



**NEW HOPE
GROUP**

**NEW ACLAND
COMMUNITY UPDATE**

March 2016



Local community group members at the New Hope Oakey Community Information Office

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS PUT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDING TO GOOD USE

NEW HOPE GROUP HAS ANNOUNCED ITS MOST RECENT ROUND OF GRANTS FROM ITS COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND (CIF). THE FUND IS PART OF NEW HOPE'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND AIMS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS THAT DEVELOP LONG-TERM OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMUNITIES AROUND NEW ACLAND COAL MINE.

Applications to the fund are assessed by the New Acland Community Reference Group (CRG), made up of members of the local community. The CRG makes recommendations on appropriate community initiatives to support. The following community initiatives have been successful:

CWA House – Purpose Designed Seating

CWA House is a 40 bed aged care facility on the banks of Oakey Creek that offers permanent and respite accommodation. New Hope is partnering with CWA House to provide new purpose-designed seating to give their residents as much independence as possible. You can learn more about CWA House and their culture of belonging and family by calling (07) 4691 1130 or visiting their website at www.cwahouse.com.au

Goombungee Girl Guides Support Group – Power Upgrade and Amenities Refurb

The Goombungee Girl Guides Support Group aims to provide an environment that enables girls and young women to grow into confident and responsible

community members. New Hope is providing the Girl Guides with a power upgrade and an amenities refurbishment to improve their current clubhouse facilities. To enquire about Goombungee Girl Guides, you can call them on (07) 4696 7171.

Haden Public Hall – Paint Refresh

Haden Public Hall has been providing Haden and the surrounding communities with a beautiful community venue since 1923. The hall has played host to hundreds of community events throughout its history and its committee is now refreshing its interiors. New Hope is funding the painting of the hall including its main hall area, kitchen, bar and stage. You can find Haden Hall on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Haden-Public-Hall-254863284635776

Jondaryan Model Engineers & Live Steamer Inc. – Train Wagon Refurb

Jondaryan Model Engineers & Live Steamer Inc. is a group of train

Continues Overleaf

NEW GM FOR NEW ACLAND

NEW HOPE GROUP HAS WELCOMED NEW SENIOR MANAGER DAVID VINK TO NEW ACLAND MINE. DAVID HAS TAKEN UP THE POSITION OF GENERAL MANAGER – MINING AND WILL LEAD THE EXISTING STRONG MANAGEMENT TEAM AT NEW ACLAND AND WEST MORETON.

David has extensive experience in the resource industry and senior management and brings with him a wealth of knowledge from his time with Cockatoo Coal and Thiess. With his guidance, New Acland and West Moreton will continue to focus on health and safety, community, environment and production for the operations.

David's appointment as General Manager – Mining provides New Acland and West Moreton with strong and experienced leadership and will help to support Executive General Manager - Mining Jim Randell in his responsibilities to oversee all of New Hope's mining operations.

New Hope and New Acland Mine are introducing David to the local community over the coming weeks.

General Manager – Mining David Vink (left) with Maintenance Step Up Supervisor Kenny Diment (right)



THIS ISSUE:

Pg1 Local organisations put funding to use
Pg1 New GM for New Acland
Pg2 Show steers for Oakey State High

Pg3 Over 10,000 trees along Lagoon Creek
Pg3 New Hope emergency response skills
Pg4 New Recruits for New Acland

Pg4 Five new trucks for New Acland
Pg4 Oakey community information
Pg4 Enquiries, concerns and complaints

enthusiasts that operates a railway for model trains.

They provide train rides to the local community and are working with New Hope to refurbish two full-size train wagons to entertain visitors and use as storage.

Learn more about the group and their different locomotives by visiting their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Jondaryan-Model-Engineers-and-Live-Steamers-527843120713401

Oakey House – Program Support

Oakey House is a community run organisation that aims to improve the mental health and wellbeing of its members. New Hope provides financial

support to its mental wellness and self-determination program, to help members create and maintain satisfying lives by providing social programs, career and interest development and self-directed recovery. For more information about Oakey House please visit their website at www.oakeyhouse.org.au

Peranga & District Bowls Club – Air Conditioning

The Peranga & District Bowls Club Association is a not-for-profit volunteer group that runs the local Peranga Bowls Club, a primary community meeting point for the local area. New Hope is helping the club to upgrade its facilities through the installation of new air conditioning units. The Bowls Club plays

host to a variety of community events including its increasingly popular bowls tournaments. You can visit the club in Denham St, Peranga.

St Pauls Lutheran Church – Air Conditioning

St Pauls Lutheran Church has been providing support to the Oakey community for the last 50 years and its hall acts as a venue for a range of community groups. New Hope is assisting the Church in providing heat relief during warmer months through the installation of an air conditioning system. If you would like to learn more about the Church hall and the community groups who utilise the space, you can visit them at 9 York St, Oakey.

SHOW STEERS FOR OAKEY STATE HIGH

ACLAND PASTORAL COMPANY (APC) CONTINUES TO ENHANCE OAKEY STATE HIGH SCHOOL'S AGRICULTURE PROGRAM BY DONATING THREE STEERS FOR ITS LED STEER PROGRAM.

APC Development Manager Ben Muirhead said he was eager to support the program and believes working hands-on with the animals provides a great benefit to the students as they learn how to handle, prepare and present them for show.

“Agriculture is one of the major industries on the Darling Downs and Acland Pastoral strongly supports teaching the younger generations about farming and grazing.”

“I’m looking forward to seeing the cattle on the local show circuit. I believe involvement of livestock and engaging locals is crucial to the future of these local shows,” he said.

APC Farm Operational Superintendent Michael Laird has been working closely with the school in the selection of the steers and checks in regularly regarding their progress.

“There’s no better way to learn how to care for livestock than getting up close and hands-on, and I think the agriculture program is a great way to encourage students to consider a career in farming,” he said.

Oakey State High School Principal Tracy Tully said the school has been working to expand and enhance their agriculture program and having the APC steers on campus has been a great addition to their classes.

“Oakey State High School is committed to giving our students real insight into the agriculture industry and equipping them with the right skills and knowledge to begin a career in farming.”

“We are extremely proud of the dedication our students have shown to this program and its been encouraging to see some of our older students begin to plan further studies in agriculture for after they graduate,” she said.



Jason Beckman, Chloe Anderson, Agriculture Teacher Debbie Goudie, Amy Loughnan, Lauren Laird and APC's Michael Laird with an APC steer



Oakey State High School students Lauren Laird and Chloe Anderson with two APC steers

“Acland Pastoral strongly supports teaching the younger generations about farming and grazing”

Oakey State High School student Chloe Anderson leading an APC steer



Jason Beckman, Chloe Anderson, Lauren Laird, Agriculture Teacher Debbie Goudie and APC's Michael Laird at Oakey State High School



OVER 10,000 TREES ALONG LAGOON CREEK

Acland Pastoral Company's Michael Laird with Verterra contractor Neil Halphin at Lagoon Creek

NEW HOPE GROUP HAS PLANTED OVER 10,000 TREES ALONG LAGOON CREEK AS PART OF ITS CONSERVATION WORK WITHIN THE LAGOON CREEK CONSERVATION ZONE.

The conservation zone runs a 5km stretch along Lagoon Creek from the south of New Acland Mine down to an area near the Jondaryan-Muldu Road.

Senior Environmental Officer David Follington said planting the native trees along the conservation zone has had a positive impact on the creek ecosystem.

"We started planting along this section of the conservation zone about twelve months ago and since then we've seen the trees grow quickly with the recent rainfall."

"Some of the benefits we're expecting from the plantings are stabilising of the creek and improvements to soil quality around the creek bed."

"By increasing the number of native trees in the conservation zone, we've begun to restore and expand the biodiversity along the creek and expand the habitat available to native animals in the area," he said.

New Hope is also pursuing a weed management program in conjunction with the tree planting.

"Velvet Tree Pear is one of the most prevalent weeds in the Acland area and we've been using a mechanical mulcher to destroy these weeds before we go in and start planting in the conservation zone."

"We began trialling this method back in 2014, and it's proven to be very successful with a mortality rate of about 80% on the treated weeds."

"Following the mechanical mulching we use spot spraying to destroy any of the remaining plants."

"By clearing the area of weeds, we bring the conservation zone closer to its natural state, and also help the young trees to grow by reducing competition for water, nutrients and sunlight," he said.



Planting preparation at Lagoon Creek



Preparing the roots of a native tree

Moving forward, New Hope plans to extend the conservation zone further along Lagoon Creek and is looking forward to continuing its monitoring and maintenance programs.

NEW HOPE HONES EMERGENCY RESPONSE SKILLS

NEW HOPE GROUP'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS (ERTs) HAVE HONED THEIR SKILLS AT AN ACTION PACKED, HANDS-ON DEVELOPMENT DAY AT MEANDU MINE NEAR TARONG, QUEENSLAND.

ERTs from New Acland Mine and New Hope's Exploration team participated in a series of simulated emergency response scenarios including a rescue from live fire, light and heavy vehicle interaction, a fall from heights exercise and a confined space rescue.

New Hope's Training and Emergency Response Coordinator Grant McDonald said it was beneficial

for New Hope's team to train with ERTs from other mines.

"Practicing our response in these real-time scenarios is an integral part of our training and ensures New Hope's ERTs are well equipped and confident to provide a primary response in relation to our Emergency Response Plan in the unlikely event of an emergency," he said.



Practising CPR on dummy



ERT equipment



Images: Rachael Hudson and Tim Moore onsite at New Acland Mine

NEW RECRUITS FOR NEW ACLAND

NEW HOPE GROUP HAS WELCOMED SIX RECRUITS FROM THE SURROUNDING LOCAL AREA INTO ITS MINING OPERATIONS TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM AT NEW ACLAND MINE WHERE THEY WILL ATTAIN A CERTIFICATE III IN SURFACE EXTRACTION OPERATIONS.

Over 100 applications were received, with applicants progressing through a series of phone interviews and recruitment days to secure a position in the twelve month traineeship program.

New Hope Training and Emergency Response Coordinator Grant McDonald said the program was a great way for the trainees to get a start in the industry and an avenue for the company to provide opportunities to youth in the local community.

“Having the trainees onsite has been great, they’re enthusiastic and ready to learn and have already gained most of the basic information required for the program.”

Trainee Rachael Hudson said she was over the moon about landing the traineeship and had been enjoying her first few months on site at New Acland Mine.

“Everyone at New Acland has been really welcoming and we feel like they genuinely want to help us learn and help us understand how everything works.”

“So far my favourite part of the program has been learning about the heavy vehicles, and spending time with skilled operators to learn how to operate them safely and productively,” she said.

Trainee Tim Moore from Oakey is also looking forward to operating the heavy vehicles and said he always knew he wanted to work in the mining industry.

“Mining jobs normally call for a specific skill set and through New Hope’s traineeship I’m able to learn those skills and give myself the best opportunity of working in the industry,” he said.

Other new recruits welcomed were Darling Downs locals Ryan Hughes, Shaun Vonhoff, Brendan Collard and William Green.

FIVE NEW TRUCKS FOR NEW ACLAND

NEW ACLAND MINE IS RETIRING SOME OF THE OLDER VEHICLES IN ITS MINING FLEET AND COMMISSIONING FIVE NEW CATERPILLAR 789D MINING TRUCKS.

The trucks were delivered in several pieces during December and February and assembled on site.

The new 789D trucks offer the latest in modern technology and noise suppression and will upgrade New Acland’s fleet.

CAT 789D OFF HIGHWAY TRUCK SPECIFICATIONS:

- Gross vehicle mass of 325 tonnes (loaded)
- Auto transmission
- Power brakes and steering
- Top speed 55km per hour
- Requires 30m wide road (10 lane highway)
- 200 tonnes of rock per load

ENQUIRIES, CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

YOU CAN LODGE YOUR ENQUIRIES, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE NEW ACLAND COAL MINE AND ITS OPERATIONS IN A NUMBER OF WAYS:

Call:

1800 882 142 – your call will be answered during business hours, or you can leave your return call details outside of business hours;

Email:

community@newhopegroup.com.au;

Visit:

The New Hope Community Information Centre at 90/88 Campbell Street, Oakey.

We are always happy to hear from you.

OAKEY COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRE

NEW HOPE’S COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRE IS THE BEST PLACE TO GO FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW ACLAND COAL MINE AND THE NEW ACLAND REVISED STAGE 3 PROJECT.

The centre is open on:

Mondays from 9am to 5pm

Tuesdays from 9am to 1pm

Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1pm to 5pm

Closed on Fridays

If you are unable to visit the centre during those hours, we are happy to organise an alternative time to meet or speak with you. You can call the Information Centre (07) 4691 3445.

CONTACT

- ▶ Free call 1800 882 142
- ▶ PO Box 47, Ipswich, Qld 4305
- ▶ community@newhopegroup.com.au
- ▶ www.aclandproject.com.au
- ▶ New Hope Community Information Centre, Campbell St, Oakey



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