



New Hope's Naomi Tonscheck joins in the fun at the Sustainability Festival.

NEW HOPE HELPS LOCAL KINDY KIDS STAY SAFE

Safety was a major focus of this year's Oakey C&K Community Preschool and Kindergarten's Children's Bike Ride and Sustainability Festival, thanks to a donation from the New Hope Group.

Held annually, this year's Sustainability Festival included a bike ride along Stanley Street, Oakey.

C&K Director Janette Quince said the festival had been a great success raising around \$2000 for the centre.

"This is the third year that we have held the festival, and we had more than 200 people there," she said.

"New Hope helped us to provide a bright orange C&K t-shirt for high visibility for the bike ride participants.

"There is a river right near us so we need to be very safety conscious, and the t-shirts made a nice sustainable gift for the children that they can wear again."



A New Hope themed Jacaranda tree at the Jacaranda Day festival.

COMMUNITY GROUPS BENEFIT FROM FUNDING

Community grants have been awarded to six local groups under the latest round of the New Acland Community Investment Fund.

Among the beneficiaries are St Monica's P&F Association, Biddeston Primary P&C, Oakey and District Pony Club, Oakey Motorsports Club, Oakey State High School and Goombungee-Haden Show Society.

The Community Investment Fund was launched in August 2013, and is in addition to the New Hope Group's substantial Community Sponsorship and Donation Program.

The New Acland Community Investment Fund assists not-for-profit community groups and organisations to develop long-term outcomes for communities around the New Acland Coal Mine.

Not-for-profit community groups and organisations within the Toowoomba Regional Council area are eligible to apply for grants of \$10,000 or more under the Fund.

Applications to the Fund are welcome at any time; however eligible organisations are invited to submit an application before 31 March next year to be considered for the next round of funding.

Visit the New Hope Community Information Centre or phone 1800 882 142 for more information.



New Hope's Naomi Tonscheck with participants in the South Myall Landcare Group's Computer Up-Skilling Program. New Hope provided funding for the course through the CIF.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATED AT JACARANDA DAY FESTIVAL

Visitors to this year's Jacaranda Day Festival in Goombungee enjoyed learning about the region's vibrant history.

Organisers of the Jacaranda Day Festival, the Rosalie Shire Historical Society, received support from the New Hope Group to help celebrate the former shire's train and railway past.

Rosalie Shire Historical Society secretary Cathy Hartley said the Jacaranda Day Festival in Goombungee was a great way of keeping the community spirit of the former Rosalie Shire alive.

"The generous donation from New Hope enabled us to purchase a hoist to help mount the historical rail items for our float, which meant we were able to participate in the parade."

A model railway, created by the society with the support of New Hope, was also on display for visitors to the Festival.



NEW HOPE GROUP

NEW ACLAND COMMUNITY UPDATE

December 2014



NEW HOPE HOSTS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSIONS

Residents from across the region were invited to attend New Hope's community consultation sessions in November to discuss key components of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project.

The first session, held in Acland, focused on New Hope's Acland Management Plan, while the second session in Jondaryan outlined New Hope's commitment to relocate the Jondaryan rail loading facility.

Community members had an opportunity to meet with New Hope staff and provide feedback on the proposed plans.

Under the Acland Management Plan, the Acland town area, including the Tom Doherty Park, War Memorial and Acland No 2 Colliery, will be left in place.



New Acland Projects Manager Greg King talks with a local visitor at the Jondaryan Community Consultation Session.

New Hope will maintain these properties to ensure their preservation into the future.

Permanent access and utility services to Acland will be maintained over the life of the Project and dysfunctional buildings and infrastructure will be removed.

In addition, New Hope will maintain and tidy up land as required, including the planting of trees around the township.

As part of the revised plan, the train loading facility will be relocated from near Jondaryan to a site on the mining lease area some 8km away and will feature a new rail loop with a state-of-the-art loading and veneering facility.

DECISION PENDING

A decision on the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project is expected from the Queensland Coordinator General's office in the coming months.

The New Hope Group is proposing to continue its operations at the New Acland Coal Mine to extend the mine's life to the year 2029.

The revised Project will boost current employment from around 300 local jobs to about 400 and grow indirect jobs.

If it is given the go-ahead, the revised New Acland Project will also provide a boost of \$12 billion to the local, state and national economies over the life of the mine.

New Hope has listened to community and government concerns relating to the previous proposal and has developed a revised version of this plan that addresses these issues.

Without the approval of the revised New Acland continuation project, the New Acland mine will close around 2017.

Wishing you a
*Safe & Joy-filled
Festive Season*

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New Hope has prepared this newsletter to keep the community informed about the New Acland Mine operations and initiatives.



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NEW HOPE HELPS CAREFLIGHT TAKE TO THE SKIES

The New Hope Group is renewing its partnership with the CareFlight Rescue Helicopter Service, supporting the team to continue its vital work for communities across the Darling Downs.

New Hope has sponsored the CareFlight Rescue Helicopter Service since 2011 after seeing first-hand its tenacious and tireless work through the emergency response to the 2011 floods in Queensland.

New Hope Group Chief Operating Officer Bruce Denney said the funding from the partnership would be used for CareFlight's Toowoomba-based operations.

"CareFlight has airlifted over 40,000 patients over the last three decades, making it a vital service for regional Queenslanders," he said.

"As an Australian owned, Queensland based company, New Hope is very proud to be able to partner with CareFlight assisting communities right throughout this region.

"Through our support, we are ensuring that the service not only continues, but goes from strength to strength."

As part of our partnership, New Hope organises for CareFlight to attend various community events such as the Oakey Santa Fair.

At this year's Santa Fair, children also enjoyed Santa bags filled with goodies, thanks to a donation from New Hope.



New Hope and CareFlight celebrate Christmas.

REVISED PROJECT TIMELINE

Activity	Anticipated Timeframe
Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) advertised for public comment	January 2013
Environmental Impact Statement ToR approved	March 2013
Environmental Impact Statement submitted	December 2013
Environmental Impact Statement public comment period	February 2014
Additional Environmental Impact Statement public comment period	September 2014
Coordinator-General's report and approval decision	In Progress
Construction (if approved)	Between 2015 and 2017

NEW HOPE CONSULTS WITH THE COMMUNITY

The New Hope Group has developed a detailed consultation and engagement program for those living in the vicinity of the revised New Acland Stage 3 Project and the wider community.

The program ensures residents receive regular, information on the revised Project, and the opportunity to discuss issues and areas of concern.

In addition to a tailored communication and engagement program, all landholders and community members will have access to the full range of New Hope's communication and engagement activities.

These include, but are not limited to; access to community staff at the New Hope Community Information Centre, information on the dedicated New Acland Project website (www.aclandproject.com.au), as well as regular community newsletters and updates through the local media.

New Acland General Manager Andrew McDonald said New Hope had listened to community members in developing the revised Project.

"New Hope employees are currently meeting with landholders in the region surrounding the New Acland Mine," he said.

"We have also established the New Acland Community Reference Group, made up of landholders and community representatives who meet regularly to discuss key issues, opportunities and information relating to the revised Project.

"If you have any queries regarding consultation, or would like to discuss your individual needs and requirements, please contact the New Hope Community Information Centre in Campbell Street, Oakey or phone 1800 882 142."

NEW CRG MEMBERS ON BOARD

The New Acland Community Reference Group (CRG) has held the first meeting of its new term, and welcomed three new members.

The CRG was established in 2012 by the New Hope Group, and plays an important role in providing the company with grass roots community input into the New Acland Coal Mine's operational, development and planning activities.

The CRG also helps administer the New Acland Community Investment Fund (CIF) by assessing applications and making recommendations to the New Hope Group on appropriate community development initiatives for support.

CRG members come from a wide variety of backgrounds, and represent a diverse range of local community interests.

At the October meeting, New Hope's Executive General Manager Mining Jim Randell thanked the 2014 Group for its commitment to the local area before opening nominations for membership of the 2015 Group.

"We are delighted that the majority of members renominated for the 2015 year and will continue their valuable contribution," he said.



New Acland employees with some of the members of the 2014 CRG.

CRG Members for 2015:

- Helen Bawden
- Tracy Tully
- Cathy Hartley
- Graham Cooke
- Jodie Collins
- Lindsay Evans
- Victoria Menkins
- Barry Mason
- Glenys Bowtell
- Andrew Langton
- Matthew Boyd
- Cr Nancy Sommerfield

NEW ACLAND FAST FACT

As part of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project plan, the train loading facility will be relocated from near Jondaryan to a site on the mining lease area, some 8km away from Jondaryan.



Bamboo planting at the Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility.

IMPROVEMENTS AT JONDARYAN

The New Hope Group is working to improve amenity at its Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility ahead of the proposed relocation of the facility as part of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project.

The stockpile capacity at Jondaryan has recently been reduced by more than half.

A bamboo windbreak has also been planted along a section of the facility's southern boundary near the Warrego Highway.

The area will be monitored to investigate any changes from the windbreak.

Bamboo has been used as a windbreak at another coal facility in Central Queensland.

The bamboo used at Jondaryan is Oldham's bamboo (*Bambusa oldhamii*) and it usually grows to between 8 metres and 15 metres high.

It is a 'clumping' variety that does not send out runners, so it will not spread to neighbouring properties.

Recycled water will be trucked from the New Acland Mine site to the JRLF for the bamboo and rainfall captured on the site may also be used.

Recycled water is also sprayed onto the dirt roads within the rail loading facility to reduce the potential for dust.