

Environmental update

Aerial seeding underway

More than eight hectares in the Open Cut 2 area have recently been rehabilitated. A section of the noise and visual bund were aerial seeded with pasture and native grasses. Before the end of 2014 a further 20 hectares is planned to be rehabilitated.

Noise Monitoring Continues

Moolarben continues to work closely with the community to monitor noise from the site. The mine has recently installed an additional noise monitor at the northern end of Ridge Road Cooks Gap for continuous noise monitoring purposes.



Aerial seeding in Open Cut 2

Noise mitigation update

The Ulan Road noise mitigation strategy will soon be underway. All three mines have been working together in consultation with the Department of Planning and the Director General's Department in preparation for the role out of the strategy.

Eighteen property owners will soon be contacted in writing, informing them of the strategy's commencement. For queries contact Scott Fittler from Moolarben Coal on behalf of the three local mines.

Blasting details

Moolarben Coal has several roadside notice boards that display the details of the next road closure associated with a blast. If you wish to be notified by SMS of Moolarben Coal's blasting activities please contact the Moolarben Coal Hotline and provide your details.

Moolarben Coal Hotline 1800 556 484

Ulan Public School Notice Board

New playground on the way

Thanks to a \$20,000 donation from Moolarben Coal, Ulan Public School will now be able to purchase new playground equipment and a permanent shade shelter to protect students. The school community has been tirelessly fundraising for this project, which will now go ahead much sooner than anticipated thanks to Moolarben's generosity.

Learning the value of rehabilitation

Students and staff are excited to visit Moolarben Coal to view rehabilitation works and help with the planting of native species. The visit is part of the school's Environmental and Community Cooperation Programs and is expected to be a great day for all involved.

Musical performance

Ulan Public School recently hosted a visit for students from the Manly Selective Campus Band. The concert included performances by the Wind Ensemble, Big Band and String Orchestra.

Mrs Annette Riley
Principal

MOOLARBEN NEWS

OCTOBER 2014



The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service crew with Moolarben's Emergency Response Team

Westpac Rescue Helicopter drops in

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service recently made a brief stop-over at Moolarben Coal providing a fantastic opportunity for the Emergency Response Team to meet the crew and become familiar with the helicopter, should a real situation arise.

The Moolarben Emergency Response Team meet regularly for training and equipment maintenance in readiness for a real emergency.

The Westpac Rescue crew provided some valuable information before returning to the Newcastle base. The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service operates four aircraft covering approximately 132,000 square kilometres and includes a population of 1.2 million people. More than 1,000 missions are carried out each year.

For further details on how to support the service go to www.rescuehelicopter.com.au

Moolarben News distribution area expanded

Moolarben News has recently expanded its distribution to include Mudgee, Gulgong, Kandos, Rylstone, Coolah and Dunedoo. The last edition saw more than 3,500 copies circulated with a Friday edition of the Mudgee Guardian, while our Moolarben neighbours continue to receive a hand delivered copy to their roadside letterboxes.

Moolarben News is a fantastic way to hear about what's happening at the mine and in the Moolarben community.



MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Our August edition saw a massive increase in distribution from 600 to an additional 3,500 copies circulated with the Mudgee Guardian. It was great to hear the positive feedback from the community receiving the newsletter for the first time.

I am pleased to report that our safety performance continues to be exceptional. We are now 15 months Lost Time injury free. I would like to congratulate everybody on our safety achievement. It certainly is a fantastic milestone, however as we head towards the festive season, it's important to remember we must remain focused at work and ensure we are not distracted by the increase in social activities.

The coal industry continues to remain stressed with the price of coal continuing to fall, compounded by the high Australian dollar. While the full effects may not have been felt in the Mid-Western Region, areas in the Hunter Valley and inter-state have realised a tightening, resulting in redundancies.

Moolarben continues to work closely with NSW State Government departments to determine the appropriate conservation status for The Drip and the surrounding lands. The outcome will benefit the local community and stakeholders alike.

2014 has been our biggest year so far in terms of community donations. A total of \$225,000 has provided some great opportunities to many local organisations. The Community Support Program has given \$118,215 to not-for-profit groups right across the Mid-Western Region. The Mudgee Running Festival was a recent beneficiary. I was delighted to join about 50 of our people and their families in the fun run. With over 600 people running in the festival, it was great to see so many people enjoying the benefits of exercise. In addition to the Community Support Program, donations were made to the Mudgee Scouts, Life Skills, Ulan School and the Mudgee Hospital. The cataract machine at the hospital has made an enormous difference to the community. It's pleasing to hear of such a positive outcome in helping people regain their sight.

All the best,

Frank Fulham
General Manager, Moolarben Coal



Mayor Des Kennedy and General Manager Brad Cam on site at Moolarben

A visit from Mid-Western Regional Council

Mid-Western Regional Council Mayor Des Kennedy and General Manager Brad Cam recently visited the Moolarben Coal operation. The two council leaders met with the Senior Management team before heading out into the Open Cut for a pit tour. Both were overwhelmed by the size of the trucks and diggers operating at the time.

Mr Cam was impressed with the areas that had been rehabilitated, stating 'the number of native trees and habitats that have been created in an area that was previously mined, is quite remarkable'. Moolarben would like to thank both Mayor Kennedy and Mr Cam for their attendance and interest in the operation.

New machine gives residents a new lease on life



Leone Murdoch can enjoy reading again

Local Leone Murdoch has a new look on life thanks to the \$60,000 Infiniti Vision System purchased by Moolarben Coal in April 2014.

Leone is one of more than 150 Mid-Western region residents to benefit from the machine so far.

Leone's sight had been deteriorating over the past five years to the point where she couldn't read, see the television or drive her car. As the primary carer for her husband, travelling out of the region for her surgery was not an option.

After her operation, Leone contacted Moolarben to say she is extremely grateful as she can now live a normal life again.

"Things like going to the supermarket and being able to find what I was looking for. I don't know how many times I arrived home having bought the wrong things," Leone said.

She added the surgery wasn't painful like the first surgery she had and attributed this to both Ophthalmologist Dr Henry Liu and the new machine.

After returning home the day of the surgery, Leone removed the eye patch and said she had her full vision back – she was even able to read the local newspaper that afternoon.



Mudgee residents hit the ground running

The 2014 Mudgee Running Festival saw a record number of participants pounding the pavement with over 600 entries across all divisions.

The Moolarben Coal 5km and 10km runs proved popular with more than 50 Moolarben employees and their families taking part. The courses weaved their way through the picturesque Mudgee valley, past vineyards, farmland, grazing cattle, and a band of friendly volunteers cheering on. Competitors enjoyed the local scenery, sunny weather and crossing the Cudgegong

River on the recently constructed suspended footbridge. The family-fun event had a great festival atmosphere with a jumping castle, food and drinks, merchandise tents and a free BBQ lunch for runners. The Running Festival was sponsored by the Moolarben Coal Community Support Program, which has been providing funding to the local community since 2010.