



**NEW HOPE
GROUP**

**NEW ACLAND COAL
COMMUNITY UPDATE**

December 2015



Geologist Dan Heley and Hydro Geologist Derwin Lyons assess a bore at the Halder property

BORE BASELINE ASSESSMENT

New Acland Coal has recently commenced a bore baseline assessment program with landholders around the New Acland Stage 3 Project area.

Executive General Manager Mining Jim Randell said the assessments will determine the current state of bores in terms of water quality, depth and condition and will provide a reference base for future monitoring.

“The majority of landholders we have engaged with so far have welcomed the opportunity to have their bores assessed,” he said.

Due to the number of bores to be assessed, the program will be conducted in a series of

rounds and will take up to a year to complete.

Any landholder wishing to know more about the bore baseline assessment can view the assessment plan online at www.aclandproject.com.au

If any landholder believes their bores could be unduly affected and is not within the assessment area, please contact the Community Information Centre (contact details on page 4).



WATER USE AT NEW ACLAND MINE

New Acland Mine uses recycled wastewater for all its mining operations and also for part of the Acland Pastoral operations.

— New Acland pays for 3000 ML per year from the Toowoomba Regional Council’s Wetalla wastewater reclamation facility.

— New Acland currently uses approximately two thirds of the water it pays for from Wetalla wastewater reclamation facility.

— The water New Acland doesn’t use but pays for from Wetalla wastewater reclamation facility goes into Gowrie Creek for use by irrigators and farmers.

— New Acland takes approximately 30% of water produced at Wetalla wastewater reclamation facility and at peak takes only 40%.

— The revenue Toowoomba Regional Council receives from New Acland’s purchase of recycled water assists in keeping rates down for Toowoomba ratepayers.



TOM DOHERTY PARK AT ACLAND

New Hope Group advises that discussions with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines about ownership and management of Tom Doherty Park have concluded.

As the township of Acland is no longer within the proposed Stage 3 mine lease application area, Tom Doherty Park will remain in the ownership of the State as a reserve.

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BEST WISHES
* THIS FESTIVE *
SEASON

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SERVICES RECEIVE VITAL BOOST

Emergency services communications in the Oakey area have been enhanced due to a new Telstra Global Wireless Network Tower that has been constructed on the New Acland Mine lease area.

New Hope Group excised land from its mining lease, near the Oakey-Cooyar Road, to provide easy access for Telstra to construct and maintain the tower.

New Hope's Executive General Manager Mining Jim Randell said the new tower provides significant benefit to the local community.

"The tower has enhanced communication services between Oakey and communities to the north for emergency service providers such as the police, fire brigade and ambulance," he said.

"Telstra approached New Hope to use this particular parcel of land as they determined it would be the most suitable for a good transmission circumference.

"The tower is now fully operational and powered by an on-site generator set. A permanent overhead power supply is expected to be installed in early February.

"New Hope has worked closely with Telstra to ensure this improvement to communications was able to start quickly and with minimal disruptions."



George Lipman from Friends of McDonald enjoying the outdoor area

FRIENDS OF MCDONALD PUT DONATION TO GOOD USE

Funds raised at the New Acland Family Fun Day held earlier this year in March have been put to good use, enabling the purchase of equipment at Friends of McDonald nursing home. The substantial amount raised covered the purchase of a lightweight wheelchair and 2 wooden outdoor seats for residents and family to enjoy.



The Projects and Landholder and Community team at the Local Industry Procurement Session in Oakey

LOCAL WORKFORCE GETS THE INSIDE SCOOP ON WORKING AT NEW ACLAND

New Hope Group has reaffirmed its long-term commitment to the local workforce by providing businesses in the area a series of Local Industry Procurement Information Sessions and Tender Readiness Workshops. These sessions were held in Oakey and Toowoomba during October and November.

The sessions drew substantial interest from local business owners keen to learn about what opportunities will arise from the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project and how best to maximise the success of their potential involvement.

General Manager Projects Gerry Randell said New Hope was committed to supporting local businesses. The first stage of this process was a general presentation on how the procurement process will unfold and what work packages will be on offer.

"The Procurement Sessions were a great forum to provide local businesses with the facts and tools to give their business the best shot at a successful tender.

"New Hope also coordinated two Tender Readiness Workshops. These workshops assisted local business to understand the requirements of a supplier of goods and services to New Hope, either directly or to a major project contractor," he said.

"There were 110 people at the two workshops and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive," he said.

Both the information sessions and the workshops were supported by industry representative groups Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise, the Toowoomba and Oakey Chambers of Commerce and Industry Capability Network.

NEW ACLAND OPEN DAY POSTPONED

The New Acland Open Day was postponed due to wet weather and will be rescheduled to take place early in the new year. Please watch the Acland Project website for information about the new date.

JONDARYAN DROP-IN SESSIONS

The Jondaryan Community Drop-In Sessions provide an important space for the Jondaryan community and the New Hope Group team to come together and talk about the New Acland Mine and the Stage 3 Project.

The sessions are held on the first Thursday of every month at the Jondaryan Hall and New Hope welcomes all community members to drop-in for a chat and meet the New Acland community team.

As part of the revised New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project plan, the Jondaryan Rail Loading Facility (JRLF) will be relocated from near Jondaryan to a site on the mining lease area, some 8km away from Jondaryan.

New Hope undertakes air quality monitoring at the JRLF and provides the results of the 24 hour a day monitoring on the New Acland website, found at www.aclandproject.com.au



Acland Pastoral Company cattle on rehabilitated land at New Acland

NEW HOPE FINALIST FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

New Hope Group's rehabilitation and scientific cattle grazing trials program at its New Acland Coal Mine was selected as a finalist in the *Excellence in Environmental Management* category at this year's *Australian Mining Prospect Awards*.

The rehabilitation, run by New Hope's Acland Pastoral Company, is progressive and occurs right behind the mining activities. Because of this the footprint of the actual mining pit at New Acland is no greater than 175 hectares (approx.) at any one time.

The grazing trials are a part of a five-year study conducted by independent industry experts including pasture agronomists, soil scientists, a veterinarian and an independent statistician to compare the production performance of cattle grazing on rehabilitated mined land with cattle grazing on non-mined land.

The first stage of the trials indicated that weight gain of cattle on rehabilitated land out performed that of cattle grazing on non-mined land.

The second stage of the project has been developed to determine viability, safety and sustainability of beef production on rehabilitated land and will also investigate the structure of rehabilitated soils compared to unmined soils.



New Acland *Live Well, Work Well* Team with their Best Workplace Health and Wellbeing Initiative award

NEW HOPE WINS BIG AT SAFE WORK AWARDS

New Hope Group has taken out the title of *Best Workplace Health and Wellbeing Initiative* at the *Queensland Safe Work Awards*, a much-celebrated nod to its continued commitment to health and safety excellence.

The winning New Acland *Live Well, Work Well* program aims to stimulate and support a positive shift in health culture by encouraging and supporting employees to take ownership of their own health and wellness.

New Hope Managing Director Shane Stephan said he is thrilled by the win and that the program has been recognised for its achievements.

"New Hope is committed to the pursuit of Safe Production and the *Live Well, Work Well* program has delivered great improvements to our employees' health.

"This in turn goes to their overall wellbeing and safety performance.

"Our capable safety and training team has been supported by local allied health professionals Live Well Australia to deliver this engaging and enjoyable program to our employees.

"It's genuinely improving their wellbeing both at work and at home," he said.

Over the past eighteen months New Hope employees at New Acland Mine have participated in a range of activities including increasing water intake, healthy food swaps, free skin cancer checks, taking steps to reduce stress and joining in on group exercise activities.

SOCIAL IMPACT MONITORING REPORT

The New Acland Stage 3 Project will submit its second Pre-Construction Social Impact Management Report to the Coordinator General on the 19th of December.

This six monthly report provides an update on the Project's recent community and stakeholder engagement activities and associated outcomes. It also reports on the Project's community health, safety and social infrastructure management strategies. The report will be available on the Acland Project website after being submitted to the Coordinator General and will be found at www.aclandproject.com.au/content/reporting

COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

Members for the new term of the *New Acland Community Reference Group (CRG)* have been announced.

Executive General Manager Mining Jim Randell said New Hope is proud to facilitate such an important component of community interaction and he is looking forward to working with the members in the new term.

"The CRG is of major importance to New Acland because it gives us the ability to be a part of and contribute to the local community.

"The group provides a conduit for any member of the community to raise any issue they may have directly with a CRG member.

"It is an engaging and constructive forum for all parties," he said.

Mr Randell said the CRG also plays a significant role in the administration of the *New Acland Community Investment Fund* by reviewing applications and making recommendations to New Hope on appropriate community development initiatives to support.

Representatives were selected from a cross section of the community through an equitable process that aims to deliver a group representing diverse view points and stakeholder interests from Toowoomba, Oakey, Jondaryan, Goombungee and the surrounding communities.

Helen Bawden, Glenys Bowtell, Matthew Boyd, Jodie Collins, Graham Cooke, Lindsay Evans, Andrew Langton, Barry Mason, Nancy Sommerfield, Cathy Hartley, Tracy Tully, Sarah Due.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRE OPENING HOURS

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.

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



OAKEY HOSPITAL OPENS REFURBISHED PALLIATIVE CARE ROOM

Oakey Hospital has opened its newly refurbished Palliative Care Room. Community support has seen the once underutilised room turn into a well-equipped, practical space. New Hope supported the project through the Community Investment Fund which enabled the hospital to buy a specialised palliative care bed, a new pull-out lounge and sitting area furniture.

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.