

HUNTER INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY, SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

**@THE
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FACE**

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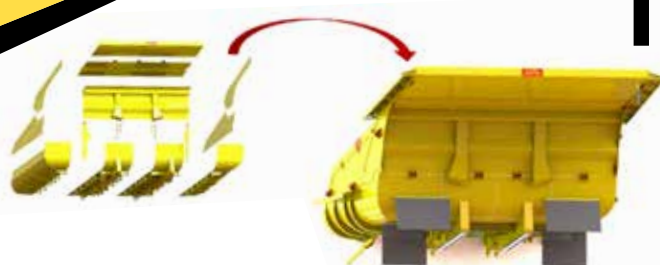
SUPERCAR SUPERSTAR MARK 'FROSTY' WINTERBOTTOM REVVED THINGS UP AT GLENCORE'S MANGOOKA OPEN CUT OPERATION THANKS TO FUCHS LUBRICANTS.

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MINING PARTS

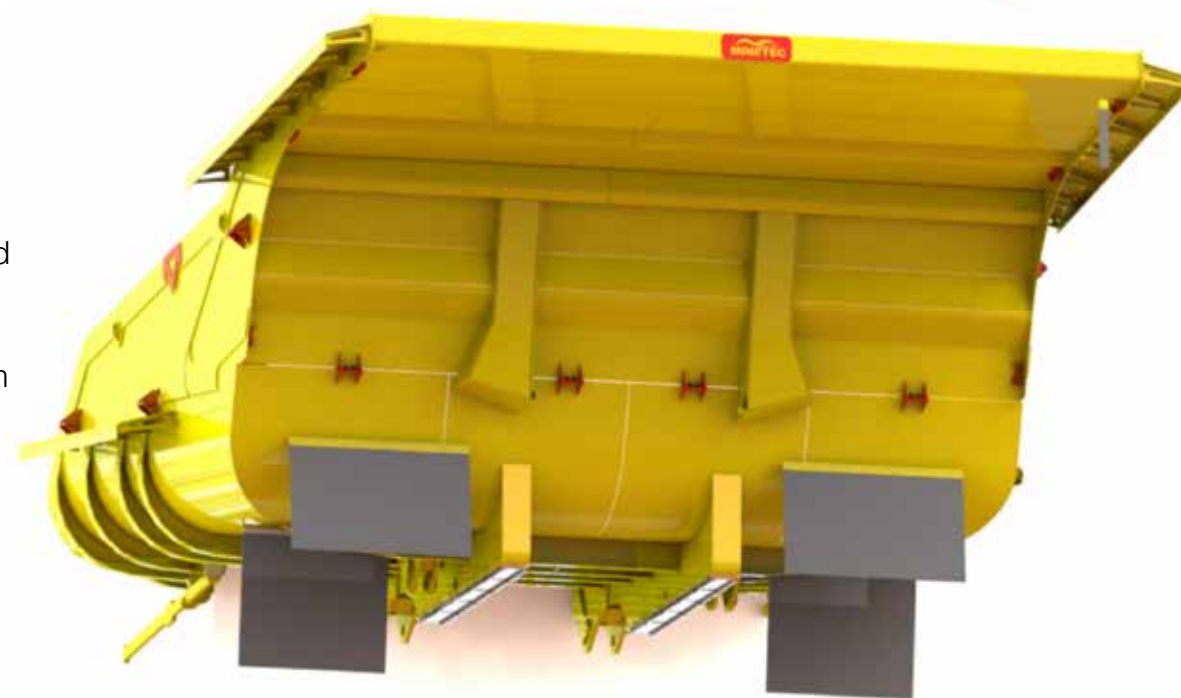
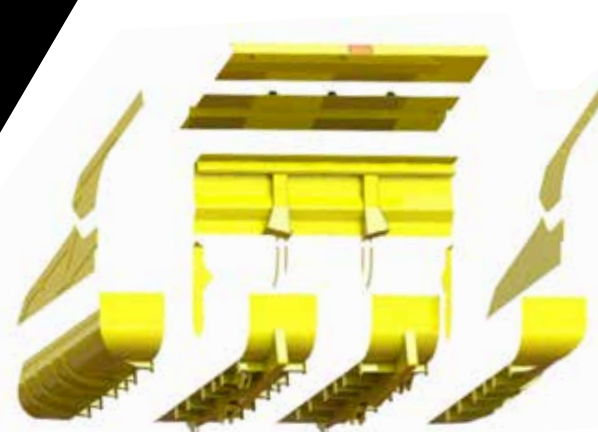
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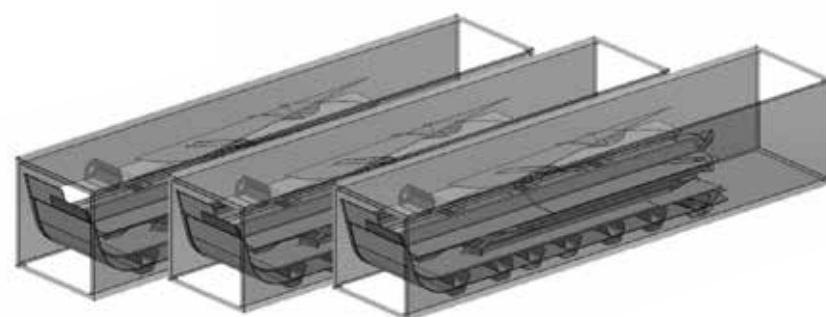


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OPINION

COAL CAREERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NSW NATIONALS' CANDIDATE DAVID LAYZELL ON WINNING THE RECENT UPPER HUNTER BY-ELECTION, AND TO ALL THE CANDIDATES THAT ENTERED THE CONTEST. POLITICS IS A TOUGH BUSINESS AND THOSE WILLING TO PUT THEMSELVES FORWARD TO REPRESENT THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY DESERVE OUR GRATITUDE.

While there was a strong focus on mining during the byelection we've also been busy promoting mining industry careers across the state through a series of regional Careers Dinners for high school students, parents, teachers and careers advisers.

Our first Careers Dinner was recently held in Wollongong, providing a great opportunity to showcase the diverse career opportunities within the NSW mining sector. Since then we've also held a similar event in Orange, with further dinners planned for the Gunnedah and Hunter regions. Once completed, these important events will have helped inform hundreds of people about some of the great career potential

opportunities our industry has to offer. We've had some terrific feedback from the first two dinners and look forward to continuing this important initiative.

Tens of thousands of people make up our world-class mining workforce in NSW, working in a wide range of diverse roles. Our industry is innovative, energetic, and constantly adapting to change, with a bright future ahead. That's why attracting the next generation into our ranks is so important.

For more information on our upcoming Careers Dinners, check out www.nswmining.com.au/careersdinner

Stephen Galilee, CEO,
NSW Minerals Council

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SUPPORT TO **STAY**

DURING THE WEEKS LEADING UP TO THE BY-ELECTION WE SAW STRONG SUPPORT FOR OUR MINING INDUSTRY. NOW THAT IT'S OVER, LET'S HOPE THAT SUPPORT CONTINUES.

It was fantastic to see political parties recognising the many contributions the Hunter mining industry's makes, and also acknowledging that it will continue to do so for many decades to come. We hear firsthand from the newly elected Member for Upper Hunter, Dave Layzell. It was reassuring to hear Dave promise to always stand up for our industry and its workers. Supercar champion Mark 'Frosty' Winterbottom paid a visit to Glencore's Mangoola Open Cut operation where he spoke with employees about the challenges and highlights of his career as well as the importance of staying focused. We all can benefit from his great advice, not just at work but in our day to day lives.

THIS MONTH WE ARE PROUD TO BRING YOU OUR FIRST SAFETY & TRAINING FEATURE WHERE WE SHOWCASE PROGRAMS AND

PRODUCTS THAT ALL HELP TO MAKE SURE OUR WORKERS COME HOME SAFE EVERY DAY. WE'VE GOT PLENTY MORE EXCITING FEATURES PLANNED FOR THE COMING MONTHS COVERING ALL AREAS OF OUR INDUSTRY, SO SEND AN EMAIL TO ADMIN@THECOALFACE.NET.AU IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE.

We released our rage this month at Sutton Estate's Smash Room. This is one of the more unique activities that we've tried, and we highly recommend it a fun and safe way to vent your frustration. Plus being located at a winery means you can enjoy a celebratory drink when you finish.

We hope you enjoy this edition, and remember, if you have any community or industry news that you would like to see in our magazine, we would love to hear from you.

@THE COAL FACE

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OPINION

OUR TOP-CLASS MET COAL SOUGHT AROUND THE WORLD



YOU CAN'T MAKE STEEL WITHOUT METALLURGICAL (MET) COAL, AND AUSTRALIA'S MET COAL – INCLUDING THAT PRODUCED IN THE HUNTER AND THE NORTH-WEST – IS AMONGST THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

With more than 96 per cent of Australia's met coal production exported, this high quality attracts customers from around the world from Asian countries such as India, China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan all the way to the EU.

Our world-leading met coal miners provide jobs for thousands of Australians in regional areas and contribute significantly to the local and national economy.

And the Hunter Valley and Gunnedah basins are well placed to continue producing met coal for years to come to support global growth and infrastructure development.

The good news is that a new report from the MCA shows that Australia will continue to be a strong supplier of met coal over the next couple of decades thanks to its high quality.

AUSTRALIAN METALLURGICAL COAL: QUALITY SOUGHT AROUND THE WORLD – THE SECOND IN THE MCA'S BEST IN CLASS: AUSTRALIA'S BULK COMMODITY GIANTS SERIES – IS AN IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION OF HOW AND WHY AUSTRALIA IS THE LARGEST SEABORNE EXPORTER OF STEEL-MAKING COAL.

Using high-quality Australian met coal also reduces emissions while boosting productivity for blast furnace operators.

Many of the met coals produced in Australia are integral to global steel production because of their specific properties which optimise blast furnace performance.

And many MCA member companies are already taking action to further reduce emissions from the use of met coal.

For example, BHP signed a memorandum of understanding with world leading steel producer China Baowu in November 2020 with the intention to invest up to US\$35 million and share technical knowledge to help address the challenge of

reducing greenhouse gas emissions facing the global steel industry.

In 2019, Australia exported 184 million tonnes (worth \$41.3 billion) of metallurgical coal, while North America (50 million tonnes), Russia (39 million tonnes) and Canada (35 million tonnes) exported significantly smaller volumes.

Faster introduction of existing low emissions technologies and greater research and development of new and emerging technologies will be required to ensure the world is able to achieve the emissions reduction goals of the Paris Agreement.

Written by industry expert Anthony Le Bas, the report indicates the Indian market for steel-making coal is expected to substantially grow as steel production in the South Asia nation grows over the next twenty years.

This is great news for communities and jobs and a strong future for the Hunter and North-West.

Tania Constable
CEO, Minerals Council of Australia

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IN THE NEWS...

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



WATER RESTRICTIONS DROPPED TO LEVEL 1

Water restrictions are officially down from level 2 to level 1 across the Upper Hunter region.

Singleton, Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter Shire Councils all voted unanimously at their separate meetings to lower the water restrictions.

As of the end of May Glenbawn Dam is at 57.3 per cent and Glennies Creek Dam is at 58.1 per cent capacity.

ENERGY FROM ILLAWARRA TO MAKE UP FOR HUNTER'S LOSS

A new hydrogen/gas power plant will be built in the Illawarra, in a bid to fill some of the gap that will be left on the energy grid when the Liddell Power Station at Muswellbrook shuts up shop.

The \$83 million project will be Australia's first dual capable energy system, called Tallawarra B, it will provide over 300 megawatts of displaceable capacity for NSW customers in time for the summer after Liddell shuts in 2023.

Under the funding agreement, Energy Australia will offer to buy enough green hydrogen equivalent to over five per cent of the plant's fuel use from 2025 and will offset direct carbon emissions from the project over its operational life.

END OF THE LINE IN SIGHT FOR LIDDELL

Twelve weeks of transition planning for the Liddell Power Station in Muswellbrook started on May 27.

Energy giant AGL said it's in preparation for the station's closure in 2022-23 with Delta Group awarded the tender for the first stage of the closure, decommissioning and demolition planning for the station.

AGL said this is an important milestone in the closure process.

In August 2019, AGL announced the first unit at Liddell will close in April 2022 with the remaining three units closing in April 2023, supporting system reliability throughout the 2022-23 summer months.

The first stage of these works will conclude in mid-July 2021.

NATIONALS KEEP UNBROKEN HOLD ON THE UPPER HUNTER

NSW Nationals candidate for the Upper Hunter by-election Dave Layzell is the new Member for the Upper Hunter.

He crossed the line first in the by-election over the weekend with nearly 56 per cent of the

primary vote, followed by NSW Labor candidate Jeff Drayton receiving 44 per cent.

On first preferences it was the Nationals, followed by NSW Labor, One Nation's Dale McNamara, Shooters Fishers and Farmers Sue Gilroy and then popular Independent Kirsty O'Connell.

\$128 MILLION PROMISED IN BY-ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Throughout the NSW Nationals campaign Deputy Premier John Barilaro promised a total \$128 million dollars of spend in the electorate.

It'll be Dave Layzell holding the NSW Government to account for \$45 million for the Muswellbrook Hospital, \$30 million for the addition to the Singleton Bypass, \$15 million for three roads in the Upper Hunter Shire Council, \$12 million to upgrade the Singleton Police Station, \$650,000 for the Dungog Common, \$200,000 for Muswellbrook Golf Club, \$70,000 for Ride Dungog and \$70,000 for the Aberdeen Sports and Recreation Club.

COVID VACCINE CLINIC FOR MUSWELLBROOK

Muswellbrook Hospital will be home to a COVID-19 clinic.

The rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine is being accelerated across NSW with 25 sites for the Pfizer jab opening now for people aged 40 to 49 - 17 of which are in

rural and regional NSW.

Around 23,500 people aged between 40 and 49 have already been invited to book a vaccine at a NSW Health clinic, with 12,000 people already booked for the Pfizer jab.

The Muswellbrook clinic is one of six to be progressively opened across the state as an additional part of the state's vaccine rollout.

MOUSEY ASSISTANCE

The NSW Government has announced \$50 million worth of rebates, baits and research to help tackle rural and regional NSW mouse plague.

It's been a problem for months now, and finally there is some assistance not only for farmers, but for households in towns and for small businesses.

Under the new package households will be able to apply for rebates of up to \$500 and small businesses will be eligible to claim up to \$1,000 through Service NSW for the purchase of baits.

About 20 grain treatment stations will be set up across regional NSW as well and the NSW Government has sought 'urgent approval' from the APVMA to give them access to the strongest bait in the country, bromadiolone.

BABIES AT BARRINGTON

For the first time in more than three thousand years on mainland Australia, Tasmanian devils are being born in the Barrington Tops.

Aussie Ark are beyond excited that they are celebrating the birth of seven devil joeys in their 400-hectare sanctuary.

26 adult Tasmanian Devils were

released into the wild sanctuary late 2020, with 7 of those being reproductive females - this means that Aussie Ark is estimating the birth of up to 20 joeys in the wild this year and have found seven so far.

Aussie Ark's Tasmanian devil breeding program is the most successful conservation breeding facility for the endangered species on mainland Australia.

KURRI GAS PLANT

The Federal Government has announced they are going to build the gas-fired power station at Kurri Kurri.

Energy Minister Angus Taylor will make the announcement today to build the \$600 million project that will be built by Snowy Hydro 2.0 on the site of the former Hydro Aluminium smelter at Kurri Kurri.

The generator during construction will create 250 jobs and 10 ongoing full time jobs - another indirect 1200 jobs will be created across NSW as well.

The Environmental Impact Statement shows the power station would only run two per cent of time once it's operational.

MINING CONTRIBUTIONS UP MORE THAN HALF A MILLION

The latest stats have revealed the Upper Hunter has benefited from mining contributions significantly over the years, and it's only increased.

NSW Minerals Council data shows that since the 2016/17 financial year the local mining industry contribution to the electorate of Upper Hunter has increased significantly, with total spending by mining companies in the region growing from \$1.4 billion in 2016/17 to \$1.8 billion last financial year.

The newly released data also shows that the number of jobs supported by the industry has increased markedly from over 4,640 four years ago to 7,320 last financial year.

The contribution to Councils has increased from \$13 million to \$51 million and the number of community groups benefiting has also risen almost doubling in the same time period.

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CALLING ALL eIMEX EXHIBITORS

THE ENERGY, INNOVATION AND MINING EXPO IS RETURNING TO GUNNEDAH ON OCTOBER 8 & 9, 2021 WITH THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM SET TO SHOWCASE THE BEST EIMEX EXHIBITORS HAVE TO OFFER.



The Energy, Innovation and Mining Expo (eIMEX) first made headlines during its inaugural event in 2018, injecting fresh opportunities and innovation through an event that reflected the balance and relationship between regional Australian industries. The first event paved the way for eIMEX to become a biannual industry celebration, however Covid put the 2020 expo on hold until 2021.

We can finally start to get excited for the postponed event to be held in October this year at the Gunnedah Showground and it's set to be bigger, better and even more finely tuned to the needs and interests of Australia's growing and changing energy, innovation and mining industries.

MORE THAN 2500 PEOPLE VISITED THE 2018 EVENTS, AND WITH THE HARD WORK OF EIMEX VOLUNTEERS AND THE GUNNEDAH SHOW SOCIETY, THIS YEAR WE HOPE TO SEE A HUGE CROWD VISIT AND LEARN ABOUT 2021'S PARTICIPATING EXHIBITORS.

This year's expo is focussed on showcasing innovative products and technology influencing the energy, agricultural and resource industries. Committee Chairman and Deputy Mayor, Gunnedah Shire Council, Rob Hooke, said he was thrilled to see

the event going ahead this year after it's 2020 hiatus, with brilliant guest speakers set to attend.

"For eIMEX 2021 we are very fortunate to have Professor Veena Sahajwalla from the University of NSW (UNSW) SMaRT Centre as our guest for the entire expo," he said.

"You will have the opportunity to hear about the groundbreaking work being undertaken at UNSW as well as the chance to interact and engage with Professor Veena throughout the 2 days.

"Professor Veena has appeared on Australian Story 'tipping point' discussing how she has developed a process to make green alloys, using end-of-life rubber tyres and waste plastic as an alternative to coking coal."

STILL IN ITS EARLY STAGES, THE EIMEX COMMITTEE ARE NOW CALLING FOR EXHIBITORS AND WARM SPACES ARE FILLING QUICKLY. "EIMEX CAN PROVIDE YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANISATION WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE YOUR PRODUCT OR SERVICE TO POTENTIAL CLIENTS FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF INDUSTRIES," SAID ROB.

Over the course of the 2 days there will also be the following networking events, giving you the chance to participate and interact with guest speakers, industry experts, innovative technology and potential customers:

• **Thursday 7th October**, exhibitors and interested parties are invited to attend a workshop conducted by Ross Carter, Facilitator with the Federal Government's Entrepreneurs Programme

'Winning Project work despite the Tender Process'.

• **Thursday 7th October**, exhibitors and sponsors are welcome to join Professor Veena and the committee for drinks and canapes for a relaxed meet and greet at the Gunnedah Showground.

• **Friday 8th October**, The Women in the Workforce Breakfast at the Gunnedah Showground.

• **Friday 8th October**, eIMEX dinner at the Gunnedah Town Hall.

Throughout the course of the two days eIMEX provides exhibitors the chance to be interviewed by their on-site radio broadcaster, sending your message to other exhibitors and patrons of eIMEX and the listening area as well. There is also the opportunity for you to present and hear about products and services through a range of talks scheduled throughout the 2 day expo.

Sponsorship programs and opportunities are also available for exhibitors and industry partners. The best way to keep up to date is through their social media campaign which will be run throughout the build up to eIMEX featuring exhibitors, sponsors and guest speakers so keep your eye out for updates and information. Don't forget to give them a follow.

EXHIBITORS CAN GET INVOLVED BY EMAILING THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICER DIRECTLY AT ADMIN@EIMEXGUNNEDAH.NET.AU OR HEAD TO THE WEBSITE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST.

It's an event not to be missed, and you'll sure to see @ The Coalface around over the course of the event. See you all there!



WesTrac CAT

Whitepaper UNLOCK THE VALUE IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Australian mining sector is recognised as a global innovator when it comes to mining technology.

As technology evolves and the experience of larger mining operations and equipment providers evolves with it, operators of all sizes are starting to realise the benefits and returns from investment in technology.

In this whitepaper, WesTrac investigates the evolution, scalability and realisation of value in technology for managing mining fleets.



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OPINION



MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER
DAVE LAYZELL
AND DEPUTY
PREMIER JOHN
BARILARO

THE VOTES ARE IN

G'DAY, I'M DAVE LAYZELL, AND I'M WRITING THIS ON THE MONDAY MORNING AFTER THE UPPER HUNTER BY-ELECTION. WHILE THE RESULTS STILL AREN'T FINAL, IT LOOKS A LOT LIKE I'M GOING TO BE YOUR NEXT MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER.

The past six weeks have been an absolute whirlwind and I'm sure you're all a bit sick of seeing my face around the place, but I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported me, and all of those people who live and work in the Upper Hunter.

WHILE I AM A PROUD MEMBER OF THE NATIONALS, I KNOW THAT THE JOB OF A LOCAL MP IS TO REPRESENT ALL CONSTITUENTS, NOT JUST THE ONES WHO VOTED FOR YOU. SO, FOR EVERYONE WHO LIVES IN THE ELECTORATE, MY COMMITMENT TO YOU IS THAT IF I'M ELECTED, I WILL

WORK FOR YOU FIRST AND FOREMOST. YOUR JOBS, YOUR COMMUNITIES, YOUR FAMILIES, THEY ARE MY TOP PRIORITY.

I've spent a lot of time driving around the Upper Hunter recently and meeting people from all walks of life, and it's really reinforced my belief that we are still the home of good old fashioned Australian values like working hard, having a laugh with your mates, and helping people out when they fall on hard times. This is the lens I will use to look at every issue that comes up if I'm elected as the local MP: is it fair, is it good for the Upper Hunter, and will it support the greater good.

Now I know there are probably a lot of people reading this who didn't vote for me, or don't support the state government, and that's okay. We've got a wonderful free and fair democracy, and not everyone is going to agree on every issue. But I want to encourage you to look not just our differences, but what we have in common. We all want a safer, stronger future for our region, and we all want the freedom to live our lives happily and peacefully.

During the campaign we talked a lot about protecting local jobs, and I'm

going to keep on talking about local jobs if I'm elected to Parliament. As a father of four, I know how important it is to earn a living and provide for my family, and that's something I want everyone to be able to do. Whether you're driving a truck or pouring a beer or cooking a meal or changing screens in a washery, every single job in our region is important to me.

I SPOKE UP FOR COAL JOBS BECAUSE THEY ARE THE DRIVING FORCE OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY, AND THE ENTIRE HUNTER REGION RIGHT DOWN TO THE PORT OF NEWCASTLE. EVERY TRUCK AND TRAIN AND SHIP FULL OF HUNTER VALLEY COAL MEANS SHOES ON OUR CHILDREN'S FEET AND FOOD ON THE TABLE.

If you're a mine worker, or someone who earns a living thanks to mining customers, I want you to know that I will always stand up for you regardless of the election result, because I know just how important it is for your family that you earn a living.

Of course, there are many from Sydney who want to shut down the coal mines because they don't understand the importance of industry to the families of the Upper Hunter. In fact, they don't understand how important mining is to the whole state.

We know that the world wants our coal and we should continue to back mining, mining jobs and mining services businesses. I'm thankful this by-election has really put a focus back on what's really important.



SECURING SKILLS

THE HON. STUART ROBERT MP, MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT, WORKFORCE, SKILLS, SMALL AND FAMILY BUSINESS, JOINED HUNTER LOCALS TO TOUR BUSINESSES AND SIT DOWN WITH WORKERS AND APPRENTICES TO TALK ABOUT HOW THE FEDERAL BUDGET WILL CONTINUE DRIVING JOBS ACROSS THE REGION.

"The Federal Budget is all about delivering jobs for the Hunter and securing its future workforce to accelerate its economy and grow its businesses," said Minister Robert on his recent visit to the Hunter.

"We probably have the biggest investment of any government in history into skills and training. For 200 years we've been bringing labour in but now that's off the

table. What we have though is 1.16 million Australians on payment and underutilised."

"Now the question is how are we going to skill them. We are expanding the \$1 billion JobTrainer Fund and extending the highly successful Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy. The \$2.7 billion investment is supporting the employment of newly

commencing apprentices and trainees, assisting school leavers and job seekers during the peak hiring period for key industries."

Among Minister Robert's stops was Glencore's Glendell Open Cut mine. Glendell, which is currently seeking approval to continue mining to the north of its existing operations employs 690 people directly. Like all mines in the Hunter, it also provides a range of traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities for people in our region.

On his visit to Glendell Minister Roberts met with some of the young people from Glencore's Indigenous Employment Pathway Programs. The program which runs in both NSW and Queensland provides employment opportunities for young Aboriginal Australians and is just one of Glencore's many programs aimed at developing the skills of young Australian and ensuring we have a highly skilled workforce in the future.

"By giving incentives to Glencore and companies like them, it enables them to employ and skill and train even more people. That's why meeting the young indigenous kids today from the Pathway Program was just fabulous," said Minister Robert.

"THE GOVERNMENT IS WELL AND TRULY BACKING THIS AREA. THERE ARE OVER 5000 APPRENTICES HERE IN THE HUNTER RIGHT NOW. 121,000 CITIZENS HERE ENJOYING

Minister Robert said that continuing to support skilling people in the mining sector is vital as it is a sector that will always have an important part in the Australian economy.

"Everything we do comes from the ground in a form of a mineral or a tree, so whether fossil fuels as energy dissipates over time, we still need to mine for all the other resources on the planet that we need for everything we use. It's ludicrous to think that mining is going to end in a short amount of time, mining will never end, from this day until the end of days. Some sectors of mining will close in the future, but we still need the baseload for our fuel and energy requirements and will for some time."

"Local communities rely on these jobs in the mining sector and the Morrison Government will always back jobs for Australians across the Hunter Valley. We recognise that it was regions like the Hunter that keep Australia going through the Covid Recession. While city centres were smashed and shuttered; mining, manufacturing and agriculture across Newcastle and the Hunter kept firing. Australia's strong economic comeback owes a great debt to the people of the Hunter and the Morrison Government will never take them for granted," Minister Robert concluded.

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

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



▶ Australian Cervical Cancer Foundation ▶ Bears of Hope ▶ Benwerrin Rural Fire Brigade ▶ Blaze Aid Inc - Bushfire Appeal ▶ Cancer Council NSW ▶ Cerebral Palsy Alliance (East Maitland) ▶ Darlington Rural Fire Brigade ▶ East Maitland Public School P&C ▶ East Maitland Rural Fire Brigade ▶ East Maitland Scout Group ▶ Got Your Back Sista ▶ Hunter Medical Research Institute ▶ Hunter Wayilas Aboriginal Corporation (juniors football) ▶ Lifeline ▶ Maitland Football Club (juniors) ▶ Maitland Little Athletics ▶ Maitland Triathlon Club ▶ Mates in Mining ▶ Mentor Support Network ▶ Movember ▶ MS Research Australia ▶ Mulbring Rural Fire Brigade ▶ Newcastle & Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Service ▶ NSW Rural Fire Service ▶ Prison Fellowship Australia (Hunter) ▶ Rutherford Technology High School ▶ Singleton Salvation Army ▶ Singleton Business Chamber ▶ Singleton Family Support ▶ Singleton Hospital ▶ Singleton Legacy ▶ Singleton Men's Shed ▶ Singleton Neighbourhood Centre ▶ Singleton Netball Association ▶ The Samaritans ▶ Tour de Cure ▶ University of Newcastle ▶ Upper Hunter NAIDOC Week Awards 2020 ▶ Variety (the Children's Charity) ▶ WIRES ▶ Youth Express (Maitland) ▶ Youth Off the Streets.

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



"I've been a fitter for fourteen years, did my trade in the Valley and the got the opportunity to come up here and extend my skills. I'm currently building a house and have the best future ahead of me at the moment. I can't see myself looking back!"

JOSHUA HARE, FIELD SERVICE FITTER, GUNNEDAH



Discover great stories about life in Gunnedah and all the opportunities at: www.live.gunnedah.nsw.gov.au



NEW RECRUITS

MT ARTHUR COAL HAS LAUNCHED A BRAND NEW WOMEN IN MINING PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CHANDLER MACLEOD WITH THE FIRST ROUND OF TRAINEES RECENTLY JOINING THE MT ARTHUR COAL TEAM.



L-R: MEL BYFIELD (TRAINER), MAREE MCGAW, STEVIE KIBBLE, SHELLEY-LEE LOCKHART, AMBER AUSTIN, LEISA CLIFT, KATHLIN SHAW, RUBY VARLEY, ASHLEIGH BUSSELL, CAITLIN BELL, TANYA SMITH

This new program is one of the Mt Arthur Coal Production team's key diversity initiatives and is already proving to be an exciting way to bring new recruits into BHP and the industry.

Ten new to industry trainees were chosen from a very impressive cohort of applications. The group started at Mt Arthur Coal on April 26 after completing their inductions. A second intake of another 10 roles will be recruited in June.

The trainees come from all walks of life and the program not only provides an opportunity to increase gender diversity in the workplace, but also an opportunity for people to join the industry from a range of backgrounds and with no prior experience.

We asked some of the trainees to share with us why they chose to join the Mt Arthur Coal team on this new career path and what it's been like so far.

STEVIE KIBBLE

Previous work? Beauty therapist.

Why did you apply for the Program? I wanted a complete change and to move out of my comfort zone. The Program has pushed me to learn something new, and to grow and develop.

What excites you most about this opportunity? The work opportunities and starting a life-long career.

CAITLIN BELL

Previous work? Yard maintenance.

Why did you apply for the Program? I always wanted to drive trucks in the mines. This is an amazing opportunity especially as I have no mining experience. All of us in the Program have been given the chance to get a foot in the door to a great career.

What's it like working at Mt Arthur Coal? It's early days yet but it's great, I'm learning a lot.

MAREE MCGAW

Previous work? 25 years in the meat industry and MMU Operator.

Why did you apply for the Program? I was ready for a career change and wanted to broaden my skill set.

What excites you most about this opportunity? Meeting new people, learning new skills and

becoming a part of a great company.

What's it like working at Mt Arthur Coal? I'm enjoying each day. The people are friendly and there's lots to learn.

KATHLIN SHAW

Previous work? Administration.

Why did you apply for the Program? I wanted a career change and a new challenge, and I've always been intrigued by the mining industry.

What's it like working at Mt Arthur Coal?

I'm really enjoying it. I'm excited to learn more going forward.

What excites you most about this opportunity? Being a skilled operator and furthering my knowledge.

SHELLEY-LEE LOCKHART

Previous work? Fast Food Manager.

What excites you most about this opportunity? Being a part of the largest single coal mine in the Hunter region.

TANYA SMITH

Previous work? Cleaner.

What's it like working at Mt Arthur Coal? I love it! I'm really happy to be here.

What excites you most about this opportunity? The new career challenge. My future is looking bright.

LEISA CLIFT

Previous work? Cleaner.

Why did you apply for the Program? I've always been interested in big trucks.

What's it like working at Mt Arthur Coal? I love everything about it – the work and the people.

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WOMEN COAL MINERS STEP UP TO SUPPORT WORKMATES

MINING IS STILL A MALE-DOMINATED INDUSTRY, BUT MORE AND MORE WOMEN ARE JOINING THE INDUSTRY AND TAKING A LEADING ROLE IN OUR UNION.

Our recent Annual General Meeting heard from five outstanding women coal miners and union activists.

I was very proud of their contribution at our AGM and I'd like to tell readers a little bit about each of them.

Clare Bailey started in the industry 10 years ago and after six years as a casual got a permanent start at Mt Pleasant. She was one of the first people to start work at the greenfield site.

As worker numbers grew, Clare was instrumental in setting up a union Lodge and is now our Lodge Secretary. Clare was motivated to get involved

in the union because she'd received support over an incident at work, where she'd been wrongly blamed.

"I realised that there are things you can do to protect yourself and your workmates. Knowledge is power," Clare said.

"BEING ACTIVE IN THE UNION HAS BEEN REALLY CHARACTER-BUILDING AND GIVEN ME EXPERIENCES I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD HAVE. I'M MUCH MORE CONFIDENT NOW."

Jodie Cam has been working in Hunter Valley coal mines for about 18 years but started her mining career in Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

She is now Lodge Vice President at Liddell Open Cut. Like Clare, Jodie's own experiences of being involved in a workplace dispute - resolved in her favour with union support - inspired her to offer the same support to others.

Jodie is committed to giving her workmates support if they are called into a meeting with management, which can be intimidating.

"It makes a big difference to have someone with you, to make sure you are represented, help process information and just take a break if you need to."

Mel Shore is the first female site safety inspector in our District, at Mt Arthur South.

While she's had many firsts since starting out in a small gold mine in Cobar, Mel's message to our AGM audience was to pay attention to all the hazards on site and celebrate their own firsts in standing up for safety, like: "the first hazard you filled out and cared enough to chase up with the company, the first time you pulled up a run because the roads weren't up to scratch, the first time you tagged out a tired workmate so they could manage their fatigue."

Kerry Koneicznyn joined the industry at Camberwell Coal in 2002, first as an operator then a shotfirer. She moved to Ravensworth where she became the female site delegate and then Lodge Secretary and is now at United Wambo. Kerry sits on our District Board of Management.

Kerry played an important role

in building union density at Ravensworth through persistently checking records and following up with people. She made sure contractors knew the union could represent them. Kerry made the important point that female union delegates aren't just there to support female members.

"WOMEN CAN BRING A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO THE DELEGATE ROLE WHICH IS VALUABLE ... BUT THEY AREN'T JUST THERE TO SUPPORT THE FEMALE MEMBERS, THEY ARE THERE TO SUPPORT ALL MEMBERS."

Sharon Smoothy started out in the industry 20 years ago at Mt Arthur coal mine where she still works today.

Sharon became a workplace delegate before joining our District Board of Management and she now sits on our Central Council. That gives Sharon an important voice in national decisions regarding our union's direction.

Sharon reflected that the lack of other women on the job made for some lonely and isolating times when she started out. Like many other women in mining, one of her first battles was over getting a toilet.

Now she says, "I'm so proud of all the women in our industry and the work they do - we've come a long way."

I am proud of them too and look forward to many more women coal miners stepping up to fight for better, fairer workplaces.

Peter Jordan, CFMEU Northern Mining and NSW Energy District President

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

THE 2021 SCHOOL MINE TOURS PROGRAM GIVES STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE UPPER HUNTER AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OF 31 SCHEDULED TOURS ACROSS 13 MINE SITES.



The 2021 tours program "hit the road" after a rain-delayed start in April and is scheduled to make its final stop for the year at the end of September.

The program is geared up for its biggest year yet. A record 22 schools from across the Upper Hunter region have confirmed their involvement meaning that more than 1000 students will have the opportunity to tour a local mine site.

The Dialogue tours program sees Year 5 and Year 9 students tour working mines in the Upper Hunter and learn first-hand about the effects of mining in their day to day lives. The tours are free and are offered to all schools in the Upper Hunter region.



Following a call from community representatives at the Dialogue's 2016 Annual Forum, the program was designed in 2017 by a Dialogue Working Group made up of teachers, community, mining industry and local government representatives.

USING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND MESSAGING DEVELOPED BY THE DIALOGUE WORKING GROUP, THE TOURS PROGRAM OFFERS A FACT-BASED, FIRST-

HAND EDUCATION EXPERIENCE TO TEACH LOCAL STUDENTS ABOUT THE IMPACTS AND BENEFITS OF COAL MINING IN THE UPPER HUNTER.

In its first full year of operation in 2018, 17 schools in the Singleton-Muswellbrook educational catchment participated in the program. Due to popular demand, the "tours route" was expanded in 2020 to

include schools from the Upper Hunter LGA catchment however the 2020 program had to be put on hold due to Covid-19 safety protocols and restrictions on school excursions.

Despite some tours being postponed in March this year due to wet weather, the program is now back on schedule with participating schools from the Singleton, Muswellbrook and Scone catchments.

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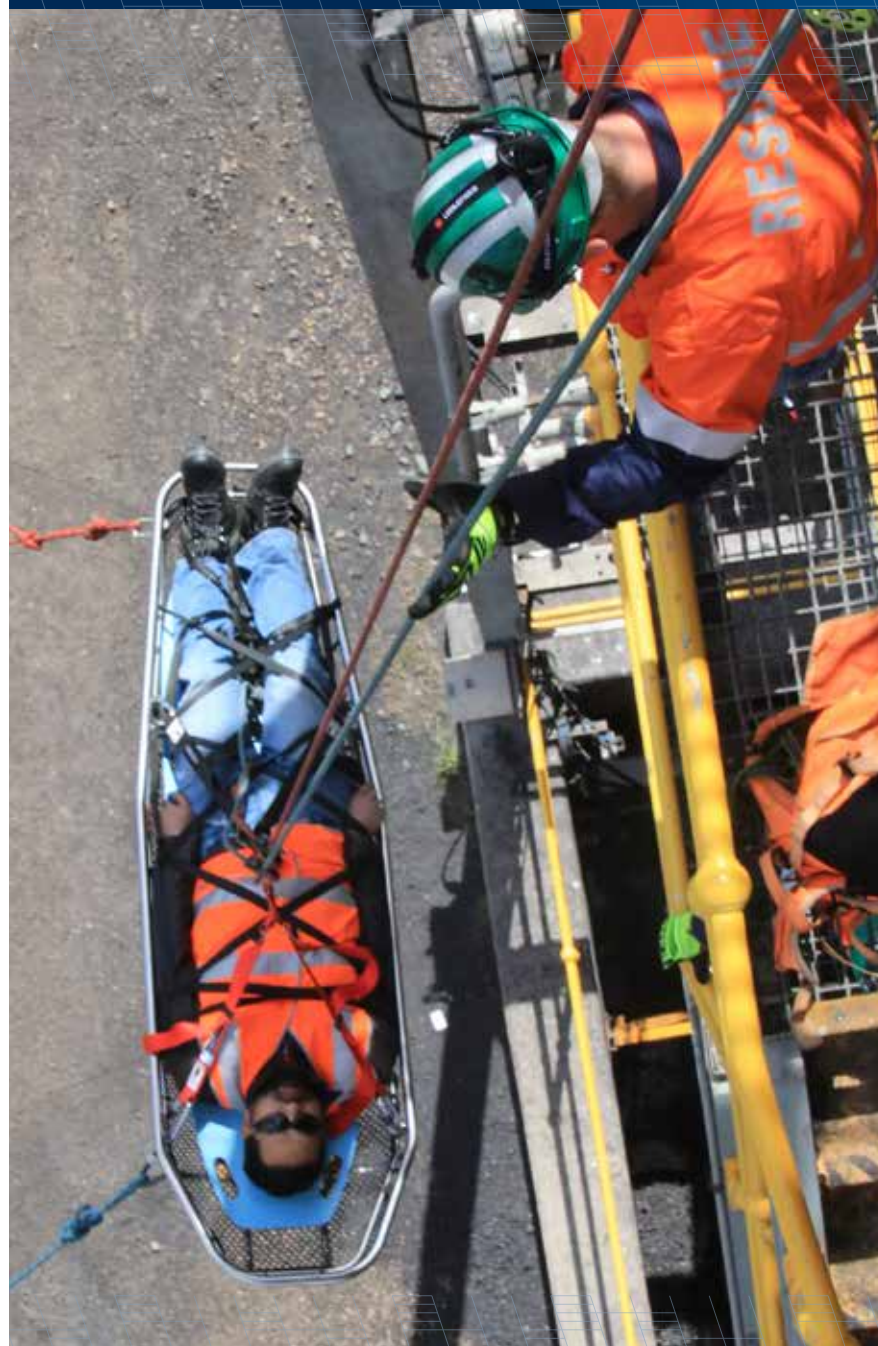
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LEARN FROM THE LAWMAN

STUART BARNETT IS OUR MINING INDUSTRY'S LEADING PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER. THIS MONTH HE HAS SOME IMPORTANT ADVICE ABOUT CHARGING YOUR WORK RELATED INJURY TREATMENT EXPENSES TO YOUR MEDICARE CARD.

When a worker suffers an injury during the course of their employment either inside or outside of the Coal Mining industry and where liability is accepted then treatment expenses are generally paid by the Workers Compensation Insurer. Sometimes however expenses are charged to the injured workers Medicare card.

In the event that liability is denied by the Insurer the worker can, if they can afford it, pay for treatment themselves or they can claim some or all of the costs on their Medicare card. Sometimes, even where liability has been accepted by the Insurer an expense can inadvertently be charged to the Medicare card.

Ultimately, where the injured worker successfully challenges the decision of the insurer to decline liability or where the worker brings a compensation claim for lump sum benefits and succeeds in receiving a lump sum benefit, Medicare will expect reimbursement of the expense they have paid in respect of the injury. The way they ensure that they receive reimbursement is to require the insurer to send 10% of the compensation amount direct to Medicare whilst the situation is investigated.

IN PRACTICE, WHAT THIS MEANS IS THAT AT THE END OF THEIR CASE, THE INJURED WORKER RECEIVES 90% OF THE BENEFIT AGREED OR AWARDED AND THE OTHER 10% IS SENT TO MEDICARE WHO HOLD IT UNTIL THEIR PROCESS IS COMPLETE.

Medicare will then send to the worker a list of items that have been claimed on their Medicare card over the years and asks that the worker identify all items that relate to the injury and sign a declaration as to the accuracy of what they have identified.

Sometimes the worker does not realise or has forgotten that some charges were booked to their Medicare card. This can be a problem, particularly if the resolution of their case is a final settlement. If that occurs then the injured worker is responsible for the repayment to Medicare. If it is not a final settlement then those injury related expenses can potentially be claimed from the workers compensation insurer.

THE IMPORTANT TAKE OUT FOR INJURED WORKERS IS THAT THEY SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT WHEREVER POSSIBLE INJURY RELATED EXPENSES ARE PAID BY THE INSURER. WHERE IT IS NECESSARY TO CHARGE THEM TO THEIR MEDICARE CARD, CAREFUL RECORDS ARE KEPT SO THOSE EXPENSES CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE CLAIM.



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

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CHARGE ON

BHP, RIO TINTO, AND VALE HAVE LAUNCHED THE CHARGE ON INNOVATION CHALLENGE, A GLOBAL COMPETITION FOR TECHNOLOGY INNOVATORS TO DEVELOP NEW CONCEPTS FOR LARGE-SCALE HAUL TRUCK ELECTRIFICATION SYSTEMS TO HELP SIGNIFICANTLY CUT EMISSIONS FROM SURFACE MINE OPERATIONS AND UNLOCK SAFETY, PRODUCTIVITY, AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS.

BHP, Rio Tinto, and Vale are the Founding Patrons of the Challenge, in partnership with Australia's Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) industry body Austmine. The Challenge is expected to attract additional interest from resource companies that maintain substantial haul truck fleets and are looking for innovative concepts to deliver electricity to large battery-electric haul trucks.

Current stationary charging systems require substantial time to charge large trucks, which would result in significant lost productivity. The mining industry needs multi-megawatt scale fast charging concepts capable of delivering around 400kWh to charge (and propel) a truck within the truck's haul cycle (load, travel, dump, return, queue).

"METS AND MINING COMPANIES ARE UNITED ON THE CHALLENGE TO REDUCE EMISSIONS ACROSS THE SUPPLY CHAIN," SAID AUSTMINE CEO CHRISTINE GIBBS STEWART.

"With 80% of METS companies supplying products and services outside mining, the Challenge leverages the experience and innovation of industries in the automotive, battery makers, aerospace, defence and other sectors."

"We are confident that we will find a solution to the delivery of electricity to trucks in the complex operating environment of a large surface mine."

We expect the Challenge will attract companies from a broad range of sectors including mining, automotive, aerospace, agriculture, and defence to deliver selected charging concepts to create a standard product that can interface with all trucks," Ms Gibbs Stewart said.

The mining industry needs to be at the forefront of tackling the climate challenge. The Charge On Innovation Challenge is a great example of the current collaborative work being done by the mining industry and mobile equipment manufacturers to decarbonise mining fleets. In addition to providing a zero-carbon energy source, the conversion of mobile mining equipment to battery electric can potentially unlock value, as electric motors have fewer moving parts when compared to standard equipment.

Several non-traditional mining sector vendors are actively developing technologies that can be applied to mine electrification. The Challenge is expected to demonstrate an emerging market for charging solutions in mining, accelerate commercialisation of solutions, and integrate innovations from other industries into the mining sector.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE WEBSITE WWW.CHARGEONINNOVATION.COM.



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OPINION

A LESSON FOR LABOR

MAKING TOO MANY ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT WHAT THE UPPER HUNTER BY-ELECTION MIGHT MEAN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE LABOR PARTY IS NOT WITHOUT ITS DANGERS. BUT NOT AS DANGEROUS AS DRAWING NO LESSONS AT ALL.

In Singleton on May 22 – in the heart of the Hunter's coal country – the Labor Party secured a little more 20 per cent of the primary vote. At 2015 NSW state election it was 36 per cent. At the 2007 federal election, 60 per cent of those who voted at the same booths voted for the Labor Party. In 2016 the vote dropped to 51 per cent. In 2019 it fell further to just 36 per cent. The trend is an ominously obvious one.

The Hunter region has long been the powerhouse of NSW. Fuelled by the region's efficient coal, its big coal generators have long kept the wheels of industry turning and delivered reliable electricity to both residential and commercial consumers. The power station operators are proud of the nation-building role they've played. But our coal generators are aging, indeed one will close in 2023. Others will deliver electrons for up to 15 more years. But close they will, eventually. No one knows that better than those who operate them.

Consequently, we are scrambling to attract the investment necessary to keep the Hunter region in the energy game. We are well advanced in our aspirations to build pumped-hydro generation, large scale solar farms, battery storage, hydrogen plants, and gas peaking stations to firm the grid and to provide our manufacturers with the energy

reliability they need.

Meanwhile our coal miners continue to export our thermal and metallurgical coal to our customers in Asia. After hitting record tonnages last year, they know they'll be exporting coal for decades to come. Unless, of course, politicians put the kibosh on them. Not surprisingly, they fear this is a real possibility because they hear someone urging government to do so almost every day.

WITH THIS THREAT HANGING OVER THEIR HEADS, THE 14,000 HUNTER RESIDENTS WHO WORK IN THE INDUSTRY, AND THE MORE THAN 70,000 WORKERS WHO RELY UPON IT, ARE SEEKING REASSURANCE. THEY ARE LOOKING FOR A PERSON OR A POLITICAL PARTY WILLING TO SAY: "YOUR INDUSTRY IS CRITICAL TO OUR ECONOMIC FORTUNES, IT HAS OUR UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT, AND WE WILL FIGHT TO KEEP IT ALIVE AND WELL."

Statements such as "the market will determine the industry's future" don't cut the mustard. This is particularly true when they are made in the shadow of politically charged and alarmist parliamentary motions screaming for an immediate government response to the so-called "climate emergency".

At its recent National Conference, the Labor Party reaffirmed its

support for the coal industry and the gas-fired generation sector. But few people know it because too few members of the federal parliamentary Labor Party want to talk about it. That's because they fear an adverse response from the Party's left and a backlash in city and coastal electorates. The excessive progressives think they can afford to cut the coal miners loose and still win. But they fail to understand the message that attitude also sends to blue-collar workers in other industries and in other regions.

The Labor Party was born 130 years ago to give the waged workforce a direct voice in our parliamentary democracy. It's Australia's largest, oldest and proudest political party. But in the 21st Century, does it have the ability to appeal to the residents of inner Melbourne and Sydney, while also maintaining election-winning levels of support in our resource rich regions? We will see. Resolving policy and ideological conflicts is not a new challenge for the Labor Party. It survived splits over military conscription and communist infiltration, albeit not before suffering long stints on the opposition benches.

BY COMPARISON, CLIMATE CHANGE SEEMS SUCH A SMALL CHALLENGE – PARTICULARLY GIVEN AUSTRALIA'S RAPID

EMBRACE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AND THE IMPRESSIVE PROGRESS WE ARE MAKING IN OUR EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE EMISSIONS INTENSITY OF OUR ECONOMY, NOW DOWN 64 PER CENT SINCE 1990.

Six months ago, Anastasia Palaszczuk proved the tensions between Labor's traditional base and its more recently arrived progressive base need not be a barrier to electoral success. She took a suite of policies to the election which allowed her to hold her progressive city seats while also winning the hearts and minds of regional voters. She won regional seats in part by announcing the approval of a new coal mine and stamping out any party hostility towards the mining sector.

In a thoughtful contribution last week, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair warned centre-left parties around the world must break free of the influence "radical progressives" and to bravely speak of a new and moderate progressive agenda. An agenda designed to deliver the reassuring feeling economic security brings to those struggling to navigate the turbulence of a rapidly changing world. To ignore that warning would be a terrible mistake.

**Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP
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RESOURCES FOR OUR REGION

RESOURCES FOR REGIONS ROUND EIGHT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR MINING COMMUNITIES ACROSS REGIONAL NSW TO RECEIVE A SHARE OF MINING ROYALTIES AND SINGLETON AND MUSWELLBROOK ARE AT THE TOP OF THE LIST.

Deputy Premier John Barilaro announced the opening of Round 8 from Singleton Rugby Club on May 17. The venue has been specifically chosen as it had been a recipient of funding from Round Seven, but the announcement for Round 8 had one big difference from previous rounds. An additional \$25 million allocated to the program, bringing the total to \$75 million.

for Regions fund will build on the success of the previous round, which provided \$50 million for 84 projects that helped create new jobs and stimulated local economies through infrastructure and program delivery," Mr Barilaro said.

"We know that the mining industry can put extra pressure on local infrastructure in regional towns and this fund is about giving back to these mining communities that contribute so much to the NSW economy.

WIN!

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"You've heard me say there is more to come and here it is, another \$75 million to fund projects and programs that will ensure our mining communities remain strong for generations to come.

"It's absolutely crucial that we continue to support regional mining towns that supply our state with the resources we need and the Resources for Regions program is just another example of the NSW Government's commitment to the future of our regions."

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2012, THE RESOURCES FOR REGIONS PROGRAM HAS DELIVERED 149 PROJECTS WORTH \$345 MILLION TO THE STATE'S MINING COMMUNITIES.

In 2019 a strategic review of the program was undertaken with the key findings incorporated for Round Seven last year. These changes included a new set of funding criteria to reshape and refocus the program and community programs now being eligible for funding in addition to infrastructure projects.

Under Round Eight, 24 councils are allocated a base amount of \$1 million, with a further \$51 million weighted to those communities that need it most. Which means with the additional boost of \$25 million for

Round Eight, Singleton Council will be eligible to apply for \$8 million and Muswellbrook Council eligible to apply for \$6.5 million.

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore joined the Deputy Premier at the announcement and said it was another demonstration of the NSW Government's recognition of the contribution the people of Singleton made to the State's economy.

"Council has drafted a list of projects that meet the Resources for Regions criteria, and we'll be working through those to prepare our applications for Round Eight. We have already held a number of meetings with community groups and kept in touch with the staff at Regional NSW," she said.

APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCES FOR REGIONS ROUND EIGHT ARE NOW OPEN AND WILL CLOSE ON 12 JULY 2021. SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN SEPTEMBER 2021.



MAYOR OF SINGLETON CR SUE MOORE AND DEPUTY PREMIER JOHN BARILARO

WORK IN THE HUNTER VALLEY'S WORLD-CLASS MINES, TRAVEL THE WORLD!

THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE GREAT MESSAGES IN TWO NEW VIDEOS PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE MINERALS COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NSW TO ENTICE MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TO CHOOSE A CAREER AS A MINING ENGINEER.



Featuring mine planning engineers Olivia Gall and Luke Saad – employed at Glencore's Bulga Coal operations – the videos will complement UNSW's promotion of mining engineering as a pathway into a rewarding, diverse career.

While a number of students are choosing engineering, too few are then specialising in mining engineering.

As Coalface readers would be well aware, more mines and/or larger mines means more mining engineers are required!

Liv and Luke both rated their UNSW degrees very highly in terms of the practical skills they provided and the portability of those skills – as well as outlining what a great time they're having working as mining engineers.

'To be able to work in that environment you get real job satisfaction, as well as learning on the go.'

Liv did two overseas field trips, including an eight-month field trip to Austria which she says was invaluable in seeing how mines operate in other countries.

For Luke's part, he cites the great support he got when starting new on site as a graduate and the opportunities on offer as central to his job satisfaction.

'When choosing a career in mining, I was always open to adventure and seeking to explore new places,' Luke says.

A Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Mining) at UNSW is a four-year, full-time degree that welcomes domestic and international students.

Mining engineers evaluate, plan and oversee the construction of a mine and are involved through all phases.

UNSW also has strong partnerships with industry with a five-star rating in employability, teaching and research and big recent investments funding cutting-edge lab facilities.

And of course with the global mining industry worth hundreds of billions of dollars and growing demand for minerals, mining engineers can enjoy successful careers not only in Australia, but also overseas.

THE VIDEOS CAN BE FOUND ON THE MINERALS COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL UNDER 'EXPLORE MINING ENGINEERING AT UNSW'.

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She replied, "Because your jokes aren't remotely funny."

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DO YOU WANT TO HELP MAKE THE UPPER HUNTER A BETTER PLACE FOR ALL TO LIVE?

Established in 2011 by the region's miners in response to community concerns, the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue welcomes community representatives as valuable and equal voices on its Joint Working Groups.

The Dialogue is a collaborative effort that addresses the local community's priorities by understanding its concerns and then working together to develop and implement solutions.

Focus areas

- Water
- Land management
- Emissions and health
- Economic and social development
- Preserving vital resources
- Minimising environmental impacts
- Leaving a long term positive legacy



The Dialogue promotes

Listening to and working in collaboration with the community to address concerns.

Providing a reliable source of information that builds trust between the mining industry and the community.

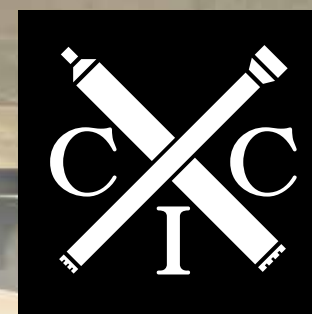
Coexistence with other industries.

Contribution to a healthy living environment and stronger community in the Upper Hunter.



Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue

If you are interested in helping make the Upper Hunter a better place for all please contact us by email at info@miningdialogue.com.au



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KIM NGUYEN HAS LEFT THE SECURITY OF A SUCCESSFUL CAREER WITH A MISSION. TO HELP OTHERS SUCCEED.

For more than two decades Kim has been working in the Valley in open cut mining. After completing an engineering degree in 2001, he's been on a successful career path that has seen him work across many Hunter mines in many roles, leading all the way up to Operations Manager.

In 2010, Kim gained his Mining Engineering Manager (MEM) qualification and experienced firsthand the arduous process it is. Later, he was invited to be an Examiner for MEM's and Open Cut Examiners (OCE) and then spent the next 9 years working with the Coal Competence Board

which provides the certification for OCE's and MEM's.

"Watching people come through, I realised that there was no real support for those gaining their OCE and MEM qualifications. There's not really any guidelines, it's all self-taught and the standards are very high," said Kim.

"These are important safety roles with high standards, but what I saw was that there wasn't much support to help people achieve those standards. It wasn't for lack of capability or trying that stopped people gaining their qualification, for many it was a lack of the right support."

Pass rates have been less than 50% for OCE's and MEM's since 2013. Kim believed this showed there was a real need for quality training relevant for OCE and MEM candidates wanting to obtain their qualification.

"THERE WAS NOTHING HERE IN THE HUNTER TO PROVIDE THAT TRAINING, YET WE ARE AT THE HEART OF MINING IN NSW. THAT'S WHEN THE IDEA BEGAN TO FORM THAT MAYBE I COULD DO SOMETHING TO CHANGE THAT."

But it was just an idea. Kim had a great job and with a young family to support striking out on his own was a risk he was not ready to take.

Then in late 2019 a string of personal tragedies occurred and became a catalyst for Kim, shifting his perspective to what was important to him. He realised that if he could help others succeed, then that's what he should be doing.

"I really reassessed what values mattered to me. My parents are Vietnamese emigrants who came to Australia escaping a war-torn country to make a life here. Gratitude was a value that they instilled in me and a part of that is giving back to others if you can."

"All through my career I gained immense satisfaction watching people achieve their goals. And I realised that by taking this chance I would be able to do that every single day."

Thus, in 2020, Core Mine Training was born. For people looking to obtain their OCE and MEM qualifications, Kim helps them with

guided programs and coaching and mentoring. With the recent changes to NSW legislation requiring OCE's and MEM's to gain maintenance hours to keep their qualifications, Kim is also there to see them through it.

"It's a complex scheme and there's little in the way of training to satisfy the hours but we can manage this entirely. We've also created an app that simplifies the entire process and allows the users to maintain their competence. It gives you piece of mind that you will be compliant, and we are there to guide you through every step."

Core Mine Training has also started up a partnership with Pegasus Training. Kim says they will completely revitalise the entire OCE certification process for both accredited and non-accredited training and there's some very exciting things ahead.

But one of Kim's proudest achievements so far is the hosting the first NSW's OCE forum here in Singleton in April. "I was blown away by the turn out we had, especially as we only had a few weeks lead in time. Because of that we are already planning our next forum in August and we are expecting it to be even bigger."

Kim said these forums are not just a great networking event for OCE's, MEM's and safety professionals, but it's a place where they can learn new skills in leadership, technology, legislation, and workplace culture. And above all, it's about creating a support system.

"When I first stepped into a leadership role, I asked my boss for additional coaching because I believe that while anyone can take on a leadership role, being good in that role requires the right training and support. I still receive coaching today and wouldn't be where I am without it."

"IT'S A CONSTANTLY CHANGING WORKFORCE SO AS LEADERS WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE TOO. THE WAY YOU TREAT PEOPLE MATTERS. BEING A MANAGER ISN'T ABOUT BEING ABOVE PEOPLE, IT'S ABOUT HELPING TO LIFT PEOPLE UP."

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Tell us about the business?

Valley Fasteners is a family owned, Australian born company originating in Rutherford. With three NSW branches the business has become a one stop shop specialising in meeting the supply needs of multiple industries. Each store has availability to more than 100,000 line items across a broad spectrum of categories including Safety and PPE, Abrasives and Cutting Tools, Welding and Materials Handling, Washroom, Paints, Lubricants, Power Transmission, Hand and Power Tools and of course Fasteners.

How long have you been doing business?

Established in 2006 we are currently celebrating our 15th year of operation in Rutherford, our 4th year in Muswellbrook and have almost reached our 1st year anniversary of the opening of our newest store in Gunnedah.

How many people work for the business?

Our team consists of 24 people across the 3 stores and management team, with a number of highly knowledgeable staff who have trade backgrounds and hands on experience in using many of the products we sell.

Describe a typical day at 'The office'.

Every day at Valley Fasteners is about meeting and exceeding our clients' needs.

Our sales and customer service teams field enquiries, quotes and process orders. The procurement teams constantly work with our suppliers to deliver quality, value and innovative products.

And our warehouse and vendor stocking teams ensure that the products are picked, packed and delivered to our clients in line with their lead times.

What's the best thing about the business?

The best thing about our

business is our team of people. They go over and above to achieve connections with customers, suppliers, colleagues and their communities.

What are the biggest challenges facing your business?

Supply chain resilience has been a challenge during the COVID period; however, it has also led to new and additional opportunities to work with local suppliers and supply chain networks. And enabled us to further develop our website to encompass an e-commerce shopping platform, giving customers the opportunity to shop out of business hours.

What is the biggest opportunity for your business right now?

Now having 3 stores in Rutherford, Muswellbrook and Gunnedah has given us the opportunity to further support a larger customer base with product lines that encompass an even wider variety of sectors.



We are also working with many clients to provide alternative and individually tailored solutions for storing and stocking their consumables. These include on-site vendor stocking maintenance, vending machines and complete portable site stores.

What is the business most proud of?

The Valley Fasteners commitment to building viable, sustainable businesses in regional communities. Encompassing job creation for local people and assimilating with local customers' needs is not only a core objective but also one of the things we are most proud of.

Community or other causes close to its heart and values?

Engaging and supporting community and charity is

extremely important to us. From sponsoring grass roots local sporting clubs, cooking a BBQ for community groups to participating in golf days for charities such as Westpac Rescue Helicopter and Rural Fire Brigade, we love to give back where we can. We have just jumped on board with Sponsorship of a team of Dungog High School students who are participating in "The Push Up Challenge" for "

Any employees that deserve a shout out?

As the old saying goes there is no I in team, so to single out any one person in our team would be unfair as they all bring their A game to work every day. Thankyou team for your continued effort, enthusiasm and dedication to making Valley Fasteners the successful business it is today.



Who are you and what do you do?

My name is Hannah Valerie Berthold and I'm a multi-skilled tradesperson working for Kings Engineering, a Bloomfield Group owned business.

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

I've worked in engineering for more than a decade and my first job was as an apprentice machinist.

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

When I was a kid, I always wanted to understand how

engines, tractors, motorbikes and cars worked but I thought I would be a certain type of tradesperson and only be certified in one trade and do that same job forever. But now I'm a multi-skilled tradesperson a Machinist / fitter to Plant mechanic and Cert 4 fluid power technician, which means I get to do everything from machining, hydraulic work and diagnosing on many types of equipment. Open cut to underground mining and tunneling equipment.

What's a usual day at work entail?

I work in both the workshop and on site. When I'm on

site we commence our pre-start, then our crew get a job scope with defect work to diagnose. That means getting stuck in to fixing a machine, doing it safe and right and getting it back to work with minimum down time. I'm always learning certain things from someone more senior than me while I have an apprentice with me I'm mentoring and supporting.

What's the best thing about your job?

Every day is different and I get to work with great men and women and also get to have a good laugh with my fellow workers. I learn something new every day.

The worst thing?

Worst thing would have to be dropping a tool in/on a machine and not hearing it hit the ground below, and you have to go and chase it up. But the most satisfying thing is hearing it hit the ground below. Haha

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

I had a severe accident in the second year of my apprenticeship. I was about to become third year and then basically had to learn everything again. I had a brain injury, but Kings supported me in a gradual return to work, that I'm

forever grateful for.

What has been your proudest achievement?

Finishing my apprenticeship after my accident. At times I thought I would never be able to work again let alone become a multi-skilled tradesperson.

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

I was the first female to become a tradesperson at my work. Also, no matter what, you can keep achieving and learning different things the entire time. Just because you get a trade doesn't mean the learning stops.

What do you do in your downtime?

Motorbike riding. I ride with my nephews and nieces. I also have my own lathe at home that I love machining on. I love going on adventures with my fiancé to see more of Australia.

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

Mining is important for every part of modern life, from your phone to your lights being on. We manage our impact on the environment while providing great jobs for people.



Aboriginal Community Development Fund

MACHEnergy Mount Pleasant Operation

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

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

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

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



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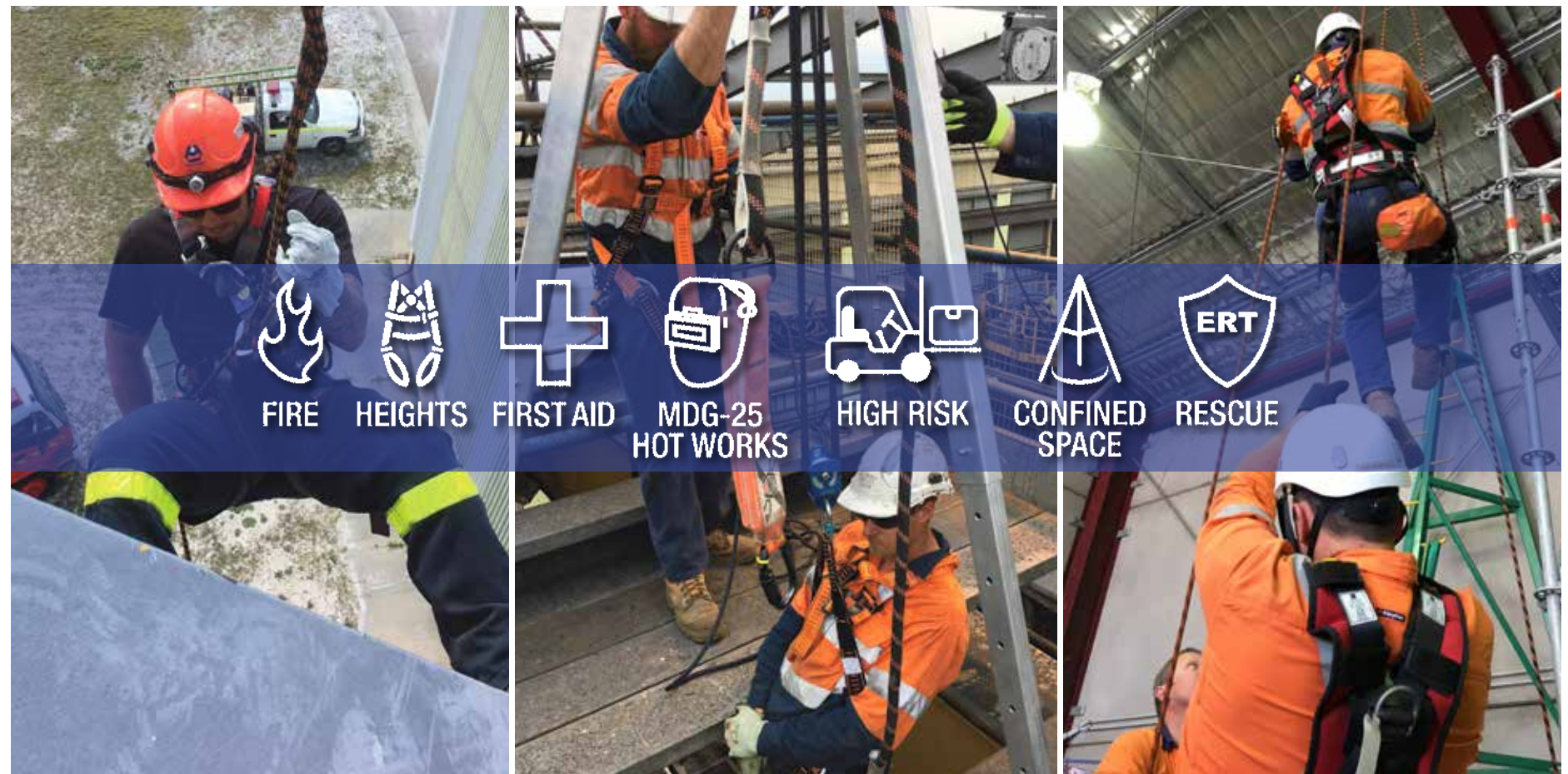
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With over 15 years in the training business, they understand what local sites require when it comes to your training needs with a range of safety courses available including:

- Confined Space
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- First Aid & CPR
- Manual Handling
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The Focus on Safety Head Office and Training Facility has been custom designed to provide effective, advanced training on site and with mobile training simulators, quality training can also be conducted at your place of work anywhere in Australia.

"We have specialised mobile training simulators to conduct not only quality training but to have consistency throughout our courses and not to interfere with your sites normal day to day operations - all at no extra charge!" said Scott Morante, CEO/Director at Focus On Safety.

By ensuring employees have undergone quality training, employers can be confident their workforce has the skills required to work safely, thus minimising accidents and downtime and improving productivity.

Focus on Safety can assist and advise individual enterprises on their training management systems through a formal all-inclusive process and can also develop and conduct specific training for the individual requirements of their clients. They also provide expert consultancy services, utilising a range of tools developed specifically for assessing tasks and controls. If you need a custom-made training solution for your organisation, Focus On Safety can make it happen.

As a Registered Training Organisation (RTO No: 40469), Focus on Safety provides Nationally Accredited and non-Accredited Training, along with highly qualified trainers known for their exceptional attention to detail as well as their diverse knowledge and experience. This allows the team to provide the best possible training of the highest quality.

Focus on Safety are a registered Covid Safe business with the NSW Government and continues to focus on being proactive in supporting their students, staff and visitors during these unprecedented times.



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Tom's tyrant boss called him in and said, "Tom, you have been complaining that the company doesn't do enough when it comes to safety. What would you like to see us do?"

Afraid, but seeing his chance, Tom squared his shoulders and said, "Sir, I think we should have two paid days of safety training every month, brand new ergonomic office furniture, and a fully stocked organic dining room with a health and fitness coach at our disposal."

Without blinking an eye, Tom's boss said, "Tom, what would you say if I gave you everything you just asked for and threw in a 20 thousand dollar bonus for coming up with the idea?"

Tom gasped. "Are you joking?" he asked. "Of course," said his boss, "Aren't you?"

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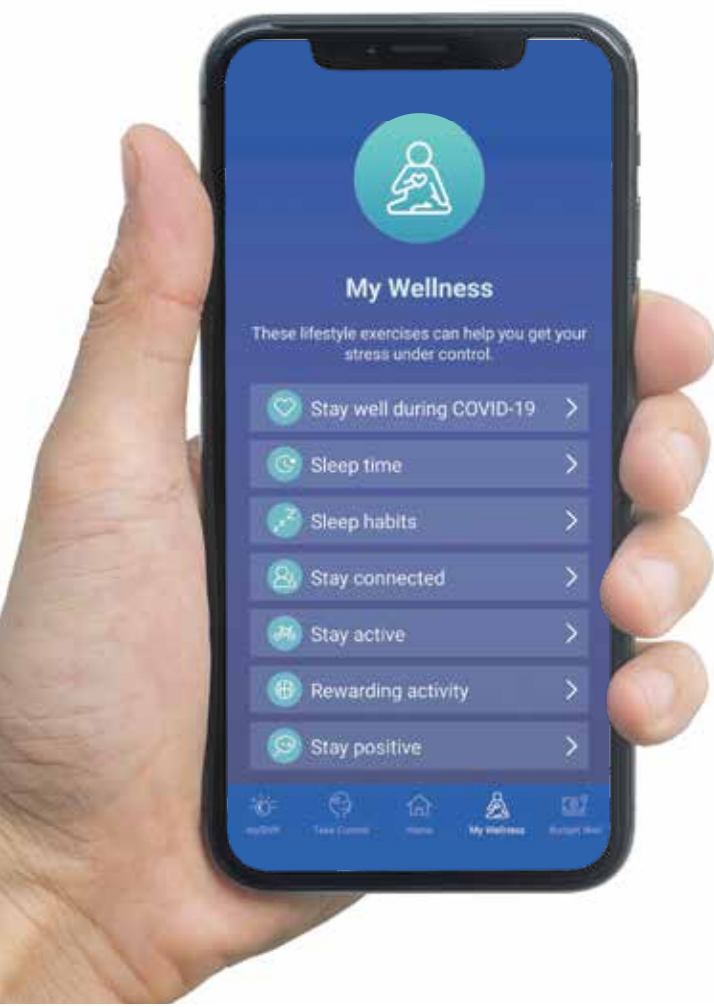
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MINERALS COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND UTILITY CREATIVE LAUNCH AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PREVENTATIVE MENTAL HEALTH MOBILE APP, MINEWELL



IF YOU WORK IN MINING AND FEEL THAT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH IS UNDER STRAIN BECAUSE OF STRESS, HELP IS NOW AT HAND – OR IN YOUR POCKET – WITH MINEWELL.

Developed by miners for miners, MineWell is a preventative mental health and wellbeing app developed by the MCA and Utility Creative to provide prevention, intervention and education in mental health and wellbeing for Australian mining workers and their families.

Mining is no different to the general community in the prevalence of mental health challenges. The MineWell app – developed by the Minerals Council of Australia and Utility Creative and launched nationally this month – is a great step forward in making help available to mining workers and their families who may be going through a tough time because of long hours, separation, isolation or financial stress.

In particular, many fly in fly out (FIFO) workers have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in longer shifts and more time away from family and friends.

While talking with your mates and family is always important – along with services like MATES in Mining – MineWell is designed to help workers (especially shift workers) reduce stress and build better mental health and resilience through breathing, better sleep, exercise, financial planning and social connection.

The app includes features such as personalised scheduling for shift workers to promote better sleep and alertness whilst on shift, advice and exercises for improving sleep quality, staying active and positive and staying well during the COVID-19 pandemic and tools to take control through breathing, taking a reality check, managing emotions and releasing tension.

For people who might have missed the odd

important date while on shift and been in the doghouse as a result, it also includes a social connection tool to schedule anniversaries, birthdays, catch-ups with family and friends and other important events.

Financial worries are covered as well, with the app's Budget Well feature to set a target budget, savings goals and help track progress to reduce stress and anxiety relating to financial management.

It's all about better everyday physical and mental health.

The MCA was lucky to secure Renata Roberts from Bloomfield, a champion for better mental health and Exceptional Woman in Australian Resources, to do the introductory video for the app.

'When I heard about MineWell, I was very happy to be able to support promotion of this important tool,' Renata says.

'This is an app developed by miners, for miners, and a quick and simple onboarding process allows you to tailor the app to support your area of work within the mining industry.'

Mental health is central to health and safety, building on the Australian mining sector's world leadership in workplace health and safety, and the MCA and its partners have worked over many years to build industry understanding and capacity including through the Blueprint for Mental Health and Wellbeing industry guide.

Mental health problems can have an adverse impact on mining workers, their families and industry productivity.

All personal information provided by app users remains private, is only stored on their device and cannot be accessed, viewed or gathered by others.

MineWell is available free to all mine workers and their families through the Apple App Store (for iPhones) and Google Play (for Android phones).

A.I.R RECRUITMENT DEVELOP PROGRESSIVE TRAINING WORKBOOK FOR SALES PROFESSIONALS

SUZIE NINEVSKI, DIRECTOR OF A.I.R RECRUITMENT AND SUCCESSFUL SALES PROFESSIONAL, HAS SEEN FIRST-HAND THE IMPORTANCE OF SALESPeOPLE AND THE INTEGRAL ROLE THEY PLAY WITHIN EVERY BUSINESS. BUT THAT SUCCESS IS ONLY POSSIBLE WITH THE RIGHT, INCLUSIVE, TAILORED TRAINING AND GUIDANCE.

"Throughout my sales career and as a recruiter, I've seen sales recruits left in the lurch with little to no induction training

and just a blank note pad and pen with the message of "go sell", said Suzie. "These are often sales superstars who just need to reach their potential."

This led to the development of A.I.R Recruitment's induction training workbook for sales professionals, 'Sales Success Strategy'.

The Sales Success Strategy training is a guide to assist new recruits to thoroughly:

- Understand your organisation, your products, your services, pricing and delivery to market
- Understand your product and service key differentiators
- Understand your competitors and their strengths, weaknesses and threats with how to pitch against specific

competitors, overcome objections and identify where your strengths sit in the market landscape

- Determine and develop target markets and key opportunities
- Identify long and short-term opportunities
- Develop strategic plans for key accounts

The Sales Success Strategy is a perfect example of A.I.R Recruitment's drive to connect quality candidates to quality organisations. Established training and support are provided to ensure candidates are set up for success, sequentially attracting and retaining quality candidates for the employer.



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Developed by miners, for miners

If you work in mining and feel that your mental health is under strain because of stress, help is now at hand – or in your pocket!

Minewell

Available now for download

MineWell is a preventative mental health and wellbeing app developed by the Minerals Council of Australia to provide prevention, intervention and education in mental health and wellbeing for Australian mining workers and their families.



**NEWCASTLE SAFETY SERVICING
ARE YOUR LEADING EXPERTS
IN BREATHING APPARATUS
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AS ONE OF THE LEADING SUPPLIERS AND SERVICERS OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT IN NSW, NEWCASTLE SAFETY SERVICING ARE THE MANUFACTURER, INSTALLER AND SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE MINE VEHICLE BREATHING APPARATUS (MVBA) SYSTEM.

The Mine Vehicle Breathing Apparatus is a breathing apparatus designed for heavy mobile plant such as coal stockpile dozers where vehicle engulfment is a major operational hazard.

Made to protect the operator, Newcastle Safety Servicing understand the gravity of the MVBA Systems function and the importance of regular servicing and maintenance. As well as designing and manufacturing the MVBA, Newcastle Safety Servicing also meticulously install and service

the system, giving your business peace of mind that your CHPP operators are working under the safest conditions.

While self-contained breathing apparatus equipment is notoriously low maintenance and designed for long service life, regular inspection and breathing apparatus servicing are crucial to ensure workers are provided with optimally working safety equipment.

Originally developed for equipment operating in irrespirable atmospheres such as waste handling where the risk of gases, fumes and even spontaneous combustion was ever present, the MVBA system was introduced to stockpile dozers in the Hunter Valley in 2008 as a vehicle mounted supplied breathing

air unit for use in the event of dozer engulfment.

Designed in accordance with AS1715:2009 Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Equipment, and functioning under the same concept as Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) used in firefighting or confined space entry, the MVBA system negates the requirement for compressed air cylinders to be stored inside



vehicle cabins and provides up to 7 hours of respirable air in the event of engulfment. The MVBA system is offered as an alternative to Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) under MDG 28: Safety Requirements for Coal Stockpiles.

As a standalone positive pressure system, functionality is solely mechanical not relying on any machine or electrical function for operation.

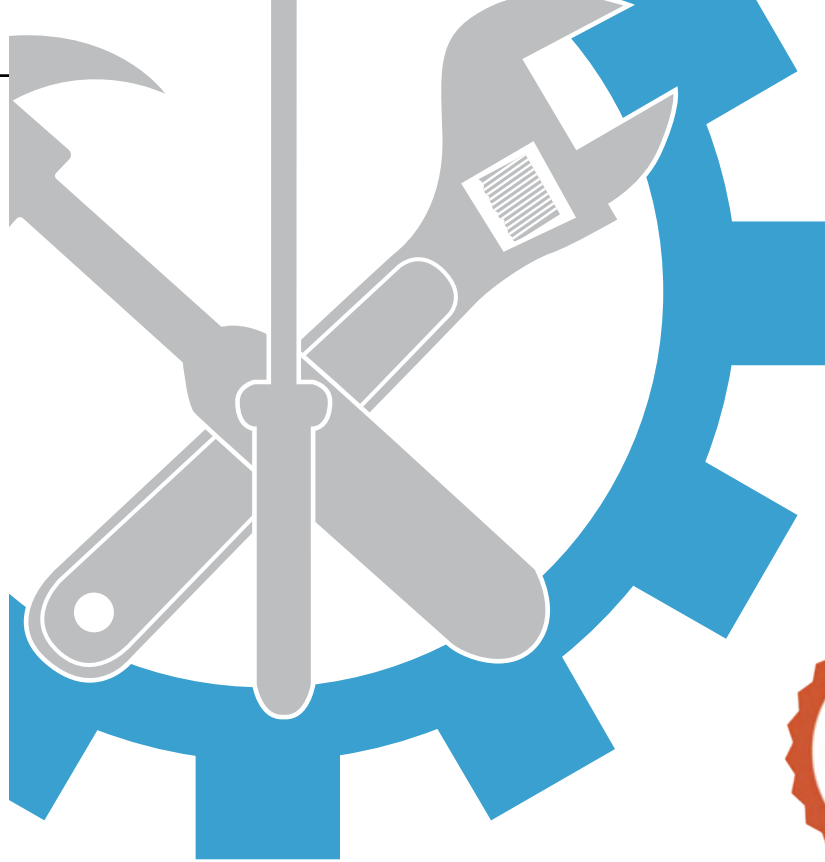
The pod contains a 350 bar 50L compressed air cylinder that feeds air into the cabin panel. Gauges on the panel monitor high and intermediate pressures from the pod to the panel and from the panel to the mask/lung demand valve (LDV) respectively. A reducer is present in the panel to lower the

supply pressure to 7 bar for the mask to function. The MVBA system will allow air to flow only when the mask/LDV line is connected to the panel. Once the mask is fitted through connection of the LDV into the panel, the operator can breathe normally, and respirable air will be delivered as required.

Installed on over 50 vehicles in operation across NSW and QLD, the MVBA can be fitted to Caterpillar, Komatsu and Liebherr dozers and is capable of utilization with MSA, Dräger and Scott masks. Currently up to version 2.5, Newcastle Safety Servicing has refined the product with each iteration of the MVBA system featuring upgrades for safety, reliability and maintainability.

As the manufacturer, Newcastle Safety Servicing can offer fixed price MVBA system servicing with accredited Service Technicians working under your maintenance schedule to minimise downtime to keep your MVBA system functioning and compliant. Should the need arise, our fleet of fully equipped service vehicles enable our technicians to attend site, assess and repair systems with minimal disruption to your operation.

NOT CURRENTLY USING NEWCASTLE SAFETY SERVICING FOR YOUR MVBA? CALL (02) 4960 1372 TO BOOK YOUR MVBA SYSTEM IN FOR A 'HEALTH CHECK' TODAY.



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- Heights Safety Equipment
- Anchor Points & Lifelines

+ Mine Vehicle Breathing Apparatus (MVBA)

SAFETY MATE TAKE ACTION ON MENTAL HEALTH IN MINING

DID YOU KNOW THAT 20% OF AUSTRALIANS WILL EXPERIENCE SYMPTOMS OF MENTAL ILLNESS EACH YEAR?

Safety Mate recognises the magnitude of the issues of mental health in the mining industry, so they're reaching beyond their customers' physical safety to support their mental safety too.

In support of Black Dog Institute, Safety Mate has launched the new Black Dog Safety Glove to send some much needed funds their way. Black Dog Institute is a not-for-profit organisation advocating for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental health illnesses. It is dedicated to researching mental health for all ages, and supplies programs, tools, information and services backed up by rigorous experiential research.

The Black Dog Safety Glove is a super lightweight Cut level D glove that offers consistently high quality, excellent cut resistance and touchscreen compatibility.

For every pair of signature new Black Dog Safety Gloves sold, Safety Mate will donate \$1 to the Black Dog Institute so they can continue their important work.

It's a safety glove that supports workers on and off the tools.

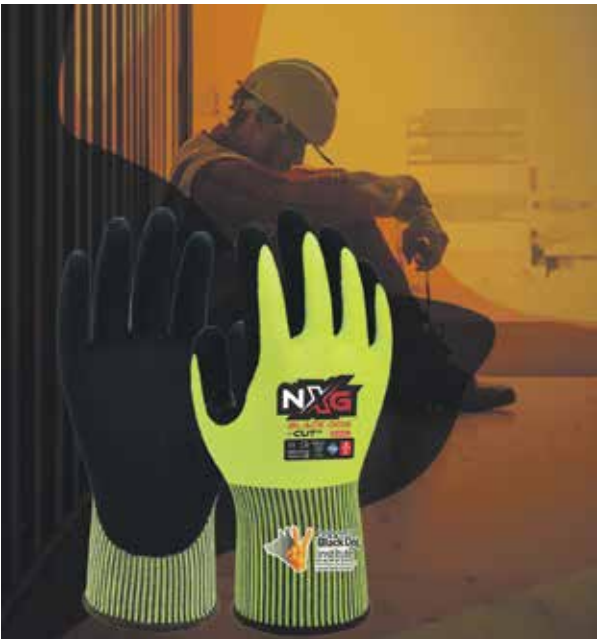
Choose the Black Dog Safety Glove for your next order of cut resistant gloves and know that you're making a difference by supporting mental health initiatives in your community.

Safety Mate do more than sell gloves – their industry experts work with you to give you exactly what you need for your hand protection.

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PHONE: (07) 5582 6400

WEBSITE: WWW.SAFETYMATE.COM.AU



TAKING ACTION ON MENTAL HEALTH IN MINING

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HAPPY GARDENING

GLENORE'S MANGOOLA AND LIDDELL OPERATIONS HAVE PURCHASED 25 NEW GARDEN BEDS FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY HUB AND COMMUNITY GARDEN IN MUSWELLBROOK, SPROUTING JOY FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS.



Working with the Hunter Sustainable Landcare team, the garden beds among other donations, were purchased and donated as part of Mangoola and Liddell's Community Investment Program. Along with funding the new beds, Liddell and Mangoola organised a working bee with their Maintenance Apprentices to help install them. Teams met at the garden bright and early on April 30, 2021 to help remove the older damaged garden beds and replace them with the new beds, along with new soil.

It was a much needed upgrade to the garden with the older garden beds rotting and suffering from termite damage, being of timber construction. They were also quite low making it difficult for older people or people with disabilities to access.

"IT'S BLOODY AWESOME WHAT MANGOOLA AND LIDDELL HAVE DONE FOR US," SAID ROSS PAHURU, COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR OF THE HUNTER SUSTAINABILITY LANDCARE TEAM.

"We put in a grant to buy the beds, and we were we stoked when we got it, and then they offered to put them in!"

"It's a big thank you from us," said Ross

as he cooked up a BBQ on the day for the hardworking team.

Local clubs meet regularly at the Sustainability Hub to tend to a flourishing garden of herbs, vegetables, fruits and native species. The space has been set up to promote sustainability amongst its community members, with a range of green practices taking place.

Checking out the progress on the day, we had a chat to Annemieke Grosser, Environment and Community Officer at Mangoola Open Cut, who was happy to have her hands in the soil for a great cause.

"It's fantastic to be able to get out here and work with the local community to improve such a great community space."

"There are about 18 people here today making it all happen, with Troy Greedy, Maintenance Superintendent at Mangoola coordinating the apprentices."

The garden has since seen many locals and volunteers take advantage of the new and improved garden beds and come together to tend to the plants and flowers flourishing inside.

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KURRI KURRI MEN'S SHED

THIS MONTH THE COMPLETE PARTS AND @ THE COALFACE \$500 COMMUNITY GIFT GOES TO THE KURRI KURRI MEN'S SHED, IN RECOGNITION OF EVERYTHING THEY DO FOR THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY.

The Kurri Kurri Men's Shed has been around for years giving their members the opportunity to pursue hobbies, pastimes and interests, learn new skills, practice and pass on old skills, learn about their own and others health and wellbeing, mentor the young, and by their efforts contribute to their families, their friends, the shed and most importantly their community.

After chatting with local member and Treasurer, Col James, we realised they do more for the community than most would even be aware of.

Kurri Kurri Men's Shed have helped rebuild and repair a boat at Stanford Merthyr Infants School so that it is safe for the children to play on.

"Pelaw Main is another school we have done lots of work for, rebuilding the outdoor reading area for the kids and revamping a large playing fort with rails and ramps for wheelchair access," said Col proudly.

At Abermain Catholic the team built a pergola for the students and made cut outs for their Christmas concert. They recreated a World War 1 honour roll to replace one that had gone missing at Kurri Kurri Public School, which lists 153 former students who had served in the war. For Mulbring Public School,



MEMBERS OF THE KURRI KURRI MEN'S SHED & THE WORLD WAR 1 HONOUR ROLL THEY BUILT FOR KURRI KURRI PUBLIC SCHOOL.

they rebuilt outdoor equipment, tables and chairs. Kurri Kurri Men's Shed members have repaired tables and chairs for the local church, built fences for local community members and honestly, we don't have enough room in the entire magazine to list everything they have done for the community around them.

TO PUT IT SIMPLY, AT ALMOST EVERY TURN IN THE KURRI KURRI AREA AND SURROUNDS, THE MEMBERS OF THE KURRI KURRI MEN'S SHED HAVE BEEN THERE TO PROVIDE A HELPING HAND.

Welcoming members young and old, the Kurri Kurri Men's Shed started out with around 50-60 members, but over time have lost members due to passing's and other unforeseen events. Now standing strong around 30 members, the team are hoping to get numbers back up and move into a larger shed to house their equipment and

tools and have enough room for all members to move around safely.

"We accept everyone, and we are in the community for people in the community," said Col.

"The dream is to move onto land on a 99 year lease that we have control of, to build a new shed and continue to increase the work we do for the community."

Col said they are still struggling to fundraise due to Covid and its restrictions but are doing their best to get by.

"We appreciate any donation, whether it be funds for new equipment or left-over wood for us to put towards our projects."

The Kurri Kurri Men's Shed is a great community environment, where you'll find good old fashioned mateship and a group of men who are extremely passionate about their community.

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OUR TURN TO HELP

DR ROB BARTOLACCI

THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE HAS LAUNCHED ITS ANNUAL END OF FINANCIAL YEAR APPEAL AND WE URGE YOU TO DO YOUR PART TO KEEP THIS VITAL SERVICE IN THE AIR.

Every year the Service helps countless people across Northern NSW. No-one understands this more than NSW Health Doctor Rob Bartolacci. Dr Rob is a member of the onboard Helicopter Critical Care Medical Team and every time they head out on another call, he experiences firsthand the vital role the Service plays in saving lives.

"It's hard to imagine a person that hasn't been touched directly or indirectly by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter," Dr Rob said. "The outcome for our patients is our primary goal. We take their best chances of survival to them, and without this their outcomes would be significantly different."

"WE HAVE THE WORLD'S MOST TECHNICALLY ADVANCED AEROMEDICAL AIRCRAFT, THAT'S BASICALLY A MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT. WE CAN GIVE AN ANAESTHETIC, PROVIDE PAIN RELIEF OR A LIFESAVING BLOOD TRANSFUSION. WE CAN SUPPORT SOMEONE'S BREATHING, SUPPORT THEIR HEART...WE CAN EVEN RE-START THEIR HEART. ALL THIS HAPPENS IN MAJOR HOSPITALS EVERY DAY. THE DIFFERENCE IS, WE DO IT IN THE AIR," DR ROB CONCLUDED.

In the first 4 months of 2021 the Service's three bases at Newcastle, Tamworth and Lismore have flown over 500 missions and on average, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter flies over 1500 missions a year, including responding to emergency Triple Zero (000) calls, inter hospital transfers and search and rescue. Every day the Service is proud to deliver the very best in aeromedical support for those in need 24-7.

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service CEO Richard Jones OAM said they hoped by sharing Dr Rob's insight into the lifesaving capabilities of the aircraft and its Medical Team it would show the broader community

how the Service is there for everyone who needs it.

"We are there to serve the community, but now we are seeking the support of the community to once again to help us to raise the vital funds needed to keep the Service flying across Northern NSW," said Jones.

"Each year the community is so generous in support and I hope that thanks to Dr Rob they can see where this support goes and the potential every donation, large or small, has to change people's lives. This truly is a community run service and every year we see that a little from many goes a long way and we are ever so grateful for the continued support."

"We are mindful however that across Northern NSW, having endured COVID, drought, bushfires and most recently the flooding on the Mid North Coast, donation support may be difficult for many. We are all in this together and we hope our Appeal reaches out to everyone, with those who are able, taking the opportunity to make their support count. We are very conscious that not everyone is in a position to donate but we will be very grateful to those that can," Jones concluded.

THE COMMUNITY CAN MAKE DONATIONS TO THE SERVICE'S APPEAL AT [RESCUEHELICOPTER.COM.AU/APPEAL](https://rescuehelicopter.com.au/appeal) OR BY FREECALL 1800 155 155.

CRUISE FOR A CAUSE

MANGOOLA COAL WELCOMED AN ENTOURAGE OF MOTOR VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS ON MAY 28 FOR THE OFFICIAL START OF THE HIREEXPRESS 2021 BEYOND BITUMEN RALLY, PROUDLY SUPPORTING BEYOND BLUE.



TROY GREEDY, WORKSHOP SUPERVISOR AT MANGOOLA COAL AND HIS RALLY CAR - CAR 82 THE THIRSTY MERC

Over 100 participants started their 4 day adventure from Glencore's Mangoola Coal Mine near Muswellbrook on Friday May 28, including Mangoola Coal's own Maintenance Superintendent Troy Greedy, Workshop Supervisor Mark Yarrington and Reliability Engineer Tom Waddington in Car 82 the Thirsty Merc.

The Rally saw competitors travel 1300kms through the scenic Upper Hunter, New England and Mid-North Coast regions to raise funds and awareness of sufferers of depression and anxiety.

With stops including Muswellbrook, Aberdeen, Ellerston, Nundle, Tamworth, Manilla, Barraba, Bundarra, Armidale, Wollomombi, Bellbrook, Kempsey, Crescent Head, Port Macquarie, Harrington, Wingham and Forster, it was a jam packed few days on the road, but spirits were high with everyone having a lot of fun along the way.

The message this year was particularly poignant as we continue to live through the effects of Covid, and now, flooding which has impacted several of the towns the rally passed through.

"Beyond Blue is such a worthwhile organisation which over the past few years has helped people get through bush fires, floods and then of course the dreaded COVID 19," said Troy.

"SUICIDE IS SUCH A BIG THING IN SOCIETY AND OUR INDUSTRY, AND I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BETTER THAN TO GET INVOLVED AND HELP WHILE ENJOYING OURSELVES ALONG THE WAY.

"Beyond Bitumen is the biggest fundraising event now for Beyond Blue nationally."

As well as bringing colour and activity to town, the Rally brought much needed funds along the way to the local communities. Event Director, Peter Fehon, estimated that the Rally participants spent up to \$40,000 per night in each of the towns that hosted the overnight stops.

Around \$300,000 was raised from the massive efforts of this year's rally. Since the event commenced in 2015, the total funds raised have already exceeded \$1,600,000.

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BEST UNDER PRESSURE

A 90-year old man said to his doctor, "I've never felt better... I have an 18-year old bride who is pregnant with my child. What do you think of that?"

The doctor replied, "I have an elderly friend who is a hunter and never misses a season. One day he was in a hurry and picked up his umbrella instead of his gun by mistake. When he got to the creek, he saw a beaver. He raised his umbrella and went "bang, bang, bang", and the beaver fell dead. What do you think of that?"

The 90-year old said, "I'd say somebody else shot the beaver."

The doctor said, "My point exactly".

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MIKE WOODARD



RON BENDEICH



MATT JANSSEN

COAL MINERS CARE

Ourcare Services has been active in the Singleton Community for over 2 decades and the services they provide for our elderly and disabled community members are invaluable. But to do this they rely on the volunteers.

Fortunately, there is no shortage of retired coal miners helping Ourcare to deliver their much-needed services such as social support outings and meal deliveries.

Michael Woodard spent 35 years in mining starting in Central Queensland before moving to Singleton as a mining engineer in 1982. Michael wanted to give something back to the local community so he became a volunteer in 2013 and encourages others to volunteer.

Matt Janssen, spent 35 years in the

mining industry, with the last 20 years as a shotfirer at Lemington Mine. He started volunteering with Ourcare Services in 2014 and says the best part is meeting with clients and catching up with everyone he knows.

Ron Bendeich, started in underground mining at Liddell Colliery in 1970 and his extensive career included 22 years as a shot firer. He says it's great meeting new people and hearing their interesting stories. He encourages retired miners to volunteer as it's rewarding helping others and maybe one day you might need the help returned.

Ourcare Services welcomes retired or semi-retired coal miners coming on as volunteers and reaping the rewards of getting to know our community. Drop by the office or give them a call on 65712300.

HANDYMAN'S HEAVEN

Check out the latest tools, pick up those bits and pieces for your latest DIY project, or just grab a coffee after dumping the kids in the play area.

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If you’ve recently watched Netflix’s new film The Woman in the Window, then you’ll know how much Actress Amy Adams’ character would have loved a pair of these beauties. I wouldn’t suggest taking a leaf out of her book and spying on your neighbours, but these binoculars are ideal for sightseeing with their ability to take crisp, clear detailed photos along the way. And with a rechargeable battery providing a solid 2 hours of continuous use, you’ll be able to catch every moment.



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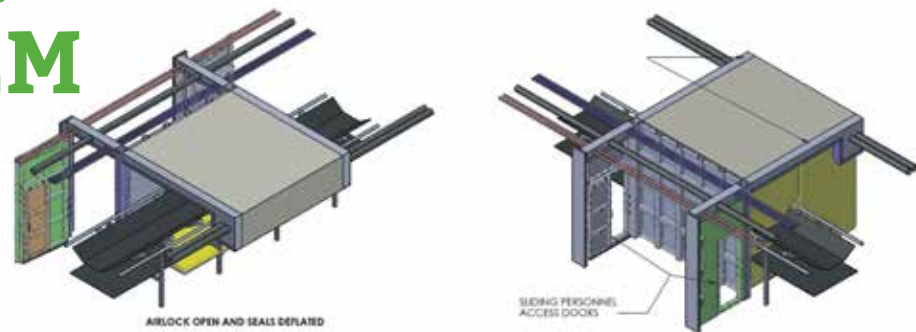
Atlas Copco has introduced ZBC, the latest model in its lithium-ion energy storage system range, called ZenergiZe. It can be used as a standalone source, combined with generators to make a hybrid power solution or renewable sources of energy as well as to create Microgrids. The new ZenergiZe is the ideal solution for demanding applications, like a mine site, that require a constant and significant flow of electrical energy. The use of high density lithium ion batteries means that they are 70 percent smaller and lighter in weight than other battery technologies. Atlas Copco's energy storage systems are an ideal way to meet operating and safety restrictions in the noise sensitive environments of our coal mines.

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THE CHARGE TOWARD DECARBONISATION

THE MINING SECTOR HAS LONG BEEN AN INNOVATOR IN THE USE OF ELECTRIC POWERED MACHINERY. GOING AS FAR BACK AS THE INTRODUCTION OF POWER STRIPPING SHOVELS AND DRAGLINES IN THE 1910S, AND TROLLEY TRUCKS IN THE 1930S, THE USE OF ELECTRICITY AS AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE OF PROPULSION HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD.

In recent decades, this has seen the evolution of DC systems to AC and the introduction of hybrid machines incorporating diesel and electric technology combined with energy storage systems such as capacitors. These developments have seen a range of OEM's launch mass-produced hybrid machines, with Hitachi and Komatsu the first to introduce a wheel loader and excavator, respectively.

With hybrid technology increasingly

coming to the fore, there is a critical focus to expand upon the technologies underpinning these systems, including the fuels and drivers integral to their operation. This attempt to 'dig deeper' increases the scope of the opportunity/challenge with considerations extending beyond the machine itself, to include more efficient charging/refuelling solutions, longer run times, better power and lower emissions as some of the top priorities.

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As a result, numerous partnerships between industry, OEMs, battery and fuel cell manufacturers and government agencies are increasingly arising to expand these technologies.

Focused on decarbonising the sector and finding sustainable methods of powering "energy-hungry" machinery poses many interesting challenges. How do you charge a 400-tonne electric haul truck? What would be the impact of "closed systems" that require OEM specific charging/fuelling infrastructure? How do sites transition to new technology while still maximising the lifespan of the existing fleet and, in the absence of fast charging/refuelling turnaround times, how do companies maintain appropriate utilisation levels without the impact of significant machine downtime?

Last month, a consortium lead by BHP, Rio Tinto and Vale launched the Charge On Innovation Challenge to address these very questions. With a focus on developing effective solutions for mine electrification and decarbonisation, the Challenge seeks to develop solutions that can deliver in the order of 400kWh of electricity to each truck within a haul cycle (i.e. load, travel, dump, return, queue).

Not an easy task, given stationery charging solutions, are not within the scope of this Challenge. Open to vendors globally, the initiative asks participants to present interoperable solutions that can safely deliver electricity to large battery-electric off-road haul trucks in a way that maintains or improves current productivity levels.

COMPONENTS ONLY

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BEST UNDER PRESSURE

I've been thinking about taking up meditation. I figure it's better than sitting around doing nothing.

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MARK WINTERBOTTOM VISITS MANGOOLA

Glencore's Mangoola Open Cut operation was buzzing with excitement on April 28, with Supercar Champion Mark 'Frosty' Winterbottom, among other fast and furious visitors, stopping by for a chat with site employees.

Glencore's Mangoola Open Cut operation welcomed famed supercar driver Mark Winterbottom to site on April 28, with employees given the opportunity to have a chat with Frosty himself, grab a few on the job tips and hear a bit about his career. Fuchs lubricants, one of Glencore's long-term suppliers and a major sponsor of TEAM 18 Racing, were excited to bring Frosty along for his first ever visit to a coal mine. "Fuchs has been supplying lubricants and services to Glencore managed operations for more than three decades," Fuchs General Manager Mining, Rob Fryer, said.

"We have been supplying the Mangoola operations since the mine was first commissioned." "As part of our strong relationship, we were keen to get Frosty out to site to see the Mangoola team in action and to demonstrate our ongoing support for the operation." With a Bathurst win, championship win and 100 podiums to his name, Frosty has become one of the leading Supercar drivers in the last 15 years. "When I heard that I had a number of fans at Mangoola, I had no problems squeezing in a site visit before my next race," Frosty said. While on site, Frosty spoke with employees about the challenges and highlights of his career as well as the importance of staying focused. @ THE COALFACE GOT SIT DOWN WITH FROSTY AFTERWARDS TO CHAT A BIT FURTHER ABOUT STAYING FOCUSED BOTH IN MOTORSPORTS AND MINING. "I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE THE BEST THING YOU CAN DO IS BE PREPARED," SAID MARK. "For us making a mistake could mean crashing a car while you're



FROSTY & THE FUCHS TEAM

in there, whereas on a mine site it has even more consequence because a mistake can have a big flow on affect with injury and even worse if it happens. "If you're qualified to do what you need to do, you don't get distracted, and you stay focused, you'll head home at the end of the day safe, happy and healthy." Mangoola Operations Manager, Nick Slater, said there were many similarities between the motorsports industry and mining sector. "Both industries operate powerful machinery so it's important to have the right skills, safety protocols and equipment to get the job done," he said. Mr. Slater was also keen for

Mangoola employees to share their expertise with Frosty and his team, inviting him them to take his first ever ride in the huge dump trucks that their miners drive every day on the job. "I LOVE GOING TO DIFFERENT PLACES AND SEEING PEOPLE DO THEIR JOB BECAUSE IN LIFE YOU CAN ALWAYS LEARN SOMETHING," SAID FROSTY. "EVERY TIME YOU SEE SOMEONE DIFFERENT IN A DIFFERENT ROLE YOU LEARN SOMETHING." Frosty and his team were absolute legends on the day, signing posters they gave out, chatting one on one with some of the fans on site and taking on learnings from our Hunter Valley miners. Good luck in your next race Frosty!

WINTER ON THE WATER



YOU KNOW A TRIP TO COPETON CHASING COD TRUMPS ALL WHEN THE MARLIN FISHING LEGEND HIMSELF LEAVES THEM ON THE COAST TO HEAD WEST.

CAMPFIRE AND WATER VIEWS, WHAT BETTER WAY TO SPEND TIME AWAY FROM THE DAILY GRIND DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.

Well it's hard to believe but we are still seeing the current push south with Marlin still in the mix. Talk about drag the chain as it's what's holding to the south of the current we are now interested in and that's the Yellow and Blue Fin Tuna. We were almost treated to our first sniff with the current backing off enough for the temp break to become fishable for us on the mid North Coast, although it has since been pushed south for the time being. But watch this space it will be back. Closer to shore things are red hot especially if the target is Snapper, Kings and Trag from the reefs. Kingfish are chewing on live and stick baits right along the coast. It's been so good to see these fish bounce back year after year! Snapper are really thickening up as the water starts to cool over the inshore reefs.

ESTUARIES AND LAKES The Mullet have bailed and now it's time for the Bream and Blackfish to begin their Winter spawning run along the coast so dust off the Blackfish and Bream gear. Whether it's soaking a few baits, throwing a few lures for the Bream or waiting eagerly for a down while chasing Blackfish. Squid will also be active this month as it's the best time to target the Calamari Squid. BEACHES AND ROCKS This month from the rocks we sure have plenty to target. Squid will be in great numbers around the sheltered rocky bays. Pelagics will be working their way back up north so still well worth a shot along the mid to north coasts.

Salmon and Tailor will be moving through, spinning a few metals or slow rolling pillies will bring a few of these undone. Tight into the structure we will see the Bream, Blackfish and Drummer start to hold around the rocks in good numbers for the Winter as well. FRESH WATER We are back on in the western rivers and it's really good to see the fishery is still in some sort of condition after the relentless droughts and the Cod and Yellow Belly have been fishing well. If you're a little crazy, don't mind a challenge and are not afraid of freezing, then now is the time for the brave and the extremely patient humans to hit the western dams on the hunt for the elusive Murray Cod. Keep floatin' - Thrifty's





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RELEASE YOUR Rage

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN SO ANGRY OR FRUSTRATED THAT YOU FELT LIKE GRABBING A BASEBALL BAT AND SMASHING EVERYTHING IN SIGHT? WELL, YOU'RE SURE GOING TO LOVE THE ACTIVITY WE DID THIS MONTH.

Sutton Estate is a lovely property in the Hunter Valley offering some of the most unique, exciting activities in the region. Their selection of creative entertainment is something that draws people in far and wide to experience, and their latest addition has taken it one thrilling step further – introducing the Smash Room.

IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT A SMASH ROOM IS, IT'S EXACTLY AS IT SOUNDS. ALSO KNOWN AS A RAGE ROOM OR ANGER ROOM, IT'S A ROOM DESIGNED TO VENT ANGER OR FRUSTRATION BY DESTROYING, SMASHING AND THROWING ITEMS IN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WAYS. SOUNDS AMAZING RIGHT?

Well trust me it is. My roommate Lisa tagged along for the ride, and we were buzzing with excitement and nerves as we arrived. We weren't sure what to expect as we walked

through the front doors. The lovely Phillippa Sutton, Owner and host of the Sutton Estate Smash Room, welcomed us at the door, putting our mind at ease with thorough instructions, loads of safety gear and an induction to get us ready for what was in store.

Walking through the entrance and into the seating area you're greeted with stunning eclectic décor, a comfortable vibe with some great tunes playing, a long wall neatly packed with all the safety gear you can imagine and a front row view of the glorious Smash Rooms. Every detail of this new venture has been thoughtfully accounted for, from the rooms design to the extra items you can write your ex's name on to break later if you wish, to the themed tunes to get you smash ready. Once we were suited up, it was batter

up. Stepping into the Smash room first, I picked my weapon of choice, a Harley Quinn style baseball bat, from the selection of bats and hammers on the wall, placed my first wine bottle on the barrel and with a hard swing I sent the wine bottle flying towards the brick wall. For some reason, my housemate and I's first instinct was to not use our full force as we swung, but I soon snapped out of that.

Bottle after bottle I was swinging for my life smashing and crashing them against the wall. At one point I even noticed myself gritting my teeth, I

was very into it. Maybe I had a little more anger to release than I thought.

THE FEELING IS EUPHORIC AND POWERFUL AND SO BLOODY FUN. AFTERWARDS I WALKED OUT OF THE ROOM LIKE ROCKY BALBOA STEPPING OUT OF THE RING AFTER A WIN. LISA STEPPED OUT OF HER ROOM WITH A DWAYNE JOHNSON STYLE GRIN, READY TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD.

We can tell you that smashing stuff is definitely all it's cracked up to be, and Sutton Estate in the Hunter Valley is the place to do it.



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EAT & ESCAPE

THE ESCA RESTAURANT IS THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, COMBINING THE EXQUISITE VIEWS AND SERENITY OF OUR REGION WITH SENSATIONAL BIMBADGEN WINES AND FOOD.

The unbelievable setting of our beautiful Hunter Valley is something we are very lucky to have so close to home, and Esca Bimbadgen is the perfect place to have a nice lunch or dinner, escape from busy day to day life and take in the views of local Hunter wineries and rolling green hills.



Walking through the entrance you'll find yourself suspended above the winery below as you make your way to the dining area. It's a stunning set up, with the top level boasting floor to ceiling windows to take in the extraordinary views, light and bright décor throughout and a balcony dining area where you can soak up the sun.

I brought along a friend on an absolutely stunning, sunlit Winter Thursday for lunch to enjoy a 3 course meal on the balcony. You can choose from, 3, 4 or 5 course options at Esca, but we weren't in the mood to roll ourselves out at the end.

THE SETTING AND VIEWS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY THE HIGHLIGHT OF ESCA, WITH THE SERVICE A CLOSE SECOND. FOR MY 3 COURSES, I DECIDED ON THE 65° DUCK EGG WITH ROASTED JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE, HAZELNUT, CARROT AND HONEY REDUCTION; THE SPECK WRAPPED JEWFISH WITH SWEET SOY, MUSTARD POTATOES, AND BASIL MAYONNAISE; AND THE EARL GREY PANNACOTTA WITH COINTREAU AND ORANGE MOUSSE, COMPRESSED PUFF PASTRY AND ORANGE GEL.

The Duck Egg was cooked nicely and had a unique, almost odd, flavour. I was pleased to find my



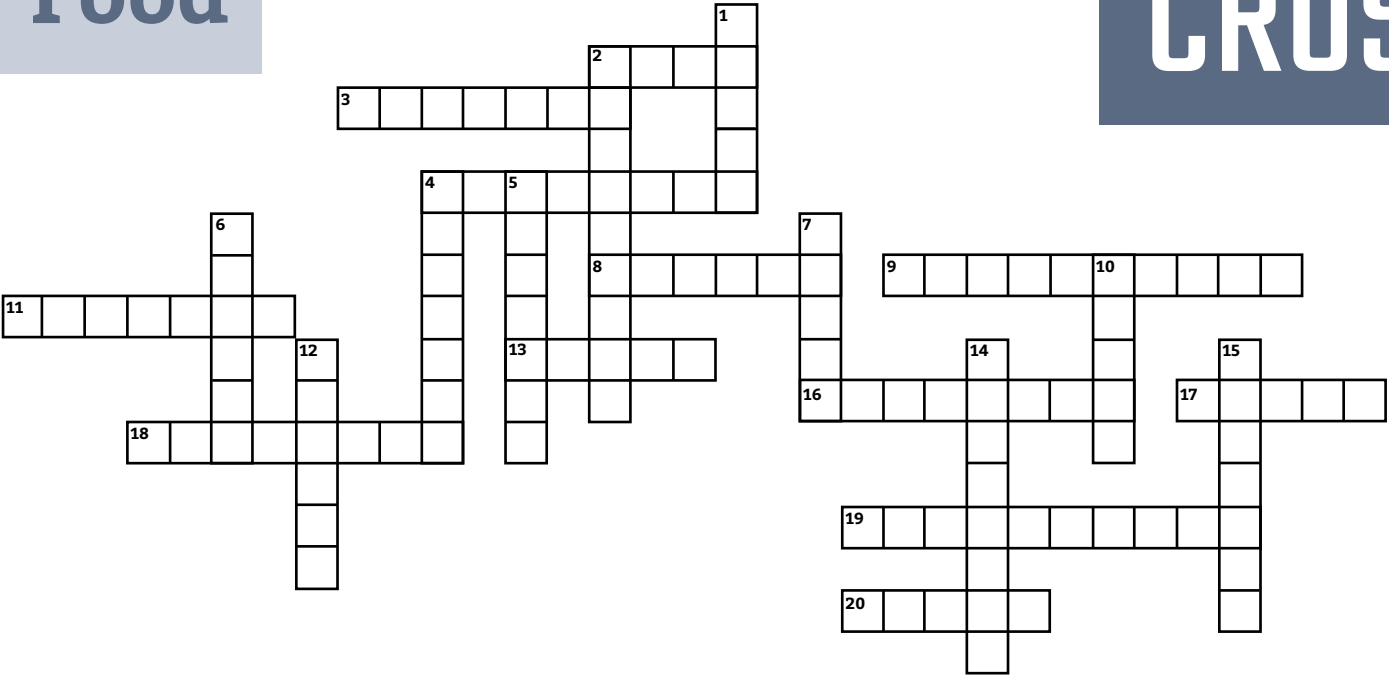
next dish, the Jewfish, was one of the tastiest fish I have ever eaten. It was fresh, cooked perfectly and had a lovely flavour. Finally, I tried the dessert and wasn't too thrilled with the compressed puff pastry, but the rest of the dish slightly made up for it.

My pal Lisa ordered the Roasted honey beets, turmeric lemon yoghurt, goats cheese ad pistachios to start, which arrived vibrantly presented and burst with light, bright flavours. Lisa said it reminded her of a summer day. The Buttermilk fried chicken, bonito mayonnaise and pickled radish followed, which unfortunately lacked the fantastic flavour of the first dish, but she was happy to end the dining experience on a high note with the Strawberry Chocolate with white chocolate mousse, dehydrated raspberries, rhubarb and raspberry dust.

For the most part, it was a lovely day out. If you're looking for a dining experience with stunning views, fantastic wine and great service you'll find Esca Bimbadgen provides exactly that.

It's a 3 out of 5 from me!

Food



ACROSS

- 2. There are more than 4000 different uses for this food
- 3. What did Popeye eat to make him strong
- 4. Beverage that once contained cocaine
- 8. What does Kosher mean in Hebrew
- 9. The only fruit with seeds on the outside
- 11. Liquor made from blue agave plant
- 13. Pizza originated from this country
- 16. Name of the scale used to measure spicy heat of chilis
- 17. Common leavening agent
- 18. Beverage advertised as 'Sports Fuel'
- 19. The first food eaten in space
- 20. Kiwifruit are indigenous to this country

DOWN

- 1. Basundi is a dairy product popular in this country
- 2. What food is Hummus made from
- 4. Sauerkraut is composed of this vegetable
- 5. Mageirocophobia is the fear of what
- 6. What nut is in a Waldorf salad
- 7. Top selling cookie in the US
- 10. A pastry that is boiled before it is baked
- 12. Common name for Allium sativum
- 14. Immersing food in vinegar is called
- 15. Sushi is wrapped in this

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Brent Green

ROBERTS MEATS RAFFLE
Lindon Rhodes

BANLAW FUEL VOUCHER
Joshua Partington

SCOTTY'S FABRICATE & PAINT FIREPIT
Stacey Butler

ULTIMATE KIDS VOUCHER
Aimee Murray

BCF VOUCHER
Dave Randall

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!

GO WEST!

RESTRICTED FOR MUCH OF THE PAST 14 MONTHS DUE TO COVID, WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S BORDERS ARE NOW OPEN AGAIN, AND IT'S NO SURPRISE TOURISTS ARE STARTING TO LOOK WEST FOR THEIR NEXT HOLIDAY. WE RECOMMEND PERTH TO CAPE LEEUWIN FOR THE PERFECT ROAD TRIP.

Perth's city centre sits by the Swan River and has been revamped in recent years, with high profile developments such as The Quay, Crown, and Optus Oval adding to perennial favourites such as lively Northbridge and upmarket Subiaco with their bars, restaurants, and shopping. Looming over the city is Kings Park and Botanic Gardens, a haven for walkers and joggers at almost 20% bigger than Central Park New York and filled with over 3,000 species of native Western Australia flora and 80 bird species.

Perth is famous for its spectacular beaches, particularly Cottesloe and Scarborough. The northern beaches are best for surfing, southern beaches best for young kids. Being on the West

Coast, most are perfectly positioned for you to capture a gorgeous sunset with a local wine or craft beer in hand.

HEADING AWAY FROM THE COASTLINE, JUST EAST OF PERTH ARE SEVERAL HIGH-QUALITY VINEYARDS AND QUAIN TOWN TOWNS SURROUNDED BY A NUMBER OF NATIONAL PARKS AND STATE FORESTS.

From downtown Perth it's only 40-60 minutes by car or train to the arty and alternative port city of Fremantle, filled with markets, trendy cafes and bars, food trucks, museums, microbreweries (including the original Little Creatures brewery), making the perfect place to wander, eat and drink to your heart (and stomach's) content.

Fremantle is also the jumping off point for ferry trips to Rottnest Island, a protected nature reserve and home to world famous snorkelling and diving spots, as well as cute little quokkas. Cars are banned on Rottnest, so hire a bike (or catch the hop-on, hop-off bus) to explore the island's magical beaches and wildlife.

Just south of Fremantle is Point Peron, a great spot for a scenic walk and right next door to Penguin and Seal Islands, where you can catch a short ferry for a penguin show or do a boat trip out to see the seals and maybe dolphins which regularly inhabit the area.

3 hours drive south from Perth is the renowned foodie and wine paradise of Margaret River,

surrounded by craft breweries, vineyards, and boutiques, with a main street packed full of cafes, restaurants and bars to sustain you after a day of surfing, caving, kayaking or biking in the pristine forests and beaches nearby. If you are a golfer, plan on a slow game due to the need to regularly stop and let the kangaroos hop through! Margaret River was once an undiscovered hippie retreat but is now the hottest place on the West Coast so be sure to visit before it is totally overrun!

THE DRIVE SOUTH FROM MARGARET RIVER IS FILLED WITH WHITE-SAND BEACH AFTER WHITE-SAND BEACH, ALL CRYING OUT FOR A SWIM, SO WHY NOT STOP OFF AT HAMELIN BAY TO SWIM WITH THE MASSIVE, TAME STING RAYS THAT FREQUENT THE BAY.

The final stop along the West Coast is the lighthouse at Cape Leeuwin, which marks the most south-westerly mainland point of Australian, where the Southern and Indian oceans meet. As well as the inspiring scenery, this region is also known as one of Australia's best places for whale watching, with Humpback, Southern Right, Minke and Blue Whales all making the journey along the coast between June and early December. Nearby August is one of the few places where you'll see the Southern Right and Humpback whales interact.

After such an epic journey, it's time to head back to Perth, but maybe stop off at just one more beach or vineyard on the way....

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