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**TOGETHER
FOR TONGA**

IN A ONE OFF-TRIAL NEWCASTLE PASIFIKA RUGBY UNION SIDE WILL BE TAKING ON THE HUNTER WILDFIRES, WITH A GOAL TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE TONGAN COMMUNITY AFFECTED BY THE TSUNAMI.

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OPINION

A NEW YEAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

LIKE OTHER HUNTER INDUSTRIES THE MINING SECTOR FACED MANY CHALLENGES IN 2021, INCLUDING COVID-19. THANKS TO THE INCREDIBLE EFFORTS OF OUR LOCAL MINING WORKFORCE AND OUR MINING SUPPLIER BUSINESSES WE WERE MOSTLY ABLE TO KEEP OUR MINES RUNNING THROUGHOUT 2021.

Throughout the pandemic we've worked with governments and regulators to help our member companies continue to operate in a safe manner. There has been positive support and recognition for the efforts of our sector to maintain operations and protect jobs.

We all must continue to remain vigilant in the protection of the health of our people, our supply businesses and their families as we look forward to the potential opportunities that 2022 has in store for our region.

Despite these challenges, mining in NSW is generally enjoying very strong market conditions with healthy commodity prices and strong demand.

THERE ARE ALSO MORE FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOBS AND INVESTMENT IN THE HUNTER'S MINING SECTOR WITH NINE LOCAL MINING PROJECTS IN THE NSW PLANNING SYSTEM WITH

THE POTENTIAL TO PROTECT OR CREATE 6,500 LOCAL JOBS AND DELIVER AROUND \$2.5 BILLION OF INVESTMENT FOR THE REGION.

Recently we renewed our sponsorship of the Newcastle Knights, and the wonderful partnership will mark up a decade in 2022 with the tenth annual Voice for Mining Family Day during the season. With high vaccination rates, falling case numbers and the eventual easing of restrictions, we hope to see many thousands of local miners and their families at McDonald Jones Stadium this year, when the Knights will once again play in their famous, hi-vis mining jersey.

Last year demonstrated once again the resilience of the Hunter mining sector. We have always been able to meet whatever challenges come our way, and so it will be again in 2022.

Stephen Galilee, CEO, NSW Minerals Council

WE'RE BACK!

@ THE COALFACE IS BACK FOR 2022, BRINGING YOU THE BEST STORIES OF THE HUNTER COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

While we do enjoy our annual Summer hiatus, it's so good to be back out in the community and catching up on all the news – and a little gossip too!

Although we are in the middle of a crazy Covid outbreak, there's a real sense of positivity among everyone we talk too that 2022 is going to be a great year for the Hunter coal mining industry and we'll do our best to make sure we don't miss sharing a single thing with you.

As always, this month we have a bunch of community stories, proving that despite the challenges we are all facing, people are still doing what they can to make a difference in their community.

We also met up with new Muswellbrook Mayor, Steve

Reynolds who comes into the role with a genuine determination to better the lives of every single member of the Muswellbrook community. You won't find many blokes who love their hometown as much as Steve does, so we will be eagerly waiting to see how his term as Mayor plays out.

This month we got to enjoy the freedom of getting back out for some fun. From some hugely entertaining axe throwing, to a couple of great meals at Singleton's Bites and Brew Café and Bar and even enjoying a leisurely weekend taking in the serenity of Lake St Clair, there's so many great experiences the Hunter has to offer.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY OUR FIRST EDITION OF 2022!

@THE COALFACE

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OPINION

MINING EMPLOYS HIGHLY SKILLED AND HIGHLY PAID WORKERS IN SECURE JOBS



RECENT CALLS FOR 'SAME JOB, SAME PAY' DO NOT REFLECT THE FACTS. AUSTRALIAN MINING WORKERS ARE NOT UNDERPAID OR PRECARIOUSLY EMPLOYED.

Australian mining directly employs 256,800 people in highly skilled, highly paid and secure jobs, predominantly in regional Australia such as the Hunter Valley. Median weekly earnings for mining workers were \$2,325 in 2020, double the median for all industries (\$1,150). Labour hire workers deliver operational flexibility, which

is crucial for mining because it experiences larger swings in production and revenue than other major industries, and also helps mining companies to seize expansion opportunities presented by temporary increases in commodity prices, supplement core skills and provide a career entry path to new workers.

According to work by Deloitte Access Economics for the MCA, labour hire workers – who may be permanent or casual – account for 11 per cent of the minerals workforce and 14 per cent of the coal operations workforce. The mining industry successfully employs a range of agreement options to drive productivity and incomes, with 99 per cent of mining workers earning above-award wages and conditions. Applying a 'same job, same pay' requirement would negatively impact mining job opportunities.

REQUIRING LABOUR HIRE WORKERS TO RECEIVE THE SAME ABOVE-AWARD WAGES AND ENTITLEMENTS AS DIRECT EMPLOYEES WOULD REDUCE THE CAPACITY OF COMPANIES TO RAMP UP AND DOWN DURING DIFFERENT PHASES OF DEMAND AND PRODUCTION, REDUCING LABOUR EFFICIENCY AND INVESTMENT AND ULTIMATELY COSTING JOBS.

Deloitte Access Economics has estimated that if mining companies

were required to grant labour hire workers and service contractors the same pay and conditions as direct employees, labour efficiency and future investment would decrease, with the result that:

- Employment in coal mining would decline (relative to where it would otherwise have been) by approximately 2,300 full-time-equivalent jobs a year to 2031.
- Employment in minerals and other mining would fall by 4,900 jobs a year.
- Employment in mining-related construction would contract by 4,000 jobs a year.

The MCA is opposed to any legislation or regulation that undermines the flexibility benefits and performance incentives of enterprise bargaining at the very time the industry needs to be flexible, adaptable and competitive to support economic recovery.

Tania Constable
CEO, Minerals Council of Australia



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NEWS DIRECTOR JESSICA ROUSE FROM 2HD NEWFM HAS THE LATEST NEWS STORIES

YOU'LL HAVE A GRAPE TIME PICKING

Hunter Valley vignerons have had to battle droughts, bushfires and smoke taint and now Covid may affect this year's vintage.

With next to no grey nomads and no backpackers from overseas, vignerons in the Hunter are worried their grapes will be left on the vines with rising infections affecting potential local workers as well. Bruce Tyrell from Tyrells Wines said his grapes are looking good and are just about ready to pick, but the next problem is getting them off the vine.

"There's a good four weeks of work there, it's a way to earn some money, if you're in a band and all your gigs are cancelled come and see us for a few weeks, and then you get to work outside!"

"We won't be the only winery in that position so if you've got a favourite winery ring your favourite winery and for people going back to uni at the end of February it's a good two or three weeks of earning money."

LONG AWAITED COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN, BUT THERE COULD BE A CHANGE

There were some changes across the Upper Hunter after the Local Government elections towards the end of last year.

Maurice Collison is the Mayor of the Upper Hunter Shire for his second term and his Deputy is James Burns. In Muswellbrook there was a big change with Martin Rush leaving which paved the way for Steve Reynolds to take up the Mayoral position with Jennifer Lecky

elected as his Deputy.

In Singleton, Sue Moore retained her position as Mayor but the Electoral Commission has revealed there was an issue with the iVote votes in the LGA. A number of people who registered on voting day through the iVote system didn't receive the necessary security credentials to cast their vote properly.

The Electoral Commission found that wouldn't pose any impact on the outcome, but have still applied to the Supreme Court for them to officially declare the validity of the votes to ensure the integrity of the election.

DOORS OPEN AT MAITLAND'S NEW HOSPITAL

It's a project locals have been waiting years for, and finally the new Maitland Hospital at Metford is open.

The \$470 million project replaces the old hospital on High Street and has facilities the old one didn't have like chemotherapy services and additional diagnostic equipment like CT and MRI equipment.

The existing Maitland Hospital is closed to the public – patients can get to the new hospital by public transport or can drive with a new purpose built car park available.

COAL A STEP CLOSER TO BEING DUG OUT FOR LONGER AT NARRABRI

The Department of Planning and Environment has recommended Whitehaven Coal's expansion be approved as they deem it to be in the public's interest.

The underground pit at Narrabri is seeking approval to extend their operations until 2044, an additional 13 years on its current life.

The plans have to go before the Independent Planning Commission on February 14 before they're given the green light.

CELEBRATING ONE AND ALL ON AUSTRALIA DAY

Despite another year of uncertainty there was still plenty to celebrate on Australia Day.

The wonderful people in the Upper Hunter were celebrated at ceremonies across the region whether it was online, or in person, and many people

officially became Australian Citizens.

In Singleton the awards ceremony was virtual for the public to watch from home. The Citizen of the Year was Uncle Warren Taggart and the Young Achiever of the Year was Liam Byrne a student of St Catherine's Catholic College.

In Muswellbrook there was a ceremony

at Olympic Park which saw the 2022 Citizen of the Year announced to be Brian Collard and Young Citizen of the Year was Meg Southcombe.

As always there were plenty of people to celebrate in the Upper Hunter Shire with the overall Citizen of the Year being John Brooks and the 2022 Young Citizen of the Year Dylan Denley.

MUSWELLBROOK ALWAYS A SHAKIN'

The Upper Hunter continues to be awoken by earthquakes. On December 28th GeoScience Australia recorded a 3.4 magnitude earthquake just south of Edderton about 3 kilometres in depth.

There were no reports of any injuries or structural damage, but the shakes were felt from Denman through Muswellbrook and to Aberdeen.

HIGH SPEED RAIL ON THE CARDS FOR THE HUNTER

2022 is Federal election year with the promises already coming thick and fast.

Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese announced that high speed rail services between Newcastle and Sydney would become a reality spruiking the country's major cities and regional centres along the east coast would be linked by high speed rail.

The first part would be between the Hunter and Sydney with a \$500 million down payment in Mr Albanese's first budget.

CATTLE TRACKED TO MAN'S ARREST

Police managed to track three cattle that went missing on a property at Jerrys Plains to the Hunter Regional Livestock Exchange at Singleton where they were sold and slaughtered.

The Hunter Valley Police District's Rural Crime Investigators started looking into three missing steers in December after they escaped from their own paddock into the one next door and disappeared.

Investigators found the hand raised steers ended up at the saleyard and sold.

A 65-year-old man was eventually arrested saying he thought the steers in his paddock were 'clean skin' cattle and admitted he didn't even try to speak with anyone to find their owners. Two other men were handed infringement notices for their involvement as well.

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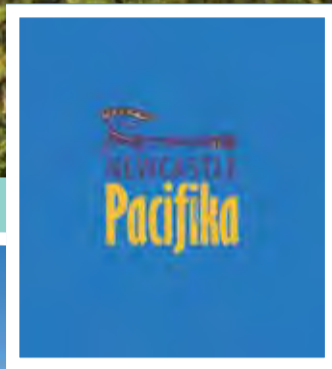
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RUGBY TEAMS COME TOGETHER FOR TONGA



RAISING FUNDS FOR THE TONGAN COMMUNITY AFFECTED BY THE RECENT TSUNAMI, NEWCASTLE PASIFIKA RUGBY UNION SIDE WILL BE TAKING ON THE HUNTER WILDFIRES IN A ONE-OFF TRIAL.

On Saturday, February 19 at St Johns Charlestown Oval, Newcastle Pasifika Rugby Union side and the Hunter Wildfires will be playing head-to-head whilst raising much needed funds for the Tongan community.

Following weeks of volcanic activity, the Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai underwater volcano erupted on January 15 generating a 1.2 metre tsunami that devastated the coastal shores of Tonga's capital, Nuku'alofa.

As well as most of the country being impacted by 1-2cm of volcanic ash, water and food supplies, air quality and homes have also been greatly affected. The full extent of the damage is yet to be determined.

Former Hunter Wildfires captain Carl Manu came up with the idea of bringing together the Newcastle Pasifika Rugby community, organising the one-off trial game to be played alongside Bubba Coleman, Hunter Wildfires 1st Grade Coach, who needed an additional game to prepare his side for their upcoming season in the Shute Shield. Once the recent tsunami in Tonga occurred, it galvanised the team and community to mobilise and give the event extra meaning for all involved.

Frank Roberts, Key Account Manager at PHN Industries, is set to play Blindside Flanker or Second Rower on the Newcastle Pasifika Rugby Union side. "In terms of the Pasifika side, we've gathered a mix of local rugby players from the Newcastle and Hunter Rugby Union (NHRU) and divisional rugby sides alongside a few league players who are keen to

have a run," said Frank.

"The team is representative of Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, and New Zealand Māori with everyone involved proud to have a chance to represent their heritage and families."

FRANKS MOTHER, LUPE ROBERTS (NEE FUKOFUKA) IS FROM THE VILLAGE OF KOLOVAI IN TONGA AND WHILST THEIR DIRECT FAMILY SEEMS TO BE OKAY, THERE ARE HUNDREDS IF NOT THOUSANDS OF TONGANS AFFECTED BY THE RECENT TSUNAMI.

"They will be in need of food, shelter and a means to get their life back on track," said Frank.

"This event is a small way of hopefully helping those in need and I can't wait to pull the jersey on and represent my heritage as well."

There will be two games played on the day. The curtain raiser will be played by the Wildfires Women's Jack Scott Cup team with the main game played between the Hunter Wildfires and the Newcastle Pasifika team. As well as an awesome day of rugby union there will be live music and DJ's, with the canteen to be serving a range of Islander dishes and cuisines.

"We're hoping to showcase not just the football talent but the culture of the pacific nations on the day," Frank added.

ALL FUNDS RAISED ON THE DAY THROUGH THE GATE ENTRY OF A GOLD COIN DONATION, THE



THE NEWCASTLE PASIFIKA RUGBY UNION SIDE

CANTEEN, PLUS AN AUCTION AT THE END OF THE GAME WITH ITEMS FROM THE LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY, WILL BE DONATED TO A LOCAL NEWCASTLE CHARITY NAMED 'SIONE'S FOUNDATION'. THE ESTABLISHED FOUNDATION ALREADY RAISES MONEY FOR AN ANNUAL AID TRIP THAT PROVIDES MEDICAL SUPPLIES, BUILDING MATERIAL AND MEANS FOR ADDITIONAL EDUCATION THROUGHOUT TONGA.

Both sides are encouraging everyone to get down to the game to see some entertaining rugby and experience

some of the culture and hospitality the pacific nations are known for. Carl Manu expressed they welcome any and all support possible saying, "The reason why we started this team was to get the pacific island community together and share our different cultures."

"Rugby is only a part of what we are about but we're also hoping to pave the way for the young children to experience and learn from the older generation; this is built on love and enjoyment because without this, there is nothing."

IF THERE ARE ITEMS BUSINESSES WOULD LIKE TO DONATE FOR THE AUCTION OR EVEN A FINANCIAL DONATION DIRECTLY TO SIONE'S FOUNDATION AT WWW.SIONESFOUNDATION.COM.AU IT ALL HELPS. IF ANY BUSINESS IS KEEN TO GET INVOLVED SEND AN EMAIL TO FRANK AT FROBERTS@PHN.NET.AU WHO WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST.

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BIS IN BUSINESS

BIS HAS SIGNED A MULTI-YEAR ON-ROAD HAULAGE CONTRACT FOR HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS (HVO) AT ITS HOWICK BASED PROCESSING FACILITY.

The load and haul solution features a bespoke high payload on-road haulage rig ideally suited for the Glencore and Yancoal owned joint venture, which is located 115km north-west of Newcastle, New South Wales.

Comprising A-Double and B-Double trailer configurations, loading and road maintenance equipment, the dedicated fleet will transport material from HVO's preparation plant to its Newdell train load out facility.

Bis Chief Executive Officer, Brad Rogers, said he was pleased to expand on the existing Bis relationship with HVO.

"BUILDING ON OUR EXISTING LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP WITH GLENCORE, WE ARE DELIGHTED TO

CONTINUE OUR SUPPORT TO THE HVO JOINT VENTURE OPERATION FOR YANCOAL AND GLENCORE.

"The NHVR approved Bis haulage solution adopted at HVO was specifically designed by our in-house team to cater for a greater payload capacity thereby reducing the number of overall truck movements, operational health and safety risks and fuel consumption.

"The solution is delivering win-win results all round."

The contract comes only months after Bis secured another new multi-year haulage contract on the eastern seaboard for Anglo American's Capcoal operations near Middlemount, in Queensland's Bowen Basin.

LEARN AND LEAD

THE 2022 WIMNET NSW MENTORING PROGRAM IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FROM INTERESTED MENTORS AND MENTEES.

The Women in Mining Network (WIMnet) NSW aims to support, nurture, promote, connect and empower the women of the NSW minerals industry. It promotes diversity and inclusion through networking events, mentoring and professional development initiatives.

Now in its eighth year, the program pairs women seeking guidance and support with more experienced practitioners who are willing to commit time and energy to the

professional development of another practitioner.

Do you want guidance for your personal and professional development in the resource industry from someone with a wealth of experience? Would you like an opportunity to reflect on professional challenges and achievements? Or perhaps the satisfaction from helping others

and contributing to the future success of the profession while developing your mentoring and leadership skills? Then the WIMnet NSW Mentoring Program is for you.



PHOTO CREDIT: FACEBOOK WIMNETNSW

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HYDROGEN IN THE HUNTER

INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT ARE STARTING TO INVEST HEAVILY IN HYDROGEN BECAUSE OF THE BENEFITS IT CAN OFFER BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY, AND RIGHT HERE IN THE HUNTER, AGL ENERGY ARE WORKING TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GREEN HYDROGEN FACILITY.

AGL has taken another step forward in its vision for an industrial energy hub at the site of Liddell and Bayswater power stations, signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Fortescue Future Industries to explore the development of a green hydrogen facility.

As part of AGL's plans to develop the 'Hunter Energy Hub', the project would be powered by clean energy, delivered through grid-scale batteries, solar thermal storage, wind, pumped hydro and the co-location of industry.

AGL CEO AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, GRAEME HUNT SAID THIS IS THE FIRST MAJOR STEP IN IDENTIFYING THE POTENTIAL DEMAND FOR GREEN HYDROGEN IN THE HUNTER VALLEY, INCLUDING DOMESTIC AND EXPORT PATHWAYS.

"We have a long history of supporting the development of new technology as early investors in wind and other renewables and we want to do the same in partnerships with Australia's emerging hydrogen industry." Mr Hunt said.

"Fortescue is leading the charge on the development of green hydrogen in Australia and abroad, and we are excited to bring our site and expertise in large-scale renewable generation to the fold.

"We believe this project, along with the others in our Hunter Energy Hub, could drive the development of around 1,000 permanent jobs across energy production, advanced manufacturing, recycling and the production of chemicals.

"Over the next 12 months we will undertake a feasibility study which will map key operational and commercial plans for the project and enable the development of a production timeline.

"Early estimates suggest the site can ultimately support a hydrogen facility of GW scale, but we will also test critical inputs including renewable energy costs, firming requirements, electrolyser capital costs, logistics and utilisation."

AGL Chief Operating Officer, Markus Brokhof said that upon completion, the Hunter Energy Hub will be the first of its kind in Australia and set a model for our other sites and industry in Australia.

"Our aim for the hub is to develop strong partnerships that enable an efficient ecosystem and create a circular economy," Mr Brokhof said.

"Liddell and Bayswater benefit from unique energy infrastructure, positioned with strong grid connectivity, established transport links, workshops and proximity to water supply and industrial activity.

"AS WE MOVE TOWARDS LIDDELL'S CLOSURE, I WANT TO REAFFIRM OUR STRONG COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING OUR WORKFORCE AND THE HUNTER REGION. THE SITE AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE WORKED HERE HAVE BEEN THE BACKBONE OF THE ELECTRICITY GRID AND WE'RE COMMITTED TO SEEING IT CONTINUE ITS LEGACY IN THE NEXT PHASE OF ITS LIFE.

"The future is bringing the best in low-carbon technologies together to shape a cleaner energy future to ensure customers have sustainable,

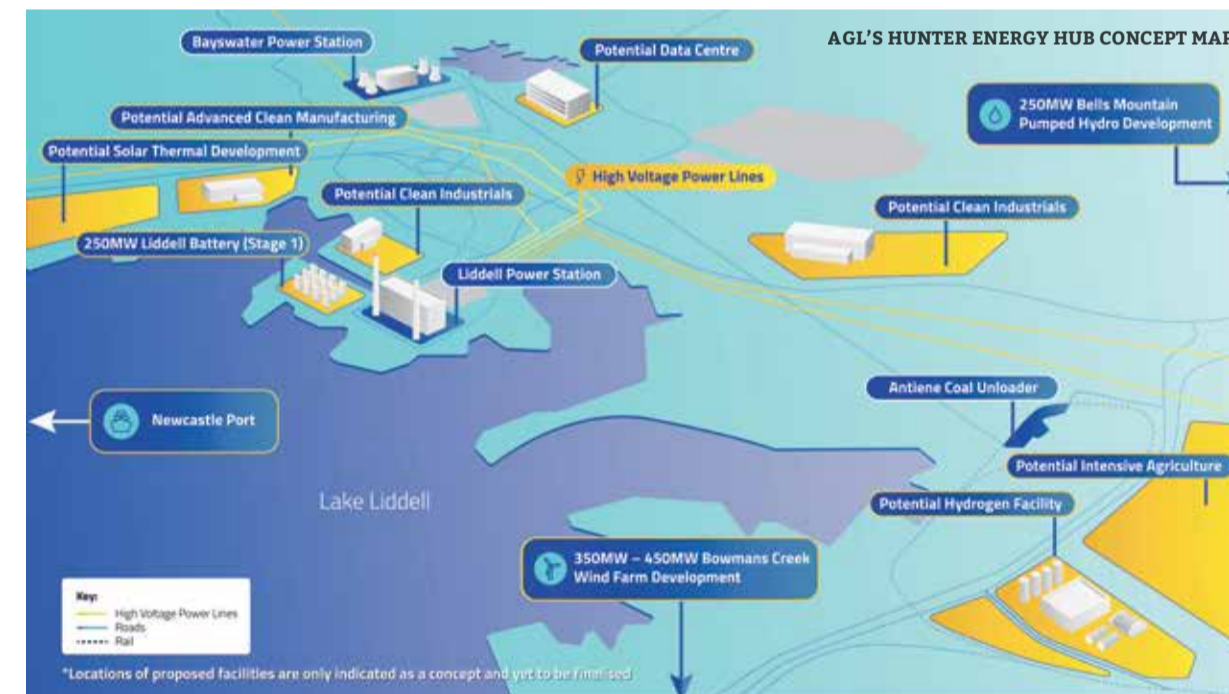
secure and affordable electricity."

FFI Founder and Chair, Dr Andrew Forrest AO, said FFI's goal is to turn regional Australia into the global green energy heartland and create thousands of jobs now and so many more in the future.

"Repurposing existing fossil fuel infrastructure with forward looking companies like AGL to create green hydrogen to help power the world, is the solution we have been looking for," Dr Forrest said. "Green hydrogen is the only true zero-carbon, zero-methane fuel - every other type of hydrogen requires the burning of fossil fuels.

"It is a practical, implementable solution that can collapse emissions and create strong economies worldwide if leaders like Graeme are fully supported by global investors and local government alike.

"This is another important step in turning the corner once and for all, to implement the technologies carbon emitters, like us, to reach net zero."



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OPINION FAREWELL TO A LEGEND OF OUR UNION

BEFORE CHRISTMAS, AT A MEETING OF UNION DELEGATES FROM COAL MINES AND POWER STATIONS ACROSS THE DISTRICT, I WAS HONOURED TO BE PART OF A VERY SPECIAL PRESENTATION – A SEND-OFF FOR PETER JORDAN, THE LONG-TERM PRESIDENT OF THE NORTHERN MINING AND NSW ENERGY DISTRICT OF THE MINING AND ENERGY UNION.

After 35 years as a Union Official, Peter retired in January 2022. As per the democratic processes of our Union, an election will now be held to fill the position and nominations are open until 28 February. Long-term District Vice President Robin Williams has been endorsed by the Board of Management to act as President until the election is finalised.

Peter leaves behind a strong District organisation and an excellent team of dedicated Officials and staff, whom he has mentored and supported over many years. I'm confident of a smooth and successful transition to new leadership.

PETER IS A TRUE LEGEND OF OUR UNION. IN TOTAL, HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER FOR MORE THAN 46 YEARS.

He commenced work at Liddell Power Station in 1975. In 1986 he became an Official with one of our predecessor Unions the FEDFA, before a series of amalgamations led to its current form. In 2009 Peter was elected to the role of District President.



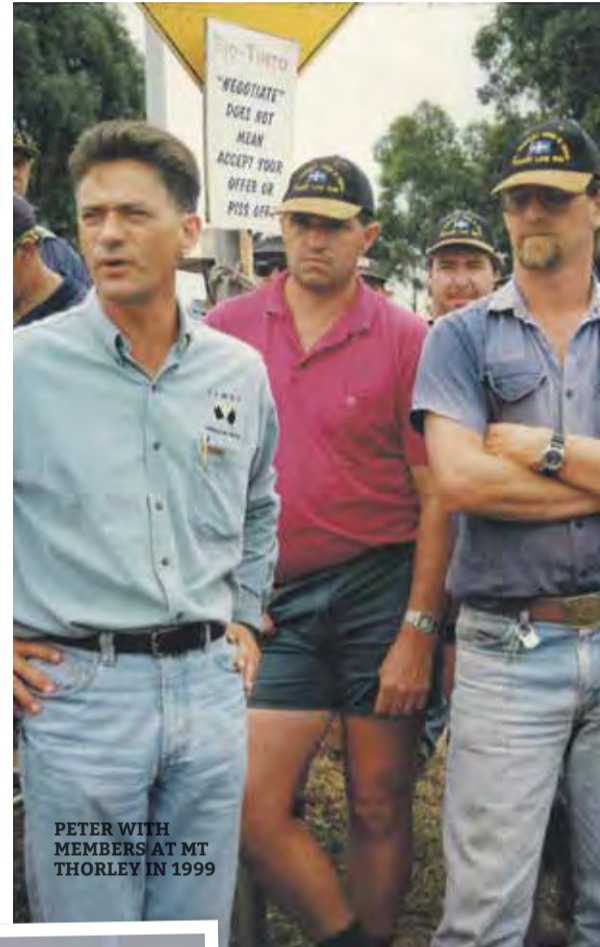
PETER AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN 2021

Peter has been involved in some of the biggest disputes our Union has ever seen, including the ongoing industrial battle with Rio Tinto that lasted for more than 20 years. That dispute delivered the biggest payout in our Union's history, with over \$25 million dollars for Members who were unfairly dismissed at Hunter Valley and Mt Thorley mines in the late 1990s.

During my many years as a Union Member, Delegate, District Official and now National Official, I have always known Peter Jordan to be a highly effective leader with high expectations, excellent judgment and fierce dedication to Members. "What would Peter do in this situation?" is a question I often pose to myself, when faced with a dilemma and I expect it is something I'll continue to do throughout my whole career.

Two of Peter's acts in his final year demonstrate his dedication to the legacy of our Union and his commitment to its future. In November, I was proud to be at the unveiling of the restored Jim Comerford Memorial Wall at the District's Cessnock Office, which lists the names of all identifiable coal miners killed at work in the history of mining in this region. The wall is a source of comfort for families and community members to remember lives lost and the price paid by working people for the prosperity delivered by the coal industry. And at our National Convention in March last year, Peter's leadership was instrumental in planning and progressing a vision for an independent future as a Mining and Energy Union, a vision that is still a work in progress. Peter assessed the situation we were facing within the CFMMEU and advocated for bold action to form a new union that puts the interests of mining and energy workers first.

PETER WILL BE MISSED BY MANY ACROSS THE MINING INDUSTRY FOR THE CONSTRUCTIVE AND KNOWLEDGEABLE ROLE HE PLAYED. HE HAS REPRESENTED OUR UNION IN MANY INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT FORUMS, UNDERSTANDING THAT WORKERS BENEFIT WHEN THEY HAVE A VOICE AT THE DECISION-MAKING TABLE.



PETER WITH MEMBERS AT MT THORLEY IN 1999



On behalf of the National Union, I was pleased to present Peter with a Miners Lamp inscribed with this message: "Peter Jordan - For your unwavering and inspired leadership, your fierce advocacy of the Union and Mining & Energy Workers, and your lifelong commitment to the working class... All the best in your well deserved retirement."

We wish Peter, along with his wife Ellen and their family, all the best for the future.

Grahame Kelly,
Mining and Energy
Union General Secretary



SNOWY HYDRO'S COLONGRA GAS FIRED POWER STATION. (PHOTO CREDIT: SNOWY HYDRO)

POWER UP

THE NSW GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED AN APPLICATION FROM SNOWY HYDRO TO BUILD A NEW 660 MEGA-WATT GAS-FIRED POWER STATION IN KURRI KURRI.

A spokesperson for the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment said the application was approved following rigorous assessment and consideration of community feedback.

"This project will improve energy reliability and security in the

National Energy Market as it brings on renewable energy from wind and solar farms, and transitions away from coal-fired power generation over the next 10-15 years,"

the spokesperson said. "The project will provide on-demand energy when the grid needs it and will only operate on average two percent over a year."

"IT WILL ALSO INJECT \$600 MILLION INTO THE STATE'S ECONOMY AND CREATE UP TO 250 NEW CONSTRUCTION JOBS IN THE HUNTER, SO ON BALANCE IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE PROJECT SHOULD BE APPROVED."

"We've also required Snowy Hydro to prepare and implement a Net Zero Power Generation Plan to progressively move towards achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions. This may include using hydrogen gas, which would be subject to further planning assessment."

The power station will be built on part of the site of the former Kurri Kurri Aluminium Smelter, which ceased operations in 2012, and has since been demolished.

A number of conditions have been imposed on the project to ensure any potential impacts are appropriately managed, including annual limits on how long the power station can operate and requiring ongoing air quality monitoring.

The project will now be submitted to the Commonwealth for final approval. If approved, construction is expected to begin in early-2022 with the plant to be up and running in mid-2023, ahead of Liddell Power Station's closure in 2023.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.PLANNINGPORTAL.NSW.GOV.AU/MAJOR PROJECTS/PROJECT/40951

AWARDING WOMEN

THE 2022 NSW WOMEN IN MINING AWARDS ARE OPEN FOR ENTRIES AND ARE CALLING FOR WOMEN IN THE MINING INDUSTRY TO REGISTER AND SHARE THEIR INCREDIBLE CAREER JOURNEYS.

As well as recognising the leading women in our industry, the awards celebrate those who drive initiatives to support inclusiveness, gender diversity and programs to support parents as they pursue successful careers.

Awards will be given in six categories:

- Outstanding Trade, Operator or Technician
- Excellence in Diversity Programs and Performance
- Technical Innovation
- Gender Diversity Champion
- Exceptional Young Woman
- Exceptional Woman

With the 2021 event not being able to proceed, the 2022 event is set to be extra special as it will be a celebration of all the wonderful finalists

and winners from the past two years as well as celebrating the 2022 finalists.

Winners will go on to represent NSW at the Women in Resources National Awards, hosted by the Minerals Council Australia in Canberra later in the year.

Entries are open until Friday 4 March 2022 and finalists will be announced the same day as tickets go on sale, Tuesday 26 April 2022.

VISIT WWW.NSWMINING.COM.AU FOR FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING TIPS ON HOW TO PREPARE A WINNING SUBMISSION AND TAKE SOME INSPIRATION FROM PAST WINNERS.

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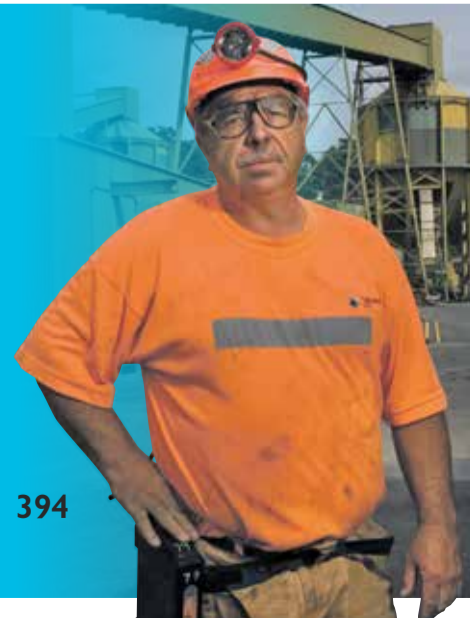
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A YEAR OF SUCCESS

AFTER A VERY SUCCESSFUL 2021 WITH MULTIPLE AWARD WINS, MORGAN ENGINEERING CONTINUE TO SET THEIR SIGHTS ON BUSINESS AND TEAM GROWTH IN 2022.



Winners of the 'Excellence in Building Workforce Capability for the Future' category of the Hunter Manufacturing Awards, the Let's Roll Australian Business Awards and recognised as finalists at the Business Hunter Awards and the Newcastle Business Club Awards, Morgan Engineering were thrilled to receive recognition of their hard work in 2021.

We sat down with Morgan Engineering's General Manager, Jeremy Brett, who was quick to

commend the efforts of the entire Morgan Engineering team.

"IT'S RECOGNITION OF THE GREAT WORK THAT THE TEAM ARE DOING. THE BUSINESS ONLY WINS THOSE AWARDS BECAUSE OUR EMPLOYEES ARE DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY WORK, AND ARE FULLY ON BOARD WITH OUR STRATEGY, GOALS, AND DIRECTION," HE SAID.

"I think it's also recognition of the culture we have in the business, which is something we put a major focus on in 2021.

"We experience cultural change whether we pay attention to it or not, and we chose to pay attention to it, putting every one of our employees through a cultural awareness program to understand our existing culture, the culture we want as a business, and how we get there as a team."

Established in 1975, Morgan Engineering has become a highly regarded company, not only through award wins, but also within the community and across diversified industries.

Company Directors and siblings Martin, Matthew and Chelsea Morgan have, over their combined 40+ years working for the business, continued to push growth through investment back into the business - both in people and state-of-the-art equipment.

The growth has also come from investment in apprentices. "If you look at all the apprentices we've put on, the majority of them have continued to be a part of the Morgan team, now in supervisory roles," said Jeremy.

Starting with the business in June 2019, Jeremy said one of the reasons he joined Morgan Engineering is that while it's a family owned business in structure, it is a family owned business emotionally as well.

"WE TALK ABOUT OUR FAMILY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE MORGAN AS YOUR LAST NAME TO BE A PART OF IT, AND I AS WELL AS ALL MEMBERS OF THE TEAM CONSIDER OURSELVES A WELCOME PART OF THE MORGAN ENGINEERING FAMILY," SAID JEREMY.

Reflecting on 2021, Jeremy said although it was a challenging year dealing with the impact of COVID-19, it was also an extremely rewarding year - reflected in the aforementioned award wins, and from the growth they've had in the business in both revenue and capabilities.

"We've continued to invest, we've had new trucks come online, we have a new facility getting built and have made improvements to our current facilities," said Jeremy, "We're aiming to have our latest facility finished in 2022, with the new building increasing our capacity and capability, giving us a purpose-built workshop for heavy fabrication."

Ticking off a number of goals outlined in their five-year commercial vision to 2023, Jeremy and the team look forward to sitting down this year to map out their goals for the next five years. We can't wait to see what the future has in store for the Morgan Engineering family.



IT'S A BIG YEAR FOR BRADKEN, WHO THIS YEAR WILL CELEBRATE 100 YEARS IN BUSINESS.

SEAN WINSTONE, CEO AND FRASER BATTS, SALES MANAGER PLANTING TREES AT BRADKEN'S NEWCASTLE OFFICE



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Dave Layzell MP

MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER

Authorised by Dave Layzell MP, 20 Bridge Street, Muswellbrook NSW 2323 Funded using Parliamentary entitlements. February 2022

With its origins in Newcastle and Sydney, as a foundry business with world-class manufacturing facilities, Bradken has evolved throughout its 100 years to become a leader in solving mining equipment wear challenges through designing and manufacturing high quality parts and supplying project-focused engineering services and innovative digital support for mines across the globe.

Bradken is a business committed to the evolution of mining and resources worldwide with its people at the forefront of innovation and technology.

As Bradken CEO, Sean Winstone noted, "To make it to 100 years, a business and the individuals involved with it have to be resilient and innovative, as well as committed to strong values."

"Throughout the years we have demonstrated and embraced the values at the heart of Bradken's success, such as taking on challenges, seeing the customer in everything we do and working collaboratively to achieve goals both for our customers and the business.

"Matching our history of working with customers to understand what they need and value with technology solutions is key to Bradken's future."

It's a business that has had the resilience to take on many challenges over the years, and often had the foresight to make the most of the opportunities they presented. Its founders, Leslie Bradford and Jim Kendall, were astute businessmen

who saw potential in Australian foundries in the 1920's.

UNDER THEIR LEADERSHIP AND THOSE THAT HAVE FOLLOWED, BRADKEN'S PRODUCT BASE, PARTNERSHIPS, MANUFACTURING FOOTPRINT AND BUSINESS FOCUS HAS CONTINUALLY EVOLVED - LIKE SERVING THE MINING INDUSTRY IN THE 20'S, BEFORE IDENTIFYING THE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL FOR INDUSTRIAL GROWTH IN 1940, SHIFTING TO ARMAMENT CASTINGS DURING WWII AND THEN MOVING TO RAIL AND BACK TO THE MINING INDUSTRY MOST RECENTLY.

This essence of growth, innovation and evolution, and the ability to adapt to changing external environments allows Bradken to shape its future with its customers are the forefront of the decision making. This strong dedication to innovation and growth is what will drive Bradken into the next 100 years.

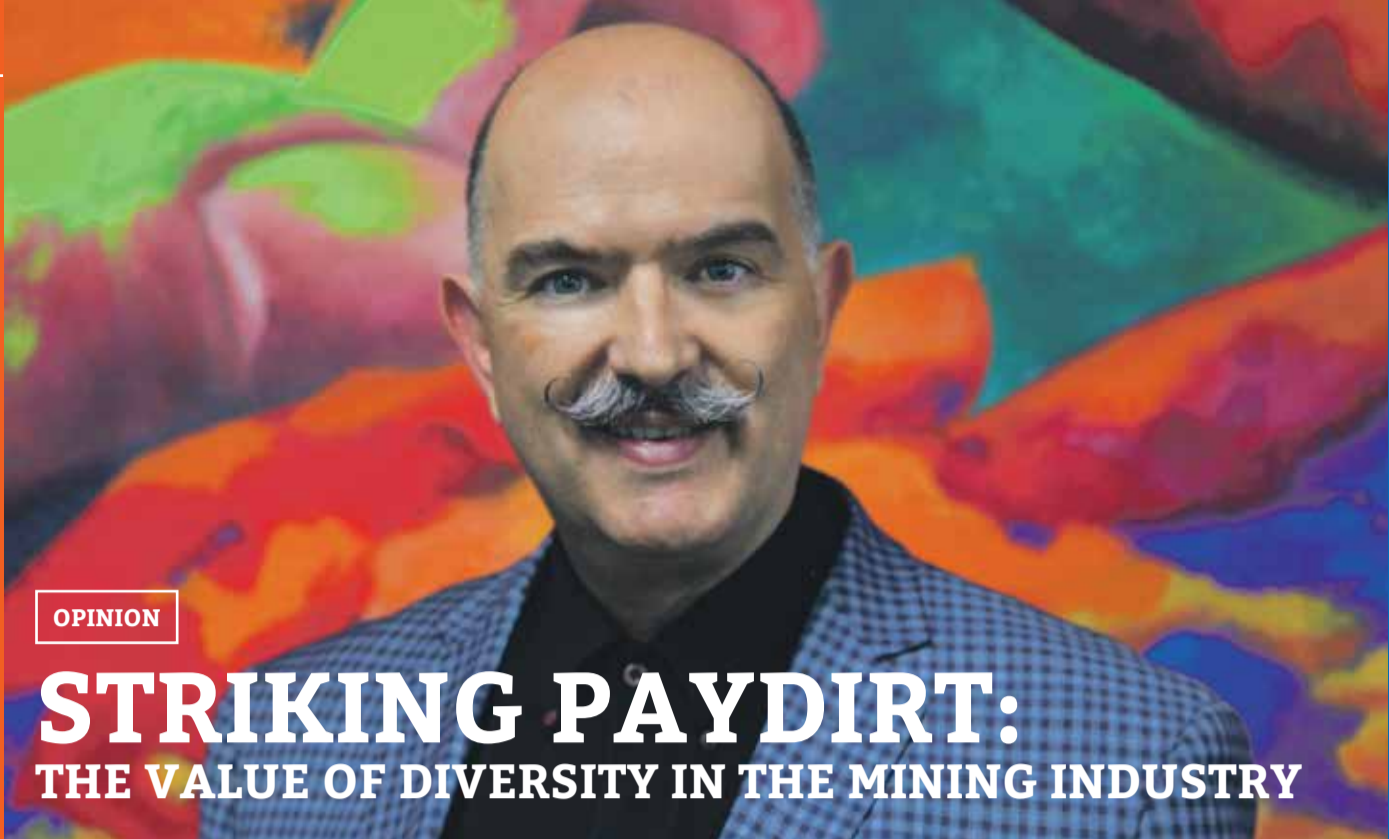
"Bradken is proud of the 100 years of history and of the customers we continue to serve," said Sean.

"Their needs are changing and we are committed to joining them on that journey. We want to be here for another 100 years, delivering innovative solutions that improve safety, sustainability and productivity, whilst also lowering total costs of ownership."

BRADKEN HELD A STEM EVENT IN 2021 WITH FEMALE STUDENTS FROM LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS LEARNING MORE ABOUT THEIR INNOVATION CENTRE AND 3D SCANNING SYSTEM - BRADKEN FOSTERING THE NEXT GENERATION FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS



THE MINING INDUSTRY HAS SOMETHING OF A REPUTATION FOR BEING A BOYS' CLUB, AND NOT WITHOUT REASON - GLOBALLY, WOMEN REPRESENT ONLY EIGHT TO 17 PER CENT OF THE WORKFORCE, ACCORDING TO A 2021 MCKINSEY REPORT. HISTORICALLY, THE FIELDS OF METALLURGY AND ENGINEERING, UNTIL THE 1970S, HAVE BEEN ALMOST ENTIRELY MALE DOMINATED.



OPINION

STRIKING PAYDIRT: THE VALUE OF DIVERSITY IN THE MINING INDUSTRY

There has recently been something of a push, however, for the mining industry's big players to invest in diversity initiatives and take an intersectional approach to understanding their workforce. The industry has doubled its women in board positions to 20 per cent between 2013 to 2020, and now has one of the lowest managerial pay gaps - this shows dedication to improvement, broadly, but diversity initiatives and considerations need to go beyond gender. In order to be truly inclusive, an intersectional approach to diversity needs to be undertaken, starting with truly inclusive datasets.

Every mining company in the world understands the value and need to manage diverse workforces and with recent events, this has become more critical for their workforces strategies - talent attraction, retention, career development and in some cases, meeting basic targets.

The representation and prevalence of Indigenous women in the Australian mining industry is one area of particular interest - in 2001 the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported that Indigenous women, who were most likely to be already living in the remote mining communities, were found to be the least likely to be employed by the companies now operating in their homes. Indigenous women at this time comprised 0.2 per cent of the workforce, and were represented primarily in low-level clerical jobs.

How much improvement has taken place since isn't clear - organisations such as the Indigenous Women in Mining and Resources Australia (IWIMRA) no doubt do great work in advocating for increased representation. This has very likely increased the numbers of Indigenous women in the industry.

THE FACT IS, HOWEVER, YOU CAN'T BE WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE - HOW CAN THE INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE IMPROVE ITS DIVERSITY, IF IT DOESN'T KNOW HOW THINGS STAND CURRENTLY?

The industry needs to be particularly aware of not only gender, not only cultural background, not only age and position level - but all of these things, holistically, and in great detail. There is a need to take an intersectional approach to diversity, taking into account the local mining communities that the companies are operating in. The Pilbara, for example, where I flew in and out of in 2012 to direct and produce the Red Earth Arts Festival, has a significantly higher Indigenous population than the rest of Australia - with the Yindjibarndi people holding significant land titles.

Yet, historically at least, employees of the mining giants operating in the Pilbara have commonly been recruited from urban or provincial centres and relocated to mine sites for the duration of their employment, whether on short term "Fly-in Fly-out" assignment, or as 'expatriates' relocated to a

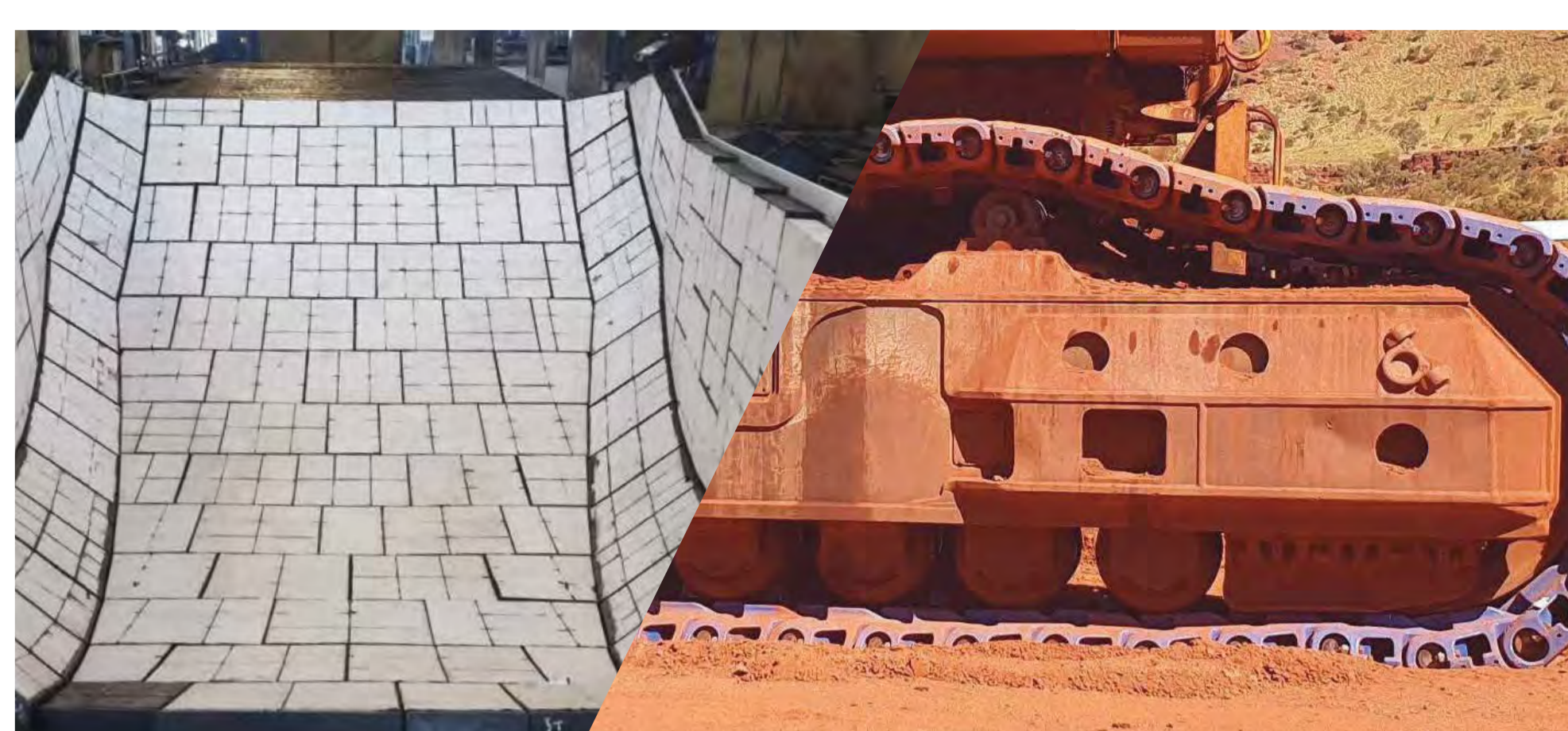
purpose-built company town.

For a company's diversity initiatives to be considered truly successful, and to genuinely reap the benefits of an inclusive workforce, they must also achieve what we call 'mutuality' - this is the extent to which the organisation's demographic makeup reflects the community in which they operate. This means working alongside local Indigenous communities and ensuring the local population is reflected in the workforce.

We created our world-first data analytics platform, Diversity Atlas, so that organisations can look at their own workforces critically. The survey includes elements such as gender, cultural background, sexuality, worldview, language and many, many more elements that we are constantly expanding to create the most comprehensively inclusive datasets. From this, organisations will know on a deep level who they are currently. Knowing this, makes it possible to move forward, and become truly diverse, and realise all of the benefits of diversity.

We are great at digging resources out of the ground but how much more could we do by drawing on our human resources (internal and external) to make these industries more efficient, relevant and last but not least of all representative?

Peter Mousaferiadis
Founder and CEO
of Cultural Infusion



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The boss comes in and says, "What are you doing?" The woman replies, "I'm a light bulb." The boss then says, "You've been working so much that you've gone crazy. I think you need to take the day off."

The man starts to follow her and the boss says, "Where are you going?" The man says, "I'm going home, too. I can't work in the dark."

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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 AS TO WHETHER YOU CAN CLAIM WORKERS COMPENSATION IF YOU CONTRACT COVID AT WORK IN THE COAL MINES.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH HUNTER VALLEY Hydraulink Hose and Fittings BEST UNDER PRESSURE

"Your husband is 82 and he is still chasing girls. Aren't you upset?" Mauve asks her friend Mary. Mary replies, "Why should I be upset? Dogs chase cars, but they can't drive."

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A worker who contracts Covid in the course of their employment is potentially able to claim workers compensation for time off work and medical expenses arising out of the disease. Broadly speaking, you need to establish that you contracted the injury/disease in the course of your employment, that you suffered an injury and a resulting incapacity for work, and/or incurred medical expenses.

Dealing firstly with establishing that you have suffered an injury. An injury is defined as a personal injury and includes a disease. A positive PCR test will provide you with written evidence and that would likely be sufficient evidence. A positive RAT test would not provide written evidence so I would suggest keeping the test and photographing it. In both cases a consultation with your GP would also allow you to obtain a SIRA (Workcover) certificate.

IN SO FAR AS INCAPACITY IS CONCERNED, UPON RECEIVING A POSITIVE TEST YOU WILL LIKELY OBTAIN A MEDICAL CERTIFICATE WHICH CERTIFIES YOU UNFIT FOR WORK IF YOU ARE PARTICULARLY UNWELL OR CERTIFY YOU FIT TO WORK BUT IN ISOLATION.

The NSW Health Department rules and your employers Covid policy will also dictate what, if any work, you can do and from where. If the certificate says you can work but in isolation it is important to ask your employer whether they can accommodate that, for example working from home. I suspect that most employers in the industry would direct you to stay at home for the Government mandated period once you return a positive test.

The onus is on the worker to establish that they contracted Covid in the course of their employment. The standard of proof is "on the balance of probabilities" or to put it another way, "more likely than not". Because of the requirements of employers to inform potential contacts of positive cases at work I suspect this might not be as difficult as it sounds but basically your history and movements around the time you contracted the

disease will be important. Reporting, claiming and the entitlements for workers compensation are exactly the same as for any other type of injury or claim. Follow your employer's injury reporting protocol by telephoning or speaking to the relevant officer of the company as soon as you become aware of the positive test and complete and injury report form and claim for compensation.



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

COMMUNITY FORUM

WITH A CLOSE EYE BEING KEPT ON THE LOCAL COVID SITUATION, THE UPPER HUNTER MINING DIALOGUE IS CONTINUING TO PLAN ITS COMMUNITY FORUM.

Although scheduled for Tuesday, March 29 at the Muswellbrook RSL Club, the Dialogue's organising committee is investigating potential alternative dates for the forum due to the ongoing Covid impacts.

The forum will bring together a collaboration of representatives of the mining industry, government and the Upper Hunter community.

The Dialogue stresses the forum will only proceed if it is safe to do so and it will only be held with the support of Dialogue partners.

Consultation with the Dialogue's partners is being conducted as part of the planning process. If the Covid risk and restrictions hamper a successful staging of the forum, the event will be moved to later in the year. Covid has already delayed the staging of the forum in both 2020 and 2021.

Planning for the event is based on Covid restrictions on gatherings remaining at current levels. The Dialogue will develop Covid-Safe plans coupled with the venue's Covid rules to suit restrictions in place in March.

The forum is a very important event in the Dialogue calendar, it allows the Dialogue's partners – from mining, government and community – to network and identify any issues that need to be addressed collaboratively. Latest details of

Dialogue projects and other activities will be updated at the forum. The Dialogue is liaising closely with all of its partners in the lead up to the proposed forum.

PEOPLE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE 2022 COMMUNITY FORUM ARE ASKED TO REGISTER THEIR INTEREST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE VIE EMAIL TO INFO@MININGDIALOGUE.COM.AU

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OPINION

COAL IS GOOD NEWS

LAST WEEK WHITEHAVEN COAL'S VICKERY MINE EXTENSION TOOK ANOTHER CRITICAL STEP TOWARDS APPROVAL. THAT'S GOOD NEWS. IF FINALLY APPROVED, WE CAN EXPECT WHITEHAVEN WILL BE EXTRACTING 10 MILLION TONNES OR THERMAL AND SEMI-SOFT COKING COAL FOR THE NEXT THIRTY YEARS. IT'S A CLEAR SIGN INTERNATIONAL DEMAND FOR OUR QUALITY COAL WILL REMAIN STRONG FOR DECADES TO COME.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH HUNTER VALLEY **Hydraulink** Hose and Fittings **BEST UNDER PRESSURE**

Teacher: "If I gave you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"
 Johnny: "Seven."
 Teacher: "No, listen carefully... If I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"
 Johnny: "Seven."
 Teacher: "Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you two apples, and another two apples and another two, how many would you have?"
 Johnny: "Six."
 Teacher: "Good. Now if I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"
 Johnny: "Seven!"
 Teacher: "Johnny, where do you get seven from?"
 Johnny: "Because I've already got a cat!"

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Like all industries in this COVID-19 environment, the coal sector is not without its challenges. But record high prices and strong demand puts pay to the views of those who continue to predict coal's imminent death. That's more good news for the Hunter region and its workforce.

It's been a slow burn – excuse the pun – but many of the naysayers are coming to realise that the fossil fuel industry remains crucial to the living standards of people in developed and developing countries alike. Indeed, in this 21st Century, we rely on fossil fuels for 80 per cent of our energy needs. I wonder how many of the anti-fossil fuels campaigners understand that. Not many I suspect. Or is it worse: they know it but choose to ignore it!

Activists surely understand too, that nowhere in the world is there an electricity system which is capable of running on renewable energy alone. Not yet anyway. The day will come for sure, but it's a long, long way off.

The sad thing is Australia

could reduce its emissions from electricity generation more rapidly if we embraced nuclear power but for most, the politics is too hard to even have the conversation. We continue to ship our uranium to others for electricity generation but refuse to even consider using it here. It's too hard to know whether to describe that as confused, weird or hypocritical, but any of the above will suffice. But we can't blame the politicians only, I'll bet London to a brick that no matter where a safe Generation 4 generator were proposed in Australia, it would meet with strong local opposition.

SO, THANK GOODNESS WE HAVE COAL AND GAS TO KEEP OUR ELECTRICITY GRID IN BALANCE AND RELIABLE. THANK GOODNESS WE HAVE COAL AND GAS TO KEEP DOWNWARD PRESSURE ON POWER PRICES. WITHOUT THEM THE PRICE WOULD HIT UNAFFORDABLE PEAKS WHEN RENEWABLE ENERGY IS NOT AVAILABLE.

The stakes are higher for developing countries. Highly populated developing nations

like China and India need all the coal, gas, nuclear, wind, solar and hydro power they can muster. For them, it's not one or the other. Without all of those sources of electricity, they cannot continue to lift millions of people out of poverty. They also need our metallurgical coal to build their new cities, rail lines, roads, wind generators, electricity transmission lines and more.

So, it's a good thing some common sense seems to be creeping back into the public debate. It's good news for our local economy and local jobs, good news for our national economy, and good news for those in the Indo-Pacific region who have not yet enjoyed the benefits of modernisation that we've been blessed to enjoy.

It's a good thing for carbon output too, because every tonne of relatively efficient Australian coal burned displaces a tonne of less efficient coal. That means more energy for less carbon output. That's good news for the world!

Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP
 Federal Member for Hunter



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Where There's A Will There's A Way...To Support Your Westpac Rescue Helicopter



OVER 70 SOLICITORS ACROSS NORTHERN NSW ARE DONATING 100% OF THEIR TIME AND SUPPORT TO THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE'S ANNUAL 'WILLS WEEK' INITIATIVE TAKING PLACE FROM 28 MARCH TO 1 APRIL.

During Wills Week, the public can book an appointment to see a solicitor to receive advice about having a simple* Will drafted or update an existing one. Booking fees of \$125 for individuals (1/2 hour appointment) or \$225 for couples (1 hour appointment), are donated in full to the Service, with people getting the benefit of a professionally drafted Will at a greatly reduced price, while also helping the Rescue Helicopter save lives in their local community.

Having an up to date Will is important, with Wills Week helping people to prepare a Will while also having the option to consider the gift of a bequest. For charities such as the Rescue Helicopter Service, receiving the support of a bequest is not taken lightly, as the Service understands the importance of the decision that has been made by the donor. The Service sees the gift of a bequest as an incredible act of generosity and a lasting legacy that gives back to our community.

So for many people, once they have provided for their loved ones, they are also choosing to

leave a gift in their Will. The gift of a bequest, large or small, can help make a difference and importantly, all support stays locally and directly supports the donor's local base in either Newcastle, Tamworth or Lismore.

WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE CEO, RICHARD JONES OAM SAID WILLS WEEK IS A CONVENIENT AND PERSONALLY REWARDING OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE AN UP TO DATE WILL PREPARED AND ALSO SUPPORT THE SERVICE.

"Wills Week is not only a great opportunity to ensure that you have a current Will but it also helps to raise vital funds for the Rescue Helicopter. We sincerely appreciate everyone's support and a special thank you to our participating solicitors and to those who are looking to leave the gift of a bequest to help our Service to continue saving lives across Northern NSW," Jones said.

"A bequest is a deeply personal decision and we are always truly humbled when we receive a gift of this type. The impact that a bequest can make, no matter how small or large, is profound as it directly supports our aircraft and crews to assist and be there for others in their time of desperate need," Jones concluded.

**Booking does not cover the drafting of Power of Attorney documents or complex Wills.*

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WALKING TO THE RESCUE

LIAM JACKSON, FROM BULGA SURFACE OPERATION, HAS COMPLETED A CHARITY WALK, RAISING A MUCH NEEDED \$8,150 FOR DESTINY RESCUE.

The charity is an Australian Organisation that rescues children from sexual exploitation and human trafficking around the world.

Part of the CHPP Production crew, Liam began his non-stop 150km walk around Lake Macquarie and Newcastle on a Friday night and finished lunchtime Sunday in 39 hours and 4 seconds.

"The hardest part of the walk was actually within the first two kilometres," he said.

"I left home at 9pm on the Friday night and I seriously underestimated how bad the weather was. It was raining very heavily, and the wind was strong. I was wet, cold and felt very unprepared for what was going to be a long night and

weekend. I even started to walk back home so I could get warmer clothes or go to bed and start again the following morning, but I made the decision to continue.

"THE MENTAL BATTLES I HAD THROUGHOUT THE 39 HOURS AND 4 MINUTES OF CONTINUOUS WALKING WAS EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO GET OUT OF THE CHALLENGE."

This is not the first time Liam has tackled a challenge to raise funds for Destiny Rescue.

In January, Liam successfully walked 100 kilometres and raised \$4,756 which helped in rescuing three young girls from sex trafficking and exploitation.

"I was originally planning a trip overseas to do some volunteer work

with the organisation however, COVID-19 impacted international travel so I decided to think of other ways I could help," he said.

"When I finished the 100 kilometres in January, I felt as though something was missing from what I wanted to get from the challenge, so I decided to organise a second walk and increase the distance to 150 kilometres. Once I finished the 150km in 39 hours and 4 minutes I felt as though I ticked all the boxes on what I wanted to get from the challenge.

"I have always had a passion for wanting to help vulnerable and disadvantaged children."

It goes without saying, the CHPP team are all incredibly proud of Liam and all the work he does with Destiny Rescue.



COMMUNITY GIFT

HUNTER VALLEY CAT HAVEN

THIS MONTH THE COMPLETE PARTS AND @ THE COALFACE \$500 COMMUNITY GIFT GOES TO HUNTER VALLEY CAT HAVEN (HVCH).

HVCH are a foster care rescue, saving local cats and kittens throughout the Hunter Valley.

Their aim is to save as many cats and kittens from euthanasia as they can, while providing quality care. As they are a foster care based rescue operation, they do not have a facility or shelter and are reliant on their caring volunteers to help them rehome and rehabilitate the cats and kittens in their care.

Every year it's estimated around 200,000 cats and dogs are euthanised in Australian animal shelters. HVCH founder Tracey Burkill said that they are inundated with abandoned and unwanted cats

and kittens and like all the rescue organisations in Australia, are unable to keep up with the demand. That's why it's also HVCH's mission to educate the general public on the importance of desexing.

"There's just too many for us to care for and rehome and it's devastating to see the condition that many of these cats and kittens are in. We need to end the cycle and the only way to do that is through desexing," said Tracey.

"Most people don't realise when they are given a kitten how important it is to get it desexed straight away. From 5 to 6 months of age, that cute little kitten you received will likely become pregnant with her first litter and you'll find yourself with up to a dozen new additions to the family.

"DESEXING MUST BE A PRIORITY IF YOU DECIDE TO BECOME A CAT OWNER. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO AFFORD TO DESEX YOUR CAT, THERE ARE ANIMAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THAT CAN HELP."

HVCH receive no funding and many of the animals that arrive into their care are neglected, sick and in poor condition. They require immediate vet treatment and long term care to help them recover and HVCH's biggest expense is vet bills. They rely



solely on donations and community support to help them continue to save cats and kittens that need a second chance.

Tracey said they appreciate all donations no matter how small. They are also always in need of items such as food, litter, pee pads, treats and beds and would welcome the donation of these items.

DONATE TO HUNTER VALLEY CAT HAVEN TODAY AT [HUNTER-VALLEY-CAT-HAVEN.GIVEEASY.ORG/DEFAULT](https://hunter-valley-cat-haven.giveeasy.org/default)
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DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, THE BENGALLA APPRENTICES WERE UNABLE TO COMPLETE A PROJECT OUT IN THE COMMUNITY IN 2021 SO INSTEAD THEY COMPLETED AN INSPIRING PROJECT ON SITE.



MESSAGE IN A BUCKET

THE WINNING ENTRY MESSAGE WAS SUBMITTED BY REYDE HENNESSY AND JAIDAN SMOLDERS.

Bengalla's 3rd Year Apprentices were tasked with a project of designing and painting an old dragline bucket to be placed on display for employees, contractors, and visitors to see as they arrive and leave site.

All the apprentices partook in a competition to submit an 'Entry' and 'Exit' message to be painted on the bucket. Once all entries were received the Bengalla Managers voted on the best messages to be used.

The winning entry message was submitted by Reyde Hennessy and Jaidan Smolders and their message reads, 'We can't wait for you to come Home' 'What's your reason, Safety First'.

The winning exit message was submitted by Emily Fear and Taylah Moore, and their message reads, 'They're waiting for you at home, Drive Safe'.

The 3rd year Apprentices were then tasked to organise the designs to be painted on the bucket and the outstanding end result speaks for itself.

Well done to the 3rd year apprentices on a successful execution of their Project and well done to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year apprentices on the completion of the Bucket.

THIS YEAR BENGALLA HOPE TO BE ABLE TO GET BACK OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY AND COMPLETE A "NOVEMBER 2022 APPRENTICE PROJECT."



THE WINNING EXIT MESSAGE WAS SUBMITTED BY EMILY FEAR AND TAYLAH MOORE.



A MERRY START TO 2022

MALABAR RESOURCES ENDED 2021 TOGETHER WITH THE COMMUNITIES OF THE UPPER HUNTER, HELPING LOCAL FAMILIES, ORGANISATIONS AND THE ELDERLY CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH CHEER.

The local resources company partnered with the Blackroo Community Indigenous Corporation to donate ten Christmas trees and decorations to local families in need. Malabar also donated food supplies, toys and gifts to the 2NM/Power FM Food and Toy Appeal and provided volunteers to help prepare more than 320 hampers for local families in need.

"It was a tough year for many in our community so we were happy to help out where we could" said Donna McLaughlin, Malabar's Manager of Health, Safety, Environment and Community.

"IT WAS AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE TO HELP MAKE CHRISTMAS A SPECIAL AND HAPPY TIME FOR THE KIDS AND FAMILIES IN OUR LOCAL AREA."

Continuing the Christmas spirit, Malabar donated a gift to all residents at the Mercy Aged Care Service in Singleton, including individually wrapped puddings, biscuits, coffee mugs, hand creams and toiletries. Malabar was also a major sponsor of the NSW Fire and Rescue Aberdeen Santa Lolly Run.

Mercy Aged Care Facility Manager Lisa Bigham said the gifts were so well received and brought much happiness to the residents. "We tried to make Christmas for the residents who were isolating, as joyous as possible."

With the new year in full stride, Malabar is now preparing for the construction of the Maxwell Underground Mine. The construction phase is set to begin in early 2022 and will involve the generation of roughly 250 jobs and the services of many local businesses and suppliers.



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TAKING ACTION FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN MINING

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Mental health is becoming widely acknowledged as an important component in business stability, workforce and even productivity. 20% of Australians will experience symptoms of mental illness each year. The Black Dog Institute does important work in this space.

Here are some hard facts:

- Every year 1 in 5 Australians experiences a mental illness
- Mental illness affects 50% of all Australians over the course of their life
- Suicide is the leading cause of death for 15-44 year olds
- On average over 1,200 Australians attempt to take their lives every week and 58 Australians die by suicide every week

Choose the Black Dog safety products and know that you're making a difference by supporting mental health initiatives in your community.

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THE NEW MUSWELLBROOK MAYOR STEVE REYNOLDS WITH HIS WIFE ASH AND CHILDREN, BRAITH (17), ISABELLA (9). ABSENT: JACK (3)

You don't get much more local than Steve, or Reggie as most of you already know him. "When I checked with my parents, Mum's family has been here in this area for beyond 5 generations," Steve proudly shares. "We've been entrenched here since before even coal mining by the sounds."

And it looks like the Reynolds family will be staying around for a long while yet. You would be hard pressed to find someone who loves their hometown as much as Steve. "I love Muswellbrook, and even though I have had the opportunity to leave several times, I couldn't imagine being anywhere else. It's the people that make a community, and I have had nothing but a positive life here. It really is an amazing place to live and I don't believe enough people know that. I'll be making it one of my missions as Mayor to make sure that more people do."

At only 40 years of age, Steve's young to be Mayor, but he said his age was actually one of the main reasons he put his hand up for Councillor back in 2016.

"I WAS SICK OF LOOKING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN AND NOT BEING ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE. I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO GET A YOUNGER GENERATION INVOLVED AND LET THEM HAVE MORE INPUT, BUT I DIDN'T SEE MANY PEOPLE MY AGE PUTTING THEIR HANDS UP. SO I THOUGHT WHY NOT ME? AND I KNOW IT SOUNDS CLICHE, BUT I GENUINELY WANTED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE MUSWELLBROOK COMMUNITY AND BRING BACK THE SPIRIT HERE I GREW UP WITH."

Steve worked in real estate and as a trainer for an employment agency, but the role that really defined his working career was in the mining industry. He worked at Mt Arthur Coal as an operator for 8 years before an accident left him injured and having to forge a new career path.

That's when Steve came in the door of @The Coalface, coming on as our General Manager in 2018. Steve's love for the Muswellbrook community and mining industry made him an asset to our magazine. But unfortunately for us, Steve's passion for his community led him into a new direction as he looked for more ways he could contribute. Now after the many

years of work he put into his role as a Councillor he's been elected by his fellow Councillors to lead them as the Mayor. And he sure is planning to make the most of it.

"I can say all the usual things about what I stand for such as accountability, transparency and values, but what it comes down to is I plan on listening to the people in the community and ensuring the needs of our region are met. Local communities and local people must have their say, it's time for change," Steve tells me earnestly. "I'll be working as hard as I can, with my team, to engage with the community and be accessible. It's one thing to say you're going to do something, I aim to get stuck in and do it."

ON HOW HE'S SETTling INTO THE ROLE, STEVE SAID IT'S BEEN SIMPLY FANTASTIC. "THERE'S BEEN SUCH SUPPORT FROM EVERYONE HERE AT COUNCIL AND IT'S A REAL POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT. I HOPE WE CAN REALLY BUILD ON THAT SENSE OF UNITY AND CREATE A GREAT CULTURE WHERE EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY FEELS INCLUDED AND HAS A VOICE."

"I don't think many people really understand that Councillors take on the role for the love of their community and because they want to help. It's certainly not for the pay," he adds with a laugh.

And of course, I can't resist asking Steve what the pay is in Muswellbrook for a Councillor which he forthrightly tells me is around \$13,000 a year for a Councillor and around \$26,000 a year for Mayor. "Bloody hell Steve" I reply. "If I knew you would take a job for that much money we would have paid you a lot less!"

Steve's patient wife Ash has been by his side, supporting him through the rollercoaster of a ride these last few months. With three kids, Braith (17), Isabella (9) and Jack (3), this is already a family with a lot going on.

Steve's also starting a diploma in mental health this year so it's only going to get busier. "Though I do have an amazing Personal Assistant now," says Steve with a laugh. That's sure going to take some getting used to.

"I'm really just incredibly grateful that I have been trusted with this role and I am going to give everything I've got to make sure that trust in me is deserved. I hope that we can leave a legacy to be proud of."

FROM MINER TO MAYOR

THIS MONTH I ENJOYED A NICE LUNCH AT THE ROYAL HOTEL MUSWELLBROOK WITH NEWLY APPOINTED MUSWELLBROOK MAYOR STEVE REYNOLDS, TO FIND OUT HOW HE WENT FROM BEING A COAL MINER TO A MAYOR.



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Premiair Hire

Tell us about the business?

Premiair Hire are the equipment hire specialists of diesel and electric air compressors, dryers and filtration, skid and trailer mounted silenced generators, lighting towers, traffic management equipment and sustainable event solutions with each

product offering both mine spec and non-mine spec variations. Premiair has an on-site service division embodied by our mobile service technicians who provide scheduled servicing and 24/7 emergency breakdown response. We also have a fuel division that provides onsite

diesel refuelling, whilst also servicing a range of equipment, wherever and whenever needed.

How long have you been doing business?

Premiair Hire first commenced trading in 1994 when it was then known as Premiair Compressor Services. 28 years on, and Premiair Hire now has branches across the entire east coast of Australia with locations in NSW, ACT, QLD, VIC and SA.

How many people work for the business?

Across all our 13 branches, we currently have a total of 135 hardworking and dedicated employees with a wide range of technical and support backgrounds.

Describe a typical day at 'The office'.

Servicing the needs of our customers is the number one priority, therefore there are no 'start and finish' times at Premiair. We're all there as a team until the job's done, ensuring all customer enquiries and equipment requests are met on every occasion. Whilst we often face similar issues that any equipment supply company faces, it's the way we tackle these issues that sets us apart. On any given day, we have BDM's washing equipment, Technicians making deliveries and Managers sweeping the warehouse. Having employees that can easily adapt to change, prioritise work and understand our main goal is what builds team cohesion and provides opportunities

for continuous growth.

What's the best thing about the business?

Premiair is a family-owned and operated business which has been built on the hard work of owners Peter and Carmen Xiberras, as well as the staff that has joined them on the journey. Being family-operated allows the business to remain nimble in its response to market trends, innovation, and competition.

The worst thing?

There are so many opportunities for Premiair within our various target sectors that it is often hard to know which opportunity to focus on at any one time. So really, it's not a bad thing, we are only limited by current resources.

What are the biggest challenges facing your business?

The obvious ones are Covid and the current shortage of suitable employees to sustain growth. We know we aren't alone with these challenges and are grateful to our existing dedicated staff who have all gone the extra mile to allow us to maintain our existing workloads.

What is the biggest opportunity for your business right now?

There are always new and exciting opportunities that our company is faced with daily. One of these current opportunities has been our involvement with Australia's coal mining sector. We have been pleased with the sectors response to our innovative

ideas, modern equipment and 24/7 backup support. This response has provided us with the confidence for more investment and a stronger focus in the sector.

What is the business most proud of?

Our growth. Premiair is continuously growing and expanding as a company to ensure that we are meeting the current demands within the marketplace. We're proud of our current progress and are eager for what the future of Premiair looks like.

Community or other causes close to its heart and values?

Premiair is proud to have sponsored many events and charities including local sporting clubs, animal welfare groups and disability groups. We prefer to offer our financial and product assistance without public recognition which to Premiair, is the true meaning of generosity.

Any funny or heartwarming stories to share?

Looking at the success of Premiair and all its departments, you wouldn't believe that it originally began operating in an old milking shed, located in Richmond, NSW.

Any employees that deserve a shout out?

All our employees deserve a shout out. Every individual is an important part of Premiair and a true asset to our company. Without them, our company wouldn't be where it is today.

MY MINING LIFE

JAMES MARKHAM



Who are you and what do you do?

I'm James Markham, Maintenance Supervisor with Infrastructure at Mt Arthur Coal.

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

I started in 2013 as an Apprentice Plant Mechanic.

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

Some what the same. Growing up on a farm I was always tinkering with the machinery.

What's a usual day at work entail?

Conduct pre-start, hand out the job packs, area inspections, event investigations and prioritise breakdowns.

What's the best thing about your job?

The crew I work with, great bunch of people.

The worst thing?

Dealing with the ever-changing Covid impacts.

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

In this role there are various trades that I have to look after and understanding their scope of work and how they apply it in day-to-day activities can be challenging at times.

What has been your proudest achievement?

I would have to say being in a leadership role at a young age. Throughout my career I have had

many mentors/leaders, both good and bad, and too be in this role and receive the positive feedback from my crew is always good to hear.

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

The number of equipment/trades/buildings we look after. Everything from fitters, lecos, gardeners, plumbers, carpenters, pest management. The list goes on. There is a very broad spectrum of work.

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

Before the Christmas break, I kept telling everyone at pre starts to stay safe and not get Covid. In the end there was only one who got Covid... me. Haha all is well now though.

What do you do in your downtime?

I love to go camping and fishing with my partner and our 3 dogs. I'm always up for a spontaneous adventure.

Outside of work I am an On-Call Firefighter for Fire & Rescue NSW. We respond to emergencies around the community.

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

I believe the industry has great impact not only for employment but also community engagement. Living locally in the Hunter it's very rare that you wouldn't see a major community event sponsored by one of the mines. Our local miners are also always actively supporting local sporting and volunteer groups.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH BEST UNDER PRESSURE

HUNTER VALLEY
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The government had a scrap yard out in the countryside.

Parliament said, "Someone may steal from it at night." So they created a night watchman position and hired a person.

Then Parliament said, "How does the watchman do his job without instruction?" So they created a planning department and hired a person to write the instructions and a person to do time studies.

Then Parliament said, "How will we know the night watchman is doing his tasks correctly?" So they created the Quality Control department and hired a person to do studies and a person to write the reports.

Then Parliament said, "How are these people going to get paid?" So they created a time keeper and a payroll officer position and hired two people.

Then Parliament said, "Who will be accountable for all of these people?" So they created an administrative section and hired an Administrative Officer, Assistant Administrative Officer and a Legal Secretary.

Then Parliament said, "We have had this project in operation for one year and we are \$18,000 over budget, we must cutback overall cost."

So they laid off the night watchman.

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AGE MATTERS

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY, AGEING HAS BEEN INEVITABLE. HOWEVER, WHAT IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO STAY YOUNGER FOR LONGER AND PREVENT THE DISEASE AND FRAILITY OF OLD AGE. AS MORE AND MORE RESEARCH INTO AGEING IS BEING UNDERTAKEN, WILL LIVING FOREVER ONE DAY BE A POSSIBILITY?

Ageing is the process during which structural and functional changes accumulate in an organism as a result of the passage of time. The changes manifest as a decline from the organism's peak fertility and physiological functions until death. If you could zoom into the molecular level, you would see small, incremental amounts of damage that spreads to the cells, the tissue and the organs. When we can't keep up with the repairing, the ageing starts.

In an industry worth \$110 billion, scientists have spent decades attempting to find a way to prevent or even reverse ageing. Ageing research is delving into areas such as genetics, molecular and cellular biology, biochemistry and behaviour, all in the hopes to extend lifespan and prevent disease.

Diseases related to ageing – like cancer, rheumatism and Alzheimer's – kill 100,000 people every day around the world. But a growing number of scientists say it doesn't have to be this way.

Ageing is a multidisciplinary field with research being done into stem cells, organ printing and rejuvenation, senolytic therapies, telomerase and energy and oxyradical metabolism to name a few. While I admit that most of the research papers into ageing I've read go way above my head, what little I managed to comprehend left me with no doubt that we are entering an exciting new era into ageing research.

REVERSING THE AGING PROCESS HAS BEEN SHOWN TO BE POSSIBLE IN SOME SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS USING HUMAN CELLS AND SIMPLE ORGANISMS. BUT IT'S STILL NOT POSSIBLE TO REVERSE AGEING IN HUMANS YET DUE TO BIOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS. FOR SOME RESEARCHERS THE END GOAL IS TO HACK HUMAN BIOLOGY TO BYPASS THESE RESTRAINTS. THEY BELIEVE BIOLOGICAL REPROGRAMMING TO REJUVENATE THE ENTIRE HUMAN BODY ON A CELLULAR LEVEL AND THEREFORE POSTPONING DEATH WILL ONE DAY BE POSSIBLE.

But will science really stop ageing? Based on the huge investment being undertaken into the field and the promising results already yielded, I'm certainly not ruling it out as a possibility. However, I am doubtful I'll still be around if we one day do succeed.

While we wait for actual solutions, there are some straightforward changes we can implement into our daily life to reverse ageing, improve our health and lower the risk of dying early from common but preventable diseases.

Leading a healthy lifestyle, incorporating plenty of exercise, plus maintaining a healthy diet that also incorporates periods of calorie restriction and intermittent fasting - and don't forget the importance of good sleep - these are all simple things we can all do that will go a long way to increasing our productivity and health long into old age.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH **HUNTER VALLEY Hydraulink** Hose and Fittings **BEST UNDER PRESSURE**

A man kills a deer and takes it home to cook for dinner. Both he and his wife decide that they won't tell the kids what kind of meat it is but will give them a clue and let them guess. The dad said, "Well it's what Mommy calls me sometimes."
The little girl screamed to her brother, "Don't eat it. It's an asshole!"

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STAY SAFE IN THE SUN

SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA HAVE PUBLISHED NEW GUIDELINES ON MANAGING THE RISKS OF SOLAR ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION (UVR).

While the sun is the main source of UVR, it is not the only source. UVR also comes from phototherapy, solariums, fluorescent, neon and halogen lighting, industrial arc welding, UVR lamps, 'black lights', germicidal UVR lamps and UV lasers.

Solar UVR is part of the electromagnetic spectrum emitted by the sun and is composed of three wavelengths: UVA, UVB and UVC. While all UVC and most UVB radiation is absorbed by the atmosphere, all UVA and about 10 percent of UVB radiation reaches the earth's surface. Both UVA and UVB are known causes of skin cancer.

Solar UVR cannot be seen or felt and can pass through clouds and loosely woven material. It can also bounce off reflective surfaces like metal, concrete, water and snow. It is a known carcinogen like asbestos and tobacco and is the main cause of skin cancer in Australia. It can also lead to significant and irreversible skin and eye damage.

It is an employers' responsibility to manage health and safety risks in the workplace, including risks associated with exposure to solar UVR. The following guidelines can assist employers in managing those risks. It is also important that all employees understand their employers obligations to keep them safe from solar UVR.

IDENTIFY THE HAZARD

Exposure to solar UVR is a risk for anyone who works outside. Not only is it a hazard when working in direct sunlight, it can also be reflected off certain materials, such as concrete, metal, snow and sand, increasing the level of exposure.

Solar UVR can reach levels high enough to damage unprotected skin for most months of the year across many parts of Australia. All skin types can be damaged by exposure to solar UVR, however those with paler skin are at an increased risk.

ASSESS THE RISK

Once you have identified solar UVR risks, a risk assessment can help you determine: the severity and likelihood of the risk, if existing control measures are effective, what action you should take to control the risk, and how urgent it is. However, a risk assessment may not be needed if a hazard, the relevant risks, and their control measures are already known and understood.

MANAGE THE RISKS

You must do as much as you reasonably can to eliminate the risks associated with solar UVR exposure. For example, you can eliminate the risk by carrying out work indoors. If this is not possible, you must minimise the risk through

one or more of the following:

Substituting or replacing a hazard with a safer one. For example, carrying out the work during the early morning and late afternoon when the risk of solar UVR exposure is lower.
Isolating or separating the risk from workers. For example, ensure work is carried out undercover or in a well shaded area.

Engineering controls are physical control measures to minimise risk. For example, installing permanent shade structures to buildings and mobile plant, installing window tinting to mobile plant or vehicles, or altering a surface to be less reflective.

Administrative controls should be designed to provide a systematic framework to support the higher controls already implemented and further minimise exposure to UVR. Examples include: workplace policies, safe work procedures, information and training, and supervision.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) must be provided and you must ensure the use of PPE such as UPF 50+, clothing, broad-brimmed hats or hard hats with brims/flaps, and at least SPF 30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen.

WORKERS HAVE A DUTY TO TAKE REASONABLE CARE FOR THEIR OWN HEALTH AND SAFETY AND TO NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OTHER PERSONS.

Workers must comply with reasonable instructions, as far as they are reasonably able, and cooperate with reasonable health and safety policies or procedures that have been notified to workers. If personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided by the business or undertaking, the worker must, so far as they are reasonably able, use or wear it in accordance with the information, instruction and training provided.

WHILE UVR IS THE MAJOR CAUSE OF SKIN CANCER, IT IS THE BEST NATURAL SOURCE OF VITAMIN D WHICH IN SMALL AMOUNTS IS ESSENTIAL FOR GOOD HEALTH. FOR MOST PEOPLE ADEQUATE VITAMIN D LEVELS ARE REACHED THROUGH REGULAR DAILY ACTIVITY AND INCIDENTAL EXPOSURE TO THE SUN. SENSIBLE SUN PROTECTION DOES NOT PUT PEOPLE AT RISK OF VITAMIN D DEFICIENCY.

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DEFEATING DUST



LAST YEAR GLOBAL ROAD TECHNOLOGY (GRT) UNVEILED THE LATEST WEAPON IN THEIR ARSENAL, THE GRT 12X, AS THEY SEEK INCREASED PROTECTION FOR MINING WORKERS ACROSS AUSTRALIA, AND IT'S CERTAINLY PAID OFF. The GRT 12X is a concentrated additive that has been independently verified by one of Australia's leading universities to be 12 times more effective than water alone in suppressing coal dust and other fine dust. The result of six years of research and development, this Australian made product changes the surface tension and charge of the water, so that it attracts and captures dust particles, which then simply drop to the ground. The new technology is a game changer for the industry as it provides the right solution for a key problem facing the mining sector in terms of its current practices to suppress dynamic dust. Receiving five-star reviews from mine sites around Australia and the world, the GRT 12X continues to make waves with its powerful and cost-effective applications.

WWW.GLOBALROADTECHNOLOGY.COM

SNAZZY AND SAFE

WWW.SAFETYMATE.COM.AU



SAFETY GLASSES HAVE CLASSICALLY BEEN DESIGNED GIVING LITTLE THOUGHT TO STYLE AND MORE THOUGHT TO THE SAFETY ASPECTS, BUT WHAT IF YOU COULD HAVE BOTH? INTRODUCING THE RILEY NAVIGATOR BY SAFETY MATE.

Innovative yet iconic, the Riley Navigator offers a stylish solution to safety eye protection. The unique 4-base curve design combines classic contemporary sunglass styling with full safety features like dual injected temples with soft tips, anti-fog/anti-scratch lens coatings and

a microfibre pouch to store them after work, allowing workers to enjoy all the style of the beach with the protection required in their workplace. Finished with a premium coating the Navigator is available in a choice of 5 lens options meaning you could wear a new pair every day of the working week to keep things fresh. You'll be the coolest looking miner on site in a pair of these babies.



MILWAUKEE® TACKLES THE TOUGHEST GRINDING AND CUTTING APPLICATIONS WITH TWO NEW SPECIALTY GRINDERS, THE M18 FUEL 5" FLATHEAD BRAKING GRINDERS AND THE NEW M18 FUEL 4-½"-5" VARIABLE SPEED GRINDERS.

Generating 11 amp corded power, the M18 FUEL™ 5" Flathead Braking Grinders deliver 8,500 RPM for maximum sustained power and allow users to push the battery-powered grinder harder and longer than ever before. Its low profile, flathead design provides greater accessibility to tight spaces to complete a cut or grind an edge where a traditional 5" grinder may not be able to reach. The M18 FUEL™ 4-½"-5" Variable Speed Grinders generate 11 amp corded power and feature five speed settings between 3,500 RPM and 8,500 RPM, giving the user greater control by allowing the user to slow down or speed up the accessory during grinding and cutting applications. Designed for the toughest grinding and cutting applications, these grinders deliver the next level of jobsite productivity and enhanced safety.

WWW.MILWAUKEETOOL.COM

BRISBANE-BASED RESEARCH ORGANISATION, MINING3, AND LOW-CARBON ENERGY AND SERVICES PLAYER, ENGIE, RECENTLY TEAMED UP TO FORM THE HYDRA CONSORTIUM, A JOINT EFFORT AIMED AT PROMOTING THE USE OF HYDROGEN FUEL CELL-BASED POWERTRAIN FOR HEAVY-DUTY MOBILITY WITHIN THE MINING SECTOR.

Joining them are technology companies including Ballard Power, a fuel cell systems provider; Hexagon Purus, who specialise in hydrogen storage systems; and Reborn Electric Motors, who will complete the systems integration. Mining sector participants, Thiess and Mitsui & Co. have also joined as part of their commitment to developing sustainable solutions for decarbonizing the resources industry. The aim of the consortium is to create technology that will allow renewable hydrogen to take the place of diesel in mining, and decarbonise the sector. A lofty goal, and given the conservative nature of miners, proving the economics and safety of a hydrogen-fuelled haulage solution is a top priority for the initiative. To address this, Hydra launched several workstreams focusing on safety, scalability, engineering and economy. This includes a pre-feasibility study to design, manufacture, and test a 200kW fuel cell plus battery powertrain prototype under mining

AUSTRALIANS LEAD GLOBAL CONSORTIUM TO FUEL HYDROGEN ENERGY IN MINING

conditions. The test outcomes will provide valuable information to optimise the overarching design that could replace the traditional diesel powertrain in years to come. In recent times, miners have adopted battery electric vehicles to reduce their diesel use; however, this solution is not ideal as some are already finding constraints with the electric solutions available. Battery electric trucks, for example, struggle to get up inclines, making them unsuitable for stand-alone use in some Australian mines. RENEWABLE HYDROGEN INVOLVES USING RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES SUCH AS SOLAR, WIND OR TIDAL ENERGY TO CREATE HYDROGEN FROM WATER AND HAS APPLICATIONS FOR BOTH SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND MINING. IN ESSENCE, THE TECHNOLOGY COULD DEVELOP A "FREE" ENERGY SOURCE THAT WHEN BURNED, PRODUCES ONLY WATER, THEREBY CONTRIBUTING SUBSTANTIALLY TO DECARBONISING THE MINING SECTOR.

A pilot program launched in Chile with Antofagasta Minerals at the Centinela copper mine is among the first to advance the use of hydrogen in large mining equipment. This was achieved in-part through the support of the Chilean Economic Development Agency who awarding Hydra A\$458,000 in government funding to support the \$1.2 million partnership with CSIRO Chile. With a record of significantly over-achieving against emission reduction targets, management at the Centinela mine are hopeful the project can assist in achieving its goal of net zero direct and indirect carbon emissions by 2050 or sooner. "If this pilot delivers favourable results, we expect to have extraction trucks using hydrogen within five years," Centinela's general manager, Carlos Espinoza, said in the statement.



HYDROGEN STATION (REFERENCE IMAGE BY HENKVD, WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)

All eyes will be on Hydra's pilot program, and with an Australian organisation at the helm, it won't be too long before we will see similar hydrogen powered technology being piloted and rolled out in our own backyard.

COMPONENTS ONLY

THANKS TO COMPONENTS ONLY, OUR HEAVY EQUIPMENT EXPERTS



CRUISE IN COMFORT

IN DECEMBER 2021, TOYOTA MADE THE FIRST CUSTOMER DELIVERY OF THE ALL-NEW LANDCRUISER 300 SERIES, MARKING THE START OF RETAIL SALES OF THE LEGENDARY SUV.

The LandCruiser 300 Series is offered in the core grades of GX, GXL, VX and Sahara with two new flagships - the luxury Sahara ZX and off-road-focussed GR Sport. All grades are powered by a new 227kW/700Nm 3.3-litre twin-turbo diesel engine that drives all four wheels through an 10-speed automatic transmission. The stylish new lightweight body is underpinned by a new body-on-frame Toyota New Global Architecture platform that delivers greater rigidity, improved ride comfort and superb dynamic handling on and off-road and features an array of electronic assistance technologies to ensure it is the most capable, safest LandCruiser ever. If you're looking for an off-road vehicle that can handle tough mining environments, you'll want to get your hands on this mean machine.

WWW.TOYOTA.COM.AU

GREASE GUN

WWW.SKFCOM



SKF HAS DEVELOPED A DUAL-PISTON GREASE GUN THAT SIMPLIFIES THE CRITICAL TASK OF LUBRICATION WITH ITS UNIQUELY VERSATILE DESIGN.

The SKF Lincoln Dual-Piston Lever-Action Grease Gun (Model 1154) is perfect for miners, farmers and construction workers who need reliable, durable tools in rough working environments as well as users in vehicle repair garages. Featuring a thumb operated switch, the gun can toggle between high volume and high pressure making it perfect for handling any job, including those with large lubrication points or clogged fittings.

For high-volume users can benefit the more efficient design as it requires three times less strokes compared to standard grease guns while administering the same amount. If high pressure is needed, such as when a fitting is blocked the 1154 can successfully open the fitting without the operator having to apply excessive force. SKF's latest grease gun will have you lubricating with ease.

This also makes it easier for technicians to quickly adjust the tool to match the equipment's lubrication requirements. applications, efficient design



SUPER SCRAPER

WWW.CAT.COM/EN

THE NEW SINGLE ENGINE CAT® 651 WHEEL TRACTOR SCRAPER (WTS) HAS RECENTLY RE-ENTERED THE MARKET WITH UPGRADES TO THE POWERTRAIN, CONTROLS, HYDRAULICS AND STRUCTURE, DESIGNED TO DELIVER SUPERIOR LEVELS OF PRODUCTIVITY AND A HIGH RETURN ON INVESTMENT.

The scraper's new Advanced Productivity Electronic Control System (APECS) fully integrates the transmission and engine drivetrain to provide smooth and responsive

shifts, allowing the 651 to move more material faster. Its electronic clutch pressure control features advance shift control logic for smoother speed and directional shifts, while part throttle shifting controls transmission shifts for smoother shifting between gears. Preventing loss of momentum during shifts, the shift torque management system carries higher torque through shift points. The relaunch of this super scraper comes with improvements to productivity, cycle times and comfort that are sure to make any operator happy.



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SCAN FOR CONTACT



GRESHAM KICKS OFF KARTING CAREER

WITH JUST ONE YEAR OF AUSTRALIAN KART CHAMPIONSHIP (AKC) RACING UNDER HIS BELT, 16-YEAR-OLD ROHAN GRESHAM HAS HIS SIGHTS ON A PODIUM FINISH IN THE 2022 AUSTRALIAN KART CHAMPIONSHIP.

Rohan Gresham started karting 3 years ago at the age of 13, competing in his first AKC last year. Seeing the young racers potential and ambition, Safe Gauge have come on board as Rohan's proud sponsors in the 2022 AKC.

By chance Rohan was working at Xtreme Karts Warner's Bay when Safe Gauge Owner Luke Dawson and his team came in for their Christmas Party. Conversation quickly turned to Rohan's racing career. "We all ended up having a conversation about sponsorship and I threw in that he could sponsor me," said Rohan.

"He gave me a response that I wasn't expecting, I don't think he thought for 10 seconds before he said yes."

"I'M REALLY HAPPY TO BE REPRESENTING SAFE GAUGE BECAUSE THEY ARE A LOCAL

BUSINESS, AND BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY DO TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE."

Since he was little Rohan said he has always wanted to be a race car driver. "Lightning McQueen from Cars definitely played a huge role, I was so obsessed with Cars I burnt out two DVD's," Rohan chuckled.

Motorsport was something Rohan was born into, with his dad racing karts in the 90's. "Dad probably influenced me to hop into karts, and I'm so happy that he did, I can't think of anything that I have enjoyed more than racing over 110kmph, half a centimetre from the ground with nothing to protect you but a helmet; there is just nothing like it."

That love for motorsports shone through in the 2021 AKC for Rohan. Round 1 in Ipswich saw him finishing around the mid pack all

weekend, but when it got to the final, he'd managed to jump 5 places by turn 2 going from 20th to 15th. With only 2 laps to go Rohan made a move for 14th when his rear bumper struck the kerb, causing Rohan to drop back to 26th.

"I was more than nervous for my first round because I was challenging myself more than I have ever done before, but it was definitely a round of learning," said Rohan.

In Round 2 at Todd Road, Melbourne Rohan had to qualify in the top 36 to race the final and qualified in 32nd. "The final race was definitely the hardest race I have ever driven going from 32nd to 15th in just 18 laps," said Rohan.

Round 3 came along in Bolivar, South Australia, a round that Rohan says proves that in motorsport you can have the highest of highs and the lowest of lows.

"The grid for qualifying was set and I was heading out the gate on Saturday morning with my knees shaking, I'd never been so nervous in my life.

"But with all this pressure I put on myself I went from 6th to 27th in qualifying and I was gutted, but I'm sure if I was put in that situation again, I wouldn't have the nerves get to me and I would have much more experience."

In the 1st heat from 23rd in Group C Rohan fouled a plug coming onto the start line unfortunately taking him out of the running for the final.

AFTER A HUGE YEAR ROHAN SAYS HE HAS A LOT OF PEOPLE TO THANK



CAPTION: L-R ROHAN GRESHAM, ROHAN'S PARENTS ANDREW AND PAULA GRESHAM AND LUKE DAWSON, SAFE GAUGE

FOR SUPPORTING HIM IN HIS RACING INCLUDING LUKE DAWSON FROM SAFE GAUGE, TROY HUNT AND CODY BREWCZYNSKI AND TIM SLADE FROM TOPGUN DRIVER ACADEMY, JACE AND GRANT LINDSTROM FROM PRO KARTING VICTORIA, NATHAN AND PAUL TAYLOR FROM THE KARTWORKS, TIM BLANCHARD AND PETER BINK FROM COOLDRIIVE, KEV & REBEKAH GILKS FROM ONEUPUNLTD, SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER ANNALISE GRESHAM AND FINALLY ROD HUGHES, CLAYTON AND OSCAR PRIEST, JASON BOERSMA, KEN MULHOLLAND, COLEEN KEHOE AND ALL THE CREW AT LIFELINE AND RUOK?

"Of course, none of this would be possible without my parents Paula and Andrew Gresham," said Rohan.

This year Rohan will be racing for TopGun Racing Team in the AKC in KA3 senior performance in number 11, the Rotax Pro Tour, as well as club rounds at Newcastle and Hunter Valley Kart Club and the NSW State Championships, so keep an eye out for the young gun. Rohan Gresham is the one to watch in 2022.

A REEL GOOD TIME!



WHILE THE BILLFISH ARE ON STRIKE THE HOODLUMS HAVE BEEN OFF TAP!

IT'S A GLORIOUS TIME OF YEAR AND EVERYTHING FISHING IS CRANKING ALONG NICELY, SO GET OUT AND ENJOY SOME WARM WEATHER AND FISHING.

OFFSHORE

Things are looking good at the moment off the coast with plenty to keep us occupied offshore. The FAD's are starting to produce Dolphin fish after the slow start to the season due to the water and currents being inconsistent. The same goes for the Marlin fishing, out wide the current on the shelf has been holding things up a bit with the fish being a bit patchy, although things can change overnight. If a road trip is on the cards, fish are being found from Sydney and further south.

Reef fishing has been the standout with some crazy numbers of large Kings turning it on inshore. It's been so good to see them continually bounce back year after year. Snapper have continued and haven't really slowed at all leading into Summer and Trag have also been in plague proportions around the inshore reefs. The inshore Marlin bite has started but is being hampered by the NE winds rolling the water over and currently the Rat Dolphin and Kingfish are stealing baits making things extremely frustrating. I wouldn't be surprised if we don't start to see a few Cobia around the reefs and later in the month into March. Good chance a few Mackerel will push down into the local waters as well but it all will depend on what we are served up with the coming weather patterns.

INSIDE

The Estuaries have been fishing well with all three major estuary systems producing Jewies, they have been reacting well to lures and live baits. Flathead, Bream and Whiting across all the local Estuaries are also being found in great numbers probably due to the good run of Prawns pushing out of the systems with the recent rain. Soft vibes and plastics with smaller lighter weighted bait offerings are proving to be deadly

in the estuaries. Squid are showing up around Lake Mac and it pays to move around until you find a patch.

BEACHES AND ROCKS

Whiting and Jewies are probably the target species to be gearing up for from the beaches. From the rocks for the LBG crews we have Kingfish hiding under the wash waiting for an offering. The Tuna should show any day and who knows what else is likely to be moving in with them!

FRESH

The Bass fishing around the dams is exceptional at the moment. The recent level rises have really helped push the fish into the edges. Fishing surface lures, spinner baits and small suspended lures around the edges will produce the goods.

Keep floatin' - 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.

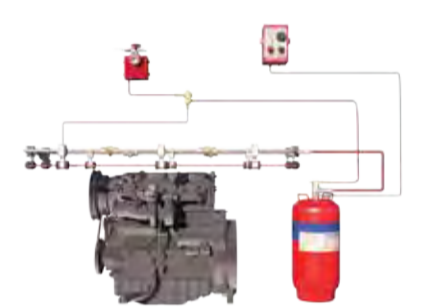
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- WORK SMART · STAY SAFE -



TURBO TIME

WWW.KMART.COM.AU

AVAILABLE AT KMART, THE TURBOSPOKE CAN TRANSFORM YOUR EVERYDAY BIKE TO HAVE THE LOOK AND SOUND OF A REAL MOTORBIKE, AND MY INNER CHILD IS SCREAMING.

Motorbikes can be expensive and substantially more dangerous than your standard bicycle, so being able to transform your kids bicycle into one that looks and sounds the same for under 30 bucks sounds pretty darn good. The attachable exhaust pipe starts with realistic engine sounds as soon as the wheels turn with the sound changing as your speed does. This is because this cool gadget is 100% pedal powered with no batteries required. The kids will be able to customise their own exhaust with the included stickers and change between 3 motorcars tuneable for up to 6 different sounds. As someone who would have killed for a motorbike as a kid, I love the concept of the Turbospoke as a cheaper, safer option.

PUMP IT UP

TYRES, BASKETBALLS, OR THE BACKYARD BLOW UP POOL, NO MATTER WHAT NEEDS PUMPING UP THE WORLD'S SMALLEST AIR COMPRESSOR CAN DO THE JOB.

Traditionally tyre inflators or air compressors are bulky, rather loud devices that simply wouldn't fit in a car glovebox or toolbox draw. Norshire saw the need for a smaller, yet powerful alternative and came up with the Norshire Mini which they claim to be the smallest and most portable tyre inflator in the entire world. About the size of a very slim drink bottle, the sleek and clear cylinder-shaped device is an ideal car accessory that instantly measures the tyre pressure when connected to a tyre and automatically stops when it hits the



WWW.NORSHIRE.COM

preset pressure. It may be small in size, but with 30,000 rpm and a power input of 56w it's big in personality. Whether you're pumping your tyres up after a forby on the dunes, getting that basketball bouncing for little Johnny or blowing up the inflatable ring for drunk Auntie Susan to stay afloat at the family pool party, you'll have it covered with the Norshire Mini Inflator.



CHEEKY CHILLER

GONE ARE THE DAYS OF CARRYING HEAVY ESKY'S AND GOING THROUGH BAGS OF ICE EVERY FEW HOURS, IT'S TIME TO UPGRADE TO CHILLERS BY CHILL SYSTEMS AS FEATURED ON THE HIT SHOW 'SHARK TANK'!

The revolutionary and compact redesign of traditional esky's makes drinking on the go a breeze and saves you a couple of bucks and time on bags of ice while you're at it. Instead, the Chiller by Chill Systems has freezing gel built inside keeping drinks cool for up to 6 hours. By freezing the Chiller overnight, it's ready to load with drinks by morning. As the first ever portable drink chiller which doesn't require ice or gel packs to keep cool, you can see why it was featured on a hit television show.

WWW.CHILLSYSTEMS.COM

I NEVER THOUGHT ANYONE COULD IMPROVE ON THE STANDARD RED PLASTIC BEER PONG CUPS THAT HAVE BECOME A STAPLE AT THE MODERN GET TOGETHER, UNTIL I DISCOVERED GLOW PRO GLOW PARTY CUPS.

Combining two iconic party essentials, the plastic cup and the glow stick, Glow Party Cups have created something that have beer pong lovers everywhere bouncing with excitement - a plastic cup that glows in the dark. With a glow stick built into the rim of each cup and 7 different colours in each pack, it's time to whip out the glow in the dark beer pong. Of course, the cups can be used for other purposes like making it easy to keep an eye on your drink but let's be real, it's time to get our pong on, glow style.



CUPFUL OF COLOUR

WWW.GLOWPARTYCUPS.COM

BEST SELLING BOOK



IF YOU'VE EVER BEEN YELLED AT BY YOUR BOSS FOR ABSOLUTELY NO REASON OR SAT THROUGH A TWO HOUR MEETING THAT CLEARLY COULD HAVE BEEN SENT IN AN EMAIL, THEN THIS BOOK IN JEN MANN'S THROATSERIES WON'T DISAPPOINT.

Kicking things off I would like to point out that currently, I am lucky enough to be in a job where I don't want to punch anyone in the throat (for now). But let's be honest, whether it was a past job or your current job, all of us can relate to Jen Mann's 'Working with People I Want to Punch in the Throat: Cantankerous Clients, Micromanaging Minions, and Other Supercilious Scourges'. Jen amusingly covers a range of people from condescending managers to the boss who fired her with a post-it-note, as well as her punch list: "Company-wide happy hours. I barely want to work with you. I definitely don't want to have a beer with you; The Ivy Leaguers. You do know every sentence doesn't have to start with, 'When I was at Princeton...?'; The martyrs. You get sick days-use one. Stop dragging your sniffling, snorting, coughing, sneezing ass to work and infecting the rest of us. You're not that important." It's a book you won't want to put down, that will have you laughing and reflecting, and maybe even considering accidentally leaving it in the crib room for a certain someone to find (don't do that). Have a read, it's a best-seller for a reason.

WWW.BOOKDEPOSITORY.COM



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It's as simple as hanging it over the side of your tub, turning it on and enjoying the luxury of an at home spa in your very own bathtub. Feel pampered every day of the week as the dual adjustable water jets to direct water flow to reach every muscle in your body. Better yet, the neck and suction cups are adjustable to reach any water level so even the kids could enjoy their own little spa. After the past 24 months of pandemic stress, I think we all deserve to relax, refresh and recharge after a long day without the cost and stress of booking in at the salon.

WWW.CONAIR.COM

WE'RE GETTING VACCINATED



Mining has been working safely during the pandemic.

That's been good for jobs and helped local businesses across the Hunter region.

We're doing everything we can to keep our mining families & communities safe. From remote working and physical distancing to testing, mask-wearing and more.

And that's why we're also getting vaccinated. Protecting workers, keeping families & communities safe and helping to keep the NSW economy moving.

nswmining.com.au



RELAX, THROW AN AXE

AFTER A HARD DAY ON THE JOB, I TOOK A FEW PALS TO CHILL AXE NEWCASTLE TO BLOW OFF SOME STEAM AND I HAVE TO SAY, NOTHING TAKES THE EDGE OFF LIKE THROWING AN AXE AT A HUGE WOODEN TARGET.

As someone who has never considered taking up axe throwing as a hobby, I am extremely impressed with the experience I had at Chill Axe Newcastle. I'm already recruiting more mates to come along and bask in axe throwing glory.

My partner Shaun and mate Erik were thrilled when I asked them to come along and throw solid steel axes to find out who was going to take home the title of lumberjack or lumberjill. I was a little nervous about the situation, but I'll give anything a go at least once and my goodness I'm stoked that I did.

Opening its doors in 2021, Chill Axe is a hidden gem tucked away in Station Street Waratah. The beautiful, large open shed is furnished with plenty of seating, a huge wall of giant wooden targets and an area to grab snacks and refreshments.

We were welcomed at the entrance by axe throwing coach Beth, who gave us the tour, went through safety procedures and gave us a rundown of the best axe throwing technique.

I was still extremely nervous, but Beth made me feel at ease and gave us all practice throws until

we were comfortable. Then, it was game on. I may have been the most nervous on the day, but my competitive side soon took over.

SET UP INTO MATCHES, WE COMPETED INDIVIDUALLY AGAINST EACH OTHER FOR THE HIGHEST SCORE. WITH EACH THROW, THE THREE OF US WERE GETTING MORE COMPETITIVE AND BY THE END WE WERE EAGER TO FIND OUT WHO WAS TAKING HOME THE WIN (ALSO BECAUSE THE LOSER HAD TO BUY THE FIRST ROUND OF DRINKS AT THE PUB AFTERWARDS).

Beth went to tally the score and returned with the devastating news. I was buying the first round. Shaun knocked the game out of the park to take home the lumberjack title, with what Beth said is one of the highest scores she's seen.

All in all, we absolutely loved the Chill Axe

experience. It was something I never thought I would enjoy, but it's now one of my favourite activities. I can't wait for a rematch to show the boys who's boss!



BOOK YOUR CHILL AXE EXPERIENCE AT WWW.CHILLAXENEWCASLE.COM.AU

Australian owned and operated, The Bloomfield Group has been part of the Hunter Valley community for more than 80 years. We are proud of our commitment to our community.

The less we say here, the more space left to mention the organisations we've recently supported...



- ▶ Australian Museum of Clothing (Maitland) ▶ Bears of Hope ▶ Benwerrin Rural Fire Brigade ▶ Cancer Council NSW
- ▶ Darlington Rural Fire Brigade ▶ East Maitland Scout Group ▶ Got Your Back Sista ▶ Gresford Public School
- ▶ Hunter Medical Research Institute ▶ Lifeline ▶ Maitland Football Club (juniors) ▶ Maitland Little Athletics
- ▶ Maitland Rugby Blacks Netball (juniors) ▶ Maitland Show ▶ Maitland Triathlon Club ▶ Mates in Mining
- ▶ Movember ▶ MS Research Australia ▶ Police Citizens Youth Club (Singleton) ▶ Prison Fellowship Australia (Hunter)
- ▶ Salvation Army ▶ Singleton Business Chamber ▶ Singleton Hospital ▶ Singleton Legacy ▶ Singleton Men's Shed
- ▶ Singleton Neighbourhood Centre ▶ Singleton Netball Association ▶ Singleton Show ▶ The Samaritans
- ▶ Tour de Cure ▶ University of Newcastle ▶ Variety (the Children's Charity) ▶ Youth Off the Streets.

For more information on The Bloomfield Group Foundation visit bloomcoll.com.au



WE CARE. WE DELIVER.



BEEF NACHOS

BRAND NEW BITES & BREW

BITES AND BREW CAFÉ AND BAR IS ONE OF THE LATEST ADDITIONS TO SINGLETON'S STOCKLAND SHOPPING CENTRE, AND ITS CHARMING ATMOSPHERE, YUMMY FOOD AND FRIENDLY STAFF HAVE KEPT US COMING BACK FOR MORE.



DONNA, HEAD COOK & DAMAN, OWNER OF BITES AND BREW

On December 15, 2021, owner Daman and his staff bravely opened Bites and Brew during the busiest holiday period of the year, with the café and bar now boasting as one of Singleton's favoured venues for great food and beverages.

Daman started Bites and Brew with a mission for quality food, specialty coffee and a great selection of wines, and this passion for quality has certainly paid off for the busy little café.

"It's been fantastic, we see the café full of happy customers daily and the staff continue to do a great job," said Donna, Head Cook. When @ The Coalface legend and boss Shane Davey heard about a new café in town that also has its own bar, it wasn't long before he popped his head in for a bite and brew. After a memorable breakfast just before the Christmas break, Shane soon had his trusty journalist

and fellow food lover (myself of course) in tow for a Tuesday lunch.

THE ATMOSPHERE IS THE FIRST THING YOU NOTICE AS YOU WALK INTO BITES AND BREW, WITH ITS LIGHT AND BRIGHT INTERIOR, SPACIOUS SEATING AND WARM ARTWORK INVITING YOU INSIDE.



CHARGRILLED CHICKEN BURGER

As we sat down to browse the menu, we were impressed by a range of delicious food options, as well as the specialty coffee, freshly squeezed juices and selection of beers and wines.

When it came to ordering Shane and I opted to share the Chargrilled Chicken Burger filled with grilled chicken breast, lettuce, cheese, tomato and caesar sauce; and the Beef Nachos served with corn chips, cheese, sour cream and avocado.

Served with a smile and beautifully presented, both dishes were fresh, flavourful and tasty. The nachos were an all-round favourite and the perfect size

for a light lunch. We also enjoyed the freshness and non-greasiness of the burger, along with its succulent and perfectly cooked grilled chicken. To echo Shane's words, "that feed is exactly what I needed today."

If you're looking for a quality breakfast or lunch experience, Bites and Brew is the place for you.

'AVE A LAUGH WITH

HUNTER VALLEY
Hydraulink
Hose and Fittings
BEST UNDER PRESSURE

I looked at my daughter and said, "You're not the boss of me."
She looked at me, and we had a good laugh...
I'm now downstairs getting her a snack.

02 6571 1625
hvhydraulink@bigpond.com
2 Mathry Cl, Singleton NSW 2330

WILLS WEEK

28TH MARCH TO 1ST APRIL 2022



Bookings now open until 25th February and can be made via the contact details shown below



Wills Week is a great opportunity to have a professional solicitor in your local area provide advice to establish your first Will or update an existing one. Wills Week is made possible thanks to the generous support of solicitors who donate their time to ensure that 100% of your booking fee is donated to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

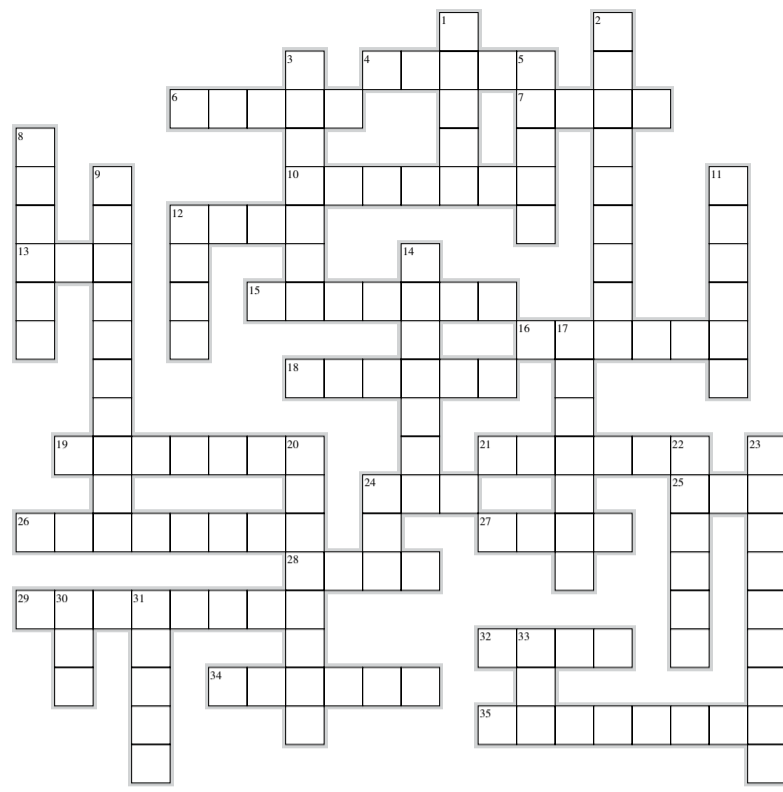
Booking fee - \$125 for a single person (1/2 hour)
- \$225 for a couple making mutual Wills (1 hour)

Book now to secure a meeting with a solicitor to receive advice about having a simple* Will drafted. Full details, including *terms and conditions can be viewed at rescuehelicopter.com.au/willsweek.

PARTICIPATING SOLICITORS

Cessnock	Coutts Lawyers & Conveyancers Emery Partners
Kurri Kurri	McAllister Legal Services
Muswellbrook	Curtis Gant Betts Solicitors Hoffman & Associates
Score	Kate Mailer & Associates Solicitors
Singleton	Umbrella Legal Aqua Legal & Conveyancing CDG Law 22TEN Legal
Online	Wills & Estates (Melbourne)

CROSSWORD ANIMALS



ACROSS

- 4. Slowest animal in the world
- 6. A karakul is which type of animal
- 7. Only predator of the Great White Shark
- 10. Zoophobia is a fear of what
- 12. Butterflies taste through this body part
- 13. Only flying mammal
- 15. Scotland's national animal
- 16. Lassie was this breed of dog
- 18. Continent home to the armadillo
- 19. Animal with a black tongue
- 21. Name for a group of crows

DOWN

- 24. This animal is protected under law in Rome
- 25. A lion's nose changing colour indicates this
- 26. Only male animal that gives birth
- 27. Bird with waterproof feathers
- 28. A dog sweats through which part of its body
- 29. Fastest fish in the ocean
- 32. Number of noses a slug has
- 34. Name of a group of kittens
- 35. Mammal that lays eggs
- 1. Animal that sleeps 90% of the time
- 2. Animals that are awake at night
- 3. Substance a Rhino's horn is made of
- 5. Animal that can make 17 facial expressions
- 8. Animal that has poop shaped like cubes
- 9. Only snake free continent
- 11. Shrek's friend
- 12. Animal that can survive being frozen
- 14. Largest primate in the world
- 17. Bird with eyes larger than its brain
- 20. Animal with a 22 month pregnancy
- 22. Animal that has teeth that don't stop growing
- 23. Sea creature with the ability to clone itself
- 24. Colourblind farm animal
- 30. There are over 12,000 species of this insect
- 31. Animal with 32 brains
- 33. Bird that cannot move its eyes

@ THE COALFACE PRIZE

WINNERS

VOLUME 5 - NO 11- DECEMBER 2021

- CRIB BAG
Michael Kriesch
- ROBERTS MEATS RAFFLE
Matt Thrift
- BUNNINGS GIFT CARD
Karin McRae
- ULTIMATE KIDS GIFT CARD
Sophia Cohen
- BCF GIFT CARD
Mark Olds

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!

PICTURESQUE WATER PLAYGROUND



FROM ROLLING HILLS AND CRYSTAL WATERS TO A STUNNING DISPLAY OF WILDLIFE, THE BEAUTY OF LAKE ST CLAIR IS SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE EXPERIENCED FIRSTHAND.

This month my friends and I snuck away for a weekend of camping, fishing and kayaking at Lake St Claire, a location just a short 30-minute drive north of Singleton magically nestled in the foothills of Mt Royal National Park.

It was our first time visiting the Lake and even on the drive in we were blown away by its sheer size and incredible scenery. Photos simply don't give this place justice. Being the weekend before Australia Day, the campground was full of happy campers, families and people looking to lap up the water. We managed to find a spot right on the shore for our swag, tent and campervan and set up our home for the weekend.

WITHIN MINUTES OF SETTING UP I WAS STRAIGHT IN THE WATER FOR A SWIM WHILE THE BOYS TOOK THE KAYAKS AND FISHING RODS ACROSS THE LAKE CHASING THEIR FIRST BASS. FLOATING IN THE LARGE OPEN WATER ENJOYING MY SURROUNDINGS, I KNEW I HAD ALREADY FALLEN IN LOVE WITH LAKE ST CLAIR.

After a few hours we all made our way back to camp to fire up the BBQ, start the fire and crack open a few beers. We were lucky enough to have gorgeous weather to sit back and relax over dinner before heading to bed early to enjoy Triple J's 2021 Hottest 100 the next day. Saturday morning saw us head out early on the kayaks for a fish,

where my brother caught the lucky first bass of the weekend. I've never been kayaking before, so I was bloody bugged by the time we got back and of course had to reward myself with a beer ready for the start of the Hottest 100.

Over the next few hours, we enjoyed many drinks and a couple of snag sangas in anticipation to see which artist or artists took home number 1, only to find out The Wiggles took first place with their Like a Version. Like come on, who votes for The Wiggles in The Hottest 100!

Luckily, this was the only negative of the weekend. We couldn't fault the experience we had at Lake St Claire. When we weren't out on the water ourselves, we enjoyed watching people boating, skiing, sailing and fishing around us.

We made friends with the local geese who woke us up each morning with a few loud honks,



we caught prawns and catfish and my brother even made a sail out of an umbrella for his kayak (which didn't work at all).

On our last day we woke up pretty dusty and relaxed for a few hours before packing up for the short trip home. Lake St Claire is our new favourite home away from home, and if you haven't been there yourself, you'd be crazy not to make this your next holiday destination.



Aboriginal Community Development Fund

MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation

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

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



Maintenance of Competence Scheme training



Our courses assist holders of practising certificates to maintain their competence to exercise a statutory function under the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014.

Our courses align with the NSW Resources Regulator's requirements.

Courses include:

- Legislation
- Learning from Disasters*
- Principal Mining Hazards and Controls
- Strata Management
- Emergency Management
- Ventilation
- Methods of Mining and Airborne Contaminants
- Fire and Explosions, and Shotfiring and Explosives
- Hazardous Substances

*Mines Rescue is approved by the NSW Resources Regulator to deliver the Learning from Disasters one-day program. Approved Training Provider number 0003650.

Contact Mines Rescue for dates and bookings.

Your local training specialists



Safety training for all industries

Our training courses are not limited to mining.

Courses include:

- First Aid
- Confined Space
- Working Safely at Heights
- Fire Fighting
- Emergency Warden (formerly Fire Warden)
- Site Health and Safety Representative (HSR)

Visit our website for more information www.coalservices.com.au

Contact Mines Rescue for dates and bookings.



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T: 02 6573 9000
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Newcastle
T: 02 4922 4400
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