

MOUNT PLEASANT OPERATION NEWS

Community & Employee Newsletter - September 2023

Issue 16

Sunset over the train loud out. Photo by Meg Bowman.

NAIDOC Site Recognition

Supported by the MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation, Aboriginal Community Development Fund, members of the Gundi Program from St Heliers joined us on site to recognise NAIDOC Week through awesome dance and didgeridoo performances. Thanks also to **STEVE FORDHAM**, Managing Director of Blackrock Industries for taking part in the day.



Supporting the Upper Hunter Small Schools to celebrate NAIDOC Week

The MACH Energy Mount Pleasant Operation, Aboriginal Community Development Fund (ACDF) also supports NAIDOC events at small schools throughout the Upper Hunter Valley.



Community support reaches significant milestone

\$1 Million has been distributed to a variety of organisations throughout the communities of Muswellbrook, Wybong, Denman, Sandy Hollow, Merriwa, Kayuga, Aberdeen, Scone and Singleton in the last five years.

MACHEnergy
Mount Pleasant Operation
COMMUNITY SUPPORT

\$1 MILLION
milestone

FROM JUNE 2018
TO JULY 2023

*excludes ACDF funding

Spotlight on our local families for annual Voice for Mining Family Day

The NSW Mining and Newcastle Knights Voice for Mining Family Day saw a sell-out crowd pack McDonald Jones Stadium recently. For the fifth year we were front and centre with our football passing game and were absolutely thrilled for our Land & Property Officer **SANDY LETTICE** and his family as they took a special part in the day's events.



Sandy Lettice and family with colleague and fellow Land and Property Officer Richard Ali and his family prior to the game. Both families travelled from Scone for the day.



MACH's Newcastle based Jarret Muller and his children enjoyed the Fan Zone before heading into the game.



MAX LETTICE celebrated his 8th birthday with a handshake from his favourite player and Knights captain Kayln Ponga just before he had the honour of tossing the coin on game day. **SANDY, HANNAH, ARCHIE, MAX** and **MILLIE** then formed part of the guard of honour as the Knights and Rabbits took to the field. A day we don't think Max will forget in a hurry.

SSD 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 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 3 or Quarter 4 of 2023.

Modification 6

MACH Energy has lodged an application to modify its Development Consent DA 92/97 under section 4.55 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) (EP&A Act), which will be known as "Modification 6".

Modification 6 will allow for the construction and operation of a re-transmission facility including a tower or mast, shed and associated transmission infrastructure, to re-transmit local digital television signals from the existing Broadcast Australia site at Rossgole Lookout. The re-transmission facility would allow for the strength and quality of local digital television signals to be maintained as the Mount Pleasant Operation continues to operate.

The modification application will be made publicly available on the NSW planning portal:

www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au

Historical Society & neighbours invited to Broomfield Station

We invited members of the Muswellbrook and District Historical Society and near neighbours for morning tea and a tour of the grounds of Broomfield Station.



Celebrating Chamber's business excellence

Mike Kelly, President of the Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and Industry said the Chambers Business Awards program was about recognition of excellence, promotion of local businesses and a formal judging process.

"But more importantly, the awards are about self-assessment, they are an opportunity for the Award nominee to examine their business identity, strengths and opportunities for improvement, and implement change where its needed."

MACH's General Manager Operations, **MICK REDMAN** is pictured presenting the New Business Award to **GRACE** from the Muswellbrook Laundrette. MACH Energy has been a sponsor of this Award for the past five years.



ACDF supports trainees in Dreampath Mining Simulator

Dreampath held the official launch of their new state of the art, industry leading Cat 793 Mining Simulator in Muswellbrook.

Dreampath is a majority owned indigenous workforce solutions company based in the Hunter Valley and its aim is to provide positive outcomes for First Nation Australians.

Dreampath was established by Steve Fordham, Director of Blackrock Industries and Marc Meili, Director of Protech. Steve said that Dreampath was formed because both he and Mark wanted to build something more, not just a business, but an opportunity to help people.



Taking the time to see the equipment up close, Protech Business Development Manager Kurt Gidley is pictured with trainees and simulator trainers during a visit to Mount Pleasant Operations.



Community Consultative Committee

Members of the CCC and MACH Energy Mount Pleasant team pictured during their site tour which occurred on the 7th of September.



Winning smile at Denman Pony Club Ribbon Day

Congratulations to Sue Markham and all the team for getting the Denman Pony Club Ribbon Day back up and running. **LANE HANCOCK** from Merriwa pictured above certainly looks like he is enjoying the day.

Pictured below is **FLORENCE RAINES** from Merriwa with her prizes after a successful day of riding.



Students on site

We were thrilled to host a fantastic group of high school students from St Josephs, Aberdeen recently. The group, pictured, were able to see machinery up close, sit in the driver's seat and they won the award for the most questions ever asked on a school tour. Well done to staff and students for taking the time to visit Mount Pleasant.



Westpac Rescue Helicopter Ball arrives in Muswellbrook

MACH's **STEVE CLAPHAM** and wife **CHRISSY** shone in their Bridgeton themed best for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Ball.



Golf Day for Westpac Rescue Helicopter

From left, **SANDY, RICH, ROD** and **MARIAH** put in a huge effort to support the Westpac Rescue Helicopter at the Muswellbrook Gold Club annual fundraiser.

Muswellbrook Cats

MACH Energy are thrilled to support all local sport and were more than willing to assist the Muswellbrook Cats AFL teams as they celebrated their Heritage Round which was held on the 5th of August.



Supporting Muswellbrook Junior Rugby League

Junior Ram **MAX BURTON** rehydrates following his game. Max is the grandson of our CCC member Trevor Parkinson.



Andrew delivers a gold medal performance in France

We have supported our local Riding for the Disabled Club for several years and congratulate member and Scone resident **ANDREW DUFFIELD** on his recent success in Vichy, France. Andrew won gold riding a horse he only met upon arrival in France.

Wedge-Tailed eagles land in habitat trees

The MACH Energy and Thiess teams are always on the lookout for wildlife when travelling around the site. These amazing wedge-tailed eagles were spotted taking a break on our recently planted habitat trees in the rehabilitation area.



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24/7 Operation
The Mount Pleasant Operation operates on a 24-hour, seven day a week roster.

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**

Mount Pleasant Operation