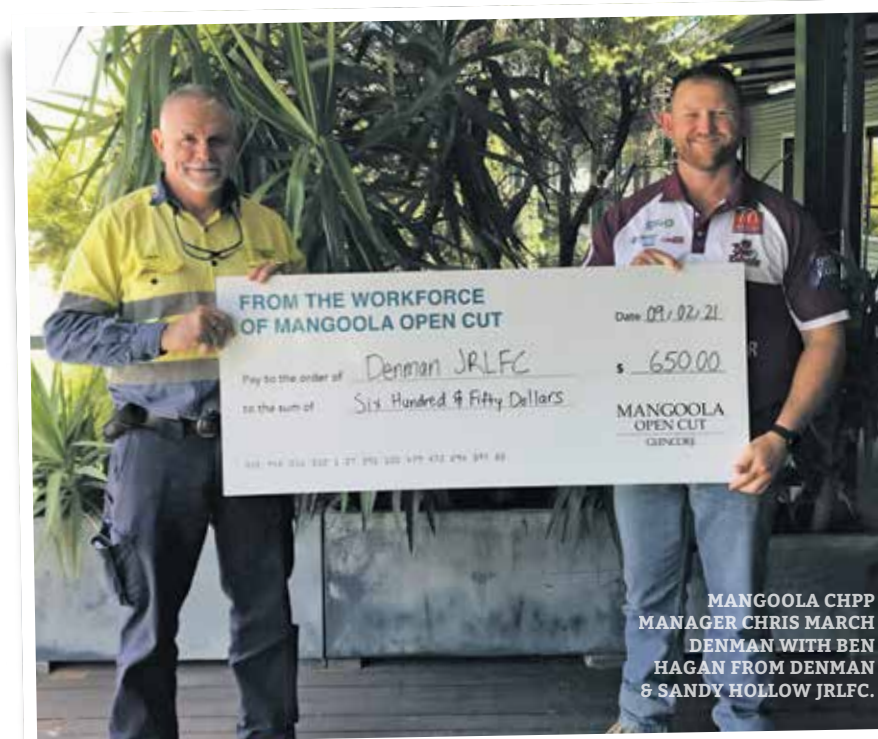
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COMMUNITY GIFT



TOP TIPPING

MANGOOLA OPEN CUT'S WORKFORCE HAS ONCE AGAIN PROVIDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR A LOCAL SPORTING CLUB.

Over 30 of the mine's employees participated in a 2020 NRL tipping competition and managed to raise \$650 to put towards a good cause.

Mangoola prides themselves on giving back to the community and the recipient for this donation was Denman Junior Rugby League Club, who will use the funds to go towards the purchase of an ice machine.

Accepting the cheque was Denman & Sandy Hollow JRLFC's Ben Hagan who said, "Any funds are always

greatly appreciated and the purchase of an ice machine, which will mainly be used for injury treatment purposes, helps us to conserve funds and be self-sufficient."

Mangoola CHPP Manager and Fundraising Committee Chair, Chris March said, "The NRL tipping comp will run again this year with hopefully even more players and therefore more funds raised. It's fitting that an NRL tipping comp fundraiser should benefit rugby league at the grass roots level."

CULTURE, COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

SINGLETON PCYC, WITH THE SUPPORT OF MACH ENERGY, HAVE WELCOMED PROUD WIRADJURI MAN NICHOLAS BAILEY IN A NEWLY CREATED ABORIGINAL YOUTH WORKER POSITION.

Just a few weeks into the new role, 21 year old Nicholas is already well on his way to his goal – to get more Aboriginal youth involved in the Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC) and spread cultural awareness throughout the local community. A completely new position at Singleton PCYC, Nicholas has hit the ground running connecting with local services, schools and Aboriginal groups to begin structuring programs and activities for Singleton and Muswellbrook's Aboriginal youth.

Whilst the PCYC host a number of programs for local youth, the new Aboriginal Youth Worker position allows them to create programs specific to the Aboriginal community. MACH Energy generously funded the position on a 2 year full time contract, and PCYC are committed to making the role a success.

PCYC Singleton Club Manager, David Andrews said they had a huge number of people apply for the role, but there was one who stood out as perfect for the Aboriginal Youth Worker position. "Honestly when I had the interview with Nick it went for about an hour, but after the first 10 minutes I just stopped writing and said to myself 'this is the guy'."

"THE PCYC CEO'S OVERALL GOAL IS TO ONE DAY IN THE NEAR FUTURE HAVE A YOUTH WORKER IN EVERY PCYC IN NEW SOUTH WALES, SO WE ARE REALLY KEEN TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESS AS IT'S GOING TO HAVE LONG TERM AFFECTS FOR NOT JUST OUR LOCAL CLUBS, BUT FOR PCYC'S ACROSS THE STATE," SAID DAVID.

Nick said working in the community services sector is something he has always wanted to do and that quickly became clear to me as he described the different programs he has in the works. "I've been flat out structuring programs and activities such as life skills programs, mentoring, cultural games and after school activities like boxing which I am really excited to soon deliver between Muswellbrook and Singleton PCYC branches," Nick said.

"The response from the community has been nothing but positive and every local group I have approached have been thrilled to get involved."

"I'm also looking forward to hopefully rolling these programs out school wide to spread cultural awareness, work with kids who might be disengaged with school and need a support system, and better support local Aboriginal Youth."

As our interview concluded, David had one more thing to add about the newest addition to their team, "Nick is a very impressive young man, and we are very excited to see the impact he has on our local Aboriginal youth and community."



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GET SOAKED

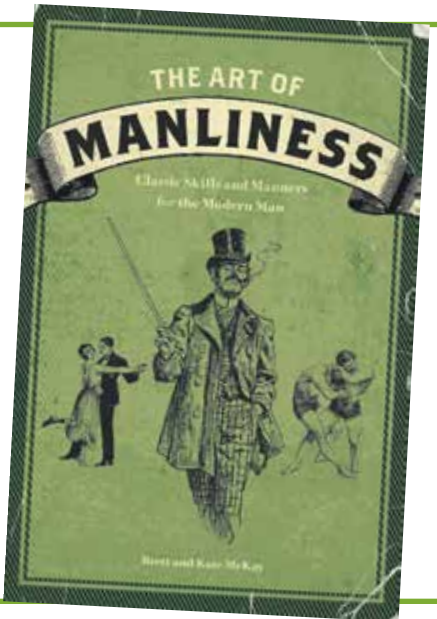
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Taking lessons from the likes of Benjamin Franklin and Theodore Roosevelt, this book contains a wealth of information that ranges from survival skills to social skills to advice on how to improve your character. You'll learn the basics that all modern men should know such as how to ask for a women's hand in marriage, how to be a perfect houseguest and how to give a man a hug. I'm sure we all know a few fellas who need to take a few tips out of this great read.



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CHOOSE TO CHANGE

WHEN IT COMES TO BEING SAFE AT WORK, WE NORMALLY JUST THINK ABOUT PHYSICAL INJURIES. BUT EMPLOYERS MUST ALSO PROTECT YOU FROM OTHER DANGERS, LIKE BULLYING, VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

Never before has the spotlight shone so brightly on sexual harassment in the workplace. Behaviour that you might have once thought was acceptable you may now be discovering is in fact a form of sexual harassment. Society is changing and so must the workplace.

It is the duty of every employer to do everything they reasonably can to prevent sexual harassment from occurring at work, just like other risks to health and safety. Safe Work Australia has recently released a guide to help employers meet this requirement.

THE NEW GUIDE: PREVENTING WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT, IS THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE WHS GUIDANCE IN AUSTRALIA TO FOCUS ON PREVENTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT. THE GUIDANCE SUPPORTS BUSINESS AND ORGANISATIONS TO MEET THEIR WHS DUTIES WITH PRACTICAL STEPS TO IDENTIFY RISKS AND PREVENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE.

The Australian Human Rights Commission's most recent survey conducted in 2018 showed that sexual harassment in Australian workplaces is widespread and pervasive. One in three people experienced sexual harassment at work in the

past five years. Further, almost two in five women (39%) and just over one in four men (26%) have experienced sexual harassment in the workplace in the past five years.

Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature which makes a person feel offended, humiliated or intimidated. It can take various forms and can include unwelcome hugging, kissing or other types of inappropriate physical contact, staring or leering, intrusive questions about your private life or physical appearance, unwanted invitations to go out on dates, requests for sex, or sexually explicit emails, calls, text messages or online interactions.

Such behaviour does not have to be directed specifically at you. Sexual harassment includes behaviour that makes the environment you are working in uncomfortable or threatening in a sexually hostile way, such as sexually offensive pictures or a culture of suggestive comments or jokes.

It can happen during working hours, at work-related activities such as training courses, conferences, trips and work-related social activities. It might come from other workers, your supervisor or manager, or from your

customers or clients.

Sexual harassment is not always obvious, repeated or continuous. Unlike bullying, which is characterised by repeated behaviour, sexual harassment can be a one-off incident. But any form of sexual harassment can cause physical and psychological harm to the person it is directed at and anyone witnessing the behaviour.

IT IS THE DUTY OF NOT JUST EMPLOYERS, BUT EVERY EMPLOYEE TO KNOW WHAT BEHAVIOUR IS ACCEPTABLE AND WHAT IS NOT. CLAIMING TO NOT KNOW THAT CERTAIN BEHAVIOUR IS A FORM OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS NOT AN EXCUSE.

The new guide does not just provide information to employers, but has resources for employees who feel that they are the victim of sexual harassment and are unsure of what help is available. It also provides information for everyone to understand clearly what constitutes as sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment is not a women's issue: it is a societal issue, which every Australian and every Australian workplace can contribute to addressing. Workplace sexual harassment is not inevitable. And it is not acceptable.



CAN'T BEAT SLEEP

In addition to strengthening our memories, sleep also helps us learn new information. While we sleep our brains process and store long-term memories. During Rapid Eye Movement (REM) sleep the brain replays memory sequences that we learned while awake, except 20 times faster! Research shows that people who were deprived of sleep after learning a new skill had a significantly weaker memory of that skill than those who received adequate sleep.

SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

A newer area of research into memory loss has been looking at how social and emotional connections could be key in preserving memory. Research is showing that people who engage in meaningful social interaction maintain their brain health better at all ages. The key word here is meaningful. Try catching up with a good friend, not chasing likes on a social media post.

BRAIN GAMES

While engaging in brain games like puzzles or learning a new language or instrument has not been conclusively proven to prevent memory loss, it has been shown to help increase your cognitive reserve and thinking skills. Plus, what could be more fun than solving our crossword!

SENSORY INPUT

Engaging all your senses in an experience will make a big impact on how well you'll remember it later on.

Forget It

MEMORIES HELP SHAPE WHO WE ARE BUT AS WE AGE UNFORTUNATELY OUR MEMORY BEGINS TO DECLINE. WHILE GENES PLAY A BIG ROLE IN WHY SOME PEOPLE LOSE MORE OF THEIR MEMORY THAN OTHERS, THERE ARE EVERYDAY CHOICES WE CAN ALL MAKE THAT CAN HELP.

If you can involve all 5 senses in the experience; hear, see, smell, taste, and touch, then you will be able to recall it better in the future.

MINIMISE STRESS

Attempting to learn or form new memories while under stress is rarely successful as stress alters the way our brains process information and how memory is stored. Trying some simple breathing exercises or other techniques the next time you are feeling stressed will help with your memory creation and retrieval.

COFFEE CLAIMS

Caffeine is one of the most popular cognitive enhancers in the world and besides preventing drowsiness some research suggest that it can enhance cognitive functions such as memory, motivation, or creativity. However, there is opposing research that suggests it can inhibit memory. The verdict, we recommend there's only

one reason to drink coffee. Because you like it.

EAT WELL

A healthy diet can be as good for your brain as it is for your heart. Eat fruits, vegetables and whole grains. Choose low-fat protein sources, such as fish, beans and skinless poultry. What you drink counts too, as too much alcohol can increase memory loss.

EXERCISE

It is believed that the increased blood flow to the brain as well as the mild stress of exercising may result in the production of growth factors in the brain leading to improved cognitive performance. This is backed up by studies showing that adults who walk regularly gain hippocampus volume (memory center of brain) as opposed to losing it as they age.

STILL FORGETTING?

While it's natural for all of us to lose memory as we age, memory loss, especially when it's associated with other mental impairments, may be an indication of an underlying neurological condition such as dementia.

If you or someone you know are suffering from memory loss, having difficulty completing familiar tasks, are experiencing changes in your mood or personality, or are easily becoming confused, don't ignore the signs and schedule an appointment with your doctor right now. Before you forget.

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Hose and Fittings

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

'A TASTE OF THE GREEN IRON' IS WHAT WAS USUALLY SAID OF CONTRACTORS OR INDIVIDUALS WHO PURCHASED EUCLID OR TEREX MACHINE. NOT YOUR ORDINARY GARDEN GREEN, THEY WERE A BRIGHT, ALMOST KERMIT THE FROG LIME-LIKE 'HI-LITE GREEN' EASILY RECOGNISABLE FROM THE YELLOW VARIETY OPERATING IN THE FIELD.

Purchased by General Motors in 1953 for USD20m, GM likely held high hopes that their Euclid division would become the next Caterpillar however, faced with antitrust lawsuits and economic headwinds, innovation at times proved as

difficult as sales at the larger end of town. Following an agreement with the Department of Justice, GM disbanded Euclid and created 'Terex' in 1968, a name derived from the Latin words terra, meaning earth, and rex, meaning king.

As was so often the case for the earthmovers of the time, GM determined that size was the order of the day, with trends suggesting the expansion of large scale open pit and surface mines. Having copped a bloody nose from their stoush with the US Government, GM (rather Terex) was determined to display their engineering might and once again become the leader in the haul truck field.

Regularly challenged by its competitors that included Unit Rig, WABCO Haulpack and the Dart Truck Company, Terex concluded that a haul truck with a payload capacity in the realms of 250 tons was the way to go. Albeit capable of producing such large machines, the absence of appropriately sized engines and tires continued to prove the biggest hurdle and impediment to rapid product development. Nonetheless, in 1974 the 33-19 Titan was born



when it was formally launched at the American Mining Congress in (where else, of course) Las Vegas.

WITH MUCH FANFARE AND FIVE GM CARS FASTENED INTO ITS BED, THE THREE-AXLE TITAN WAS THE STAR OF THE EVENT. MEASURING 66 FEET LONG AND 25 FEET 7 INCHES WIDE, IT WEIGHED 236 TONNES AND 554 TONNES WHEN FULLY LOADED. RELATIVE TO ITS NEAREST RIVAL, THE WABCO HAULPAK 3200, THIS TRUCK WAS 16 FEET LONGER AND WAS THE WORLD'S LARGEST DUMP TRUCK.

Pulled down after the mining show and sent to an iron ore mine in Southern California's Riverside Country, the truck was handed over to site in 1975, where it operated for three years. Powered by a 169.5 liter GM EMD Model 16-645E4 diesel

locomotive engine rated at 3,300 gross horsepower, it was a true gas guzzler burning an average 2082 liters every eight hours.

Despite this burn and the global oil embargos, it (commendably) held its own throughout this time. Succeeding multiple mine owners, the Titan was transferred to British Columbia where it worked until 1991 when it was retired from active service. Removed from site and established as a tourist attraction in Sparwood, Canada it stands testament to the engineering feats of the day.

Always a prototype and never a mainstream truck, the Titan's lack of success was more to do with world economics and sadly, less with how the truck performed; a manufacturing marvel of its time.

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DROVER'S RUN BACK IN 2021

EXPLORING 5,500KMS OF SOME OF THE MOST ICONIC DESTINATIONS IN OUTBACK AUSTRALIA OVER 16 DAYS, THE 7TH DROVER'S RUN 4WD OUTBACK ADVENTURE HAS RETURNED FOR 2021 TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE.

The 2021 Drover's Run will kick off on August 6, with this year's participants meeting at Copi Hollow Caravan Park near Menindee for a meet and greet, to then head off on a massive adventure back to Tamworth the next morning.

The Drover's Run is a tag-a-long 4WD adventure trip taking entrants through and to iconic places in the Australian Outback, each year undertaking more adventurous routes to make the experience even more exciting.

"Although they are by no means extreme 4WDing, we choose our routes to make sure we get to a place we know the majority of entrants will not have visited before, and often gain access to private properties to pass through each day to make the experience even more exciting," said Jeff Galbraith, Event Coordinator NENW, Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

BUT IT'S NOT ALL JUST FOR FUN, WITH THE MAIN GOAL TO FUNDRAISE FOR THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE TO ALLOW THE CONTINUED RESPONSE OF THE SERVICE'S 4 AW139 HELICOPTERS AND CREW ACROSS NORTHERN NSW WHEN NEEDED.

In 2019 the Drover's Run became the largest fundraising event for the Service with a net income of \$250,000 purely through the efforts of the entrants of the 47 vehicles taking part, and importantly their supporters who donated to their fundraising totals.

This year's event is set to have participants visiting places that most people would love to tick off their bucket list and they get to do it on a supported trip with all the organising already done.

"We head down though the Menindee Lakes and then west to cross into South Australia to our first stop at Jamestown, which is pretty well all dirt or sand on day one to get us on

our way," said Jeff.

"From there it is through Port Augusta and a lunch stop at Woomera before our next overnight at Kingoonya, a little one pub village with a free camp and facilities."

"Next we head to Coober Pedy staying at Ribas Underground Camping with an optional trip out to see The Remarkables or take in the many sights of Coober Pedy."

"A crackin' day next as we head north and detour to the spectacular Painted Desert, stopping at Oodnadatta, and then on to Mt Dare, starting place of many Simpson Desert trips."

And that's just the beginning of the trip, with days more of exploring our beautiful Australian landscape on the cards for the huge group. They then finally end with a night at the Riverside Caravan Park on the banks of the Warrego River in Cunnamulla and then to Pallettsville, east of Moree for their final night of the Drover's Run.

"TRAVELLING IN A GROUP AS WE DO ON THE DROVER'S RUN CREATES A REAL SENSE OF TEAM AND BELONGING WHETHER IT'S HELPING SOMEONE CHANGE A FLAT TYRE OR HELPING UNDER THE BONNET IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG," SAID JEFF.

"Everyone along the way becomes more aware of the reason they are part of the Drover's Run and the difference they are making to people's lives and for that reason we have almost 70% of all entrants that have done more than the one trip."

For many entrants over the years this has become part of their yearly calendar because of the enjoyment, but whether you do one Drover's Run or many you are helping to save lives by entering.

Registration and all details on the 2021 Drover's Run can be accessed at <http://events.rescuehelicopter.com.au/> or you can call the Tamworth base on 02 6764 9400 for any further details.



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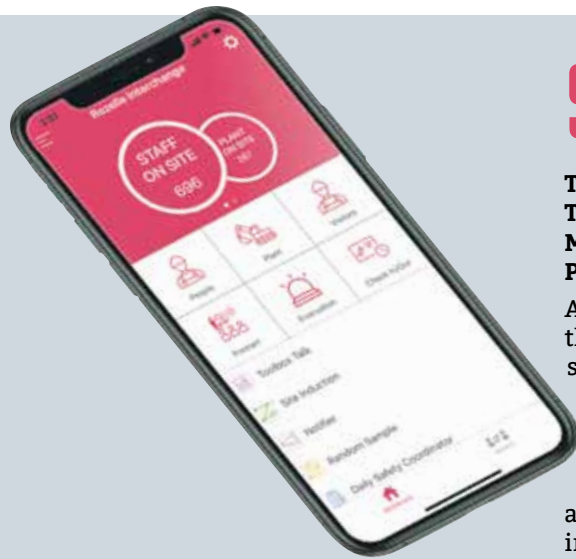
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To find out more information, visit www.glendell.com.au

MAKING K'S COUNT

The inspiring 7 day cycling event has been running annually since 2007 raising vital funds to support the researchers, surgeons and clinicians who dedicate their lives to finding a cure for cancer. Now in its 14th year, the Signature Tour kicked off from Newcastle Harbour embarking on a challenging 7 day ride from Newcastle to Pokolbin and Muswellbrook, to Tamworth, and via the New England region via Armidale to Glen Innes, Grafton and the final destination on April 1, Coffs Harbour.

With support from community partners A-Plus Contracting, Tamburlaine Organic Wines and WesTrac, Lawrence Moberg set to accomplish legs from Newcastle to Muswellbrook with a fundraising goal of \$3,500 and he absolutely knocked it out of the park. Lawrence has so far raised a whopping \$14,160, almost 5 times his set goal.

“My sister had participated in this previously and it sounded like a great cause to get behind,” Moberg explained.

INTEGRA COAL’S ENGINEERING MANAGER LAWRENCE MOBERG WAS ONE OF 140 CYCLISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOUR DE CURE’S 2021 SIGNATURE TOUR, RIDING OFF FROM NEWCASTLE ON MARCH 26.

“Raising money for cancer research was something that really appealed to me and then we were able to do a school visit yesterday.”

SINCE ITS HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, THE TOUR DE CURE COMMUNITY HAS GROWN TO BECOME A NATIONAL MOVEMENT OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, WALKING, RUNNING, RIDING AND SWIMMING TO RAISE AWARENESS AND INSPIRE SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT TO CURE CANCER.

The generosity of its supporters has enabled the Tour De Cure to raise over \$66 million, fund of over 500 cancer projects and contribute to 45 scientific cancer breakthroughs. The organisation also has a key focus to raise awareness that 1 in 3 cancers are preventable, using the event to visit primary schools along the way and educate Aussie kids on this important issue.

Lawrence, 34, saw many local faces when we caught up with him on the second day.



LAWRENCE MOBERG PICTURED WITH HIS WIFE BRIDGET AND KIDS ZOE, COOPER, CHARLOTTE AND OLIVIA.

“Today we left Pokolbin, had breakfast at Audrey Wilkinson Winery and then we had gone from Broke to Singleton so that was 68km so far and now there is 70km to go for the day,” he said during his stop at Singleton’s Rose Point Park.

“Yesterday we visited a school and to be able to talk to the kids about the message of ‘be fit, be happy, be healthy’ was a really nice opportunity to engage with them from that young age.

“It is also important to know that anyone can join the ‘K’s to Cure Cancer’ website right now which is kstocurecancer.com.au.

“You don’t have to ride your bike, you can walk or swim so choose your fitness challenge.”

Congratulations to Lawrence and the inspiring teams of 2021. Ice those legs and sit back and relax – you’ve earned it!

WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU RAIN, GO FISHING!

HAD A FEELING A FLUSH WAS ON THE WAY, BUT NO ONE WAS EXPECTING THE DELUGE WE GOT.

As we head into the cooler months an Autumn flood like this is normally a good forecast for an exceptional Winter fishing season. If history repeats itself like the last time we saw a flood like this in 2015, the fishing will be off its head right throughout Winter, particularly for Snapper. While it might slow the Marlin season on the inshore, things on the shelf will continue to fire, especially once the currents start to back off. So don’t pack the gear away just yet!

OFFSHORE

The flush has already started to fire up the Snapper over the local reefs with Cobia and Longtail Tuna still calling Ports Stephens home. It might pay to use a stick bait style lure covering some ground rather than setting up with live baits while the water is super dirty, especially if the fish show signs of being in an area. Just remember to be patient and let them come to you. Rushing them will still turn them off.

On the shelf, things out that way are going to be interesting while the current and water temps are still running hot and the dregs from the floods make their way South. If lucky enough to stumble across something you could be in for a cracking time with all sorts of things such as Wahoo, Dollies, Kingfish and Yellowfin Tuna holding under the drifting FAD’s.

DAMS

It’s probably been years since the fishing in the local impoundments has been this good as the mild Summer, consistent cooler water temps and steady water levels have seen the fish continue to hold around the weed edges.

The recent rain won’t really hamper the success although we will be hoping we don’t see any substantial fish kills due to the large volume of water over the recent weeks.

If you’re keen on throwing or trolling a few lures around then April will be the month to hook in



GIANT GUITAR FISH (A SPECIES OF SHOVEL NOSED RAY) AREN'T SOMETHING YOU FIND EVERYDAY ON OUR LOCAL BEACHES, BUT IF YOU DO, BE READY FOR AN INSANE FIGHT! APPARENTLY, THESE ALSO RATE HIGHLY AS A TABLE FISH, BUT WE LET THIS BEAUTY GO TO SURPRISE THE NEXT UNSUSPECTING FISHING ENTHUSIAST.

before the cooler weather slows things down, though it won’t turn the bite off completely.

BEACHES

Other than dodging debris washing into the local beaches causing a few minor issues at times, the fishing will be sensational. We normally see all the species hit the washes together after a flood especially Whiting, Bream, Tailor and Jewies.

REMEMBER, THERE ARE ONLY TWO GOOD TIMES TO FISH; WHEN IT’S RAINING AND WHEN IT AIN’T! – Thrifty’s



LET'S GO FISHING!

IT’S TIME TO PATCH UP THE DINGHY, GET OUT YOUR RODS AND HEAD TO THE WATER AND SEE WHAT’S LURKING BELOW THE SURFACE.

And to make your chances of catching a big one all the better we’ve got a \$50 BCF gift vouchers up for grabs.

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2021 ROUTE & SCHEDULE	
Friday 26 March.....	Newcastle to Hunter Valley (Tour Experience), 116kms 1,400m
Saturday 27 March.....	Hunter Valley to Muswellbrook (Tour Experience), 130kms 1,300m
Sunday 28 March	Muswellbrook to Tamworth, 160kms 1,200m
Monday 29 March	Tamworth to Armidale, 160kms 2,100m
Tuesday 30 March	Armidale to Glen Innes, 118kms 1,400m
Wednesday 31 March	Glen Innes to Grafton, 140kms 2,500m
Thursday 1 April	Grafton to Coffs Harbour, 89kms 970m



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Set SAIL!

A FEW HOURS FISHING OFF THE JETTY IN TEA GARDENS IN THE STINKING HOT SUN, QUICKLY TURNED INTO A DAY OUT ON THE WATER FISHING OFF OUR OWN BOAT.

My brother, a couple of mates and I set out early on a scorcher of a Saturday morning to throw a line in and hopefully come back with some fish for lunch. Settling for a spot off the jetty just under Singing Bridge that connects Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest, we set up our chairs and rods and cast away.

In the direct line of the morning sun, it was only around an hour or so before the whining began (mainly from the boys). We watched as families sailed past in their boats with a breeze flowing through their hair as we sat melting away, before my brother said what we were all thinking, “I wish we had a boat”.

AND LIKE THE FAIRY GODMOTHER I AM, I CLICKED MY FINGERS AND GOT US ONE. WELL ACTUALLY, I JUST GAVE THE BOATSHED A CALL. THE BOATSHED IS A BEAUTIFUL RIVERSIDE CAFÉ AND RESTAURANT WITH BOAT HIRE, SO YOU CAN HEAD OUT ON THE BOAT FOR THE DAY AND COME BACK FOR A LOVELY LUNCH OR DINNER ON THE WATER. IT'S THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS.

Within 10 minutes of making the call, the boat was booked, we had our safety briefing, and we were ready to go. We hired the smaller 6 seater boat that didn't require a boat license given none of us had one, and set off for 4 hours to try our luck in

catching some lunch.

Now to be frank, I have absolutely no boating experience. I've never driven a boat; I've barely been on a boat and to be honest I never thought I would be a boating person. So, who better to drive the boat this time round...right?

To my brother and his mates dismay, I took the wheel and fishtailed (unintentionally) our way upriver. Whilst we were all in complete and utter shock that I was being allowed to drive a reasonably sized motored vessel, we began to relax as we took in the serene panorama of the Myall River surrounding us.

Dropping the anchor in a couple of spots upriver, we threw our lines in and caught a couple of smaller bream and whiting, which too small to keep we released back into the crystal blue water. We then turned around to head downriver back under Singing Bridge, pulled up on a sandbank or two and finally made our way back to the dock.

The 4 hours on the water absolutely flew, but by the time we arrived back and jumped off we were all completely exhausted. Out on the water with the river breeze, it's easy to forget the heat of the day and you're all about being in the moment; and it definitely catches up with you when you're back on land. But would we have gone out again for another 4 hours if the day hadn't almost ended? 100% yes.



THERE REALLY ISN'T A FEELING LIKE IT, CRUISING THROUGH THE OPEN WATER AND DISCOVERING THE BEAUTY OF PLACES YOU NORMALLY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE ON LAND.

Here I was thinking I wasn't a boat person, and now I want to be out on the water every weekend. The best part about hiring a boat is you pay for only the time you're using it; it's already fueled up and ready to go, they clean it for you when you're done, and there's no trying to pull it up a boat ramp to cart it home afterwards. Think owning your own boat, without the cleaning, extra maintenance and extra costs that come with it.

You will find boat hire almost everywhere along the coast including throughout Newcastle, the Central Coast and Sydney Harbour and most will have both licensed and non licensed renting options. Even if you think boating is something that you might not enjoy, at least give it a go. Because like me, you could just discover a new hidden love.



Malabar Resources is a proud sponsor of the Jerrys Plains Cup

Who we are

Malabar is an independent, diversified and Australian-owned resources company based in the Hunter Valley.

Our goal is to create a sustainable long-term business by working with the local community and businesses.

Malabar believes transparency builds trust with our stakeholders and achieves better environmental, social, and economic outcomes.

CATCH UP AT THE CALI

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS 'THE CALI' BY LOCALS, THE CALEDONIAN HOTEL HAS BEEN A PART OF SINGLETON FOR OVER 150 YEARS, AND AFTER HAVING A FEED THERE I'M SURE THEY'LL BE AROUND FOR 150 MORE.

From a temporary wooden building operating as an Inn in 1841, to a now a thriving pub with a full bar, great food, beer garden and accommodation, the Cali certainly has come a long way over the centuries. After the recent woeful

week of rain and flooding we had all endured, we thought we would treat ourselves to one of our favourite work lunch destinations for the first day of sun we'd had in a while.

The Cali is a favourite amongst the Singleton and Upper Hunter locals, with live music and pub events every week, an inviting Asian style menu and a feeling of nostalgia as you walk the grounds of an historic Aussie hotel.

WITH THE OH SO GLORIOUS RETURN OF THE SUN WE HAD BEEN IMPATIENTLY WAITING FOR, AND ON A HUMP DAY NO LESS, WE ORDERED A FEW DISHES TO SHARE AND TOOK A SEAT OUTSIDE IN THE CHARMING BEER GARDEN.

And by a few, I mean from the starters we ordered the Curry Puffs made up of onions, potatoes and carrots with curry powder wrapped in pastry, deep fried and served with sweet chilli sauce; and Thai Fish Cakes served with sweet chilli sauce topped with crushed peanuts. And from the mains we chose the Pad Thai made up of thick rice noodles, garlic, chilli, green peppercorn, Chinese broccoli, gar char, basil and egg; Chicken Cashew Nut Stir



Fry made with cashews, chilli jam, carrot, broccolini, onion, red capsicum, bok choy and snow peas; Caramelised Pork Belly with sweet dark soy sauce, steamed broccoli and served with spicy Thai sauce on the side; and Beef Pad See Ew made up of thick rice noodles, dark soy sauce, egg and Chinese broccoli.

Clearly, we were damn hungry. We made short work of the starters and were stoked to see the mains quickly follow. Our boss lady Bec is a hard one to please when it comes to work lunches so when she used the term “amazing” to describe the Pad Thai on first mouthful, we dived in.

The Pork Belly was crispy and delicious, the Pad Thai was just as Bec had described, the Stir Fry was full of flavour with the cashews creating that great hit of nuttiness, and I've never seen my colleague Braedi pump a Pad See Ew so quickly.



Our hump day lunch was a hit, and we were all satisfied to the point of no return (no return to the office that is). Well, our bodies returned to the office, but our minds were still relaxing at the Cali sinking beers and eating great Asian style pub grub. Visit a piece of history and make your next catch up at the Cali.

Rejuvenating land in the Upper Hunter

Since acquiring the Maxwell Infrastructure site – previously an open cut mine – in early 2018, Malabar has been hard at work rehabilitating the mine site.

To date, we have:



Completed over **850 hectares** of rehabilitation.



Planted more than **60,000 trees** in our woodland corridor.



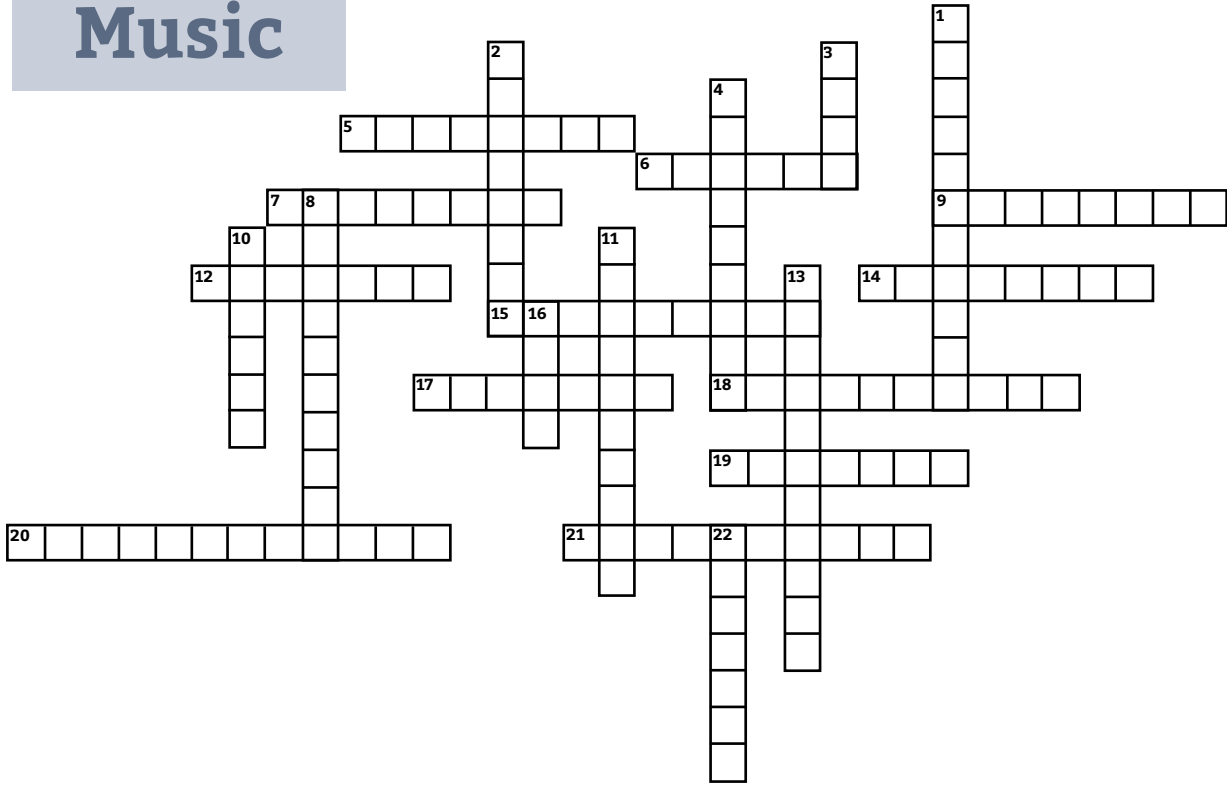
Commenced a **cattle grazing trial** with local farmers which began in late 2018.

How to reach us

For more information about Malabar, visit malabarresources.com.au.

CROSSWORD

Music



ACROSS

- 5. Singing without music
- 6. Irish singer O'Connor
- 7. Masked metal band
- 9. Won the Nobel Prize for Literature
- 12. Cowboy genre
- 14. Singing program on TV
- 15. Highest female voice
- 17. Not a single lady
- 18. Type of singing in metal
- 19. Aretha Franklin song
- 20. Dance festival in Europe
- 21. Jazz musician

DOWN

- 1. Discovered on Youtube
- 2. Riders on the Storm
- 3. Group of musicians
- 4. Famous rock band
- 8. Church music
- 10. Guitar brand
- 11. 27 club member who died in 1994
- 13. Rapper who died in 1996
- 16. Woodwind instrument
- 22. Music streaming service

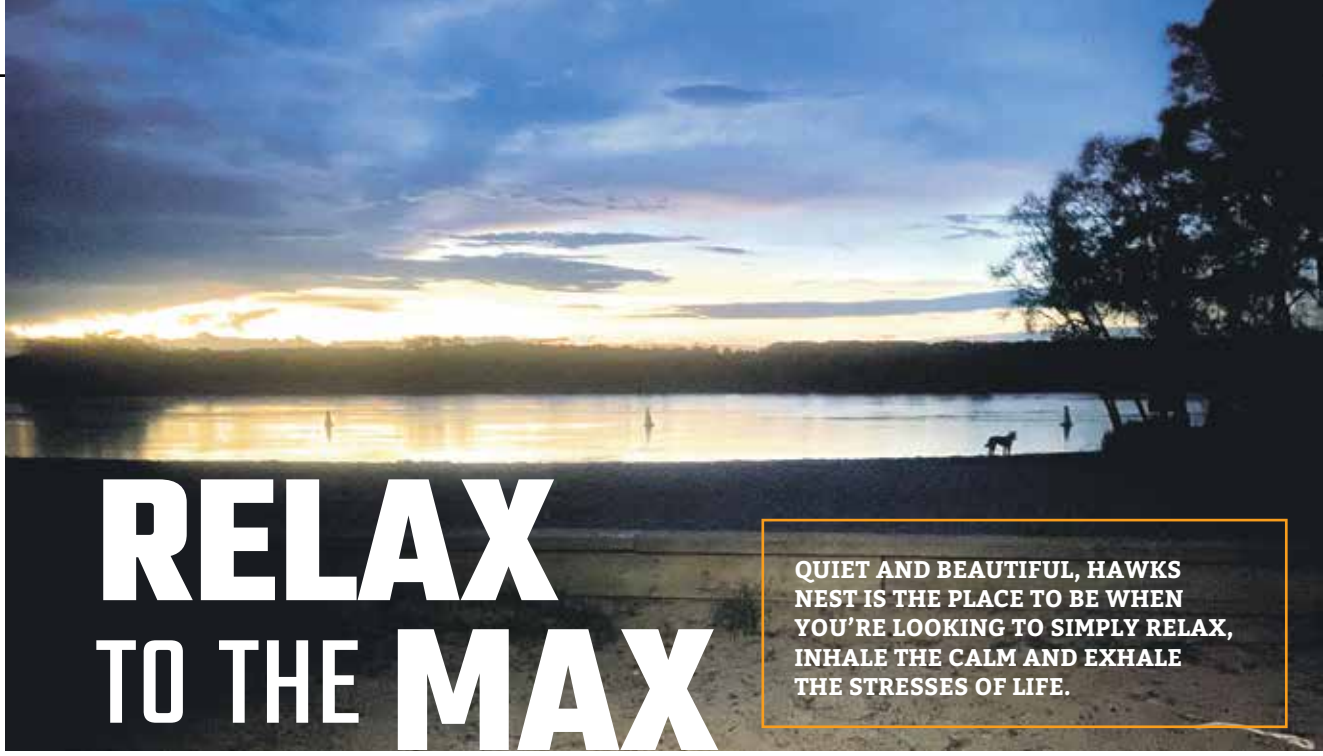
@ THE COALFACE

Volume 5 – No 2: March 2021

PRIZE WINNERS

CRIB BAG	Greg Buck	INNOVAATE 'ELECTRAATE' TUB	Dan Palmowski
ROBERTS MEATS RAFFLE	Elizabeth Van Der Berg	VOICE 4 MINING FAMILY PASSES	Andy Butler, David Cashin, Vicki Quinlan, Lachlan Hands
BANLAW FUEL VOUCHER	Helen McTaggart	BCF VOUCHER	Jayne Eather

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!



RELAX TO THE MAX

QUIET AND BEAUTIFUL, HAWKS NEST IS THE PLACE TO BE WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING TO SIMPLY RELAX, INHALE THE CALM AND EXHALE THE STRESSES OF LIFE.

I know the intro sounds a little eccentric, but after the weekend I just had in Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens I need to spread the word about this magical place. Located on the North Shore of Port Stephens, Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens sit either side of the tranquil Myall River. As you head over the bridge from Tea Gardens and enter Hawks Nest, you'll discover a lovely little seaside town with gorgeous beaches, bushland and the pristine Myall River Campground where my family and I set up our riverside camp for the weekend. THE MYALL RIVER CAMP IS THE KIND OF PLACE THAT TAKES YOU BACK TO YOUR CHILDHOOD WHEN THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERED WAS HAVING A GOOD TIME OUTDOORS WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. Our campsite was situated on the banks of the river, only 10 or so steps from the water's edge on a grassy unpowered site and from the moment we arrived we felt like we were in another world. In the hustle and bustle of everyday life, we tend to

forget the natural beauty of our Aussie bushland and natural landscape but this gorgeous place brings you right back to nature. We were blessed with perfect warm weather over the 3 days we were there, and we certainly made the most of it. We swam in the river at our doorstep, went for bushwalks, drove over to Tea Gardens to throw a line in off the jetty and got some sun on the sands of Jimmy's Beach. We cooked BBQs for breakfast, lunch and dinner and enjoyed our sausage and steak sangas as the sun went down and awoke each morning to the sounds of the river flowing and birds singing. And we weren't alone either, with local wildlife surrounding us everywhere we went. There were pelicans around camp and all across the Myall River and a pod of dolphins swam right past our campsite while dozens of different kinds of birds stopped by to check us out. But there was one visitor we weren't expecting – a dingo! As we sat under the moon looking over the water, a dingo walked across the sand looking for food



and came right up to our tents. It was the first time that any of us had seen a wild dingo in person and I'm sure none of us had ever sat so still. The curious animal sniffed around for a while and then ran into the night while the boys and I sat in silence taking in what we had just experienced. At just the camp alone there was so much to do. Whilst we were only there for 3 days and couldn't fit every activity in, we saw families kayaking, kids riding their bikes, people relaxing around campfires and heading out in their boats off the camp boat ramp. It's a great family-orientated campground to take the kids on a family holiday or even to just get away with the partner for a romantic escape. THE ENTIRE WEEKEND WAS PURE BLISS AND AS I WRITE THIS ARTICLE, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT HOW LUCKY WE ARE TO LIVE SO CLOSE TO PLACES LIKE THIS. A visit to Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest along the Myall River will rejuvenate your soul and re-connect you with nature, and after the year we've had I think everyone could do with a bit of that in their lives.

Northwest Mining

Mining for the future

Locally owned and operated, Northwest Mining Company is based in Muswellbrook and provide equipment hire, labour solutions, automotive and fabrication services. Offering wet and dry hire options, all equipment comes with 24 hour breakdown support.

FABRICATION SERVICES

- AS1554-5 Standards
- Offsite Workshop Facility
- Quality Assurance Support
- Onsite Boilermaker Services
- All Forms Of Fabrication

EQUIPMENT HIRE

- LED Lighting Towers
- Excavators, Bobcats
- Articulated & Tipper Trucks
- Graders
- Scrapers
- Rollers
- Water Carts

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

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- Mine Spec Fit Outs
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- Fleet Servicing & Maintenance
- Heavy Vehicle Services
- Auto Electrical Services

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- Auto Electricians
- Operators
- Trade Assistants

SUSTAINABLE CERTIFICATION

- AS/NZS 4801
- Endorsed
- OHS
- Management System

17-19 Thomas Mitchell Drive
Muswellbrook NSW 2333
Ph: 02 6543 2307
Email: admin@nwminingcompany.com

www.nwminingcompany.com.au

Knights Rescue Rally

5 - 8 May 2021

Newcastle to Wagga Wagga

JUMP IN THE FAMILY CAR, SUV OR 4WD & JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED 4 DAY ADVENTURE FROM NEWCASTLE TO WAGGA WAGGA, VISITING BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY TOWNS LIKE: MUDGEE, BATHURST, SOFALA, CARCOAR & PARKES.

\$500 PER PERSON INCLUDES:

- Breakfast, lunch & dinner for 3 days
- Corporate hospitality package and entry into the Rnd 9 Knights v Canberra Raiders game in Wagga
- Pregame dinner with Knights legends Danny Buderus, Kurt & Matt Gidley in Wagga

Plus a Lap of Mt Panorama, an Elvis themed dinner in Parkes, wine tasting at Mudgee Winery and GREAT PRIZES for the highest fundraising vehicle.

Support rural communities, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter & come along for a great adventure!

To register or for more information visit events.rescuehelicopter.com.au/event/knights-rescue-rally

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