Moolarben Coal recently hosted a visiting delegation from China’s Shandong Provincial Government. The group spent time on site at Moolarben as well as exploring some of the region’s popular tourist attractions.

The visitors were captivated by Mudgee’s offerings and expressed a keen interest to investigate a wide-range of investment opportunities within regional NSW and throughout Australia. The delegation comprised of 26 people, most of who were CEOs or Government Officials of Shandong Province-based enterprises. The delegates also met with Yancoal Executives in Sydney during their time abroad.

Environmental update

The arrival of spring means that rehabilitation works are well underway. Rehabilitation of the CHPP upgrade works have really taken off following the recent rain and warmer temperatures.

Landform shaping and topsoiling continues across areas of Open Cut 1 and Open Cut 2.

Open Cut 1 areas are being rehabilitated to forest and woodland communities and the majority of Open Cut 2 is being rehabilitated to agricultural land.

Moolarben continues its native species collection program to provide locally sourced native seed for rehabilitation areas.

Blasting details

Moolarben Coal has several roadside notice boards that display the details of planned road closures associated with blasting. If you wish to be notified by SMS of Moolarben Coal’s blasting activities please contact the Moolarben Coal Hotline.

Moolarben Coal Hotline 1800 556 484.

Ulan Public School notice board

Looking for a Thursday morning activity? Ulan Public School is hosting playgroup sessions every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30am in the library.

The sessions cater for children up to school age and include a range of play areas and activities. We currently have a number of families who attend regularly and we’re always encouraging new families to join the fun.

For more information contact the school on 6373 4625.

Mudgee impresses the Chinese

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Riders’ wheels keep rotors running

The tires were worn and legs sore, but the 75 cyclists that set off from Mudgee were in high spirits at the end of their 678km ride to Tamworth. Raising funds for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, the 15th annual Alive and Well ride set off from Mudgee last month.

The ride began as part of the Service’s 40th anniversary fundraiser/celebration held in Mudgee. The seven-day trek pushed riders across regional NSW through rural roads, national parks, private properties and many regional towns.

Moolarben Coal has been a long-time supporter of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. To make a donation or to become a volunteer go to www.rescuehelicopter.com.au

New recruits as Moolarben expands

Darren Slade, Maintenance Planner, started at Moolarben in August. Originally from Cessnock, he moved to Mudgee from Perth after working for Westrac, Fortescue Metals and Newcrest. Darren and his wife Sommai are keen golfers and both members of the Mudgee Golf Club. Darren is looking forward to being part of the community and building a future in Mudgee. At Moolarben he will assist and improve the transition to a larger mining fleet and expanded production.

Nick Craig, Technical Services Manager, recently relocated from a fly-in-fly-out role at Collinsville, Queensland. Nick, his wife Gabrielle and their two children are enjoying living in Mudgee where they have been made feel welcome. Nick is a keen cyclist who is looking forward to the warmer weather and longer days so he can spend some time on the bike. At Moolarben Nick looks forward to improving mine planning practices and seeing Moolarben through the project expansion.

We welcome both Darren and Nick to the Moolarben team.

Riders take a rest stop at Moolarben

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Welcome to the October edition of our Moolarben News.

Since our previous newsletter we have been through some tremendous change that has been positive for our employees and the broader business community.

The approval of Stage 2, which is Open Cut 4 and the Underground Projects have seen developments progressing swiftly. The advancement of the Open Cut Expansion into a construction phase represents a significant milestone and whilst the construction activities are in their infancy, our project team is making great advances. Environmental control activities such as water management structures and erosion controls are continuing, with a focus on completing the project safely and to the highest environmental standards.

The Project is also exciting for the community as it is expected to provide further opportunities to the Mid-Western Regional area such as economic growth, infrastructure improvements through capital investment and future employment opportunities.

Already we’re seeing key construction contractors base themselves within the local area and a significant portion of local contractors are working with us on the project. The development of the Open Cut 4 resource will support production for the next 19 years.

Our future looks positive with our current production measures inline with our 2015 forecast and our employees and contractors continue to perform their work with excellent safety standards, which has resulted in a reduced numbers of incidents.

At Moolarben we take great pride in being part of the community and supporting community projects and initiatives. This year the Community Support Program has already donated in the vicinity of $70,000, making a difference to 30 local not-for-profit organisations. In addition to the program we have supported Pioneer House Nursing Home, Mudgee Little Athletics, Westpac Rescue Helicopter and The Pink Tractor Ride for the McGrath Foundation.

I look forward to providing future updates regarding the development of this exciting project in our future newsletters.

All the best.

Steve Archinal
General Manager, Moolarben Coal

Moolarben supports the community

Moolarben Coal’s Community Support Program is here to support local projects that benefit our community. Since 2010, Moolarben has distributed more than $750,000 dollars in community grants and sponsorships. If you have a community project or activity, but don’t have the funds to make it happen, the Community Support Program can assist you too.