

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION NEWS

Community & Employee Newsletter - December 2024

Issue 19

Spectacular Crowd Supports ACDF Event

The MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation (MACH) Aboriginal Community Development Fund (ACDF) held their fourth Cultural Spectacular at the Muswellbrook Showground on Saturday 14th of September. More than 5,000 locals and visitors to the area enjoyed an afternoon and evening of free family entertainment celebrating Aboriginal culture, history, and community. The next Cultural Spectacular will be held in 2026.

Pictured, The Kawul Project was a new initiative for this year's event involving partnerships with schools across the Upper Hunter where students brought a series of corflute signs to life. In Hunter Valley Aboriginal Creation Stories, Baiame is the creator spirit central to the Dreaming of the Wanaruah/Wonnarua peoples. The wedge-tailed eagle, Kawul, represents Baiame's guardian spirit, symbolising creation, protection, and deep connection to the Hunter Valley for more than 30,000 years.



Pictured above, Scone's Uncle Richie Lawton plays the Didgeridoo as Dr James Wilson-Miller conducts the Welcome to Country.



Pictured above, the Muswellbrook CWA were engaged to cook and serve free soup at dusk. The Blackroo mobile kitchen was perfect for the task.



Pictured above, Muswellbrook's Katie-Jayne, a definite crowd favourite.

MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation 2025 Rural Community Scholarships

We are pleased to announce the launch of the MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation Rural Community Scholarships.

We are committed to investing in the skills required to support our local communities for the future. The Scholarships in Health and Education will provide career pathways in much needed services within our community. Scholarships in engineering support career pathways within our local mining industry. Each providing rural students with the opportunity to grow their careers whilst supporting and contributing to their community.

For further details and eligibility criteria please scan the QR Codes or view the following website - <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/scholarships>

MACHEnergy
Mount Pleasant Operation

2025 Rural Community Scholarships

Scholarships Available

- Health
- Education
- Engineering

About Us

We are committed to empowering local talent by supporting education and creating pathways for careers in essential professional fields within our community. We understand that rural students can face barriers to tertiary study and we are excited to support our local students by establishing and funding these scholarships.

Health

Education

Engineering

Contact - Admissions and Scholarships University of Newcastle
Email: scholarships@newcastle.edu.au
Phone: +61 2 4921 5000

For further details about MACH Energy please visit our website www.machenergy.com.au

Community Consultative Committee visit MACH Nursery and Biomass Coppicing

MACH has worked with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) over the past four years to undertake a Bioenergy Crop Trial on MACH owned land on Roxburgh Road. The trial consisted of eight replicates with eight species per replicate and 100 trees per plot. Project lead Fabiano Ximenes, DPI Senior Research Scientist said there were several objectives for the trial plot, including identifying and testing the suitability of specific crops to supply biomass for bioenergy in collaboration with industry to test the potential of pellets for electricity generation and to understand community perceptions around bioenergy.

We invited our Community Consultative Committee (CCC) to tour the site and view the coppicing process.

The CCC were also given the opportunity to visit the recently established MACH Nursery on Castlerock Road. Nursery manager Troy Van Balen explained the nursery process and different varieties of seedlings and stock on hand. The plants from the nursery will be used on MACH's rehabilitation and at various locations around the Mount Pleasant Operation.



Pictured above, CCC members at the MACH Nursery with Troy Van Balen.



Pictured above left, the Biomass site on Roxburgh Road. Pictured above right, coppicing the trees in October.



Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Community Forum

Pictured above, from left, MACH's Blake Shackleton, The Member for the Upper Hunter Dave Layzell MP, Muswellbrook Shire Council Mayor Jeff Drayton and MACH's Sandy Lettice at the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Community Forum. The event brought together a diverse range of people including representatives from mining, government, interest groups and local residents, to collaboratively explore key issues, concerns and opportunities related to mining in the Upper Hunter.

International Men's Day

November 19 marked International Men's Day, a day dedicated to celebrating the positive influence of men, their contributions to society, and their roles as fathers, mentors, and leaders.

The Mount Pleasant teams came together to listen to special guest, Luke from Talk2mebro. Luke said Talk2mebro was established with the goal of reducing the number of males who die from suicide. He spoke about early intervention initiatives with the aim to create societal changes by reducing the stigma in male's attitudes towards suicide and empower men to take control of their mental health.

Pictured below, the Mount Pleasant teams recognising International Men's Day on site.



Supporting the Merriwa Juniors

Pictured left, celebrating our sponsorship of the Merriwa Junior Rugby League.



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 Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, and Water (DCCEEW) subsequently approved the project proposal under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) on 24 September 2024.

The Optimisation Project facilitates the mine expanding

and continuing operations to 2048, supporting the ongoing employment of the existing workforce and significant additional economic contributions to the local, NSW and Australian economy.

MACH has prepared the various Environmental Management Plans required to commence the Optimisation Project, and these Plans have been progressively reviewed by key regulatory agencies and approved by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. Subject to all relevant Optimisation Project pre-conditions being met, MACH anticipates it will produce more than 10.5 million tonnes of run-of-mine coal from the site this calendar year.

For more information go to <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mount-pleasant-modification-7>



Supporting the Westpac Rescue Helicopter

Pictured above, the MACH team supporting the Annual Westpac Rescue Helicopter Golf Day, from left, Mariah Lane, Rod Vaughan, Matt Travis, and Sandy Lettice.



Kayuga RFS Brigade Station Opening

Pictured above at the opening from left, former Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC) Counsellor Jennifer Lecky, Deputy Captain Jayden Hollis, MACH's Ngaire Baker, former MSC Mayor Steve Reynolds and former Counsellor Mark Bowditch.



Students on Tour

Pictured right, The Mount Pleasant Operation team took some time to show Year 5 students from Aberdeen Public School different aspects of the mining operation during their Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue School tour in November. The students had an opportunity to sit in the cab of a 994 Loader during a tour of the workshop.



Pony Clubs gather at Denman

Pictured left, Pony Club members from around NSW gathered in Denman recently for a two-day event. MACH's Ngaire Baker present age group winners with their trophies and prizes.

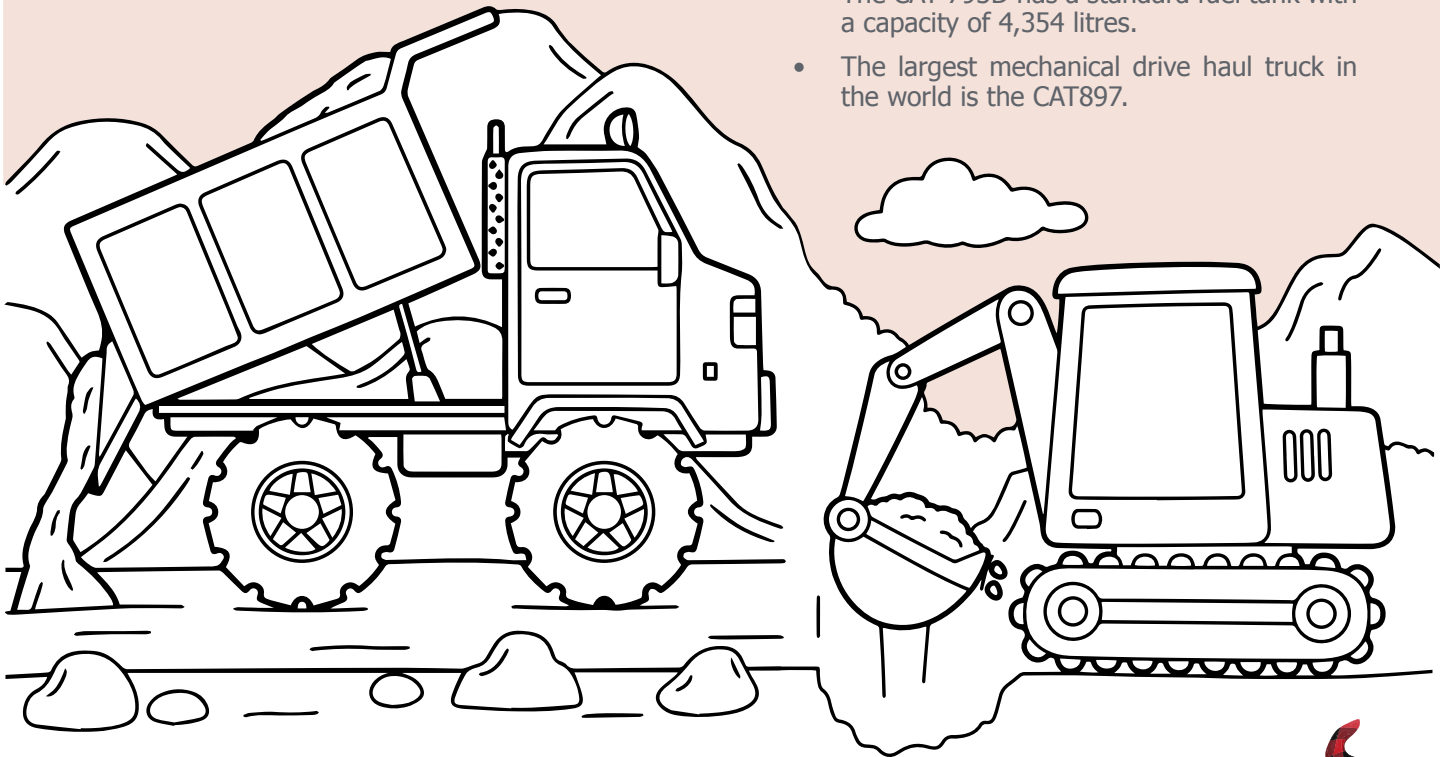
Can you colour the mining machinery below?



FUN FACTS ABOUT HAUL TRUCKS

The Caterpillar 793D Haul Truck

- The haul truck is thought to have been first conceived in the farms of late 19th-century western Europe.
- The CAT793 haul truck was introduced more than three decades ago.
- The CAT 793D body weight is 30,700 kg.
- The CAT 793D has a standard fuel tank with a capacity of 4,354 litres.
- The largest mechanical drive haul truck in the world is the CAT897.



* We would like to wish our community members and employees a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. *

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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