

**@THE
COAL
FACE**

NSW May 2023

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TURNING TRAGEDY INTO TRIUMPH

PAGES 6 & 7

SOMETIMES THE SMALLEST THING CAN CHANGE THE TRAJECTORY OF YOUR LIFE FOREVER. CLAYTON DENNY, EPIROC REGIONAL MANAGER, IS PROOF THAT WITH THE RIGHT ATTITUDE, ADVERSITY DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A STUMBLING BLOCK, IT CAN BE A STEPPING STONE.

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OPINION

GO KNIGHTS! GO MINERS!

THE NSW MINERALS COUNCIL HAS BEEN A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS' WOMEN'S TEAMS FROM THE BEGINNING, SO IT WAS FANTASTIC LAST YEAR TO SEE THE KNIGHTS' NRLW TEAM WIN THE PREMIERSHIP IN JUST THEIR SECOND SEASON.

Recently we signed up again to continue as a major sponsor for two more years. The Knights' NRLW team will again wear the NSW Mining logo on its jersey for the next two seasons in a demonstration of the mining industry's commitment to supporting women in sport.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS NEW SPONSORSHIP DEAL COINCIDED WITH THE RECENT NSW WOMEN IN MINING AWARDS HELD AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE IN SYDNEY. THE AWARDS RECOGNISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF AN INCREASING NUMBER OF WOMEN WORKING IN MINING IN NSW.

Bianca Newcombe, owner and principal metallurgist of Orange-based business OptiFroth Solutions, was named the Exceptional Woman in NSW Mining for 2023. Whitehaven Coal's Hollie Sampson was named 2023 NSW Exceptional Young Woman in Mining.

Joanne Henry from WesTrac received the 2023 Technological

Innovation Award for the development and implementation of WesTrac's autonomous drilling technology project. Lucy McClean from the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) was awarded the 2023 Inclusion & Diversity Champion Award and the 2023 Outstanding Tradeswoman, Operator or Technician Award was presented to Julie Smith from Evolution Mining.

From technology and innovation to engineering and trades, as well as in operational roles and running businesses, the achievements of all the award finalists and winners highlight the broad range of opportunities for women in mining, and showcase the many different career paths available in our sector.

Whether it's in sport or mining, NSW women are achieving great things. Go Knights. Go Miners.

Stephen Galilee, CEO, NSW Minerals Council

BE INSPIRED

THIS MONTH @ THE COALFACE WERE PRIVILEGED TO MEET SOME TRULY INSPIRING PEOPLE AND WE DISCOVERED A COMMON THREAD IN THEIR STORIES. NO MATTER WHERE LIFE TAKES YOU, NEVER STOP CHASING WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY.

We were blown away by Clayton Denny's story and his openness in sharing such a traumatic time in his life. With a positive mindset he turned a time of adversity into an opportunity to discover what truly makes him happy. We could all learn a lesson from him.

Michelle Lawson doesn't just inspire people; she helps lift them up too. For years she has been involved in promoting and supporting women in the mining industry. Now, through her art, she's inspiring and lifting up people from all over the world. Our Community Champion

this month is Lynda Posa. Though reluctant to be called a community champion, Lynda is one of those people that always puts her hand up to help her community. She does it not for the recognition, but because contributing to her community makes her happy. That's a champion in our books.

Clayton's, Michelle's and Lynda's stories are just a few of the countless inspiring stories that we hear about. Though it can be a hard job convincing unassuming champions to let us tell their stories, you can count on us having more next month.

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OPINION

SAFEGUARD MECHANISM MUST ENSURE INDUSTRIES CONTINUE TO PRODUCE FOR THE NATION

AUSTRALIAN MINING WANTS TO ENSURE THAT THE INDUSTRIES THAT ARE PRODUCING IN THIS COUNTRY CONTINUE TO WORK HARD FOR AUSTRALIANS AND THAT INVESTMENT CONTINUES TO FLOW INTO MINING PROJECTS THAT WILL PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN PROVIDING THE CRITICAL MINERALS AND METALS FOR THE WORLD TO DECARBONISE.

Australia is better placed with its resource base than any nation to reap the benefits of this new-energy transition.

This is why climate policy must thread the needle carefully.

The MCA will be checking every detail of the amendments to the Safeguard Mechanism legislation carefully.

It will continue to work with stakeholders to reduce emissions and play a part in climate objectives, including developing resources needed for critical minerals and metals.

AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANIES HAVE BEEN CHARTING THEIR OWN PATHS TOWARDS NET ZERO, INVESTING BILLIONS OF

DOLLARS ANNUALLY IN THE TECHNOLOGY REQUIRED TO MEET THEIR AMBITIONS AND REDUCING THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

The challenges to meet the Safeguard Mechanism shouldn't be underestimated.

If we are not careful, some facilities in Australia will close.

Not only would that damage our economy and slash tens of thousands of regional jobs and billions in investment, it also would push the emissions reduction burden on to other nations that are less able or less willing to decarbonise.

The Greens' demonisation of coal also does not help the Australian economy, particularly as the nation continues to rely on coal powered energy generation to keep the lights on and keep prices down.

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



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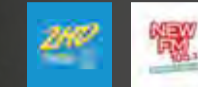
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IN THE NEWS



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

PPK CALL FOR END TO PAY FREEZE

Workers at a mining equipment company in Tomago went on strike twice within a week in April over a pay dispute.

Employees at PPK Mining Equipment say the owner of the company, Dale McNamara, froze their pay in 2021 promising it would be lifted after a big merger went through. The workers say the merger did go through and the company is making big profits, but their wages remain frozen.

Dale McNamara is a prominent businessman in the Hunter as well as a politician - he ran as the One Nation candidate for the Upper Hunter by-election in 2021 and ran as an Independent in the most recent state election.

Employees at the PPK site in Illawarra also have a site that hires equipment to underground coal mines and went on strike as well.

Australian Workers' Union organiser Cameron Wright said the workers had no other choice but to down tools because management simply isn't listening.

WHITEHAVEN CUTTING BACK

Whitehaven Coal has lowered its production forecast for 2023, citing labor shortages and weather interruptions impacting their mines in NSW.

Ahead of their quarterly production report, the company said they only managed 4.3 million tonnes, which was below plan due to a number of outside factors.

Whitehaven said labour shortages were being felt across the business as well as operational constraints at Maules Creek which meant its production only increased by 9 per cent relative to the December quarter.

Maules Creek is the company's largest and newest coal mine - the expected coal production for the Gunnedah mine for this year is down to 18 from 20.4 million tonnes.

GLENCORE TRYING TO SPLIT

A Canadian mining company says it will be forging ahead with splitting its own company rather than taking on any of Glencore's assets like the company has proposed.

Glencore had proposed to merge with Teck Resources to split Glencore into two separate companies to demerge the coal and minerals parts of the business into MetalsCO and CoalCO.

They said CoalCO would oversee a responsible decline of its thermal coal portfolio in line with Glencore's ambition to achieve net zero by 2050, despite saying in the past they would continue to produce thermal coal for decades.

Teck Resources rejected Glencore's initial proposal and said in a statement the second offer came back to them largely unchanged so they don't intend to enter into it.

ERARING BATTERY PROJECT

The final tick has been given for a big battery project at Lake Macquarie's Eraring Power Station just in time for construction to begin on the renewable re-development.

Origin Energy has taken a final investment decision on the first stage of its large-scale battery, committing to a spend of approximately \$600 million. Agreements have also been executed for the supply and construction of the battery, with works to

commence within weeks.

Stage one involves construction of a 460 MW battery storage system with a dispatch duration of two hours, anticipated to come online in the final quarter of the 2025 calendar year. Origin has the option to increase that to 700 MW and four hours dispatch duration in the future.

The Eraring battery project received initial planning approval from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in May 2022.

CLIMATE PROTESTORS

Fifty people were charged over a climate protest in Newcastle in April that shut down the train line into the Port of Newcastle.

Police, along with specialist police resources, attended Tourle Street at Sandgate where they spoke to a group of 50 people from the Rising Ride group, who had entered the rail corridor - more than a dozen of them had climbed onto a loaded coal train carriage.

The coal train that was headed to the Port of Newcastle was forced to abruptly stop just before the Hunter River crossing.

During the event, it is alleged two people damaged property and a third person assaulted a security officer, all while attempting to gain entry onto the railway corridor.

LIDDELL POWERING DOWN

The final three turbines at the Liddell Power Station in Muswellbrook have been switched off.

The first of the four turbines was switched off last year - AGL's Liddell Power Station was pumping out about 13 per cent of the state's electricity supply until the first of the four turbines was turned off.

Once the power station is turned off, AGL's attention will turn to its demolition.

The demolition process is expected to commence in early 2024 and take approximately two years.

Work will include removal of all main structures (boilers, chimneys, turbine houses, coal plant) and ancillary buildings, and leveling of the site using recovered crushed concrete.

More than 90 per cent of the materials in the power station are expected to be recycled during demolition, including 70,000 tonnes of steel which is more than the total weight of steel works for the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Critical infrastructure, such as transmission connections, will be retained to support the ongoing use of the site as an industrial energy hub, helping provide employment and essential economic activity for the region. Planning approval has already been granted for a 500MW/2GWh grid-scale battery.

WIND FARM STEP CLOSER

A wind farm proposed for the Hunter coastline has moved a step further than other offshore wind projects in the state.

A referral for Energy Estate's Hunter Central Coast Offshore Energy Project has been published by the Federal government for public consultation and was up for public comment for the required ten days.

This is the first formal step in the approval process for the offshore wind project.

Energy Estate is proposing to build up to 100 floating wind turbines between 25 and 55 kilometres off the coastline between Newcastle and Gosford that will generate up to 1.65 gigawatts of energy.

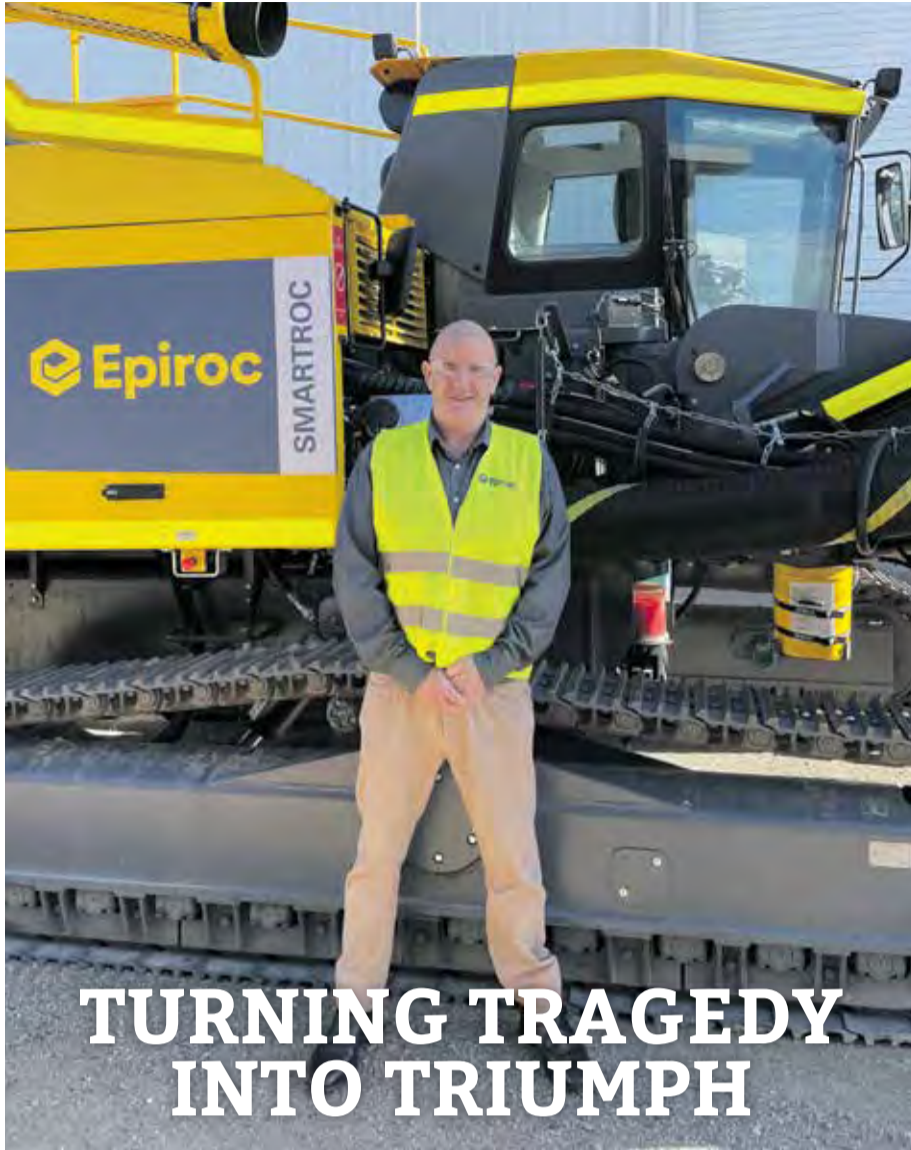
No other offshore wind projects proposed for the east coast have reached this level of the approval process.

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TURNING TRAGEDY INTO TRIUMPH

SOMETIMES THE SMALLEST THING CAN CHANGE THE TRAJECTORY OF YOUR LIFE FOREVER. WHETHER THAT CHANGE IS POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT.

Clayton Denny is at the peak of his career. He started off in the industry working as an operator for a contractor in a small mining town in Central Queensland, working and studying his way up the ranks all the way to Superintendent. He then took on a new challenge that landed him in the role he's had for the last five years, as Regional Manager for Epiroc. His career is a success story by any measure.

On Australia Day in 2021, Clayton's story was almost cut short, and his life was changed forever. Fishing at South Stradbroke Island, he cut his foot on a reef. It was a tiny cut, and he didn't think twice about it.

"It wasn't until I got back home that I started feeling pretty miserable. I thought I must have come down with a bout of food poisoning," said Clayton.

"It lasted all weekend and then when the kids, who were 14 and 15 at the time, went to school on Monday, I stayed home in bed. Sometime during the day, I got up and collapsed in the bathroom. That's where my kids found me, just lying there gasping for air."

Clayton was rushed to Maitland Hospital. No-one knew what was wrong as they waited for an intensive care ambulance to transfer him to John Hunter Hospital.

"At John Hunter I was put into an induced coma and was on life support. The doctor told the family I had a 5% chance of survival and to prepare for the worst. No-one thought I was going to make it."

Clayton had septic shock from an infection caused from that tiny cut he got while fishing. Luckily, the doctors quickly identified the strain of the infection and administered the appropriate antibiotics. Clayton survived.

7 days later Clayton woke up. Not long after awakening he discovered his leg had been amputated from below his left knee.

"When I realised they had amputated my leg I had a real dark moment. I normally never have negative moments like that. I didn't know what to do. I didn't know what my future would hold. All I wanted to do was get out of there and kill myself."

"THAT DESPAIR LASTED MAYBE HALF A DAY, THEN SOMETHING SWITCHED IN MY BRAIN, AND I ACCEPTED THAT THIS IS THE WAY I AM NOW. I JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT."

In the following months, Clayton dedicated himself to rehabilitation while remaining in hospital, learning to walk again, and preparing himself physically for a prosthetic leg. He went back to work in May, though he shared how he still struggled for months, constantly feeling tired.

"Epiroc were so great throughout all of it. They really looked after me and the family, I am so grateful to them. And it wasn't just Epiroc, there were so many people in the industry that rang me up or came and saw me in hospital. People you wouldn't expect to make the time and effort. I'm so thankful for all the support I received."

After he recovered, Clayton felt he owed a debt, especially to John Hunter Hospital who saved his life. He got involved with Limbs for Life, becoming an advocate. More recently he has become involved with Amputees NSW.

"Being able to help other people navigate such a difficult time is important to me. I visit people from all over the world who have become amputees. It's not counselling, you just rock up and be a friend. Someone they can talk to who has a shared experience. Because that's what I needed in those early days. Someone who understood."

"My advice to anyone who has gone through a traumatic life changing event is to reach out. Find someone who's been through your experience and can help you navigate it. But make sure they have a positive attitude and can help you find yours."

WHILST THE AMPUTATION CHANGED CLAYTON'S LIFE, HE ONLY SEES ALL THE WAYS IT'S CHANGED HIS LIFE FOR THE BETTER.

When Clayton woke up, he also found out he had Type 2 diabetes. It led him to completely change his lifestyle, prioritising his health for the first time. As a result, he recently found out he has completely reversed the diagnosis.

As he got back on his feet - or as Clayton would say, back on his foot - he took a long hard look at his life, reevaluating what really mattered and what he truly cared about. He made the tough decision to leave a marriage of 20 years that was no longer the happy marriage it once

was. He also rekindled his passion for music, something he never imagined he would return to.

A long-time friend of Hilltop Hoods and other Australian Hip-Hop artists, he got back working with them, which then led to working with other artists, helping produce music. He started DJing again, you may have even heard of him by his DJ name Cheques One. When he's not putting out his own beats, he's collaborating with others and has made a real name for himself on the Hip-Hop, House, Drum and Bass, and Techno scene.

"It's skyrocketed," said Clayton. "It's been great getting my name out there and opening up for some big names. I love the new path my life has taken. I know I would never be on this ride if I hadn't gone through such a life changing event."

While he will continue to pursue his passion for music, Clayton won't be leaving the mining industry anytime soon.

"Mining has been my whole life. Even though I'm doing so well with music, I love my job. I love working with my team and our customers, and so I want that to continue. I might ease off DJing, as I'm getting a bit old for it, but I'm going to continue making music and collaborating with people, there's plenty of room in my life for both."

SO, WHEN YOUR LIFE THROWS YOU A CURVE BALL, TAKE A LEAF OUT OF CLAYTON'S BOOK. WITH THE RIGHT ATTITUDE ADVERSITY DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A STUMBLING BLOCK, IT CAN BE A STEPPING STONE.



CHECK OUT CLAYTON'S MUSIC BY SEARCHING CHEQUES ONE ON YOUTUBE OR SPOTIFY.



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OPINION

SAME JOB SAME PAY: GET READY FOR THE SCARE CAMPAIGN

IN APRIL, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS RELEASED A PLAIN-LOOKING DOCUMENT THAT HERALDS BIG CHANGES IN THE MINING INDUSTRY.



The Same Job Same Pay consultation paper marks an important step towards the Labor Government legislating an election promise to address the misuse of labour hire to cut wages.

The consultation paper acknowledges that while labour hire plays a legitimate role in the workforce, "some employers use these arrangements to deliberately undercut bargained pay and conditions." They certainly do.

Workers across the coal mining industry will be very familiar with this scenario. Over the past ten to 15 years we've seen a substantial shift away from permanent jobs employed by the mine operator to insecure jobs employed by labour hire companies, who are contracted to the mine operator.

Because of the gains unionised coal miners have made through collective bargaining over many years, Enterprise Agreements for permanent employees of mine operators tend to be comprehensive, with wages and conditions substantially better than the Black

Coal Mining Industry Award. By outsourcing some or all employees to labour hire companies, mine operators push wages back down to the legal minimum set out in the Award. Any bargaining to improve conditions then takes place off this lower bar – and if labour hire workers get too organised the mine operator can simply ditch the contract and start over with someone else, pushing wages and conditions back to the minimum.

AS THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSULTATION PAPER NOTES, THIS PRACTICE ERODES JOB SECURITY AND UNDERMINES A KEY ELEMENT OF THE FAIR WORK ACT, WHICH IS TO ESTABLISH ENFORCEABLE WAGES AND CONDITIONS THROUGH ENTERPRISE BARGAINING.

On the consultation paper's release, employer groups were quick off the mark to declare that Same Job Same Pay is unfair and unworkable. Employers say that labour hire workers deserve choice and flexibility – presumably they mean the choice and flexibility to be paid

less than the permanents working next to them. They say that without access to labour hire workforces, mines will be forced to shut down. What rubbish. Same Job Same Pay is not about preventing mines from using labour hire. It is about ensuring that labour hire is used for its intended purpose of managing short-term needs, sourcing specialist skills or managing peaks and troughs in production. It is about ensuring that if labour hire workers are employed to perform the same work as permanent employees, they are not paid less for that work.

The Federal Government has flagged that it will introduce Same Job Same Pay legislation to parliament in this year's Spring sitting. That means we'll have a long winter of debate about closing the loopholes that allow mining companies to pay some workers less, just because they're labour hire.

Just remember that the big mining companies claiming that Same Job Same Pay will wreck the industry are renowned for running scare campaigns about anything that

affects their bottom line. Whether it's royalties or taxes or wages – mining companies never like sharing. They only do it when they're made to by law.

Also remember that over the past two years, mining companies have made profits they could have only dreamed of before the global economic disruption caused by Covid and the Ukraine war. They can afford to pay the wages and conditions set fairly and squarely through enterprise bargaining with their permanent workforce to everyone performing the same work.

Our union has advocated for Same Job Same Pay for many years and we won't stop until it becomes law. With formal consultation now underway we can expect plenty of fear-mongering and nay-saying, but we can also take heart that this important reform is a big step closer.

Tony Maher
General President
Mining and Energy Union

MARK KING WINS AGAIN



MOUNT THORLEY WARKWORTH MINER MARK KING MAY BE A BUTCHER BY TRADE, BUT HE'S ONCE AGAIN THE MINER OF THE YEAR.

For the sixth year the Bellbird local has been named winner of the Lightning Ridge Easter Festival Miner's Rickshaw Challenge.

Held on the Easter long weekend last month, the challenge attracts entrants from all over NSW for a gruelling event.

Mark began competing in 2013 and, since it changed to a new format in 2017, has beaten off all comers to keep the title.

The Easter festival is Lightning Ridge's most popular yearly event, attracting thousands of people to the opal town.

The Rickshaw Challenge begins with participants holding jackhammers aloft with outstretched arms for a pre-determined period then sprinting about 50 metres to a large heap of opal tailings while pushing a miner's wheelbarrow (rickshaw).

Every participant then shovels opal dirt into the rickshaw and races back to the opposite end of the course where they manoeuvre the dirt into a 44-gallon drum.

Once the drum is full to the top, the contestant's time is taken by a timekeeper. Filling the drum may take three or more trips back to the opal dirt pile.

MARK SAID HE HAD BEEN MINING OPALS AT LIGHTNING RIDGE FOR AROUND 20 YEARS NOW.

"For the last 15 I have been involved in many of the Lightning Ridge Easter Festival events," he said.

Mark trains for the event between Christmas and Easter by doing

weights, bike riding and running and doesn't intend to stop.

"I'm 50 now – I might stop when someone beats me, but I've still got a few years in me.

"Old fellow who used to win did it until he was 60."

Mark took away \$2k in prize money for his win but says it's the experience that matters.



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TOP CAT APPRENTICE

the heavy equipment industry. Braden's victory is a testament to his exceptional technical proficiency and problem-solving abilities.

With a childhood spent around Cat® machines on his grandfather's farm, Braden recognised his calling to pursue an apprenticeship from as early as six years old. He said it was an honour to be named top apprentice in such a prestigious program.

"It was an incredible experience. Seeing all the workstations down there that I'd never seen before, it was a really good opportunity to learn and broaden my range of experience. I couldn't have done it without the support of Josh Huber and all the trainers at The Institute," Braden said.

Adrian Howard, WesTrac NSW/ACT Chief Executive also expressed his delight and pride for Braden's achievement.

"WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD TO SEE BRADEN'S HARD WORK, DEDICATION, AND TALENT RECOGNISED IN THIS WAY. BRADEN IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF WHAT DEDICATION, COMMITMENT AND HARD WORK CAN ACHIEVE DURING AN APPRENTICESHIP WITH WESTRAC, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING BRADEN CONTINUE TO DEVELOP IN THE COMING YEARS."

Over the course of Braden's apprenticeship, WesTrac NSW has invested significantly into its training program through the acquisition of new machines and technology to help apprentices be "Made for More". Pre-Trade Training Manager Josh Huber explained the ability to offer continued in-depth training with dedicated facilitators in upgraded state-of-the-art workshops allows apprentices to receive an unparalleled educational experience.

"The acquisition of new assets including a 730 C2 Articulator Dump Truck, 320 3D Next Gen Excavator, and a 972M Front End Loader to join the assets we already have has helped apprentices like Braden get hands on experience with the machines," Josh Huber said. "Our ongoing upgrades of the Tomago Institute are part of WesTrac's longer term plan to ensure that WesTrac employees have the skills required to support the new technology of the future, including electrification. This is a part of our "Made for More" commitment in assisting team members in the development of their career."

As the 2023 DTAP Winner, Braden has the chance to undertake a once in a lifetime experience jetting to America for two weeks of training and tour Caterpillar's facilities.

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WESTRAC NSW / ACT APPRENTICE BRADEN STOREY HAS TAKEN OUT THE 44TH ANNUAL CATERPILLAR DEALER TOP APPRENTICE PROGRAM 2023.

Braden represented WesTrac NSW / ACT as he competed against 11 apprentices from other Cat® dealerships across the globe, proving he is one of the best in the world when it comes to his knowledge and expertise of Cat® products.

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NEW NATURAL RESOURCES MINISTER

IN A FIRST FOR NSW, THERE ARE 22 MINISTERS ON NSW LABOR'S FRONT BENCH AND HALF OF THEM ARE WOMEN. AMONG THEM ARE THE FIRST FEMALE MINISTER OF FINANCE UPPER HOUSE MP COURTNEY HOUSSOS. MRS HOUSSOS IS ALSO THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES LOOKING AFTER THE MINING INDUSTRY AS WELL AS LAND, WATERWAYS, RESERVES, PARKS AND FORESTS.

"It's an honour and a privilege to be part of the newly formed Labor/Minns Ministry. "I know I'm the first, but I certainly won't be the last and I know there are lots and lots of women who are working right across the finance sector that would probably be surprised that we haven't had a female Finance Minister prior to this, "But when we look around at our cabinet it's the first cabinet that's 50/50 and this is just a reflection of the community that we are representing," Mrs Houssos said. NSW Labor hasn't been shy about their support for the mining industry that injects billions of dollars into the state government's coffers. In the NSW Minerals Council's most recent Expenditure Survey, the 27 mining companies that participated collectively pulled the NSW economy out of the hole created by the COVID-19 pandemic, injecting \$16.7 billion into the economy in the last financial year. The surveyed companies also spent over \$93 million in community contributions and payments to local governments, and around \$3.4 billion was paid in taxes to the NSW Government, including royalties.

MRS HOUSSOS SAID THE INCOMING NSW LABOR GOVERNMENT KNOWS HOW IMPORTANT THE MINING INDUSTRY IS RIGHT ACROSS THE STATE.

"Mining is such a key contributor to the NSW economy and particularly across regional NSW, I grew up in Forster, and certainly I understand the importance of mining and in particular coal mining in the Hunter Valley and North-West, and those important jobs that it supports within those local communities."

The new Natural Resources Minister was looking after the ministry when Labor was in the opposition and she knows just how crucial the next four years will be.

"The next four years are expected to be crucial in the mining and energy sector with one of the country's oldest coal-fired power stations, the Liddell Power Station at Muswellbrook having just closed, the Eraring Power Station at Lake Macquarie shutting in 2025 and the Bayswater power station not long after that," Ms Houssos said.

"It's going to be a challenging time. "The thing that is driving us is that we understand the pressure that families and businesses are under with rising electricity prices and that is the thing that is guiding us in the decisions we are making,

"At the moment coal accounts for about 73 per cent of NSW electricity generation so we understand the importance of coal in ensuring that the lights stay on for both families and households as well as businesses, but we are mindful we have to look towards the future which is why we announced during the election campaign that we would have a state-owned energy corporation that would look for energy opportunities."

That \$1 billion state-owned energy security corporation will drive investment in renewable energy projects to ultimately lower power prices across the state. The initial funding for the corporation was pledged to come from the existing Restart NSW fund and will partner with industry on projects including renewable storage like pumped hydro to provide grid stability.

The Eraring Power Station at Lake Macquarie is due to close in 2025, but the previous government was considering buying Origin out in a bid to keep it open longer.

The new Premier Chris Minns has always maintained everything is on the table when it comes to Eraring.

"As I said we have not ruled anything out in relation to Eraring, we are approaching this with a really open mind and I know that the Premier and the Treasurer who I am working closely with as the Minister of Finance, have had a number of briefings already on this issue, it's something we're watching closely.

"We know that these are difficult and big challenges for our economy, but we're ready for it," Mrs Houssos said.

"I'm really excited about the opportunities in the critical minerals and rare earth mines that we're seeing start-up across the central west but also across the far west of NSW. There is a huge and growing sector and an important one because mining is so important in our state's economy, "We remain really firmly committed to the ambitious agenda and the fully funded agenda we took the election.

"WE'RE REALLY EXCITED, IT'S AN INCREDIBLE PRIVILEGE AND AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO FORM A GOVERNMENT SO WE DON'T WANT TO WASTE A MINUTE OF IT," MRS HOUSSOS SAID.



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LEARN FROM THE LAWMAN

STUART BARNETT IS OUR MINING INDUSTRY'S LEADING PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER. THIS MONTH HE HAS SOME IMPORTANT ADVICE IN RELATION TO THE EFFECT OF A WORKERS COMPENSATION LUMP SUM OR WEEKLY PAYMENTS OF COMPENSATION ON YOUR ENTITLEMENT TO RECEIVE CENTRELINK PAYMENTS.



The question of whether an injured coal miner can receive Centrelink benefits when liability for workers compensation is delayed, denied or where a lump sum settlement of compensation is received often arises.

It is permissible to claim Centrelink benefits, while waiting for a compensation claim to be determined or after the settlement of a claim for a lump sum but conditions apply. The first condition is that the worker must be otherwise eligible for Centrelink. There are income, including spouse income, and asset tests that you must meet and generally you will have exhausted any sick and annual leave and not have income protection entitlements.

WHERE THE INJURED WORKER APPLIES FOR CENTRELINK PAYMENTS BECAUSE OF A DELAY IN THEIR CLAIM OR A DENIAL OF LIABILITY AND IN

CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE INJURED WORKER IS THEN, LATER, SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING WEEKLY PAYMENTS RESTORED OR ORDERED, IN GENERAL TERMS, THE CENTRELINK PAYMENTS RECEIVED WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE REIMBURSED TO CENTRELINK ON A DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR BASIS.

In some circumstances following a claim the end result is a lump sum finalisation of the injured works rights. Sometimes called a redemption of damages. In those circumstances a formula applies to determine either the amount of the payback to Centrelink or the preclusion from receiving Centrelink

into the future. Generally, it is more beneficial than the dollar for dollar payback.

It is very important that you disclose to your lawyer the fact that you have received Centrelink benefits before you resolve a claim so that you can be given advice as to what amount you will pay back or the length of time you will not be able to receive Centrelink benefits.

Injured workers should also be aware that if you have an old Centrelink debt, even one that predates your injury, Centrelink will likely seek to recover that debt from the lump sum compensation claim as well.

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



MINING APPRENTICES SETTLE IN TO NEW FUTURE CAREERS

A DYNAMIC DOZEN OF NEW HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS' APPRENTICES HAS SETTLED INTO BUILDING SKILLS AND CAREERS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE.

Two of the first year apprentices are 17 year old Ashley and 26 year old Josh.

Ashley said he wanted an electrical apprenticeship in mining because it is a good industry to get into that gets you hands on skills.

"I am looking forward to learning lots of things off everyone," Ashley said.

Josh went to university and previously worked in retail. He said a career in mining is better suited to him.

"There's lots of opportunity in the mining industry and I thought a hands on job was better suited to me," Josh said.

HVO's Learning and Development

Co-ordinator Paul Watters said 12 is one of the highest number of first year apprentices HVO has put on in recent times. This year's intake has five high voltage electrical apprentices, two auto electrical apprentices and five plant mechanic apprentices. This takes the total number of apprentices at HVO to 32.

After an initial one-week induction, including training in working at heights, the apprentices have settled in to a work readiness program run through Hunter V Tec. Here they learn how to use tools safely and work on some major projects including building a vice and a working piston pump.

After between six and eight months,

the apprentices will return to HVO full time to complete several month rotations through different work areas until third and fourth year when they are assigned to a crew. Throughout their apprenticeship they study at TAFE too, gaining nationally accredited qualifications.

PAUL SAID APPRENTICES ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF HVO'S STRATEGY TO COMBAT ONGOING SKILLS SHORTAGES AND CREATE THE NEXT GENERATION OF TRADESPEOPLE FOR BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SUCCESS.

"Our apprenticeship program gives local people a very beneficial opportunity to gain a trade and future employment in the Hunter

Valley," Paul said.

"People get to work close to home without the need to travel to a remote location or fly in fly out. They earn while they learn. Retaining their current lifestyle without having to uproot themselves," he said.

"Our apprentices get to work alongside and learn from amazing HVO tradespeople, some of whom have 30 to 40 years' experience to pass on."

Paul has worked at HVO for 12 years and moved into the apprenticeship program role 12 months ago. He remembers starting as an electrical apprentice in another industry and uses that first-hand experience to guide and mentor apprentices. Paul encourages apprentices to observe keenly and to ask questions, especially to absorb HVO's strong safety culture and learn to identify and how to control hazards.

He speaks to apprentices about perception and credibility.

"Being engaged, having a go, and demonstrating work ethic helps to build long term skills and a rewarding and successful career."

"The program is about creating leaders as well as skilled tradespeople. I love watching how our recently graduated apprentices take the new apprentices under their wing."

HVO RECRUITS APPRENTICES THROUGH THE GLENCORE COAL AUSTRALIA APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM. APPLICATIONS FOR 2024 APPRENTICESHIPS WILL OPEN MAY 17. VISIT WWW.GLENCORE.COM.AU/OPERATIONS-AND-PROJECTS/COAL/CAREERS/COAL-APPRENTICESHIP-PROGRAM.

Aboriginal Community Development Fund

MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation

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

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



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

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RECYCLED WATER CHANGING INDUSTRIES IN NEWCASTLE

A COUPLE OF THE STATE'S BIGGEST INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS OF DRINKING WATER ARE NOW SAVING THOUSANDS OF LITRES EVERY YEAR THANKS TO SOME GROUND BREAKING TECHNOLOGY.

Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (NCIG) has introduced a recycled water initiative at their Kooragang Island business. Working with water infrastructure company coNEXA, they purchase 275 megalitres per year of recycled water to use on-site for dust suppression and washing down industrial machines.

Another large business at Kooragang, Orica, also uses the technology. coNEXA CEO Kurt Dahl said Orica had been a long-term user of their recycled water so they're glad to see other businesses picking up on it. "Orica were using about 5 percent of the Hunter's drinking water consumption before they switched to recycled water and they use around 10 million litres of recycled water per day in peak times and they've been doing that now for many years," he said.

The water used for the process is purchased by coNEXA from Hunter Water. It's not as simple as taking the water, adding a chemical and then transporting it to Kooragang - there's a long process involved.

"So, we take treated effluent that was otherwise on its way out to the Hunter River, we intercept that and over at Mayfield we have an advanced recycled water plant that uses two stages of membrane treatment for disinfection and also salt removal.

(L-R) HUNTER WATER MANAGING DIRECTOR DARREN CLEARY, NCIG CEO AAREN JOHANSEN, CONEXA CEO KURT DAHL

"Then before we send it over to NCIG, we also add another layer of disinfection through chlorine so by the time the water gets to Kooragang it meets all of the requirements in terms of the guidelines but also the way that the water is used here on site," said Kurt.

ONCE THE WATER GETS TO NCIG VIA AN UNDERGROUND PIPE NETWORK, THEY ADD CHEMICALS BACK INTO IT LIKE CALCIUM BECAUSE THE WATER ENDS UP BEING TOO PURE.

NCIG has about 1.25 million tonnes of coal on site at the moment but their working capacity is 4 million tonnes. They use about 900 megalitres per year of water for dust suppression and other purposes with just over half of that supplied by what they naturally catch onsite.

NCIG CEO Aaren Johansen said they made a commitment a couple of years ago to reduce their reliance on the region's drinking water.

"We're always looking for ways to operate sustainably and reduce our environmental footprint. When the region experienced drought conditions in 2018 and 2019, we knew we needed to do more to reduce our consumption of drinking water, so we invested in an alternative water source.

"Most of the water that we use on site is supplied through water that we capture, water that falls on site through rain but even so we are a significant user of household water so we felt we needed to do something.

"The recycled water can be distributed all around the site, but we mainly only use it for industrial purposes. Most of the water we use on site is for dust suppression, so we spray it on coal and for machine washdown so industrial uses and that is all around site," Aaren said.

"We're undertaking this project because we felt we needed to be a good corporate citizen and a good community citizen. We saw in the last dry period there were water restrictions in place and we didn't feel it was sustainable for us to use drinking water for industrial purposes so we did this as a community initiative.

"To support the project, we have upgraded our Steel River production facility capacity from nine megalitres to 10.5 megalitres per day, ensuring more recycled water is available to meet the peak demands on the hottest days of the year, when it's needed the most."

DARREN CLEARY, THE MANAGING DIRECTOR AT HUNTER WATER SAID THEY THINK THE INITIATIVE FROM BOTH ORICA AND NCIG IS WONDERFUL BECAUSE THE MORE EVERYONE CAN DO TO SAVE WATER, THE BETTER.

"It's a win win.

"We're talking hundreds of megalitres a year of potable water that is saved and every little bit helps. All of these things contribute to a more sustainable water supply so this is a really important project but so is everyone else doing what they can at home.

"We live in a highly variable climate and drought will return so they've had the foresight to ensure they plan for the future by putting this infrastructure in place," said Darren.



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COMMUNITY GIFT



RIDIN' 4 MATES

THIS MONTH THE COMPLETE PARTS AND @ THE COALFACE \$500 COMMUNITY GIFT GOES TOWARDS A GROUP OF RIDERS HITTING THE ROAD TO RAISE MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR BRAIN CANCER.

More than 40 riders will undertake a 565-kilometre quest on September 12 to go from Coffs Harbour to Bulga to raise awareness about brain cancer.

Ridin' 4 Mates had its inaugural event last year and raised more than \$50k for the Mark Hughes Foundation.

Event organisers Samantha Harris and Brad Bates have both lost friends and family to the disease and last year were determined to make a difference to support research and programs to help those affected, as well as their families.

Brad told @ The Coalface after last

year's ride from Tumut to Bulga that he was moved to start what has now become a community event to pay tribute to two great mates who were tragically lost to brain cancer.

All three had worked together as operators at the Mount Owen mine.

"My good mate Mick Ford passed away and then tragically we lost Gary Harris, or Dale as he was known to everyone. I promised when Mick died that I would do something to honour him," he said.

For Samantha, it was the death of her father Dale that sparked her to join forces with Brad.

"Dad grew up in Bulga and lived there all his life and worked at Mount Owen until he died in 2020 after a two-year battle with brain cancer," she said.

BRAD SAID THE RIDE WAS "ALL ABOUT HONOURING TWO OF THE MOST TOP BLOKES YOU COULD EVER HOPE TO MEET".

This year's ride, in six stages, starts from Coffs Harbour on September 12 and will finish at the Bulga Tavern on September 17.

Samantha said a huge family day and fundraiser would be held to coincide with the final stage.



"Last year we set a target of \$10K and ended up at more than \$50K, so who knows how things will go this year, she said.

The Mark Hughes Foundation is a non-profit, health promotion charity that the legendary former Newcastle Knight and his wife Kirrilee began in 2014, after he was diagnosed with brain cancer. "We began the foundation when we realised how underfunded brain cancer was in Australia in comparison to other cancers," Mark said.

"The lack of funding meant very little research into treatments or cures for brain cancer and, as a result, not much has changed in the shocking brain cancer mortality rates over the past 30 years."

TO HELP RIDIN' 4 MATES, GO TO THEIR FACEBOOK PAGE RIDIN 4 MATES 2.

TEAM OUTNUMBERED: JESS ROUSE, ANNABELLE PAMMENT, THERESE ANDERSSON, LEE WORTH, VALENTINA MORESCO AND SUSAN OAKLEY



CROSSFIT FOR A CAUSE

THE TEAM AT @ THE COALFACE ARE ALWAYS QUICK TO PUT THEIR HAND UP TO SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE. FUN RUNS, SPONSORSHIPS, HECK, EVEN GROWING A BEARD. BUT THIS MONTH OUR JOURNALIST JESS ROUSE TOOK IT TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL TO RAISE MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR WOUNDED HEROES AUSTRALIA. JESS SHARES HER STORY.

I've been doing CrossFit since 2019, and I have done some very tough workouts since. But never have I done five tough, gruelling workouts in 24 hours.

In CrossFit lingo, we call them Hero Wods - workouts that have been created to remember a veteran who has died either in combat or since returning home.

They are a test not only your physical strength but your mental strength - the idea is that no matter how hard you think the workout is, and no matter how many times you want to give up, none of that is harder than what our defencemen and women go through.

Wounded Heroes Australia is an organisation that provides support to the wounded, but also to families who have lost a loved one or have a loved one deployed overseas. They provide hardship relief, soldier recovery centres and social engagement for veterans and their families or the families of deployed personnel.

For the third year in a row, the CrossFit community has gotten behind Wounded Heroes Australia to raise money for them with an event called '24 Hours of Heroes'. In teams of six at a CrossFit affiliate, members of the team complete one hero workout every hour on the hour.

CrossFit Muswellbrook was the only affiliate in regional NSW that took up the challenge along

with CrossFit gyms in Sydney, the Central Coast and across the country.

I WAS A PART OF TEAM OUTNUMBERED AT CROSSFIT MUSWELLBROOK ON APRIL 22 AND 23. I HAD FIVE WORKOUTS TO COMPLETE.

The first was called 'Walshy'. Sergeant Leith Walsh passed away while on Christmas break in January 2019 after suffering from PTSD, alcoholism, anxiety and depression. He started training to coach CrossFit in 08/09 and helped to get certified trainers in the RAAF before being deployed to Kandahar.

The workout started with 71, 30kg back squats and also ended with that to honour the 142 kilogram personal best back squat Walshy had; then three rounds that consisted of an 800 metre run in a weighted vest, 20 snatches and 19 kettlebell swings. Running in a weighted vest represented the burden Walshy carried, the snatch was for his love of the olympic lifting movement and 20 and 19 reps represented the year he died.

The workout had a time cap of 40 minutes and I couldn't finish it. I finished 31 back squats into the final set of them. For me this one was a physical challenge - running in a weight vest,

and weightlifting movements that are always a struggle, but I did it.

I had six hours of rest until my next workout while my teammates completed their workouts. One of the fun parts of this event was that we all had to stay at the gym, including sleeping. My teammate Annabelle and I set up our swags outside at Muswellbrook Showground where the gym is, a couple slept in their cars and two of our team slept inside on mattresses.

My next workout was called 'Marks'. Lance Corporal Jason Marks served with the Special Operations Task Group when he was killed during deliberate operations against a Taliban Safe Haven on 27 April 2008 in Afghanistan.

The workout in his memory was shorter, but just as tough with three rounds of 21 pull-ups, 15 shoulder to overhead lifts, nine deadlifts and a 400 metre run.

Another six hours went by and my next workout was with a partner at 11pm. Annabelle and I did the workout 'Arnold and McCrow' to honour the two Queensland police officers who were shot dead when they went to respond to information on a missing person on a rural property outside of Brisbane at the end of last year.

We worked as a team, just like the constables did in their job, and completed the workout with only a couple of minutes remaining.

For me, midnight marked an opportunity to nap so I curled up in my swag (dreading how my body would feel when I woke up) and napped for a couple of hours.

I knew the fourth workout was going to be the toughest. 5am, after next to no sleep and three gruelling workouts already.

'Teddy', named after the Australian Navy's Ordinary Seaman Edward 'Teddy' Sheehan saw me attempt a 240-metre sprint, followed by four rounds of 12 devils press, 18 shoulder to overhead and 20 lunges with two dumbbells and then skipping if you had any time left in the 19 minutes and 42-second time cap. I started to cry with about two minutes left. I could feel the tears welling up as I struggled to lift the weights over my head, but I kept going until the end. It was a huge mental challenge to keep going. The final workout was by the far the most fun with all six of us working together to complete it.

IT WAS AN EPIC 24 HOURS AND IT WAS ALL WORTH IT TO KNOW THAT THE ALMOST \$250,000 RAISED ACROSS AUSTRALIA WILL GO TOWARDS VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS.

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HVO HELPS MARK HUGHES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST BRAIN CANCER

STAFF AT A HUNTER VALLEY COAL MINE HAVE RAISED \$10,000 TO HELP THE MARK HUGHES FOUNDATION (MHF) TO CONTINUE ITS FIGHT AGAINST BRAIN CANCER.

Hunter Valley Operations' (HVO) General Manager, Dave Foster, presented the funds, on behalf of the mine's staff, to MHF Co-founder, Mark Hughes, at a training day at the Singleton Civic Centre on April 21.

Dave said the money had been raised by staff purchasing hard hats with a specially designed logo.

He said with several members of the HVO workforce having a personal experience with brain cancer, the team wanted to do something practical and visible onsite to support them and others.

"While the HVO workforce have bought MHF beanies, these can't always be worn on-site, so we came up with the hard hat idea," Dave said.

"The project is about raising much needed funds but also raising awareness about brain cancer and the work of Mark Hughes Foundation with our staff and contractors," he said.

MARK SAID THE MONEY WILL GO TOWARDS RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT BRAIN CANCER,

FUNDING INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND PROVIDING SUPPORT TO PEOPLE IMPACTED BY BRAIN CANCER AND THEIR FAMILIES. HE SAID ALARMINGLY VERY LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT BRAIN CANCER, ITS CAUSES OR HOW IT CAN BE BEST TREATED.

"We're so grateful for the support from HVO and its staff," Mark said.

"Support like this helps us to fund research by HMRI and other national researchers, and to keep our nurses in the community to help families when they are in the toughest time of their life," he said.

"We are hoping the community will consider supporting our work again this year through our Beanies for Brain Cancer campaign, which includes the NRL Beanie for Brain Cancer Round between June 29 and July 2."

Since Mark and Kirralee Hughes founded MHF

HVO GENERAL MANAGER DAVE FOSTER WITH MARK HUGHES AND THE MINE'S SPECIAL MHF FUNDRAISING HARD HATS

in 2013, following Mark's diagnosis with brain cancer, it has raised more than \$24 million. Around 1,200 Australians die from brain cancer each year. Brain cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in children, and adults aged under 40 in Australia. Survival rates have only increased by 1 per cent in the past 30 years.

MHF is one of the charities and causes HVO and its staff support in addition to those supported through its bi-annual community grants, charity truck tray partnerships and workplace giving programs.



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HUNTER'S LARGEST FIELD DAY PLANS FOR RECORD CROWDS

THE ORGANISERS OF Tocal Field Days are planning for the biggest event yet with more family friendly attractions, the return of favourite activities and a record 332 exhibitors from Friday May 5 to Sunday May 7.

The manager of the Hunter's largest field day, Charise Foulstone, hopes to better the attendance of 21,000 at last year's three-day event.

Australian singer-songwriter and

2023 Golden Guitar Awards Female Artist of the Year Amber Lawrence will headline entertainment with a free concert on Saturday May 6. Celebrity chef and 'powerhouse of pastry' Anna Ployviou will do live demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday.

Charise said there will be more free kids' entertainment including pedal tractors and diggers to ride, a hands-on wildlife experience, milking barn, poddy calf feeding, a fossil dig and scarecrow making. She said that's in addition to Tocal favourites such as the piglet races, animal nursery, pony rides, motor bike, working dog and heavy horse demonstrations and the always popular billy boiling competition.

"Cartoon artist Kate Rudder has created some amazing farm inspired photo ops so there is no excuse not to get some great photos while you are here," Charise said.

"We haven't forgotten mum and dad with an improved food and wine area with wine and gin tasting, boutique beers, live music and gourmet food. There are more nursery exhibits with great ideas and advice for the garden, as well as art and craft and farming advice.

"ONCE YOU HAVE A TICKET, ALMOST ALL ACTIVITIES AND COMPETITIONS ARE FREE, MAKING IT AN AFFORDABLE DAY OUT FOR THE FAMILY."



Tocal Field Days Manager CHARISE FOULSTONE



She said Tocal Field Days plays an important role in connecting farmers, suppliers and the community with each other and showcasing the Hunter's outstanding produce and farming sector.

"Tocal Field Days theme for 2023 is 'Agriculture is for Everyone' highlighting to people about the importance of agriculture in everyday lives. You don't need to be from a rural background to take something away from the event."

"Local community groups also benefit from grants issued from the event's proceeds - 12 groups shared \$38,000 last year. This money is very important to our local community and it is used to support many worthwhile charities, sporting groups and local schools."

THE EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE Tocal AGRICULTURAL CENTRE AT PATERSON FROM FRIDAY MAY 5 TO SUNDAY MAY 7.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA TocalFIELDSDAYS.COM OR AT THE GATE.

FOR INFORMATION VISIT TocalFIELDSDAYS.COM OR PHONE 4939 8820.



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COMMUNITY CHAMPION

LYNDA POSA

BACK IN MARCH, SCONE, A TOWN WITH A POPULATION OF AROUND 6,500 PEOPLE, WAS NAMED NSW TIDY TOWNS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY WINNER.

COMMUNITY CHAMPION LYNDA POSA FROM SCONE LED THE SCONE CAMPAIGN TO TAKE OUT NEW SOUTH WALES SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY TITLE NOW CONTESTING THE NATIONAL TITLE.

Scone is a great community town, and it is certainly demonstrated when disaster or tragedy strikes. In recent years there has been plenty of these instances with drought, floods and the pandemic revealing the strong sense of community in the town.

“Anyone can lend a hand, it might be cutting a couple of kilos of tomatoes, kids picking tomatoes, anything and everything helps,” she said.

Scone will be judged for the national Tidy Towns title on April 27 and for the first time, a New South Wales entrant will be judged electronically.

There will be a zoom meeting with the judge and Lynda was quick to thank all of the team, particularly Ian Judd who has helped bring the Scone presentation together.

“Ian has a wealth of knowledge, is extremely enthusiastic and makes things happen,” Lynda said.

Judging usually involves an eight-hour visit to the State winner so the assessor can see the projects and experience the community first-hand, but Lynda said she understands the change.

“We were so overwhelmed when Scone won given we are quite novice to the process and given the outcomes of the pandemic,

this sort of change is becoming the norm,” she said.

Lynda and her husband, Nick, moved to Scone in 2000 from Western Australia where they managed Heytesbury Stud.

They met while both working at Fossil Downs Station, also in Western Australia, where Lynda was cooking for four to eight people.

Disaster struck by way of a one in a one hundred year flood and people arrived from all over to help. It was during that time she received a cheque for \$100 in a typed envelope by post from the Red Cross. The memory of receiving that financial support at a time when she was so destitute still brings tears to her eyes.

“Four of us, all young women, received \$100 each and I was overwhelmed to receive it, I really could not believe it, \$100 was a lot of money to us,” Lynda said.

Perhaps this is why she helped to establish a local branch in Murrurundi. Lynda’s property is 30 minutes from Scone and 15 from Murrurundi so she has been involved in that small town community as well.

Lynda is not comfortable being called a Community Champion but encourages people to get involved in their community.

“YOU MEET GREAT PEOPLE, MAKE GREAT FRIENDS AND THE OUTCOME IS A MORE CONNECTED, HAPPIER COMMUNITY FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.”

No one could have been more surprised than the group’s president, Lynda Posa. They have only been in existence for three years and to have this huge accolade bestowed upon them was something none of the small committee’s members dreamed of. The group formally started in 2021 but as Lynda said, no projects happened for a long time because of covid restrictions.

As soon as they could, they kicked off their first program, a community garden within the Historical Society grounds and the Upper Hunter Shire Council supported the initiative with some funding.

They then organised a garden ramble to showcase some of the district’s beautiful gardens, an event supported by the Tidy Towns small crew.

It showcased sustainability and the sense of community that Tidy Towns has as its main reason to exist.

Partnerships are another means of addressing a community’s needs and collaboration is key to success.

“As a collective we can all work

together to achieve great community outcomes. Small towns like Scone will move forward when groups such as Lions, Rotary, CWA and others join forces,” Lynda said.

Lynda also runs a nursery in Scone, Plants on Main, and said the conversations she strikes with customers about the town sparks interest in Tidy Towns and what is happening locally.

SHE HAS ALWAYS VOLUNTEERED AND SUGGESTS IT COMES FROM A FAMILY OF VOLUNTEERS AND FEELING BETTER ABOUT HERSELF WHEN SHE IS INVOLVED.



TEAM SCONE ON STAGE CELEBRATING AFTER BEING NAMED NSW TIDY TOWNS 2022 (L-R) SHANE ROBERTS, CAROLYN CARTER, IAN JUDD, LAURIE RING, DEE DEITZ, LEANDA NUTT, LYNDA POSA, LYNNE RING, UPPER HUNTER SHIRE CR TAYAH CLOUT AND MAYOR MAURICE COLLISON AND HER EXCELLENCE THE HONOURABLE MARGARET BEAZLEY AC CK, GOVERNOR OF NSW.

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HARD WORK WILL GET YOU EVERYWHERE

WHEN MICHELLE LAWSON WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, IT WAS ILLEGAL FOR WOMEN TO WORK UNDERGROUND IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

Until 1989 in NSW, mine owners faced fines of up to \$500 if women were caught working in underground mines. While the coal mining industry is still predominantly male driven, a lot has changed in 30 years.

Michelle has seen it all from the inside, working as an accountant since 1990 for consulting companies, Bengalla Mining Company and BHP Billiton before moving into roles at Glencore in 2002 including being a Commercial Manager and a Financial Controller and Executive Director.

In her jobs early in her career, Michelle was often not only one of the highest in the room, but usually the only female. She said the men in the boardroom simply “weren’t used to having a female in the boardroom. You wouldn’t believe the number of times I would get asked about coffee or if I could photocopy something!”.

It was those experiences Michelle had that led her to take part in several women in mining initiatives including successfully leading Women in Mining (WIMnet) NSW for the past eight years and being heavily involved in their Mentoring Programs through the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

From a national level, the mentoring program isn’t only for women, men are able to access the service as well. Michelle said it’s been interesting to see the men’s involvement increase over the years - in 2015 there would’ve been one male mentor in the room, but for the

last three to four years about half of mentors have been male.

“It is wonderful to see these male champions of change!”

There is one moment that stands out for Michelle as a time when she realised the huge impact her story and mentoring had on local women in mining.

“It still gives me goosebumps to this day. I remember a lady came up to me and said she was in the very same job that I was in when I started in the mining industry. She said she couldn’t thank me enough for helping her believe that she could be a Director in a heavily male dominated industry.

“YOU CAN BE WHATEVER YOU WANT TO BE WITH A LITTLE BIT OF HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION,” SAID MICHELLE.

Michelle is testament to the fact that you can achieve your dreams. She has been recognised globally in the Top 100 Global Inspirational Women in Mining in 2016, won the NSW Women in Mining award for the Gender Diversity Champion in 2015 and was one of the Queen’s Baton Bearers for the Commonwealth Games in 2018, just to name a few.

In 2021, Michelle decided it was time to semi-retire. In Michelle’s personal life the worries were piling up after she lost her Dad to brain cancer in 2014, her husband and her uncle were both going through heart problems and her sister was diagnosed with MS.

YOU CAN MEET MICHELLE AT A POP-UP EXHIBITION AT CESSNOCK ON MAY 6 AND 7 AT THE MASONIC HALL IN CESSNOCK. WWW.ARTBYMICHELLELAWSON.COM



Dealing with all of that, plus long hours at work, was starting to take its toll. Michelle said to herself, “if something happened health wise would I be happy with where I’m at? And ultimately I wouldn’t be,” so she retired from full time work. Michelle definitely didn’t move into full time retirement, continuing to support women in the industry, just a little more flexibly and only doing things she is truly passionate about.

For Michelle that also includes being an artist.

When she semi-retired, her husband told her she needed a hobby so after trying and disliking pottery, she suddenly remembered she once had a love for painting.

IN THE SPACE OF JUST TWO YEARS, MICHELLE HAS GONE FROM PAINTING HER ARTWORKS ON A TABLE ON THE BACK VERANDAH OF HER FAMILY HOME IN THE HUNTER, TO HAVING ONE OF HER PAINTINGS SHOWN IN A GALLERY IN NEW YORK, AND ON A BILLBOARD IN TIMES SQUARE.

She realised that not only was art her “happy place” to escape to, but she was actually really good at it.

Michelle creates abstract paintings with mixed media that are calming, whimsical and energetic. Her passion for women in mining, and every other workforce, shines through her paintings - “Light

Overcomes Darkness” is one of Michelle’s artworks created in ode to International Women’s Day.

“It’s a self-reflection of my struggles of being a woman working in multiple male dominated industries. It symbolises three decades starting in the top left quadrant, moving down to the bottom right displaying the many personal challenges I have overcome to climb to the top of my profession,

“The gold highlights the several awards at State, National and International levels I have received for being a role model and champion of change.”

That painting has been recognised internationally including as a finalist in March this year for the virtual Women exhibition at HMVC Gallery in New York. It was that gallery that put Michelle’s artwork “Renewed Beginnings” on a billboard in New York City as part of the Paradise Pink exhibition the gallery did earlier this year.

So, there you have it, if you put your mind to it, you can achieve anything.

MORE DETAILS ON WIMNET: WWW.AUSIMM.COM/COMMUNITIES/NETWORKS/WOMEN-IN-MINING-NETWORK/





SUPPLIER INSIDER

COMPONENTSONLY

Tell us about the business.

ComponentsONLY is the global leader in the trade of components for heavy earthmoving machinery. We source, sell and market new, used, and rebuilt OEM and aftermarket components for the earthmoving, mining and construction industries. Driven by data, we pride ourselves on going that extra mile to keep you tracking.

How long have you been doing business?

ComponentsONLY was established in November 2014 by our three directors, Ben Hailes, Daniel Fedder and Adrian Vinnicombe, after identifying an opportunity to

create an online marketplace for heavy earthmoving components. With our 10th year of trading fast approaching, it is incredible to see how far the business has come since its inception. We have earned a reputation for brokering successful outcomes through problem-solving and collaboration. Today, we are an integral supplier to the leading miners and mining contractors across the globe.

How many people work for the business?

The business is growing rapidly, but we currently have a team of just under 40, with our head office in Milton, Brisbane and branches in Mount Thorley in the Hunter

Valley, Welshpool in Perth, and Mackay in North Queensland. We have also expanded our reach beyond Australian shores with representation in South America, Central Asia and South Africa.

What's the best thing about the business?

What sets ComponentsONLY apart is our global reach, being able to support our customers with a timely supply of components and parts. The availability of components is a constant constraint for miners, and we work with them to provide solutions that increase the continuity of their operations.

What are the biggest challenges facing your business?

Despite the challenges, mining remained active during the pandemic, presenting unique complexities relating to supply with shipping activity constrained and the costs of logistics rising sharply. The market is returning to normality; however, regardless of market conditions, the world is focused on going green, and it's apparent that if there's no mining, there are no resources and no net zero. This means that, right now, the market is extremely busy, and we don't see demand coming off anytime soon. In fact, it's getting busier.

What is the business most proud of?

ComponentsONLY is committed to ensuring it has the right components at the right time for the right customer. By leveraging component supply chains globally, we focus on the hard-to-find

components for a wide range of heavy earthmoving equipment. Although we supply an exhaustive range of aftermarket components, our focus is on finding and supplying genuine components and ensuring stock is available when our customers need it. To assist in managing the supply chain and what is required at any given moment, ComponentsONLY has a propriety software system called Markets Manager. This inventory and asset management system allows us to track the frame hours and the component history of global mining fleets.

This data provides us with the ability to service our customers with the products they require when they require them.

Community or other causes close to its heart and values?

With multiple locations across Australia, ComponentsONLY actively supports the communities in which it operates. By being involved in large and small causes, the team at ComponentsONLY can give back to the community and participate in events for the greater good.

One cause that is close to the heart of our employees is the Mental Awareness Foundation (MAF). We have sponsored and participated in their Walk for Awareness and Fight for a Cause. MAF's mission is to support charities working directly with communities implementing strategies to raise awareness of depression and mental illness while supporting the preservation of life.



MY MINING LIFE

JESS GEARY

Who are you and what do you do?

My name is Jess Geary and I'm a Protection Officer based in Muswellbrook for the Australian Rail Track Corporation Hunter Valley rail network.

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

I started in 2021, my job was and still is a Protection Officer. I knew a few people within the rail industry and thought I would be a good fit, and I haven't looked back.

I did want to be a Network Controller or a Train Driver, but I went with maintenance

to gather experience out on track and to see what is involved, and then decide on the career path I would like to go on.

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

I honestly had no idea as to what I wanted to do when I grew up. I knew that I wanted to be in

a construction or mechanical industry. Growing up my father had been a diesel mechanic and truck driver and I always wanted to follow in his footsteps. Once I started as a Protection Officer, he mentioned he had done quite a bit of rail work on track machines.

What's a usual day at work entail?

My usual day is being involved in pre-start meetings and gathering all the information needed to complete work for the day. When I get to the worksite, I put controls in place to make sure the workgroup is protected against running trains, track vehicles and/or other worksites. Communication is very important between network control and myself as they can authorise a track block under my protection to complete work for the day.

What's the best thing about your job?

The best thing about my job would have to be always learning something new. Doing different tasks every day means I'm always learning on the job and allows me opportunities to further my career.

The worst thing?

Not exactly a bad thing but as in any industry things can go wrong or not as planned, so occasionally we will need to complete tasks on short notice, but it usually works out well with the right people on the team and good communication.

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

All of the training can get a bit overwhelming. Having to do

recertification, multiple training blocks for new rules and procedures that can be changed regularly and also new qualifications or job roles that may arise in the near future.

What has been your proudest achievement?

My proudest achievement would be leaving an unhealthy workplace to pursue a career for myself.

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

That's a hard one, no one can enter the corridor without a Protection Officer present. In saying that, no track work can be done also.

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

A lot of the time it's co-workers getting the Utes stuck in mud when driving in the rail corridor. It's not always the best conditions.

What do you do in your downtime?

I like spending time outdoors. I love going camping and fishing or even sitting out on the property is always relaxing, finishing the day with a cold beer of course.

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

I think a lot of people always talk about the negative side of mining but if there wasn't any mining, we wouldn't be able to have things such as power and materials for buildings such as houses, hospitals, schools, roads and even airports.

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KIDS @THE COALFACE

THIS MONTH WE ASKED SOME SEASONED TRAVELLERS TO SHARE THEIR FAVOURITE HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS AND WHERE THEY WISH THEY COULD GO NEXT. PREFERABLY WITHOUT THEIR PARENTS!



SOPHIA ★ AGE 9

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

Fiji.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Anywhere with snow.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

Waiting around at restaurants.



RYDER ★ AGE 11

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

Fiji.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

AMA Motocross in America.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

Listening to Dad's singing.



KATIE ★ AGE 8

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

Timezone.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

I'd stay in Australia.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

Sitting next to my Dad who always farts.



LILLY-KENDRA ★ AGE 16 ★

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

My Pops place. He's 96 and lives in Narrabri. we eat Chinese and there's a pool.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

To Nevermore to meet Wednesday.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

When my brothers fart in the car - or the dogs - they're even worse.



BODHI ★ AGE 7

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

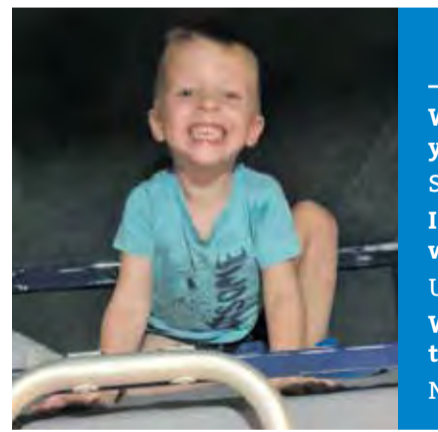
Wollongong.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Portugal to see Ronaldo.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

Getting yelled at by Mum and Dad hahaha.



OWEN ★ AGE 4

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

School.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

USA.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

Not being able to go to school.



ALEX ★ AGE 5

Where's the coolest place you've been to?

Pinnacles Desert in Western Australia.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

To see the pyramids in Egypt.

What's the worst thing about travelling with your family?

Fighting over the window seat.

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ARE YOU BOGGED MATE?

ARE YOU BOGGED MATE? AIMS TO BOOST AWARENESS AND START CONVERSATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE RISING ISSUE OF DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE RATES AMONG MEN IN RURAL AREAS. WE CAUGHT UP WITH FOUNDER MARY O'BRIEN TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE WORK THEY DO.

Mary was raised on the land, so she understands the diverse challenges faced by the rural sector. In article she wrote called 'Are you bogged mate?', Mary highlighted that while there are services available for suicide prevention there is a disconnect in the way depression is being communicated to country men. The topic struck a chord with many and gained international attention, which then led to the launch of Are you bogged mate? It aims to help connect country men with support services while breaking down the stigma associated with seeking help.

"Country blokes aren't going to join a men's group or catch up with mates to discuss their feelings, relationships, or finances over a double decaf latte at some hipster café that has kale on the menu. That's not how they roll," shared Mary. "Rural men let off steam differently. They play footy, go camping, shooting, fishing, ride horses or dirt bikes, go water skiing, have a few beers with mates. These are just some of the release valves for rural men and they need to be supported and encouraged to do whatever it is that gives them release and not let the pressure build up inside."

THE STATISTICS ARE ALARMING. AUSTRALIAN MALES BETWEEN 15 AND 45 YEARS OF AGE ARE ONE OF THE HIGHEST RISK CATEGORIES FOR SUICIDE. MEN ARE 3 TO 4 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO TAKE THEIR OWN LIFE THAN WOMEN AND THE FURTHER YOU MOVE FROM THE COAST INTO REGIONAL, RURAL, AND REMOTE AUSTRALIA, THE MORE THAT FIGURE CLIMBS.

Mary said that one of the most important things they advocate is taking time for yourself. That's it's ok to take a break from your responsibilities.

"You have to find a balance, if that means asking for help for a couple of hours so you can have a break, then do it. Make time for yourself a priority and make sure that time is spent doing something you enjoy."

A core part of Mary's work is breaking down the stigma around mental health. She does this through spreading awareness, as well as straight-talking speaking engagements and education events that challenge, enlighten and empower.

"Our goal is to take the serious stuff and make it friendly and relatable. We are not crisis support but we will connect you to resources that will



help you," explained Mary. She's been to plenty of mine sites conducting toolbox talks as well. Whilst Are you bogged mate? was initially aimed at helping rural men and in particular, farmers, Mary soon discovered that every industry has its challenges and the same message applies to all. "In the mining industry we see long shifts, time away from family and plenty of other factors that can lead to stress and anxiety. Our approach can help you no matter what industry you work in. "We all get bogged sometimes, but I promise you there is always a way out of the bog hole and there are plenty of people ready to help you."

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ARE YOU BOGGED MATE? OR TO FIND OUT WHEN THEY WILL BE HOSTING TALKS IN YOUR AREA, HEAD TO THEIR WEBSITE. YOU CAN ALSO HELP SUPPORT THEIR WORK BY MAKING A DONATION OR BECOMING A CORPORATE SPONSOR. WWW.AREYUOBOGGEDMATE.COM.AU

STAY SAFE AT WORK

FRIDAY, APRIL 28 WAS WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK. THIS YEAR'S THEME FOR WORLD DAY WAS 'A SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKING ENVIRONMENT IS A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE AND RIGHT AT WORK'.

The latest data from Safe Work Australia shows that in 2021, 169 workers were fatally injured at work in Australia. No job should be unsafe, and no death or injury is acceptable. A safe and healthy workplace benefits everyone. This month we highlight three workplace hazards which may not be considered, either because of complacency, or being unaware of hidden dangers. **NAIL GUNS** Using nail guns when framing can cause serious injury. Be careful of accidental discharges, ricocheting nails, and only use nail guns in the one-shot mode. You can be seriously injured using a nail gun when framing. Injuries can happen when unintentional

discharges while carrying, moving, setting down, re-positioning or using the gun in a restricted area, and from rapidly fired nails striking other nails and ricocheting. The risk of nail gun injury is greatly increased when used in "bump-fire" mode. In "bump-fire" mode the nail gun will automatically fire if the trigger is depressed with the contact tip of the gun pushed against an object. Workers have been shot and seriously injured when guns have automatically fired while the trigger was depressed with the contact tip of the gun touching their body, an object or the ground, or an existing nail head that caused the nail to ricochet. **TYRES.** Air-filled tyres can explode when over pressurising or defective. Whether new or used, tyres need to be checked for defects before fitting onto a rim or wheel. Defects may include perishing on tyres more than five years old, de-lamination inside or outside, wavy tyre walls, or side wall damage which may

lead to zipper failures. All defective tyres should be thrown out. You may not be able to see all defects during inspection, take care when inflating. If a tyre has been overloaded, or the pressure has dropped below 80 percent, remove the tyre from the rim and inspect it before refitting and inflating it. Running with pressure below 80 percent (or overloading) can lead to fatigue failures, like zipper failure (a circumferential fracture of the side wall of the tyre). **UV RADIATION EXPOSURE** Exposure to UV radiation from the sun is a known cause of skin cancer. Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. More than 95 per cent of these skin cancers are caused by exposure to solar UV radiation. Many result in death. Exposure to UV radiation can damage all skin types – the damage is permanent, irreversible and increases with each exposure. Exposure can cause melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers (both of which can be fatal), sunburn,



premature ageing, short-term eye problems and permanent eye damage such as cataracts. Workers who spend all (or even part) of the day outdoors have a high risk of developing skin cancer.

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The DustCat 5000 is the world's first all-electric dust control vehicle. It provides low energy consumption, long machine and parts lifespan, low maintenance costs, versatile configuration and customisation, high safety standards and full control over water flow, throw and droplet size.

WWW.TECPRO.COM.AU

FLSMIDTH HAS DEVELOPED AND PATENTED ITS REFLUX FLOTATION CELL (RFC) – A NEW TECHNOLOGY THAT DELIVERS SUPERIOR GRADES AND IMPROVED RECOVERIES.

The REFLUX Flotation Cell (RFC) repeatedly demonstrates a robustness to operate at extreme levels of gas flux, feed flux, and fluidisation wash water flux, an order of magnitude beyond existing flotation methods in mining. Key benefits are up to 10x higher throughput, enhanced grade and recovery, smaller footprint in flotation circuit and lower utility demands



FLOAT YOUR BOAT

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THE SCOOPTRAM ST18 SG IS THE MOST POWERFUL LOADER YET IN EPIROC'S GROWING FLEET OF BATTERY-ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

The Scooptram ST18 SG is the answer to the rising demand for large segment loaders in underground operations while reducing greenhouse gases. The loader features up to 50% higher installed battery capacity compared to other OEMs, resulting in longer autonomy with fewer stops for charging or battery swapping. The high energy-density battery features both active and passive safety systems for worry-free productivity.



FIRST CAB IN THE RANK

ELPHINSTONE HAS RELEASED ITS NEW WR810 FRONT-MOUNTED CAB. THE LOW-PROFILE OPTION INCREASES THE VERSATILITY OF THE COMPANY'S EXISTING RANGE OF UNDERGROUND SUPPORT APPLICATIONS.

All WR810 models can now be optioned with either a centre-mounted 3m high cabin or a low-profile front-mounted 2.4m high cabin. Both operator stations feature a three-seat configuration which is suited to training or transporting work crews, eliminating the need for additional light vehicles and a central driving position with occupant seats displaced behind the operator provides 180° visibility and equal judgement of distance to both sides of the machine.

WWW.ELPHINSTONE.COM



HAVE A BLAST

WWW.ORICA.COM

ORICA HAS INTRODUCED THE 4D™ BULK EXPLOSIVES SYSTEM FOR UNDERGROUND OPERATIONS. THE SUBTEK™ 4D™ RANGE ENABLES UNDERGROUND OPERATORS TO GAIN UNPRECEDENTED CONTROL OF ENERGY THROUGH A SINGLE EXPLOSIVE SOLUTION.

Following the launch of the 4D™ bulk systems for surface operations in 2021, Orica has now developed a new bulk emulsion explosives



GET HIGH

MACLEAN HAS LAUNCHED THE LATEST ADDITION TO THEIR ELEVATED WORK PLATFORM PRODUCT SUITE. THE ML5 MULTI-LIFT PROVIDES UNDERGROUND MINES WITH A SAFE, VERSATILE PLATFORM FOR MINE SERVICES INSTALLATION AND REPAIR.

The slew boom range of motion delivers best-in-class coverage, along with in-basket operator controls and remote drive. The boom's hydraulic and mechanical linkages are also doubled-up for contingency, to increase operator safety. And a quick hitch design allows for easy switch-out between multiple baskets, as well as the use of forks or a jib boom for material handling and general underground construction.

WWW.MACLEANENGINEERING.COM



THE FUTURE OF TUNNELING

SANDVIK HAS UPGRADED ITS SANDVIK MT721 AND SANDVIK MT521 TUNNELING ROADHEADERS WITH SEVERAL NEW FEATURES, DESIGNED TO FURTHER BOOST EXCAVATION PERFORMANCE AND CUSTOMER PROFITABILITY.

Sandvik's MT series roadheaders are renowned for their cutting performance in a wide range of rock formations. Sandvik MT721 and Sandvik MT521 have now been future-proofed with new digitalisation and automation features. One of the major upgrades is the new machine control system, which has more power and is designed for future applications.

WWW.ROCKTECHNOLOGY.SANDVIK

delivery system for underground operators that allows precise control of in-hole explosive energy. With staged availability to Australian customers this year and later release to the global market, Subtek™ 4D™ offers the widest available energy range on the underground market with accurate matching of energy to suit varying rock properties and mine design requirements



BIG NAMES MEAN BIG BUSINESS AT CONEXPO 2023

THIS MARCH, CONEXPO '23 SAW A RECORD-BREAKING 139,000 ATTENDEES EAGERLY FILTER THROUGH THE THREE MILLION SQUARE FOOT VEGAS EXHIBITION. SPANNING OVER FIVE DAYS, AND ATTRACTING OVER 2,400 EXHIBITORS FROM 36 COUNTRIES, THIS YEAR'S EXPO DIDN'T DISAPPOINT WITH CUTTING-EDGE EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL TAKE THE INDUSTRY TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

Still North America's biggest trade show, ConExpo highlighted industry advancements in sustainable products, practices and technologies. Visitors were invited to experience sustainability in action with displays of hydrogen and electric powered vehicles, waste reduction technologies and additional recyclable materials.

"The innovations in the construction industry unveiled this week will play a role in helping construction professionals drive meaningful and

sustainable economic growth. Live events in the construction industry are very important, because you can see, touch and experience the products. That value was reaffirmed this past week across the show floor," said Caterpillar Senior Vice President and ConExpo Show Chair Phil Kelliher.

AS ALWAYS, IT WAS THE BIG NAMES OF THE INDUSTRY THAT STOLE THE SHOW.

Caterpillar showcased its latest products and services this year with

a display that highlighted technology and sustainability. Four battery electric machines along with a series of prototype batteries for off-road equipment ranging from 88-600 volts were featured in their largest exhibit to date at the event.

"We look forward to showing Caterpillar's latest construction products and services portfolio featuring advancements to help customers meet their requirements for performance, durability and economic value. We'll also demonstrate how we're supporting customers on their sustainability journey through fuel efficiency and alternative power sources," said Jim Umpleby, Caterpillar Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Volvo CE also brought along various autonomous and electric machines, including the HX04 prototype hydrogen articulated hauler, EC230 electric excavator pilot and the Zeux autonomous concept wheel loader.

Komatsu demonstrated how they will help customers manage energy transitions and increase efficiencies to aid in reduction of fuel burn and emissions by showcasing their HB365LC-3 hybrid excavator. Attendees were able to learn about the machine and how it was designed to provide high production and efficiency with low fuel consumption.

Liebherr exhibited the latest machines and a wide range of digital service solutions this year, allowing insight into the future of the industry. The robust, powerful and efficient TA 230 Litronic ADT

was displayed for the first time on an international stage, boasting incredibly fast cycle times, an efficient drivetrain and a machine body designed for easy maintenance.

AGAIN, THE SHOW EXCEEDED ALL EXPECTATIONS AND HAS GIVEN US DIRT NERDS A LONG LIST OF NEW EQUIPMENT AND TECH TO GET EXCITED ABOUT.

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NO KNIGHTS WITHOUT MINING

WITH PLAYER AGREEMENTS IN PLACE AND CONTRACTS BEING SIGNED, THE NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS NRLW SEASON WILL SOON GET UNDERWAY WITH THE BACKING OF THE NSW MINERALS COUNCIL FOR A FURTHER TWO SEASONS.



The NSW Minerals Council will sponsor the 2022 NRLW Premiership winners throughout the 2023 season and the next. The Knights NRLW side won last year and they are determined to have another good season this year retaining some of their key players including Scone's Yasmin Clydsdale, Hannah and Jesse Southwell and Tamika Upton from far north Queensland. The Club will wear the NSW Mining logo on their jersey for the 2023 and 2024 seasons which Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee couldn't be more excited about.

"It's exciting to be part of an industry providing more pathways for women into a professional sport and for careers in mining. "The premierships win last year was incredible to see, and we are very proud to have been a strong supporter of the club in its first year in the NRLW, "This sponsorship aligns with our own focus as a responsible mining industry to provide more opportunities for women in a more inclusive and diverse workforce," Stephen said.

The NSW Minerals Council has sponsored women's NRL in the Hunter for a long time, sponsoring the Newcastle Knights in the U19s Tarsha Gale Cup and the Harvey Norman NSW Women's Premiership for a number of years. **YASMIN CLYDSDALE HAS SIGNED A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT TO STAY IN NEWCASTLE WITH THE KNIGHTS AFTER A SUCCESSFUL 2022 SEASON WHERE SHE SCORED A TRY IN THE NRLW GRAND FINAL AND WON HER WAY INTO SELECTION FOR THE WORLD CUP WITH THE JILLAROOS.**

She said the partnership between the Knights NRLW and the NSW Minerals Council is a very important one. "It's great to have sponsorship from the mining industry because they employ many local people from Newcastle and all the way to the Upper Hunter. It is great to see companies like the NSW

Minerals Council work with rugby league all the way from NRLW level down to grassroots. "This partnership creates communities to build better things and encourage more people to participate in rugby league at any level." Yasmin said vice versa the partnership is perfect for Newcastle's home team because everyone knows someone who works in the mining industry either directly or indirectly.

"I am sure that the majority of Novocastrians know or have known someone to be associated with a mining company. So to have this personal connection with a sponsor shows the genuine relationship that is there. "It is great to see the mining companies do their part in the community and how it consistently builds connections between the NRLW team and the communities they are representing," Yasmin said.

EACH YEAR, THE NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS HOST A VOICE FOR MINING ROUND AT MCDONALD JONES STADIUM DURING THE NRL SEASON. THE FIRST WAS IN 2013 TO CELEBRATE THE PROUD CONTRIBUTION MADE BY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF MINING FAMILIES ACROSS THE STATE AND THE MANY GOOD THINGS THAT MINING BRINGS TO NSW.

There's a long list of players who have worked in the state's mining industry too including Phoebe Desmond from the 2022 Knights NRLW season, as well as Tony Butterfield and Josh King from the men's side.

The Knights have already shown their support for mining regions in the state this season travelling out to Mudgee in Round 5 where they played the Sea Eagles and finished in a 32-all draw.

Newcastle Knights CEO Philip Gardner welcomed the commitment yet again from long-time supporter NSW Minerals Council.

"You build success from strong foundations and this partnership with the NSW Minerals Council is one of the strongest in the game, "We can continue to grow the game for women and keep achieving at a high level with this kind of long-term support.

"Mining is central to the prosperity of our region, vital to our state and such a big part of our community. So it is wonderful to have mining, an industry that is one of the pillars of our region, to continue its support for our women's program," Philip Gardner said.

For the 2023 NRL season, the Voice for Mining Family Day will be held on Sunday, 20 August 2023, when the Newcastle Knights men's side play the South Sydney Rabbitohs.



WITH A LINE IN THE WATER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

MAY IS THE TIME OF YEAR WHERE EVERYTHING COMBINES TO HAVE A LONG LIST OF SPECIES TO TARGET, WHETHER IT'S FROM THE ROCKS, BEACH, OFFSHORE OR AROUND THE ESTUARIES.

LAKE MAC

This month will be a great time to target Bream and Blackfish as they feed up and head towards the heads for their winter run.

As the water begins to cool, we tend to see the Flathead move into the deeper water throughout the lake. Large heavier weighted plastics like a 5 or 7 inch jerk shad and even a soft

vibe work well, Jewies will also react well to this method.

FROM THE BEACH

Anzac Day marks the time when Tailor and Salmon move in and hit the surf.

Good numbers of Whiting are around while the water remains on the warmer side and some consistent numbers of Bream

MAY IS THE MONTH WHEN WE SEE PLENTY OF TAILOR ALONG THE COAST. HOW'S THIS FOR A GREENBACK! IT WAS CAUGHT WHILE SIGHT CASTING LURES INTO BAIT BEEN WORKED ALONG THE WASH. MEASURING IN AT 102CM, A TAILOR OF THIS SIZE DOESN'T SHOW UP EVERY DAY. BUT AS THEY SAY, WITH A LINE IN THE WATER ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE...

starting to move about as well. Last but not least, some of our biggest Jewies have been caught during Autumn so these would also be great target option this month.

OFFSHORE

As the epic Marlin season winds up, we are still seeing signs of Striped and Blue Marlin around and so far the current hasn't decided to back off. Longtails and Cobia are still feasting along the coast and Mackerel further up the hill.

If you're looking for something for a few table fish, then we have Trag and school Jew on the deeper reefs and let's not forget the Snapper. May is one of the best times to target these awesome fish.

Kingfish are also showing up on the inshore and offshore reefs reacting well to live baits and lures.

Also, keep a close eye on the charts as an opportunity for a Yellow Fin Tuna will no doubt present itself soon as the current begins to back off.

FROM THE STONES

Autumn and into Winter are probably some of the best times to wet a line around the local rocks and headland. We will see the Tuna species still hanging around Port Stephens and mid North Coast areas, and of course Tailor and Salmon

LET'S GO FISHING!

WIN!



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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as well. We will also see the winter brawlers start to tune in as we move closer to Winter. Species such as Drummer, Grouper Snapper, big winter Bream and Squid in the sheltered rocky bays along the coast are the top picks this month.

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THANK MUM, WITH SOME GOOD STUFF!

THE YEAR IS ZOOMING BY AND MAY IS ALREADY HERE. WHICH MEANS THAT SPECIAL DAY OF THE YEAR FOR MUMS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING TO FIND THE PERFECT GIFT TO SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION, MAYBE WE CAN HELP SAY, "THANKS FOR EVERYTHING MUM."

BLANKET OF LOVE

KEEP MUM WARM AND LOVED THIS MOTHER'S DAY.

Let Mum know how much you appreciate her with this cosy and warm, flannel blanket designed with a heartfelt message. The blanket is soft, lightweight, warm, and machine washable, making it the perfect gift to show Mum just how much you care. Other designs also available. Gift your Mum this personalised blanket thanks to Amazon.

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MUM'S MUG

Dear Mom,
Thanks for putting up with a spoiled, ungrateful, messy, annoying child like my sister.
Love,
Your Favorite

GIVE MUM A CUPPA LAUGHS THIS MOTHER'S DAY!

My Mum has a cupboard full of special mugs that she got over the years on Mother's Day as it always seemed to be a good go-to gift for someone who enjoys a cuppa. Thanks to Zazzle there is a plethora of designs to choose from to pick just the right gift for your Mum. From funny designs to sentimental quotes, and even made to order custom cups with your photos on them, there is sure to be a mug for every Mum.

Gift your Mother a cuppa this Mother's Day with Zazzle.

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EXPRESSO TO GO

FOR THE MUMS WHO LOVE A COFFEE ANYWHERE, ANY TIME.

If your Mum loves travelling and camping as much as she loves her coffee, this portable coffee machine is a game changer. All you need for an espresso is ground coffee or an espresso pod, boiling water, and the Minipresso. You don't need power or filters or even a cup as the Minipresso has a cup built in. The Minipresso is lightweight, but made sturdy, so it fits safely in a backpack or crib bag.

Have an espresso on the go with Mighty Ape.



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KEY MEMORIES

PICKING ONE PHOTO FOR MUM IS ALWAYS HARD. SO, WHY NOT AN ALBUM INSTEAD.

This high-quality adorable photo album keychain has room for 14 photos and makes for a great personalised gift for Mum. The photos are printed on photo paper, which is hidden and protected in a leather case. For the Mum who loves nothing more than going through the photo album, this is the perfect gift as she can do it anywhere any time with this personalised album keychain.

Gift mum happy memories this Mother's Day with Esty.

WWW.ETSY.COM



~~I SAID~~
PRESSED NO!

SOMETIMES THE HARDEST PART OF BEING A MUM IS SAYING NO, BUT NOW YOU CAN MAKE IT EASIER TO SAY NO.

"What part of no don't you understand?" Is something all mums have said at some point. A lot of the time, it's for our own benefit. You can save your mum's voice so she doesn't have to repeatedly say no to stupid questions with this pre-recorded "No" button. The button has 10 different rejections recorded, so the next time you ask, "Can we have ice cream for dinner?" All Mum has to do is push a button.

Make it easier for Mum to say no thanks to Yellow Octopus.

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WHAT MUM SAYS IS WRITE!

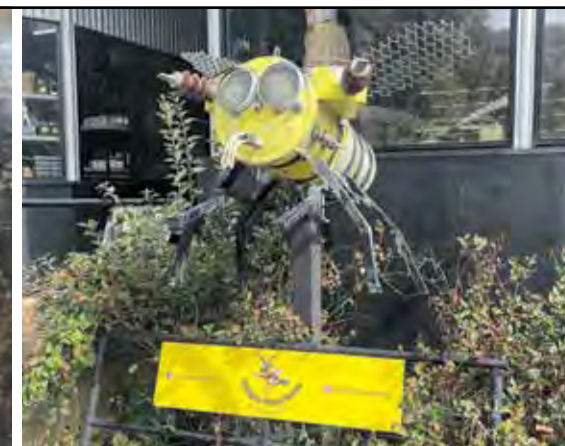
EVERYONE HAS HEARD THEIR MUM SAY ONE OR MORE OF THESE SAYINGS, NOW YOU CAN REMIND HER WITH ONE OF THESE FUN PENS.

This 5-piece pen set comes with 5 different classic Aussie mum sayings, including all the hits like, "I'll give you something to cry about", "Because I said so", "Go the f*ck to sleep", "I will turn this car around", "Don't make me count to three". Don't be stationary this Mother's Day, get these great pens to give your Mum a good laugh.

Get them WRITE away with Spicy Baboon.



WWW.SPICYBABOON.COM.AU



IF YOU ARE A LOVER OF HONEY BUT CAN'T GET TO MUDGEE, DON'T FRET. WWW.MUDGEEHONEYHAVEN.COM.AU HAS AN ONLINE STORE WHERE YOU CAN BUY THEIR PRODUCTS TO BE DELIVERED TO YOU.

Mudgee is a great tourist location to visit. With over 40 cellar doors, Mudgee offers a rich wine culture,

as well several other tourist attractions to find something for everyone's taste and desires.

IF YOU LOVE HONEY, THIS PLACE WILL BE AMBROSIA FOR YOU WITH FREE TASTINGS OF OVER 20 DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF PURE 100% AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HONEY WITH NO PRESERVATIVES OR ADDITIVES. YOU WILL FEEL LIKE WINNIE THE POOH ON A HONEY SPREE.

Café, conveniently located in the same building. The café caters to breakfast, lunch, or a sweet treat. Or something savory to cleanse the palate before sampling more honey.

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

What is small, black and yellow and drops things? A fumble bee.

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One such attraction to visit is the Mudgee Honey Haven, located only 5 minutes from the town of Mudgee. The Honey Haven is a must try experience for anyone who is a fan of honey and honey products.

Or if you enjoy a drink, why not try some Honey Mead, with several different honey-based drinks to taste, that are both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, there will be a drink to try for the whole family. Some of the stronger meads will be sure to give you a buzz.

Looking for a family activity? Mudgee Honey Haven has an 18-hole putt putt course on site to keep the kids and adults amused. All in all, the Honey Haven will be sure to keep you as busy as a bee.

Open 7 days a week from 9am till 4pm, the only day the Honey Haven closes is Christmas day, so that's 364 other days you have to visit Mudgee and get yourself into a sticky situation and BEE happy about it.

But the honey doesn't stop flowing there, because the Mudgee Honey Haven has their own homemade and honey-based ice cream, with honey, honey vanilla, honey chocolate and honey strawberry flavours. If you like ice cream and honey then it's truly the nectar of the gods.

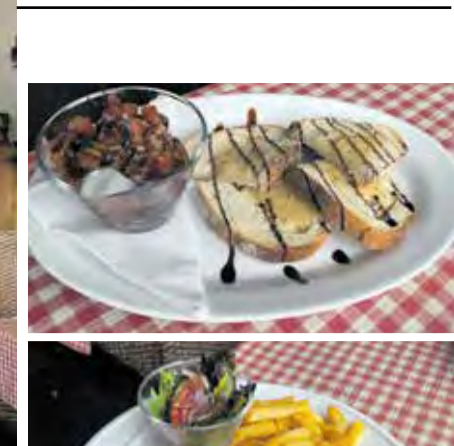
Once you have tried everything and done everything the Mudgee Honey Haven has to offer, visit their gift shop for a wide range of local produce and products from local Mudgee suppliers, as well many honey-themed items, including health based medicinal pollen and moisturisers and exfoliators to make you feel like a Queen Bee.

The Mudgee Honey Haven was first opened about 38 years ago by the Kenny family and today is the pride of the Maiolo Family who took over the Honey Haven back in 2000.

Hungry? Then visit the Honey Haven

There is more to experience, but (just like honey) I won't spoil... it all here. Instead, come to this apiarist dream and see what all the buzz is about for yourself!

Tricia, Frank, and their amazing, friendly staff now run the Mudgee Honey Haven proudly with great respect to bees and to the importance that they provide to our daily lives.



OH, WHAT A NOTTE!

ON A RECENT WEEKEND ADVENTURE TO THE CENTRAL COAST, WE PASSED THROUGH LAKE MUNMORAH AND DISCOVERED LA NOTTE UNO - WHICH TRANSLATES INTO ENGLISH AS NIGHT ONE. YOU'LL FIND THIS DELIGHTFUL ITALIAN RESTAURANT ON THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY.

Our journey to the coast had been plagued by bad weather, so it was a welcome respite to escape the cold rain, seek out a warm meal and have a break from driving.

TABLECLOTHS THAT REALLY GAVE THE PLACE AN AUTHENTIC ITALIAN RESTAURANT FEEL.

We sat down and looked over the menu and decided to try their Bruschetta which came out with four slices of toasted bread, dribbled over with balsamic glaze and a pot of the tomato topping, which smelt fresh and amazing. You could spoon on as much or as little of the topping as you liked.

taste the fresh orange flavour and it complimented the chicken perfectly.

My partner who loves a good pasta decided upon the Boscaiola, which came with your choice of pasta from Penne, Fettuccine, or Spaghetti, as well as gluten free options. The Boscaiola pasta was served covered in sauteed bacon and mushrooms in a creamy garlic sauce. Very creamy and filling.

La Notte Uno is open 7 days for dinner, Monday to Saturday from 5pm till 9:30pm and lunch, Tuesday to Sunday 11:30am till 2:30pm. It offers great Italian food as well as a large selection of cocktails and specialty coffees.

For mains I decided upon the La Notte Pollo which translates as, "The Chicken Night" which to me sounded like a poultry-based superhero. Sorry, that was a fowl joke...

Then finally, what better way to finish off a beautiful meal then with dessert, Chocolate Volcano and Mississippi Mud Cake, both served with cream and ice cream and were very tasty, or if you will, "Gustoso."

La Notte Uno is owned and operated by Antonio Cuttonaro, or Tony as he is commonly known. Tony had the La Notte Uno at Penrith and retired, handing the reigns to his son, but upon discovering that retirement didn't suit him he started the La Notte Uno in Lake Munmorah. Lucky for us!

However, a joke the meal was not. It was absolutely delicious, or "Delizioso" as the case may be. Grilled chicken marinated in a caramelised orange sauce, served with chips and salad and garnished with two slices of orange. You could

So, if you like good Italian food and you're a local to the Central Coast or maybe you plan on passing through there, call into La Notte Uno and say hello or "Ciao" to Tony.

AS WE WERE SHOWN TO OUR TABLE, I NOTICED THE RED AND WHITE CHECKERED

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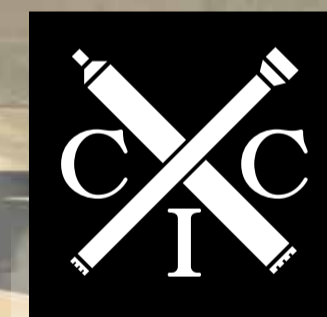
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MAY DAY TRADITIONS

ON MAY DAY, PEOPLE DANCE AROUND THE MAYPOLE. IT IS THOUGHT TO HAVE STARTED IN ROMAN BRITAIN AROUND 2000 YEARS AGO, WHEN SOLDIERS DANCED AROUND DECORATED TREES TO THANK THEIR GODDESS FLORA FOR THE COMING OF SPRING. TODAY, RATHER THAN DANCING AROUND A TREE, DANCERS WEAVE RIBBONS AROUND A POLE.

Many nations have very different maypole customs. The maypole, known as a "maibaum" in Austria and Germany, is erected in the middle of a village by villagers and is covered in Bavarian white and blue stripes. People also try to get to the top of a maypole in the hilarious tradition known as maypole scrambling.

First up, let's talk about the Cathedral of Cologne. This impressive structure is one of the city's most famous landmarks and it's not hard to see why. With its towering spires and intricate stone carvings, this Gothic masterpiece is sure to leave you in awe. The best part? You can climb the 533 steps to the top for a bird's-eye view of the city.

The charming Old Town is worth exploring. This neighbourhood is like a trip back in time, with its narrow, winding streets and traditional half-timbered houses. If you're feeling peckish, be sure to pop into one of the local pubs or restaurants to try some of the city's famous cuisine. From juicy pork knuckles to crispy schnitzel, you're sure to find something that will tickle your taste buds.

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO COLOGNE FOR THE MAY DAY TRADITIONS, THEN PERHAPS VISIT AT THE END OF THE YEAR TO EXPERIENCE THE CITY'S FAMOUS CHRISTMAS MARKETS. ENJOY THE SOUND OF CAROLLERS SINGING HOLIDAY TUNES WHILE YOU SAMPLE THE LOCAL SPECIALTIES, SUCH AS ROASTED ALMONDS, STOLLEN CAKE, MULLED WINE AND GINGERBREAD.

Cologne is also home to a thriving art and cultural scene. The Museum Ludwig is a great place to start, with its impressive collection of modern and contemporary art. From Pablo Picasso to Andy Warhol, you're sure to find something that will inspire you. And, if you're a fan of the Old Masters, be sure to check out the Wallraf-Richartz Museum, which showcases art from the Middle Ages to the 19th century.

If you're looking for some excitement and adventure, you will want to check out the city's many parks and recreational areas. The Rheinpark is a popular spot for picnics and outdoor recreation, while the Rodderburgpark is perfect for a leisurely stroll. And, if you're feeling brave, be sure to visit the Phantasialand theme park, where you'll find a world of thrills and spills waiting for you.

Last but not least, Cologne's famous brewery district is a must visit. This is where the locals go to unwind, and you'll understand why as soon as you take your first sip of Kölsch beer.

Cologne is a city that has something to offer everyone. Whether you're a history buff, an art lover, or an adventurer, you're sure to find something in this charming city that will leave you captivated.



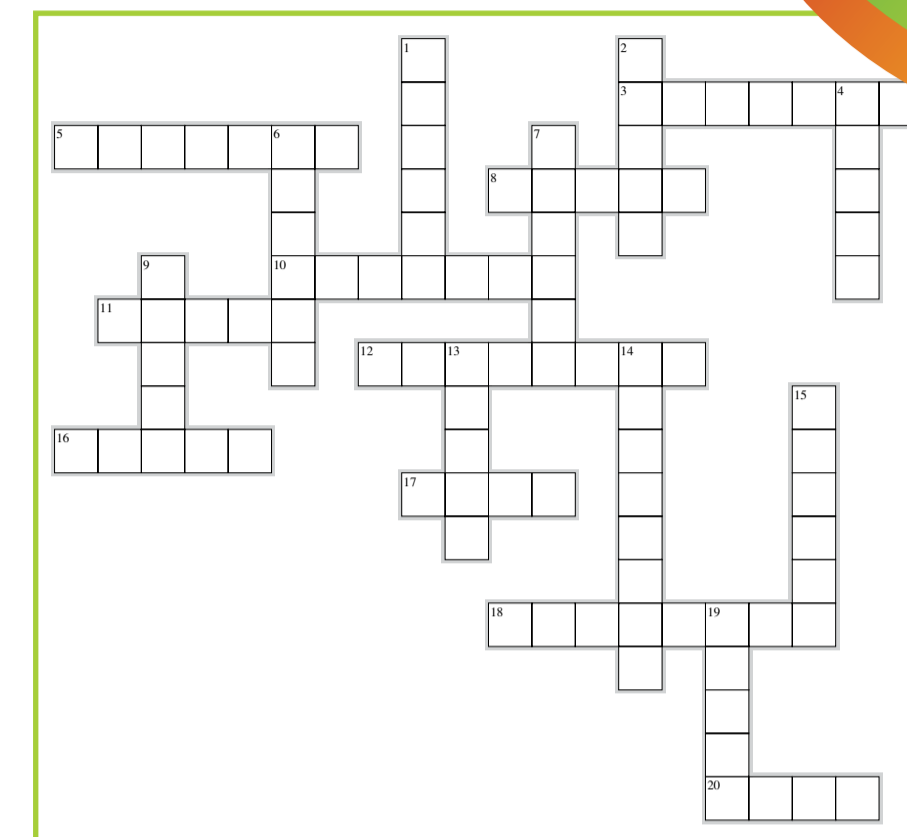
CROSSWORD TV MUM

ACROSS

3. First name of George Costanza's Mum in Seinfeld
5. First name of the Mum in The Partridge Family
8. First name of Bart, Lisa, and Maggie's Mum in The Simpsons
10. First name of Rory's Mum in Gilmore Girls
11. First name of Eric's Mum from That 70's Show
12. First name of Tabitha's Mum in Bewitched
16. First name of Mrs Huxtable in The Cosby Show
17. First name of the Mum in Home Improvement
18. First name of the Mum from The Addams Family
20. First name of Stewie, Chris and Meg's Mum in Family Guy

DOWN

1. First name of Howard's Mum in Big Bang Theory
2. First name of Bud and Kelly's Mum in Married with Children
4. First name of the Mum in Bob's Burgers
6. First name of Charlie and Alan's Mum in Two & a Half Men



7. First name of Richie and Joanie's Mum from Happy Days
9. First name of Pebble's Mum in The Flintstones
13. First name of Ray Barone's Mum in Everybody Loves Raymond

14. First name of Sheridan's Mum in Keeping up Appearances
15. First name of Dorothy's Mum in The Golden Girls
19. First name of the Mum of the Brady Bunch

HAVE A GO! HAVE FUN!

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Chelsea Maccoll
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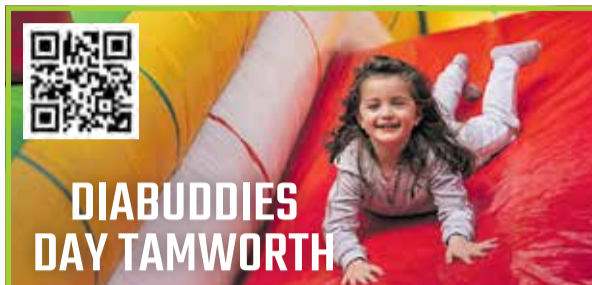


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EVENT CORRECTION

@ The Coalface apologises for incorrectly listing the Mount Thorley Warkworth Family Days in our April edition. These are ticketed events held in May that are intended for the workforce at MTW, to share and celebrate their workplace with their families. We apologise to our readers for any confusion caused and wish the families of MTW all the best for a wonderful event.



DIABUDDIES DAY TAMWORTH

11 ANNE STREET, SOUTH TAMWORTH
16TH JUNE 2023

Diabetes Australia invites you to join them for our upcoming DiaBuddies Day at Inflatable World Tamworth. This is a special event to bring children living with Type 1 Diabetes and their families together. Grab your socks and get ready to experience an evening of boundless excitement and adventure. Put your skills to the test while you bounce, slip and slide your way around the various obstacles on offer.



DAMNATION, AMERICAN IDIOTS AND MIDDLE GROUND

21 GEORGE ST, HOLMESVILLE
20TH MAY 2023

One night, three bands at the Holmesville Hotel. Headlined by Bon Scott AC/DC Tribute band Damnation who are celebrating their 10-year anniversary. Catch the boys rock out all your favourite Bon Scott - AC/DC songs. Supported by American Idiots & Middle Ground. Doors open at 2pm, first band starts at 3pm. Tickets Essential.



MOTHER'S DAY DELIGHTS AT GROSSMANN HOUSE

71-73 CHURCH STREET, MAITLAND
14TH MAY 2023

Take a guided tour of historic Grossmann House, Maitland's fully restored 1870 Victorian house museum and enjoy a delightful array of homemade savory and sweet treats, delicious finger sandwiches, refreshing fruit, tea, brewed coffee and juice, plus a celebratory glass of sparkling wine will be made available upon your arrival in the beautiful gardens of Brough House.

MOTHER'S DAY PAINTING WORKSHOP

22 GREENWAY STREET, WICKHAM • 14TH MAY 2023

This Mother's Day why not spend the afternoon relaxing, painting, and creating, while surrounded by gorgeous flowers. Enjoy an encouraging, no pressure environment with Prudence. Get the brushes out, have a play and be proud of your new lovely complete painting by the end of the three-hour session.



MOTHER'S DAY PICNIC IN THE PARK

1 TRITON BOULEVARD, NORTH ROTHBURY
13TH MAY 2023

Come down to the Huntlee District Park on Saturday May 13th at 10am and celebrate mum with a family picnic. Grazing platters and flowers are available for purchase along with your attendance ticket. Free head and shoulder massages for mum will also be available on the day.



RUNE AND RED NIGHT

49 VINCENT STREET, CESSNOCK
26TH MAY 2023

Expand your knowledge of Nordic/Viking Runes while indulging in some of the finest locally produced red wines. Come along for an evening of wine testing and education. There is a small cover charge for tasting. You are recommended to book ASAP as seats are limited. The event is co-hosted by Elevenses Cafe and Celtic Stag Giftware Men's Jewellery.

CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOP

447 MCDONALDS ROAD, POKOLBIN • 17TH JUNE 2023

Learn how to make Fromage Blanc (Cheese White) the French style fresh cheese - ideal for pizza, salad and just about anything. Take home the recipe so you'll be able to replicate your skills over and over and grow your home cheesemaking know how. While this is a technical workshop, teaching the cheesemaking process it is also plenty of fun



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