

THE ADVENTUROUS WOMBAT



Was he lost or just adventurous?

The recent discovery of a wombat wandering around the open cut area close to operating mining machinery saw a quick response resulting in a successful catch and release of this furry escapee.

Captured by the environment and community relations team, with assistance from WIRES, the somewhat confused marsupial was taken to the Mudgee Vet Hospital where it was kept in overnight for observations.

Once it was given the all clear it was relocated to a suitable habitat away from the mining operation. Thank you to all those who assisted in the safe rescue and transport of this disoriented wombat.

Ulan Public School Notice Board

There are a number of activities involving the wider community on the calendar in the coming months. Parents and community members are invited to attend the following events at the school.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

APRIL 11: 2.30pm, Easter activities, hat parade, egg hunt, egg and spoon races, pin the tail on the bilby.

APRIL 28: 10.30am, School ANZAC Ceremony and morning tea.

MAY 9: 1pm, Mothers' Day Luncheon. All mums, grandmothers, aunts and ladies are most welcome.

MAY 21: 10.30am, Biggest Morning Tea

For more information about these events, please contact the school on 6373 4625.

Moolarben Spirit Awards 2013

The Moolarben Spirit Awards are an initiative in partnership with local high schools to recognise students that display a good attitude towards their schooling and extracurricular activities. Moolarben looks for these same qualities in its employees. A positive attitude to work and the community is a key consideration for the company and its employees.

Each school nominates both a Junior recipient (Years 8–9) and Senior (Years 10–11) recipient. The Junior winner is awarded \$125.00 and the Senior winner receives \$250.00.

Congratulations to the following 2013 winners:

Mudgee High Junior: Joel Thomas Senior: Ryan Kurts

St Matt's Central Junior: Jonathan Emeny Senior: Jessica Dryburgh

Kandos High Junior: Riley Murphy Senior: Tylanda Murray

Dunedoo Centre Junior: Rachael Sweeney Senior: Effy Fergusson

Gulgong High Junior: Grace Hensley Senior: Alex Gauci

Moolarben interviewed each recipient and the overall winners were announced at an evening function held at Sajo's restaurant where family and school representatives came together to celebrate. The overall winners are Effy Fergusson (Senior, Dunedoo Centre) and Jonathon Emeny (Junior, St Matt's Central). Effy said it's important for the community to see young people active in their communities and Jonathon said he enjoys helping others. Congratulations to both students.

Blasting details

Moolarben Coal has several road-side notice boards that display the details of the next blast. Details can also be found on the website www.moolarbencoal.com.au under the Environment & Community tab.



WINNERS OF THE 2013 MOOLARBEN SPIRIT AWARDS

MOOLARBEN NEWS

APRIL 2014



Moolarben Coal's new Liebherr R9800 Excavator

Cutting edge excavator set to join the fleet

A modern, state-of-the-art LIEBHERR R9800 excavator is now assembled at Moolarben. This massive machine is the first of its type in a NSW mine, and only the eleventh worldwide. The purchase of the R9800 is an example of Moolarben Coal's continued commitment to being leaders in innovation and technology in the mining sector.

The impressive, fully sound-attenuated excavator will deliver greater operational efficiencies while continuing to minimise noise impacts on the community.

It will shift more material for each litre of fuel used while achieving low noise levels consistent with Moolarben's current excavators.

The R9800 weighs around 800 tonnes and is powered by two turbo-charged 16-cylinder Cummins engines generating 4,000 horsepower (2,983 kw). This formidable machine is over eight metres wide, 10 metres high to the top of the cab and swings a 46-cubic metres bucket capable of 75 tonnes / pass.

Initial crew training has been completed with very positive comments from operators. The R9800 is now actively working in the northern work area of Open Cut 1.

Everyone at Moolarben is very proud to see the R9800 joining our fleet of state-of-the-art machinery.

Last year, Moolarben Coal's Stealth Fleet of trucks received a highly commended award in the NSW Minerals Council's Community and Environment Excellence Awards for reducing noise impacts on the community.



Environmental and community enquiries

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MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Welcome to another edition of Moolarben News.

We have started 2014 pretty much the same way we finished 2013, very strongly with very good low cost, production performance. At the end of February we were ahead of budget on all metrics which sets us up for a good year, despite Moolarben undertaking a lot more work in 2014 verses 2013.

The NSW Planning and Assessment Commission recently sat in Mudgee to undertake a Public Hearing for our Stage 2 (and Modification 3) Project and a Public Meeting for our Stage 1 Modification 9 Project. I believe this process went reasonably well overall, as there were more positive supporting submissions for our projects than not. I sincerely thank all the Moolarben personnel and business people within the local area who gave submissions to the PAC over these two days.

The Open Day for Moolarben personnel we had recently was a fantastic success and I thank all those people who gave up their time to help out on the day and I hope everyone who attended, enjoyed the day. A lot of time and effort went into organising and arranging this event and it would not have been such a great day without the people involved. The new Liebherr 9800

Excavator, which was one of the attractions during the Open Day, started work shortly after that weekend and is performing well at present, with very few hiccups encountered. This machine was a \$15.0M investment and readies us for increased strip ratio in 2014 and beyond, being the lowest cost per BCM digging machine at Moolarben.

It was great to be involved with the Moolarben Spirit Awards this year and to catch up with the future leaders within our community. All nominees from schools should be very proud of their nomination by their school and the efforts they put into their individual areas of interest and the support they give to others. Congratulations to the overall winners for the area, being Effy Fergusson from Dunedoo for the senior award and Jonathon Emeny from St Mathews, Mudgee, for the junior award.

All the best,

John Blanning
General Manager, Moolarben Coal



The Community gets behind the expansion

The NSW Planning Assessment Commission recently held a public hearing and meeting over two days for the public to voice their opinion regarding Stage 2 and Stage 1 Modification 9. The Mudgee Town Hall was at capacity with a good cross section of community members standing before the Commissioner to share their views.

The local business community spoke of the importance and the opportunity that Moolarben and its pending expansion brings to the region.

Employees spoke about the fact that Mudgee and the surrounding districts provided a welcoming and family orientated community for new employees compared to other mining regions in Australia. Moolarben employees also felt a sense of belonging in the community and how they happily contribute to a region with such a great outlook.

Although the Drip is unrelated, it was also a common theme amongst the environment groups. Moolarben Coal now eagerly awaits on the Commissioner's determination.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM
RECIPIENT – RYLSTONE SHOW,
ZONE FINALS



Community Support Program

The Community Support Program is up and running again for the fourth consecutive year. The program is available to assist local initiatives within the Mid-Western Region and surrounding areas. Projects that are closely aligned with Moolarben's core values of enhancing the economic, social and

environmental wellbeing of the local community will be considered.

Application forms and guidelines can be found at www.moolarbencoal.com.au



A FAMILY OF EMUS AROUND
THE OPEN CUT 1 REHAB AREA

They love where they live!

As rehabilitation continues and the vegetation returns, Moolarben continues to observe the speedy return of native fauna to the area.

A family of emus took up post some time back, making themselves at home around the Open Cut 1 rehab area. The recent arrival of a couple of chicks suggests they are very happy with their chosen surroundings.