

ILLAWARRA COAL DENDROBIUM NEWS



DENDROBIUM Community newsletter



Above: CityRail's Jonathan Beninca (left) and Processing and Logistics Environment and Community Coordinator Scott Coleman recently gave a presentation to Illawarra Christian School students on rail safety. They are pictured with Year 6 students (from left to right) Grace Chin, Jacob Stokes, Mitchell Suey-Hick and Reagan Vaccaro.

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DENDROBIUM HIGHLIGHTS RAIL SAFETY TO LOCAL SCHOOLS

DENDROBIUM AND ILLAWARRA COAL'S PROCESSING AND LOGISTICS DEPARTMENT ARE HELPING TO REINFORCE THE IMPORTANT MESSAGE OF RAIL SAFETY AWARENESS BY COORDINATING A SERIES OF PRESENTATIONS TO LOCAL SCHOOL STUDENTS ON THE DANGERS OF TRESPASSING ON RAILWAY TRACKS.

In a joint initiative with RailCorp, CityRail's Youth Safety Outreach Program coordinator, Jonathan Beninca, who survived being run over by a train when he was 19, will visit schools near to the operations of Dendrobium Mine to speak about rail safety.

Rail safety awareness is a key issue for Illawarra Coal, as the Company transports coal from Dendrobium Mine along a rail line from Mt Kembla to Port Kembla, which operates close to the suburbs of Mt Kembla, Cordeaux Heights, Figtree and Unanderra.

Jonathan visited year 5 and 6 students at Illawarra Christian School (Cordeaux Campus) in late May and will also give presentations at Mt Kembla Public School, Figtree Public School, Unanderra Public School, St Pius X School and Figtree High School throughout June.

Processing and Logistics Environment and Community Coordinator, Scott Coleman (formerly of Dendrobium - see p.4) said he hoped the Mine's partnership with RailCorp would help reinforce to local young people the dangers of risky behaviour around railway lines.

"Dendrobium has an overriding commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the communities surrounding our operations, and it is hoped that Jonathan's presentations will help to avoid the repeat of previous incidents where people have been seen walking, playing and even

riding bicycles along the rail track or within the rail corridor," Scott said.

"Trespassing in the rail corridor along Cordeaux Road poses significant danger as the trains are heavy and cannot stop quickly in an emergency situation.

"We hope that Jonathan's story will encourage local students to discuss with their friends and family the dangers associated with railway tracks, and that the students will come to understand that any unauthorised activity on a railway line can result in serious injury or worse."

To ensure the safety of the community around the rail line, the Company is asking parents, children and the wider community to take note of the following key safety points:

- Do not trespass inside the fenced rail corridor
- Never walk on the rail tracks or attempt to ride a train
- Do not throw anything at a train or place anything on the rail line
- Always be alert and watch for trains near level crossings

If you see someone walking along or playing on the railway line or riding on the back of coal wagons please report it immediately to the Dendrobium Community Call Line on 1800 000 510.

June

09

02

DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE



Above: Members of Illawarra Coal's community consultative committee, including Ann Young and Judith Egan from the Dendrobium CCC recently attended a tour of the Southern Mines Rescue Station in Woonona.

AS PART OF ITS OVERRIDING COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION, DENDROBIUM ACTIVELY ENGAGES WITH THE DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (DCCC).

The DCCC meets every two months to work with Dendrobium Mine to address key community concerns regarding Dendrobium's operations and receive current information on the Mine's operational matters and environment and community initiatives.

DCCC meetings are attended by community representatives, as well as a representative from Wollongong City Council, the Department of Primary Industries (Minerals) and representatives of Dendrobium Mine and Illawarra Coal.

Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee members have been involved in a range of recent activities that provide further knowledge and understanding of Illawarra Coal's activities and the mining industry in general.

In May, Committee members attended a tour of the Southern Mines Rescue Station in Woonona. The Rescue Station was opened on its new site in 2008 and is a world class facility, providing state-of-the-art training facilities for mining professionals. Highlights of the Station visit included experiencing a three-dimensional virtual reality tour of an underground mine and visiting a mock underground mine constructed beneath the facility.

In February, the NSW Department of Planning's David Kitto attended the Committee's meeting and answered questions relating to the timing of mining approvals and review of monitoring results from previous mining domains; the results from subsidence monitoring; and the key aspects taken into account when assessing applications and providing approvals.

Recent field trips for Committee members included a site inspection of the Dendrobium Pit Top and Kemira Valley facilities, as well as areas above Longwall 5 in the Special Metropolitan Area.

Members of the community are encouraged to speak to their community representatives if they have any issues they would like raised at the next DCCC meeting.

The minutes from Dendrobium CCC meetings are available on the Illawarra Coal Dendrobium website, which can be accessed via www.bhpbilliton.com/illawarracoal/dendrobium.

A summary of the meeting minutes is also posted on the noticeboard of the Mt Kembla General Store on Cordeaux Rd and at the Kembla Heights Bowls and Recreation Club.

Operational Update

Dendrobium has an overriding commitment to the health and safety of our employees, contractors and the local community surrounding its operations.

In the 2009 calendar year, there have been five recordable injuries, which is nineteen less than this same period last year. In March, we achieved 58 days injury free, and have set a short-term target of no more recordable injuries in this financial year.

Longwall 5 continues to be extracted at reduced rates, with maintenance activities taking place on production down-days. Mining of this longwall block is due to be complete in January 2010.

During April, the Longwall team broke the existing record for tonnes mined for a 9.5 hour shift. The record was broken twice in two consecutive weeks, with a new record set at 12,991 tonnes mined in a shift.

Development is proceeding well, with three continuous miner units forming the new mining domain in Area 3, including Maingate 6 and Tailgate 6 which form up Longwall 6, and the South Mains Panel in preparation for future longwall blocks.

A number of development records were also broken in April and May, with total metres developed for a day at 113 metres, total metres for a week at 530 metres, and total metres for a month at 1903 metres.

SHOWCASING OUR LOCAL HISTORY

03

DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER 09

THIS IS THE SECOND IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES THAT HIGHLIGHT A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL SITES WITHIN THE MT KEMBLA AND KEMBLA HEIGHTS AREA.

Below: Miners Memorial.
Bottom Left: Stained glass window.
Bottom Right: Soldiers and Miners Memorial Church.



This piece looks at a building in Mt Kembla that has been a place of great remembrance for local residents since its construction in the late 1800s, and is the lone survivor of the five churches that were built in the area now known as Mt Kembla and Kembla Heights – The Soldiers and Miners' Memorial Church.

American Creek Chapel

The origins of the Church began with the American Creek Chapel, a plain weatherboard construction, which after opening on the site in 1858, served as a church, school room and community hall for the Mt Kembla village for many years.

A new church is born

By 1931, the old chapel had fallen victim to the ravages of time and termites, and a replacement was urgently needed. In July 1932, and on the 30th anniversary of the Mt Kembla Mine Disaster, the foundation stone for the new church was laid.

Eight months later, in September 1932, the building was completed, debt free. Remarkably, the church was built by one man, Bill Calwell, who is said to have carted all the materials for its construction from Wollongong by bicycle!

Remembering the Fallen: Mt Kembla Mine Disaster

As well as a place of worship, the Soldiers and Miners' Memorial Church remains a lasting memorial for the Mt Kembla Mine Disaster of 1902, where 96 men and boys lost their lives.

The Church is home to demonstrations of true community unity following tragedy – a stained glass window, for example, which was funded

by local villagers as a memorial to those who perished. Over 420 people contributed to its cost of 21 pounds (\$42), after the Rector of the Church decreed that no individual could donate more than one shilling to the purchase of the window.

An obelisk memorial for the mine disaster also stands in the graveyard. Originally, the memorial was designed to recognise the bravery of the popular heroes of the disaster, Major Henry Osborne McCabe and William McMurray, while not including any inscription that recognised the sacrifice of the other 94 men and boys who had died. When the Miners' Union refused to make any donation for the memorial because of this omission, the organising committee relented and agreed to the inclusion on the memorial of all of the names of those who had perished.

And in a poignant tribute to that disastrous day in 1902, the same Service of Evening Prayer that was used at the first memorial service held in the Church on the day of the explosion all those years ago, is used at the annual 96 Candles ceremony.

The Soldiers and Miners' Memorial Church today

The Soldiers and Miners' Memorial Church today has a small but active congregation who are proud of the church and its long association with the Mt Kembla community.

Visitors are welcome to attend the church services, which are held each Sunday at 9.30am. Group visits to the church and graveyard can also be arranged through the Mt Kembla Heritage Centre. For more information, contact Russell Viles on 4271 5424.



04 DENDROBIUM FAREWELLS SCOTT COLEMAN

DENDROBIUM HAS FAREWELLED ITS ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY ADVISOR, SCOTT COLEMAN.

Scott started at Dendrobium in June 2006, and during this time has been involved with managing and improving Dendrobium's environmental management systems, as well as helping to address community questions and concerns about the mine's operations.

Scott, who was a familiar face in Mt Kembla through his work for the Company during the past three years, has departed Dendrobium to take up the Environment and Community Coordinator position with Illawarra Coal's Processing and Logistics team.

Scott said he has greatly appreciated the hospitality he has received from employees and the Mt Kembla community while working at Dendrobium.

"I've really enjoyed getting to know the Mt Kembla community through being involved in local community events and interacting with local residents on a regular basis," Scott said.

"I've faced plenty of different challenges during my time at Dendrobium, and it has been very rewarding working through and addressing a variety of important issues.



"I hope that I've helped to improve the environmental awareness at Dendrobium Mine for employees and throughout the community."

Scott will remain active in the Mt Kembla community, as his new role with Processing and Logistics sees him involved with rail

movements from Kemira Valley to Port Kembla. Scott will also continue to attend the Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee as an Illawarra Coal Processing and Logistics representative.

Above: Scott Coleman.

Mt Kembla Mine Memorial Pathway official opening

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF STAGE 1 OF THE MT KEMBLA MINE MEMORIAL PATHWAY WILL TAKE PLACE ON 31 JULY 2009.



Above: Stage 1 of the Mt Kembla Mine Memorial Pathway will be officially opened in July 2009.

The Pathway is a community project organised by the Mt Kembla Pathway Group, and is dedicated to the victims of the Mt Kembla Mine Disaster of 1902, and to the indigenous people of the local area.

The Pathway will be officially opened by student representatives from Mt Kembla Public School and Figtree High School, and will take place prior to the 96 Candles Ceremony at Windy Gully, which commemorates the anniversary of the Mine Disaster.

The Mt Kembla Heritage Centre on Cordeaux Rd will also be open on that day between 3-5pm.

The land for Stage 1 of the Pathway was transferred from Illawarra Coal to Wollongong City Council control in 2004. Stage 1 of the Pathway, which is located between Cordeaux Rd and Stones Rd, includes an Aboriginal mosaic rest area, the American Creek Bridge, and a memorial site dedicated to the 96 lives lost in the Mt Kembla Mine Disaster.

DENDROBIUM EMPLOYEES HELP MAKE AUSTRALIA A LITTLE CLEANER

05



Above: Dendrobium employees participated in Clean Up Australia Day activities in areas around Mt Kembla.

DENDROBIUM EMPLOYEES DONNED THEIR GLOVES RECENTLY TO MAKE AREAS ACROSS MT KEMBLA A LITTLE CLEANER AS PART OF THIS YEAR'S CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY ACTIVITIES.

Seven Dendrobium employees targeted areas from the Mt Kembla Lookout to the intersection of Cordeaux Road and Harry Graham Drive, as well as the intersection of Cordeaux Road and Central Road.

Rubbish collected along the walk included paper, cardboard, glass and plastic bottles, cans, fast food wrappers, a sofa chair and the odd car part. Over 10 bags of rubbish were collected in total, along with the occasional leech!

Dendrobium employees joined approximately 630,000 other volunteers across 7,000 sites Australia wide, who collectively cleaned up 8,300 tonnes of rubbish.

Dendrobium website gets new look

ILLAWARRA COAL'S DENDROBIUM WEBSITE (WWW.BHPBILLITON.COM/ILLAWARRACOAL/DENDROBIUM) HAS RECEIVED AN UPGRADE TO INCLUDE NEW FEATURES THAT HIGHLIGHT DENDROBIUM'S ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE.

The website now includes a section that displays the latest results from surface water, air quality and noise monitoring data, as well as monitoring results from the licensed discharge point at Marley Place.

This monitoring information will be updated at least every three months.

Users can access the End of Panel Report for Longwall 4, along with Dendrobium's annual Environmental

Management Report for 2007. Links are also provided to the latest version of the Mine's Environmental Protection Licence and Development Consent.

Copies of the latest minutes from the Dendrobium Community Consultative Committee and the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Committee, as well as the most recent edition of Dendrobium News are also available.

Right: The new look Dendrobium website.



06

DCEP HELPS GIVE MT KEMBLA RESIDENTS A CLEARER PICTURE

THE DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (DCEP) IS HELPING MT KEMBLA RESIDENTS RECEIVE STRONGER TELEVISION SIGNALS THROUGH ITS SUPPORT OF THE MT KEMBLA TRANSLATOR ASSOCIATION.



Above: The DCEP has provided funding to the Mt Kembla Translator Association to cover the operating and maintenance costs of a television repeater at Mt Nebo to give Mt Kembla residents clearer television reception.

The Mt Kembla Translator Association has been working to provide good-quality TV signals to the Mt Kembla and Cordeaux Heights communities for almost 10 years, and commissioned the installation of a television repeater to improve television reception in July 2003.

With annual operating costs amounting to more than \$12,000 per year, the Dendrobium CEP has provided annual funding for operating, maintenance and rental costs for the repeater to the value of over \$67,000 since 2004.

Prior to the repeater being installed, many members of the Mt Kembla and Cordeaux Heights communities were able to receive a single, poor quality television channel that would produce multiple blurred images on the screen due to reflections of the signal from the surrounding high terrain.

The repeater is positioned at Mt Nebo, which effectively covers the Mt Kembla village and Cordeaux Heights area, and runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All Mt Kembla residents can now receive high-quality television signals for five channels by pointing their antennas towards the translator at Mt Nebo and tuning into the new frequencies.

The Mt Kembla Translator Association plans to change the repeater over to digital re-transmission in the near future and in accordance with the Federal Government's digital television changeover timetable.

Illawarra Coal submits Rezoning Application

SINCE OUR LAST EDITION OF DENDROBIUM NEWS, THERE HAS BEEN SOME LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE REGARDING AN APPLICATION MADE BY ILLAWARRA COAL FOR THE REZONING OF LAND AT KIRKWOOD PLACE IN MT KEMBLA.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE FOLLOWING POINTS WILL HELP TO CLARIFY THE ISSUE.

- The application for rezoning at Kirkwood Place was submitted to Wollongong City Council as part of the Council's Local Environment Plan in 2005
- In deciding to make the submission, Illawarra Coal has retained its commitment to providing land for the Mt Kembla Mine Memorial Pathway
- The Company has been in consultation with the Mt Kembla Pathway Group regarding the re-zoning application and its relationship with the alignment of Stage 2 of the Pathway since the development of the proposal in 2005
- Illawarra Coal will continue to work with the Pathway Group and other interested members of the community in relation to the submission
- Although the submission included a possible subdivision layout, the application relates only to the rezoning of the land, and the outcome will not determine the layout of the area proposed to be subdivided.

If you would like further information about the rezoning application, please contact Chris Schultz on 4255 4408.

DENDROBIUM SHAVES FOR A CURE

07

SHAVED HEADS AND MULTI-COLOURED HAIR WERE THE MUST-HAVE FASHION ACCESSORIES AT DENDROBIUM RECENTLY, AS EMPLOYEES GOT INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE FOR THE LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION.

A number of employees chose to have their head shaved or hair coloured to raise money for the charity, with one employee even daring to have his moustache coloured!

Through donations and a raffle, \$955 was raised for the World's Greatest Shave event. This fundraising effort will be matched through the BHP Billiton Matched Giving Program, meaning that a total of \$1,910 will be given to the Leukaemia Foundation on behalf of Dendrobium employees.

The funds raised through the World's Greatest Shave will help the Leukaemia Foundation continue to provide practical care and support to patients and families living with leukaemia, lymphomas, myeloma and related blood disorders, as well as funding research into better treatments and possible cures.

Right: Dendrobium Control Officer Tony De-Leuw was one of a number of employees who participated in the World's Greatest Shave to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation.



Dendrobium submits new Management Plans

AS PART OF THE DENDROBIUM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT MODIFICATION, WHICH WAS APPROVED IN DECEMBER 2008, DENDROBIUM WAS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT UPDATED MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES ASSOCIATED WITH DENDROBIUM MINE.

The Management Plans have been developed for the following aspects: traffic, water, air quality, noise, waste, bushfire, lighting, landscape, greenhouse gas and energy management and efficiency.

These documents have been submitted to the Department of Planning for review and will be placed on the new-look Dendrobium website (see article on page 5) when approved.

NEW STRUCTURE DEVELOPED FOR DCEC

08

DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER 09

THE DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING A REVIEW OF ITS FUNDING ADMINISTRATION ARRANGEMENTS.

The DCEC is responsible for managing the funds of the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program, and is comprised of local community and Dendrobium representatives. Wollongong City Council representatives will also be involved in the planning of projects and will attend meetings on an as-needed basis.

The Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program (funded by three cents per saleable tonne of Dendrobium's coal) is designed to further the Mine's commitment to the areas surrounding Dendrobium's operations by

funding local community projects and initiatives.

The DCEC meets every two months to assess applications for access to this funding from the local community against a number of selection criteria.

Previously, Wollongong City Council was responsible for administration of DCEP funds; however these funds will now be deposited into a trust.

A new committee will be established when the new administration arrangements have

been finalised. Two members of the original committee will stay on with the DCEC, while the Committee will also be looking for three new members. The call for nominations for new members of this committee will be advertised soon. Until the new committee has been formed, no new applications for funding will be considered.

A summary of the minutes from Dendrobium CEC meetings are posted on the noticeboard of the Mt Kembla General Store on Cordeaux Rd and at the Kembla Heights Bowls and Recreation Club.

ILLAWARRACOAL

Pride, passion, performance



For further information or to provide feedback on this newsletter, contact:

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