



COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

THE BENGALLA CCC NEWSLETTER

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

The Committee is comprised of community representatives and representatives from Bengalla Mine including the General Manager. This newsletter aims to inform interested community members on matters discussed during CCC meetings.

Bengalla Engineering Scholarship Program

Support to local Students

Since 2000 Bengalla have proudly offered financial support to students undertaking tertiary studies through the Bengalla Undergraduate Scholarship Scheme and the Bengalla Scholarships (Mining related degrees)

We're committed to investing in our local youth and supporting their educational journeys. Since the start of our Engineering Scholarship program in 2014, we've proudly supported over 17 students via our \$34,000 scholarship and also gain valuable practical experience onsite.

This involves working at Bengalla throughout the holiday period and delivering on projects within their teams. This time onsite also contributes to their communication and leadership skills. In 2023 we awarded 6 Bengalla Scholarships across various areas such as Mechanical Engineering, Enviro Science and Management, Commerce and Law, Majoring Human resources

The aim is support the students academic endeavors and prepare them for a successful career within the Mining Industry. Applications for the Bengalla Scholarships open later this year.

The Bengalla Undergraduate Scholarships have supported over 47 students studying a range of degrees such as teaching, nursing, psychology and criminology. This one year scholarship valued at \$5,000 supports local students from Muswellbrook High School, Scone High School, St Joseph's College Aberdeen and Scone Grammar School. Interviews for these Scholarships will be held throughout September.



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ORCHID RELOCATION

A rare occurring colony of Tiger Orchids (*Cymbidium canaliculatum*) was relocated from within the old Mount Pleasant Operations Rail Loop, to the BMC Rehabilitation Area on the 9th of January. The Tiger Orchid is an epiphytic species differing from a parasitic species, meaning that the orchid grows on its host, partaking in its nutrient cycles, but not adversely affecting it. Its territory, while at its southern peak in the Hunter Valley, naturally extends as far north as Cape York and west as the Kimberley. Listed as one of two threatened flora species onsite, the Tiger Orchid is an 'endangered population' in the Hunter Valley. Looking after these threatened species means safely relocating them as our mine progresses, ensuring that they continue to flourish in our region. The job began on the 9th of January, an entourage of vehicles including a 50T crane, 22T Pick & Carry Crane, Bucket Truck, and a Flatbed Semi Trailer, supervised and escorted by Bengalla employees to safely relocate the orchids and their host tree to the refuge of the rehab.



Works began late morning, the crew eager to beat the rain clouds and imminent rain on the forecast. Within a few hours, combined efforts between arborists, riggers and operators have safely resulted in each limb of the orchid host being carefully deconstructed and lifted onto the back of the semi-trailer. A goanna had endured the entire operation, resiliently defending its home within the Orchid's hollow, now also making its way to the rehab.

Slowly but surely, and safely, the entourage made its way to the south end of the rehab, escorted through the haul road in-pit. Waiting, in the rehab, were two newly implemented host trees, large ironbark, which the orchids would be attached to. By late afternoon, works were suspended by the inevitable rain and Red lighting Alert. By midday, January 10th, each limb harbouring orchids were firmly and meticulously attached to its new hoist in the rehab, potentially excessive amount of sunlight or wind. The goanna although nowhere to be seen, now roaming the rehab. Overall, the job was extremely successful, carefully and efficiently executed, a product of dedication to environmental preservation and an exhibition of biodiversity that will serve the rehab for years to come.

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 Cam Halfpenny (Bengalla General Manager)	Ph: 6542 9500
Mrs Llewellyn Bates	Ph: 6547 9170	Mr Glenn Meyn (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Mr Johnathan Moore	Ph: 6547 9164	Mr Craig White (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Ms Theresa Folpp (Muswellbrook Shire Council)	Ph: 6549 370	Ms Hayley Frazer (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Mr Jeff Drayton (Muswellbrook Shire Council)		Mrs Fiona Hartin (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Mrs Jennifer Lecky (Muswellbrook Shire Council)			
Ms De-Anne Douglas (Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council)			

Bengalla Environmental Complaints Hotline Number: 1800 178 984



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