BENGALLA

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

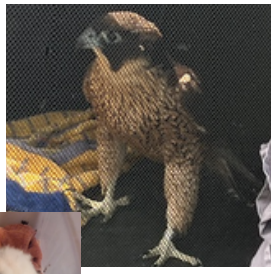
THE BENGALLA CCC NEWSLETTER

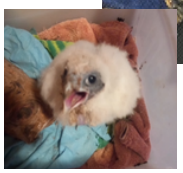
The material in this issue of the Bengalla Mine Community Consultative Committee (Committee) newsletter has been selected by the CCC representatives.
The Committee is comprised of community representatives, represenatives from Muswellbrook Shire Council and representatives from Bengalla Mine including the General Manager. This newsletter aims to inform interested community members on matters discussed during CCC meetings.

Wynnie the Peregrine Falcon Takes Flight

Recently a pair of Peregrine Falcons chose to build a nest within Bengalla mine, which presented a significant risk to the birds. Working alongside experienced wildlife rescuers, Bengalla's team carefully rescued a vulnerable chick, known as Wynnie, giving her the best chance of survival. Known as the world's fastest animal, the peregrine falcon is an incredible bird of prey.

"Peregrine falcons don't do well in captivity, especially if they've been rescued and taken from their parents. Despite the challenges Wynnie has defied the odds. She pulled through and has grown into a powerful and incredibly fast falcon. In her flight enclosure, she was clocked at speeds of more than 160 kilometres per hour," said Lindsay, Bengalla Environment Advisor, who was part of the team involved in rescuing Wynnie.





After months of dedicated care and rehabilitation, Wynnie was ready to return where she belonged and was released back into the wild under the watch of Wildlife and the Bengalla Environment team. Wynnie's story is a testament to the commitment to safeguarding the wildlife that calls the region home.

Protecting the Tiger Orchid

One of the Upper Hunters vulnerable plants, the tiger orchid (Cymbidium Canaliculatum) was identified earlier this year in Bengalla's ecological pre-clearance surveys ahead of mining. These orchids, under our Biodiversity Management Plan, are required to be preserved within the environment which usually involves relocation to our established rehabilitation areas. What makes these orchids difficult to relocate is the fact they are an epiphyte, meaning it grows on trees rather than soil and its root system is embedded within the host tree. Careful works have been undertaken to safely transport this orchid to the rehabilitation areas with the pruning of the host trees canopy. the elevation, bearing towards the sun and pollinator presence have all been considered for the best location this orchid could thrive in. The stag, sitting at 10 metres high, will be a fine addition in this growing rehabilitation area with branches still attached to retain as much hollow structure for fauna to also. Use. With spring around the corner the orchid could potentially flower resulting in a new generation of orchid seeds to potentially propagate within the rehabilitation area.

Local Student Gains Valuable Industry Experience Through Scholarship Program

Growing up in Denman as a fourth-generation coal miner, Patrick Wear has always had a strong connection to the mining industry and the communities it supports. Patrick is currently studying a Bachelor of Business/Commerce at the University of Newcastle, majoring in Management and Accounting.

Patrick is combining his university studies with practical workplace experience through Bengalla's Undergraduate Mining Program which supports Patrick through a scholarship and vacation work. Inspired by both his family's long history in mining and his interest in business and accounting, the scholarship has provided valuable opportunities to apply classroom learning in a real-world setting whilst also easing the financial pressures often associated with higher education.

Throughout his vacation work, Patrick has been involved in day-to-day business activities and process improvement initiatives, gaining practical insight into how accounting and business functions support mining operations.

A highlight of his experience has been developing a Power BI dashboard that tracks technician hours assigned to equipment across site. The project not only strengthened his technical skills but also gave him the opportunity to collaborate with employees from a range of departments, building a broader understanding of site operations. The hands-on experience has complemented his university studies, allowing him to regularly apply the concepts and theories learned in the classroom to real workplace challenges. It has also helped build valuable skills and confidence as he prepares for a future career in the industry.

Reflecting on the scholarship program, Patrick said the opportunities available through the experience have been invaluable and encouraged other students to apply. Patrick's advice is "Just go for it. There aren't any downsides to applying, and the opportunities are awesome." Supporting local students through scholarships and work experience programs remains an important part of Bengalla's commitment to investing in the future of our region, helping young people develop skills, gain experience and build rewarding careers.

The minutes and presentations from CCC meetings are available on our website. 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
Mrs Llewellyn Bates (Community Member)	Ph: 6547 9170
Mr Johnathan Moore (Community Member)	Ph: 6547 9164
Ms Theresa Folpp (Muswellbrook Shire Council)	Ph: 6549 3700
Mr David Hartley (Muswellbrook Shire Councillor)	
Ms De-Anne Douglas (Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council)	
Mr Cam Halfpenny (Bengalla General Manager)	Ph: 6542 9500
Mr Glenn Meyn (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Ms Hayley Frazer (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500
Mrs Fiona Hartin (Bengalla)	Ph: 6542 9500

Bengalla Environmental Complaints Hotline Number: 1800 178 984

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