

Mount Pleasant Operation News

Community & Employee Newsletter - June 2023

Issue 15



Yunaga team visit Mount Pleasant

Yunaga Civil & Earth CEO, Victor Perry and colleague Fred Haynes took time out of their day to come to site and meet recently appointed MACH Energy General Manager Operations Mick Redman and say farewell to long serving General Manager Operations Richard Bailey as he retires. Pictured from left, Mick Redman, Fred Haynes, Victor Perry, Richard Bailey, and site Environmental Adviser Mariah Lane.



Our BIGGEST Morning Tea

The Mount Pleasant teams from MACH Energy, Thiess, Sedgman, Blackrock and various contracting companies gathered to raise funds for the Cancer Council by celebrating Australia's Biggest Morning Tea on site. With tables lining the carpark in the Cancer Council colours of blue and yellow, filled with a variety of extraordinary culinary treats, the highlight of the morning was the Baking Competition. Applications were required the week prior and official "judges"

were seen warming up their taste buds prior to official duties. The winner was, Billy Clark, Thiess Drill and Blast Leading Hand. Congratulations to all bakers and thanks to those who donated much needed funds on the day.



Family Day 2023

To enable all Thiess teams and their families to enjoy the Mount Pleasant Family Day we held our second event earlier this year. The inaugural Family Day was held in late 2022. It was another exciting day with families coming from far and wide to learn about the work their family member does at Mount Pleasant. Sedgman's Hamish Gledhill is pictured with his brothers, four-year-old Tully and six-year-old Lachlan who travelled almost 500 kilometres to see where their big brother works and what his day involves. See page 3 for more photos from the day.

Biodegradable sleeves have seedlings covered

Environmental Adviser Mariah Lane is pictured placing the new green pod biodegradable tree sleeves on locally sourced seedlings from Aberdeen Nursery during our onsite autumn tree planting program. The older plastic style sleeves can be seen in the background.



New rehabilitation area included on CCC site visit



The Mount Pleasant Operation Community Consultative Committee (CCC) toured site prior to their first meeting for 2023 and were given a close-up inspection of the new Thiess managed rehabilitation crew, their equipment, and the exceptional results they have achieved in a short period of time.

Women in Mining NSW Mentoring Program launch



We are proud to announce that we are in our fifth year of sponsorship for the Women in Mining NSW (WIMnet NSW) Mentoring Program. WIMnet NSW is an award winning annual program now in its eighth year that aims to support diversity and inclusion and professionally matches mentees and mentors in a structured one on one program to support, empower and retain women in the minerals industry. External Relations Manager Ngaire Baker, pictured left, was one of the original mentors in the program in 2015 and continues to mentor in the 2023 program. Sedgman's Mount Pleasant Operation Coal Handling Preparation Plant Manager Megan Kropp, also pictured, continues her commitment to the program by mentoring again in 2023. Ngaire and Megan attended the launch of the program at the EY office in Sydney. MACH's Kate Murphy and Kas Smith also attended the launch.

NSW Mining Careers Expo



Senior Mining Engineer James Leayr and Environmental Adviser Mariah Lane, pictured above, joined External Relations Manager Ngaire Baker at the annual NSW Mining Careers Expo in Newcastle. Students, parents, care givers, grandparents and teachers filled the room to learn about the vast career options available in the mining industry. The event will return to Singleton in 2024.

Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project update

The NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC) approved the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project with conditions on 6 September 2022, following a public hearing held in July 2022. The final Consent Conditions, Public Hearing Transcript and submissions to the IPC regarding the Project can be found on the IPC's website:

<https://www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/projects/2022/05/mt-pleasant-optimisation-project-ssd-10418>

MACH Energy (MACH) would like to thank all community members who participated in the IPC process, and particularly the 680+ people and organizations who supported the Project via a positive submission.

Prior to MACH commencing on-site activities in support of the Project, the next step in the approvals process is determination of the proposal under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*. MACH Energy anticipates that the Federal Minister for the Environment and Water will determine the Project proposal under the EPBC Act in either Quarter 2 or Quarter 3 of 2023.

Innovative weed management delivering significant advantages

Rehabilitation is a priority at Mount Pleasant, and we have always been proud of the fact that we commenced prior to coal production with the rehabilitation of borrow pits and disturbed land. We are continuously working to implement environmental best-practice and to build a positive working relationship with our stakeholders, ranging from the local community to government regulators.

As a relatively young mining operation we are at the beginning of our rehabilitation journey. Our environmental team follow a progressive rehabilitation strategy which supports staged relinquishment, but the first of these remains some years off.

One of the early issues we decided to address is our weed management and eradication program. Traditional transect surveys used to identify areas of risk supported by regular weed spraying interventions was the usual method and the approach initially adopted.

However, Environmental Superintendent Andrew Reid felt this approach could be improved upon as it didn't provide the level of confidence we required to determine;

- Efficiency of the weed spraying process and individual contractors
- Whether the spraying was achieving the required level of control over the weeds

Searching for a solution, Andrew presented Dendra Systems to his team. Dendra's approach is to look for a new innovative angle which could support and improve the outcomes of our weed management program.

Dendra Systems replaced the traditional transect survey method with drone-based data capture of the entire rehabilitation site in high resolution. This process ensured collection of 100% of the survey area instead of collecting under 1% and using data extrapolation for the remaining 99%.

Once captured the high-resolution data is uploaded to the Dendra Platform, georeferenced and combined with satellite data to create a single photomosaic map. The weeds of concern are then automatically identified and labelled.

Andrew added that the results have met and surpassed MACH's expectations.

"We have worked closely with Dendra to design and implement the right solution with the results including; improved identification of weed infestations, better eradication and weed management, assessment of weed spraying contractor performance, potential cost reduction in the weed management program and access to further actionable insights covering area classification, erosion, natives plants and animals and human made objects."

The Dendra onsite ecology team pictured below during a drone flight of the rehabilitation area



Family Day fun at MPO

MACH, Thiess and Sedgman employees, family members and local suppliers joined in for our second family day earlier this year. Thanks to all local businesses for your time, energy and effort on the day, especially the very popular teams from Northwest Mining and Edinglassie Rural Fire Service.





Rodeo roundup!

The rodeos are back in town and the MACH team were there to support these very important community events. Pictures capture employees making the most of the Muswellbrook, Scone and Murrurundi events. The Murrurundi Bushman's Carnival Association said they had not been able to run their event for the past nine years. "We are very grateful to have the support from MACH Energy."

On the court with Cassilis netballers



Community events, both social and sporting have returned to the calendar, and we were thrilled to receive a request from members of the Cassilis community seeking support to include players in the Mudgee Netball Competition. Organiser Nell said, the Cassilis community has been working hard on providing health and wellness opportunities for locals over the past 12 months. "We have a personal training class every week and have just started a yoga class. In partnership with this we have had interest in forming a ladies netball team that would be part of the Mudgee Netball Competition," added Nell. We wish the Starlets a successful season.

The Cassilis Starlets pictured before their first game.

School tours return for 2023



We were thrilled to host our first school mine tour for 2023 when Year 5 students and staff from St James' Primary School, Muswellbrook came to Mount Pleasant.

The school tours organised by the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue provide an opportunity for students and teachers to learn about the life cycle of a mining operation.

Pictured, Senior Mining Engineer – Production, Rod Vaughan explaining the mining operation to students from our viewing platform.

24/7 Operation

The Mount Pleasant Operation operates on a 24-hour, seven day a week roster.

Contact Us

Please contact the following FREE CALL numbers 24 hours a day, seven days a week if you have any questions or concerns.

Community Hotline – 1800 886 889 | Blasting Hotline – 1800 931 872 | General Enquiries – 1800 931 873

Our goal is to respond to your community feedback as quickly as possible.

Further information, including blast times and location can be found on our website

www.machenergy.com.au or by emailing info@machenergy.com.au

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