

# BENGALLA MINE

## Community Consultative Committee Update

### The Bengalla CCC Newsletter...

The material in this issue of the Bengalla Mine Community Consultative Committee (BMCCC) newsletter has been selected by the CCC representatives.

The BMCCC is comprised of community representatives and representatives from Bengalla Mine including the Chief Executive Officer. This newsletter aims to inform interested community members on matters discussed during CCC meetings.

## Control grazing within biodiversity offset areas and bushfire management



Bengalla Mining Company (Bengalla) owns and manages 6,215 hectares of land separate to the mine site, which is known as the Biodiversity Offset Areas (the Land). The Land is managed in accordance with the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP). The BOMP, which is approved by the Commonwealth and State Governments, outlines the management strategies available to Bengalla to improve the Land. This includes controlled grazing of cattle on the Land for bushfire mitigation and pasture improvement purposes.

The BOMP requires ecological studies to be completed on the Land prior to grazing to determine if grazing is able to commence. In this case, the criteria in the BOMP for controlled grazing on part of Bengalla's Land were met. The control grazing trial has commenced and will conclude at the end of November 2017.

Following the trial, an ecologist will undertake a post grazing assessment to assess the ecological impact and benefits to the Land.

The trial results will be included in the Annual Review – 2017 report.

The BOMP also details fire management tools to manage this risk which includes establishment of designated fire trails, fuel load reduction burns and control grazing.

Bengalla recently completed the establishment fire trails across much of the Land being approximately 60km in length to date with more to come.

Bengalla is focussed on

managing risks on the Land including bushfire risk.

Recently Bengalla has undertaken a tour of our Black Mountain Land with the Parkville and Kingdom Ponds fire captains to familiarise them with the Land including important features for example, water fill points. Following the tour Bengalla provided fire trail maps to the Rural Fire Service.

Bengalla continues to actively manage bushfire risk on the Land.

Regular visits to the Land during bushfire season (October to March) to inspect fire trails and water supply points will occur.

Bengalla has met with each Rural Fire Service Captain where our Land is located and will continue to engage to actively manage this critical risk for the benefit of each of us.



# Bengalla Mine Community Consultative Committee Update

## Students dive into Learn to Swim programme

Muswellbrook Primary School students have benefitted from the newly established Bengalla Community Development Fund.

Year 2 and Year 3 students have started the school term with a two week Learn to Swim programme at the Muswellbrook Aquatic and Fitness Centre thanks to Bengalla.

Teacher Lana Mulholland said, “the youngsters loved the experience. It’s the first time we’ve hosted it for a while but, the response from the kids has been amazing. The children have learnt many things, such as water survival, basic swimming skills and stroke correction.

Bengalla Community Relations Specialist, Debbie Day said

“the programme provides the students with the confidence they need to reduce the risks this summer around water. It also develops their skills in a fun, safe and interactive environment.”

If you have a project or new initiative that benefits residents within the Muswellbrook Shire, results in direct and lasting benefits to the local community or responds to a need in the local community, you may be eligible to apply for funding under the Bengalla Community Development Fund.

If you would like more information on the Fund or an application form please contact Debbie Day by emailing: [Debbie.day@bengalla.com.au](mailto:Debbie.day@bengalla.com.au)



*Pictured: Teachers Nicole Glenn, Lana Mulholland with Bengalla Community Relations Specialist Debbie Day and students from Muswellbrook Primary School*

## Bengalla opened its doors to the community

The community flocked to the Muswellbrook Showground on Saturday, 14 October to join in the fun of the Bengalla Community Open Day.

Whilst the skies threatened, it did not stop the crowds, with numbers up on previous events.

The community took the opportunity to take a closer look at the mine with full buses departing the showground every 15 minutes for the mine tour.

The bumper crowd also enjoyed live entertainment including music by Kyda Rock, a live broadcast from PowerFM, a free BBQ cooked by the APEX Club, face painting and a wide range of interactive displays to learn about the operation and its community partners.

Bengalla employees were also on hand to talk about their roles and provide information on the mine from managing the environment to the logistics of transporting coal to the port.

Bengalla CEO Cam Halfpenny said:

“Our community day is about opening our doors so people get to know a bit more about us, what we do and our contribution to help strengthen the local community.

He expressed his thanks to all of the community partners, suppliers, employees and visitors for the part they played in making the day a success.”



*Pictured: Bengalla employees, James Henderson and Russell Hartin helping out at the Open Day*

*The minutes and presentations from CCC meetings are available for public viewing at the Muswellbrook and Denman Libraries. If you have an interest in any of the topics discussed at the CCC and would like further information on this topic or in future newsletters, please contact one of the members listed below.*

If you wish to attend a Bengalla CCC meeting, or would like an issue raised by one of the Committee members, please contact any of the members listed below:

Mr Malcolm Ogg (Chairperson)	Ph: 6543 4583	Mr Noel Downs	Ph: 65431 288
Mrs Llewellyn Bates	Ph: 6547 9170	Mr Dennis Burton	Ph: 6543 2730
Mr Cam Halfpenny (Bengalla CEO)	Ph: 6542 9500	Mr Jonathon Moore	Ph: 6547 9164
Mrs Debbie Day (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500	Mr Craig White (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Clr Rod Scholes (Muswellbrook Council)	Ph: 6549 3700		

Bengalla Environmental Complaints Hotline number: 1800 178 984

[www.bengalla.com.au](http://www.bengalla.com.au)