

ILLAWARRA COAL

2008 NEWS

The employee newsletter
of Illawarra Coal



Above: West Cliff employees Col Brennan and Kim Mackie.

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RECORD BREAKING LONGWALL FOR WEST CLIFF MINE

Illawarra Coal's performance as a principal producer of premium quality, hard coking coal and leading contributor to local, regional, state and national economies has continued with our West Cliff mine recording its most productive longwall block (and most productive year) in the mine's 32-year history.

The extraction of Longwall 32, which commenced in February 2007 and is now nearing completion, has seen new daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and yearly production records set. From February 2007, more than four million tonnes of raw coal has been produced from this longwall block.

Vice President - Operations, Jim Middleton said this remarkable achievement was the result of the excellent performance of everyone at West Cliff.

"This tremendous effort has been achieved through the hard work of all our employees, as well as support contractors and suppliers. Without everyone's help, this would not have been possible," Jim said.

"A focus on people completing their daily tasks in a planned, energetic and high standard way, has allowed the leaders at West Cliff to focus on improving the equipment, techniques and planning."

Jim believes that the dedication of West Cliff employees has benefited the mine and Illawarra Coal, and has helped to secure the Company's future.

"The overall demonstration of our core values, through an overriding commitment to Health, Safety, Environment & Community, as well as the courage to lead through continuous improvement & improving workplace standards, basing decisions on facts and the high performance initiatives show sustainability of improved performances," Jim said.

"Across Illawarra Coal I am heartened to see the same values being shown and the vitality that surrounds a safe, productive and values-driven business as demonstrated at West Cliff.

"The opportunity to keep improving all our operations in a similar vein is both exciting and satisfying regarding security for our people and associated businesses, as well as the significant contribution for the whole community."

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08

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Colin Bloomfield

PRESIDENT BHP BILLITON
ILLAWARRA COAL

Our current Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) is our best ever and that is due to your hard work and focus.

NOW THAT WE ARE NEAR THE END OF THE FINAL QUARTER OF OUR FINANCIAL YEAR IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REVIEW OUR PERFORMANCE AND WHAT WE NEED TO SET OURSELVES UP IN GOOD SHAPE FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

There have been a great many achievements in this year resulting in a good performance against many of our Key Performance Indicators. Particularly noteworthy are the following:

- Excellent Significant Incident (SI) reporting, investigation and review which is continually allowing us to identify and address risk in our business.
- Record low total recordable injury rates (TRIFR) with record low numbers of people actually hurt.
- Clean production tonnes ahead of budget.
- Earning before interest and tax (EBIT) ahead of budget.

As you know we have an overriding commitment to health, safety, environment and community and as part of that objective we strive to eliminate all injuries.

At the time of writing 104 people had suffered an injury serious enough to warrant some medical treatment. This equates to about 4.5 per cent of our total workforce (employees and contractors). Last year more than 150 people were injured, so I am sure you would agree FY08 is a big improvement! However, any injury is a concern and I will continue to strive for fewer injuries in our business.

I would like to mention West Cliff's strong production performance with Longwall 32. Breaking all records, this remarkable achievement resulted in

4 million tonnes of raw coal produced from the longwall in record time. Along the way the team at West Cliff have broken all their production records and reduced injuries across the site - a great result.

Dendrobium Mine and Dendrobium CPP have also broken production records - a great reward for lots of hard work and the significant investment the Company has made.

Looking to the year ahead I encourage everyone to maintain the focus on safety and meeting our production and development targets, continuing with the high quality and level of significant incident reporting. Incident reporting has been excellent this year and is leading to reduced risk levels in our business.

Underground roadway development remains our greatest challenge and is our breakthrough goal area on next year's plan.

We set target rates for the year, and although we achieved these in the first and fourth quarter, we failed to do so in the second or third quarters. Achieving these targets is absolutely critical and maintaining strong development rates is key to maximising our production success.

I thank everyone for your focus throughout the 2008 financial year. I am looking forward to the challenges of the year ahead, and urge everyone to embrace the challenges without compromising safety.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Bloomfield'.

Colin Bloomfield

ILLAWARRA COAL GETS BEHIND LOCAL SPORTING TEAMS

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THE 2008 ILLAWARRA FOOTBALL SEASON HAS KICKED OFF WITH AN EXTRA BOOST FROM ILLAWARRA COAL, WITH THE COMPANY ENTERING INTO A TWO-YEAR SPONSORSHIP OF THE REGION'S JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE SQUADS - THE ILLAWARRA STINGRAYS (WOMEN) AND WOLVES JUNIORS (MEN).

Illawarra Coal committed to the sponsorship deal in the hope that this financial assistance would guarantee the successful operation and running of these junior local representative teams.

General Manager Sustainable Development and External Affairs, John Brannon said the Company was proud to be able to make the opportunity to play football in the region more affordable for local families.

"Illawarra Coal is delighted to support the young women and men who represent our region in the game of football, and provide these talented sporting stars with the opportunity to progress their skills to a national and international level," John said.

"Through our support of the squads and the connected learning programs offered by Wollongong FC, we hope that young people will aspire to the values that we hold, including; courage to lead, integrity and high performance."

Schools in the Wollondilly region are also set to benefit from the sponsorship through an educational program established by Wollongong FC. This unique learning program incorporates the key elements of sport to further students' understanding of other areas of their education, such as mathematics, health and fitness.

The two-year deal will see Illawarra Coal's name on the players' strip, representation on the Wollongong FC junior committee by Vice President Jim Middleton, and the presentation of a *Pride, Passion, Performance* award to outstanding players at the end of the season.

The sponsorship also provides Illawarra Coal employees with the opportunity to see the Senior Wollongong FC team in action with a number of tickets available to each home game until the end of July.

For more information regarding the availability of these tickets contact your site HR officer or Anne Edgar at the Administration Centre on 4255 3380.



Above: Vice President Jim Middleton (right) joined Wollongong FC Chief Executive, Jock Morlando to view the Illawarra Coal sponsored players' strip.

Planning for the future with a Part 3A

Work has begun on the preparation of an application for Part 3A approval from the Department of Planning for the continued operations of our mining in the Bulli coal seam. A Project Description Report and Preliminary Environmental Assessment have been submitted to the NSW Department of Planning for assessment.

This is the first step in a Part 3A approval process and a requirement of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, that will take up to two and half years to finalise and will regulate the Company's mining operations in the area for some 30 years.

The Part 3A application will include proposed maximum footprints of the future operations of Appin and West Cliff mines. Part 3A approval will not remove the need for the preparation of Subsidence Management Plans - there will still be a requirement to submit a SMP for approval of each series of longwalls associated with the operations outlined in the Part 3A approval.

The final Part 3A application to the NSW Department of Planning will include a complete Environmental Assessment, and incorporate a comprehensive review of the economic benefits, and impacts on natural and man-made surface features. Detailed studies for the

preparation of the Environmental assessment have begun with early monitoring of fauna and flora being undertaken in some areas.

The Part 3A application will reflect the Company's commitment to environmentally sustainable mining in order to provide ongoing economic benefits in its consideration of the future impacts of our operations on natural and man-made surface features including; railway lines, bridges, flora, fauna, cultural heritage, rivers and streams.

Stakeholders will be kept informed as work continues on developing the application.

04 SURF'S UP FOR SOUTH COAST MINERS



SOUTH COAST MINERS SWAPPED THEIR OVERALLS FOR WETSUITS IN MAY AS AN UNEXPECTEDLY WARM, SUNNY AUTUMN DAY GRACED THE SHORES OF THE ILLAWARRA JUST IN TIME FOR THE 2008 SOUTHERN COLLIERIES SURF CLASSIC.

Appin employee and event organiser, Mick Van Opstal, was ecstatic that Mother Nature turned on perfect weather for the competition, after last year had seen the Classic held in almost cyclonic conditions.

"We were absolutely blessed with gorgeous weather this year. The sun was shining, the waves were small but good, which made for a really successful day," Mick said.

The Southern Collieries Surf Classic was held at East Corrimal Beach and featured competitors from all South Coast coal mines, including Appin, West Cliff and Dendrobium sites, Metropolitan, NRE and Tahmoor collieries, as well as occupational health and safety specialist Coal Services.

Some 119 entrants participated in the one-day event, which saw surfers compete in both longboard and shortboard divisions for individual placings, and an overall team trophy.

Mick explained that the annual event is held to build greater connections between miners throughout the South Coast, while also raising money for a worthwhile local charity.

"The Surf Classic is a great opportunity for miners in the Illawarra and Wollondilly regions across a variety of sites and companies to come together and boost morale all for a good cause," Mick said.

"This year we chose to fundraise for the Wollongong Hospital Operating Theatre, after one of the event organisers mentioned that they required a new resuscitation crib, since the old one has been there since 1975."

Through the generous donations of 31 local businesses including Illawarra Coal, and Mick's efforts to utilise the BHP Billiton Employee Matched Giving Program, it is hoped the surf competition will have raised the necessary \$25,000 for Wollongong Hospital to purchase this vital piece of equipment.

The sponsorship pledges from businesses also allowed Surf Classic organisers to raise a further \$7,000 for the Disabled Surfers Association to help in their purchase of a new equipment trailer.

Mick was impressed with the enthusiasm shown by employees towards this year's event and how keen sponsors were to be involved.

Over 67 employees from Illawarra Coal competed in the event with Tyson Loemker (West Cliff) finishing third and Luke Campbell finishing sixth in the shortboard competition, and Rhys James (Appin) finishing fifth in the longboard division. Overall, Appin finished third in the team competition, with West Cliff fifth and Dendrobium sixth.

Mick is grateful for the support from all the sponsors and hopes this relationship can continue into the future.

"I'd like to send out a massive thankyou to all of the sponsors of the competition. Their kindness has allowed us to run a successful event and reach our target total to provide Wollongong Hospital with some lifesaving equipment," Mick said.

"I hope that we can maintain this successful relationship with our sponsors and continue to raise the profile of the Classic and its fundraising capabilities.

"We are always looking for new sponsors and hope that we can encourage more businesses to get on board so we can continue to make a positive difference to local charities."

Above (left): West Cliff's Luke Campbell was one of the competitors in the shortboard division.

Above (right): Appin Electrician Neil Vugrek keeps his balance in the Surf Classic.

ILLAWARRA COAL CPP PROVIDES LIFE EDUCATION SUPPORT

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Illawarra Coal's Community Partnerships Program has continued to bring quality projects to the communities in which it operates, with the Board funding several recent ventures in the Wollondilly region.

Life Education Australia and Wollondilly schools have been the latest groups to benefit, with the CPP agreeing to provide funding for local primary schools to participate in the Life Education program. This sponsorship, to the value of \$8 per child, allows children to visit the Life Education mobile learning centre.

Eight primary schools in the Wollondilly region have happily accepted this funding, totalling \$22,600, which means their students will be able to participate in this valuable program without expense.

Manager Communication and Consultation, Rosanne Moore, said Illawarra Coal was delighted to have the opportunity to help local children access this highly regarded education program.

"Our CPP is proud to be able to give local students the opportunity to access the Life Education program, which teaches children essential skills to help them make the best life choices now and in the future," she said.

"We hope that the lessons learnt through the Life Education program will encourage children to uphold principles similar to our own core values - courage to lead, integrity, high performance, decisions based on fact, and of course, a commitment to health, safety, environment and community."

General Manager, Education, Training and Community Development for Life Education, Richelle Arnott, said the organisation was grateful for the CPP sponsorship, which will teach local students healthy lifestyle messages.

"Illawarra Coal's Community Partnerships Program has provided vital funding, enabling in excess of 2,500 students to be a part of our program, many of whom would be otherwise unable to attend our education sessions," she said.

"This funding will provide a great service for primary schools in the Wollondilly area in providing quality education about making informed healthy choices."

In other news, the CPP has also granted \$17,250 to the Appin Soccer Association, for installation of an all-weather access to

disabled toilet facilities at the Appin Sportsground.

These latest projects take the Illawarra Coal CPP's total investment in community projects to more than \$400,000 since the inception of the program in 2004.

Below: Life Education's Healthy Harold received a warm welcome from Douglas Park school children during a recent visit. He is pictured with Life Education Richelle Arnott and Illawarra Coal's Rosanne Moore (right).



06 MANDY HELPS THE HEART FOUNDATION BEAT STRONGER



Above: Appin's Mandy Barlogie (right) is helping to raise funds for the Heart Foundation in support of her friend Jenny Girdali (left) who lost her daughter (pictured) to a serious heart condition.

The lives of children are supposed to be happy and carefree, filled with the joys of the unexpected, dreams both big and small, and ideas to take on the world with.

This innocence of youth, however, faltered for many Illawarra residents in September 2007, after the death of 12 year-old Ebony Girdali, who died suddenly while playing at school. Ebony contracted a deadly virus called 'Myocarditis', causing her to suffer a heart attack.

Appin Human Resources Officer Mandy Barlogie was one person whose life changed forever after this tragic event. Ebony was the daughter of one of Mandy's closest friends, and someone who she was watching "grow up".

"Ebony was a very happy and vibrant girl with loads of personality and a smile that could light a room," Mandy said.

"This devastating event changed everyone's lives, and we are all sadder without Ebony. Her family pray each day to cope without her and, as a friend I try and hang in there with them, cry with them, hold them, and be there to pick them up when the day seems too bad to cope."

In an effort to help the Girdali family cope with their devastating loss and to help raise awareness of Myocarditis, Mandy decided to organise a mass fundraising drive in Ebony's memory, the proceeds of which would be donated to the Heart Foundation.

Mandy's fundraising efforts have involved selling arm bands, raffle tickets and flashing hearts, as well as placing wishing wells in McDonalds stores, Gloria Jeans cafes and other businesses around Wollongong. In addition to this she has helped co-ordinate events such as mufti days and Jump Rope for Heart at local schools.

"Proceeds from the sale of merchandise and the wishing wells have so far reached \$3,500, and it is rising," Mandy said.

"But it is the school-based events that have done really well, raising close to \$20,000."

The main focus of the fundraising drive, however, has centred on a Black and White with a touch of Blue Ball, being held at the Wollongong Novotel in June. At the sold-out ball, a silent auction will be conducted, raffling off generously donated gifts from businesses, such as a two-night stay at the Novotel in Melbourne, a surfboard and wetsuit, and mobile phone. All proceeds from ticket sales, which currently stand at over \$16,000, and the silent auction on the night will be donated to the Heart Foundation.

Mandy is not one to pass up the opportunity to keep on raising money, and said she is planning to utilise the BHP Billiton Matched Giving Program offered to employees.

"The Matched Giving Program is a great opportunity to rally up some extra funds for the charities that we support," Mandy said.

"I'm hoping to be able to capitalise on the Matched Giving annual limit of \$50,000 per employee so we can bring about some fantastic results for the Heart Foundation, whose research will hopefully be able to stop other families from having to experience the pain the Girdali family has faced."

"My father also died suddenly of a heart attack, so for me, the Black and White Ball and the other fundraising are in memory of both him and Ebony who were taken away without any goodbyes."

If you are interested in donating goods or cash for the Black and White Ball please contact Mandy on 4629 4548 or at Mandy.L.Barlogie@BHPBilliton.com.

Did You Know?

- Since being commissioned in 2006, Appin Mine's Water Filtration Plant has so far saved 330 million litres of water being taken from the Sydney Water supply.
- The Water Filtration Plant has helped reduce the amount of salt being discharged into the Nepean and Georges Rivers by more than 1500 tonnes.

- The amount of power generated by Illawarra Coal's harnessing of mine gas would power 60,000 homes annually.
- Illawarra Coal's total electricity consumption is approximately 300 Gigawatt hours annually, while our methane gas engine power plants generate approximately 500 Gigawatt hours of electricity p.a. This means

that Illawarra Coal actually produces more energy than it uses.

- Illawarra Coal has utilised the methane gas produced from its operations since the 1980s for power generation through projects such as WestVAMP and the Appin and Tower power plants.

WEST CLIFF INBYE DIESEL SERVICE BAY UPGRADED

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Above: The 504 Diesel Service Bay new hose reel arrangement prior to going underground.

West Cliff's management of machine fluids underground has received a well-deserved make-over, thanks to the implementation of an improved inbye diesel service bay.

The service bay aims to eliminate the need for the drum storage of fluids, by using a system of self-bunded 1000-litre pods, pumps and retractable hose reels at the 504 Diesel Service Bay.

The new system means that the pumping of oils, greases and coolants into diesel machines will now occur from these pods, rather than from drums. This method will remove the need for storage and servicing of the machines from drums, eliminating the hazards of spilled oil from the drums, and from used drums and transport pallets cluttering the area.

A reduction in the likelihood of contamination of fluids when being pumped into the machines is a further benefit of the upgrade. A decrease in the number of trips required to transport fluids to 504 has also occurred,

because the pods hold 25 to 40 percent more volume than a pallet of drums.

The service bay is considerably mobile, and the pods, pumps and hose reels can be transferred to a new location when required in the future.

Regular meetings were held throughout the project, led by Business Improvement Co-ordinator Frank Hendriks and Workshop Supervisor Craig Lightfoot to ensure the project was completed efficiently.

The upgrade was designed and implemented with the mandatory requirement to eliminate the use of drums. During this process, risk and statutory items were considered, and key engineers and other personnel were consulted as part of the process to validate the team's proposals.

When the final system was agreed upon, Craig Lightfoot coordinated with suppliers to develop suitable pods and pumping arrangements. The underground delivery and installation were

carried out by West Cliff personnel (mainly Night Shift), led by Mick O'Rourke.

Frank Hendriks said that implementing the new system required some forward thinking by those involved in the project.

"The 504 Diesel Service Bay needed various innovative approaches in regards to creating more space in the diesel service bay area, finding a suitable alternative to the drums, and developing suitable hose reel, pump and hosing designs, and arranging manufacture," Frank said.

"The big test for the new system will be during the Longwall 32 to 33 changeout in June and July 2008."

Other improvements made to the Diesel Service Bay area include better drainage and lighting systems, extensive concreting, and the relocation of other equipment to create more space for the installation of the pods, pumps and hose reels.

08 BEIJING OLYMPICS COME TO MT KEMBLA

The colour and excitement of the upcoming Beijing Olympics made its way to Mt Kembla Oval in May for the BHP Billiton Olympic Celebration held for Dendrobium, Administration Centre, Processing and Logistics and Cordeaux employees, contractors and their families.

The oval was transformed into an Olympic arena for the day, with a range of activities taking place to keep both young and old entertained.

A highlight of the day was the opportunity for children and adults to participate in sports clinics with Australia's Olympians.

Former Hockeyroos captain Rechelle Hawkes ran a series of hockey workshops, helping participants, both new and old to the game, understand the rules and work on some basics skills. Rechelle was captain of the Hockeyroos for five years, has competed in four Olympic Games, and is one of only two Australian women to win three Olympic gold medals at three separate games.

Current 400 metres track champion Joel Milburn also attended the Mt Kembla event, challenging young and old to sprint races and other athletic events, such as shot put and hurdles. Joel is currently ranked in the world Top 5 for his 400m event, and will be representing Australia in Beijing later this year when the Games kick off in August.

For those feeling slightly less energetic, there were plenty of other activities to keep employees and their families entertained. Live music filled the oval air thanks to The South Coast Country Music Association. Kids were treated to face painting and a jumping castle, and the Wollongong Science Centre performed their interactive science shows, teaching onlookers about bubbles, fantastic fluids and liquid nitrogen.

The Olympic Celebration was held in conjunction with Dendrobium Mine's Family Day, which was an opportunity for Dendrobium employees to showcase their workplace and the site's day-to-day operations to their

families. As part of their Family Day, more than 70 Dendrobium employees and their families took up the opportunity to tour the underground workings.

Manager Communication and Consultation, Rosanne Moore, said the day was a great success.

"The Olympic Celebration was a great chance for our employees to be a part of the festivities highlighting BHP Billiton's sponsorship of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Everyone who attended the event said they had a great time," she said.

"Beyond this, the day offered employees the opportunity to come together and socialise outside of the work environment, and also bring together Illawarra Coal employees who might not necessarily interact with one another on a daily basis.

"The families who went underground were particularly excited and amazed by the experience."

Similar events to the Olympic Celebration held in Mt Kembla are being held across all BHP Billiton sites globally. Appin and West Cliff employees were given the opportunity to attend a BHP Billiton Olympic Celebration earlier in the year.



Left: Illawarra Coal's Tim Manton and King Coal, with former Hockeyroo Rechelle Hawkes attended the recent BHP Billiton Olympic Celebration in Mt Kembla.

DENDROBIUM HELPS MAKE AUSTRALIA A LITTLE CLEANER

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Dendrobium employees have once again donned their gloves for the annual Clean Up Australia Day in February.

The 'green team' participated in a clean-up along Cordeaux Road, between Central Rd and the start of Mount Kembla.

Approximately 20 bags of rubbish were collected on the day, which were filled with bottles and cans, cigarette packets, cardboard, flower pots and even parts of a computer.

Wollongong City Council provided traffic control for the day, including Stop/Slow signs and a support vehicle to ensure employees were safe while performing the clean up.

Our Dendrobium team joined approximately 800,000 other volunteers across 6,000 sites Australia-wide, who collectively cleaned up 7,000 tonnes of rubbish.

Right: Dendrobium employees Alfred Pitt, Scott Coleman, Cindy Fleming and Chris Schultz after their rubbish collecting efforts.



Marquee for hire

Do you have a special event coming up? Then why not enquire about hiring an Illawarra Coal marquee to provide some much needed shelter and protection!

We have two small marquees (3m x 3m) available for free loan to employees and community members for community events. The marquees can be booked individually or as a pair for short periods of time (eg. weekends).

The marquees feature an easy-to-use pop-up design and come complete with pegs, ropes and a carry-bag.

If you are interested in booking a marquee, please contact Donna Rout on 4255 3535 or at Donna.A.Rout@BHPBilliton.com for more information.

Right: One of the Illawarra Coal marquees, which are available for free loan, is pictured at a recent sports carnival.



10 ILLAWARRA COAL EMPLOYEES GET READY FOR BEIJING

FOUR LUCKY ILLAWARRA COAL EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN REWARDED WITH A UNIQUE OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE, THANKS TO A SERIES OF INITIATIVES RUN BY BHP BILLITON CELEBRATING THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE 2008 BEIJING GAMES.

Alan Stokes, Scott Cram, Troy McDonald and Geoff Tolhurst all received Olympic packages, after being nominated for demonstrating key values central to BHP Billiton's operations.

Applications and Knowledge Manager Alan Stokes' efforts around Safety Week saw his nomination made by an employee working in Corporate Archives. Alan recommended the introduction of iPICK, a system of touch-screen kiosks and software that provides employees and contractors on site with easy access to critical safety, operational and personal development information twenty-four hours a day.

After this development and investment of iPICK, BHP Billiton decided that iPICK would be implemented by the end of the financial year 2009 across all BHP Billiton coal sites as a standard information point, with other sites, such as Cannington and Olympic Dam also showing great interest.

Alan's nomination has seen him win a three-night trip to the home of the 2008 Olympics - Beijing. His package includes accommodation in a four-star hotel, with premium tickets to three Olympic events, a translator for daily activities, and the opportunity to attend organised excursions to some of China's oldest

and most famous sites, such as The Great Wall, Tian'anmen Square and the Forbidden City.

Alan said he is very excited about having the opportunity to experience the 2008 Games live and in all their glory.

"People keep asking me what events I want to see, but to tell you the truth, I really don't mind. It would be great to have the chance to see the swimming or the hockey - I'd like to see an event where we're expecting the Aussies to do well," Alan said.

"What I'm really hoping for is the chance to be inside the main arena - I think the atmosphere there will be awesome. I went to the MCG once and thought the atmosphere there was incredible, so in the main arena at the Beijing Games, it will be like the atmosphere is on steroids!"

Just like Alan, West Cliff's Scott Cram and General Manager Projects and Engineering Troy McDonald will also be heading to China in August, for a similar package of three days of Olympic events and sight-seeing.

Scott, an Underground Operator, was nominated by Mark McColl, Wayne Price, Tony Howard and Roger Bowman for the Coal Olympic Competition. His selection came after

Scott's continued efforts in heading up West Cliff's BASE behavioural observation program, chairing the BASE steering committee and conducting all the BASE training for the West Cliff site.

West Cliff HSEC Manager, Mark McColl, said he was pleased to see Scott rewarded for his excellent safety leadership at site.

"Scott has been a strong supporter of our BASE observation system since the program's inception some four years ago," Mark said.

"Scott's involvement with BASE has helped bolster employees' performance in this program, which has been associated with reduced injury rates."

Troy and West Cliff nightshift Under Manager Geoff Tolhurst were nominated by the Illawarra Coal Senior Leadership Team (SLT) through the Coal Customer Sector Group (CSG) Living the Values Competition.

Geoff received a Coal Recognition Package which allowed him to attend the Australian Swimming Championships with access to pre- and post-event functions, premium reserved seating, entertainment, merchandise packs and ambassador memorabilia.

Appin Night Shift fly the flag for Zero Harm

Appin employees have demonstrated Illawarra Coal's overriding commitment to safety, with the site's weekday night shift crew achieving an injury free year.

The crew, made up of 49 direct Illawarra Coal employees and 15 contractors, has worked injury free for the last 12 months.

Appin Operations Manager Heath Hannigan said the recordable injury free period was a great accomplishment for the night shift team and a real demonstration of employees applying themselves to Illawarra Coal's

commitment to ensuring zero harm across all its sites.

"I'm really proud of everyone involved in achieving this injury free period - it's great to see our employees' dedication to one of our core values - our commitment to HSEC," Heath said.

"This is a great precedent to set for all Illawarra Coal employees in how we can achieve total zero harm, and make our workplaces safe for everyone, everyday."

WESTVAMP CONTINUES TO GENERATE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

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WestVAMP has continued to receive international recognition and praise with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, Stephen Johnson visiting the world-first project in April.

Administrator Johnson, who is US President George W Bush's most senior environmental advisor, and a team from the US EPA met with representatives from Illawarra Coal, BHP Billiton's corporate office and technology provider MEGTEC Systems AB. Their visit consisted of an information session about the project, the operation of the technology and its environmental capabilities, and a tour around and inside the plant.

Speaking to WIN News, Administrator Johnson said the WestVAMP power plant was an incredible project, both in its ability to generate electricity from the extremely dilute methane in ventilation air and in the project's capabilities to combat climate change.

"To capture [the methane gas] and not only capture it for greenhouse gas purposes but then to use it as an energy source is very exciting. And of course this demonstration project does exactly that," he said.

Illawarra Coal's Energy Utilisation and Projects Engineer Pat Booth said Administrator Johnson's visit was great recognition of hard work put in by all the different members of the team of the world-first project.



"Our WestVAMP team were committed to successfully implementing this environmental improvement technology, and to see the project gain worldwide interest is incredibly rewarding for everyone who developed the technology and who are responsible for ensuring its continual and effective operation," Pat said.

Above: US EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson, interviewed by WIN Television, visited WestVAMP recently.

Calling all Miners!!!

The Mt Kembla Heritage Festival will again be taking place this winter, on Thursday 31 July, Saturday 2 August - Sunday 3 August. As part of these celebrations, Coal Shovelling and Roof Bolting competitions will be held at Mt Kembla Oval on 2 August.

The Coal Shovelling events are held in both men's singles and men's doubles divisions, with fantastic prize money up for grabs for those who can shovel 507kg of coal the fastest! First prize for the men's singles division stands at \$1500, while the winners of the men's doubles competition will be awarded \$750.

The Roof Bolting competition is run as a doubles division, with first prize winners picking up \$750.

If you are interested in entering either the Coal Shovelling or Roof Bolting competitions, please contact Chris Schultz at Dendrobium on 4255 4408 or at Chris.Schultz@BHPBilliton.com or download an entry form from the Mt Kembla Heritage Festival website at <http://www.mtkembla.org.au/index.htm>.

Right: Coal shovelling competitions will again be taking place at the Mt Kembla Heritage Festival in 2008.



CITY2SURF 2008 COMES A RUNNIN'

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ILLAWARRA COAL | EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER JUN08

Illawarra Coal employees are again being encouraged to pull on their running shorts and tie up their joggers for the 2008 City2Surf fun run, being held on Sunday 10 August.

Illawarra Coal is starting to take registrations for the annual event, with 2008 being the third year the Company has entered teams in its 37-year history. Employees, contractors and their immediate families from all Illawarra Coal sites are welcome to enter.

Jen Finlay from the Administration Centre said the City2Surf is a fun way for employees to develop and maintain a daily exercise routine as well as practice team work both in leading up to, and during the race.

"City2Surf is a great opportunity for employees to demonstrate their commitment to Illawarra Coal's Health and Wellbeing program," she said.

"The event encourages employees to focus on preparations leading up to the race and promotes a healthier lifestyle that we hope stays in place long after the race is finished.

"All participants will be asked to commit to completing at least 50 kilometres of training to ensure that everyone is adequately prepared for the race."

President Col Bloomfield has again thrown in an added incentive, offering to donate \$5 to a local charity for every participant who enters and an extra \$20 for anyone who can beat him across the finish line.

Registration and transport expenses are covered for each employee in addition to the provision of a polo shirt or running singlet. Entrants will also be in the running for individual and team prizes, including best individual and team times.

If you are interested in registering for the City2Surf or would like further information please contact Jen Finlay on 4255 3321 or at Jennifer.Finlay@BHPBilliton.com.



Above: Health and Safety's Ray Aitken was one of many Illawarra Coal employees who took part in last year's City2Surf. More are encouraged this year.

ILLAWARRACOAL

Pride, passion, performance

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