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Peabody has abandoned its plans for 20 million tonnes of coal in 2020 from North Goonyella mine. A little over 12 months after a fire broke out underground, they have decided it’s too hard and expensive to restart existing operations, meaning the end of the road for those employees remaining of the once 250-strong workforce.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our North Goonyella team and their families for their hard work, dedication and loyalty over the past year in helping us try to get this great mine back into production," Peabody’s Australian Operations President Marc Hathorn said. “We will try to redeploy as many of our people as possible to our other Australian mines, and we commit to working closely with unions, industry groups and other mining companies to find jobs for our team in what is, thankfully, a healthy jobs market for mine workers."

Just two months ago Peabody was optimistic about restarting North Goonyella after re-ventilation of part of the mine allowed them to send people underground to make a physical evaluation. However, what they have seen would appear to have removed that optimism.

It’s hard to know the final cost of the mine fire given it’s stopped coal production at one of Peabody’s flagship mines, used substantial internal resources, and cost at least $125 million in lost machinery and recovery costs (this last part covered by insurance). However, for Peabody, the biggest cost is the inability to mine the vast and valuable coking coal resources within the North Goonyella mining lease.

They are now developing a new plan to access it from another direction.

"After a detailed review and assessment of North Goonyella, Peabody has determined that due to the time, cost and required regulatory approach to ventilate and re-enter the rest of the mine, the company will not pursue attempts to access the 10 North Panel through existing mine workings," they said.

"Instead, the company has identified a preferred path to create value from the substantial North Goonyella reserve base by mining the southern panels, beginning with the 6 South panel.

“Peabody’s preferred path would include ventilation of Zone B in the current mine configuration, with an approach of utilizing boreholes from the surface. Incremental spending for ventilation is contingent on obtaining pre-approval from the Queensland Mine Inspectorate, and that process is currently underway.

“Following planned ventilation, the company intends to re-enter Zone B and assess conditions with a target of developing the southern panels that contain approximately 20 million tons of high-quality, hard coking coal.”

Assuming successful ventilation and re-entry of Zone B, Peabody estimates they will need to spend $50 to $75 million with work to begin soon.

Qcoal’s $90m Bounty

The Chris Wallin controlled QCoal has snatched victory from the jaws of defeat in the battle for Bounty mining and its assets around Blackwater.

Bounty mining confirmed that it had signed an agreement with Qcoal to refinance Bounty to the tune of $A90 million.

Bounty will use the money to pay off debts owed to companies controlled by US mining veteran Bernie Thrasher and paying out Glencore who were the former owners of Bounty’s only operating asset the Cook Colliery. Money will also be made available to provide working capital for ongoing mining operations there.

In return for stumpung up the cash, Qcoal will charge interest of between 8 and 13% and has taken first ranking security over everything of value within Bounty and has set some performance indicators that must be met for the line of credit to remain open. These include the requirement that Bounty ends every quarter with at least $1 million in cash available, and generates $40 to $50 million in revenue each year. Qcoal will also take all of Bounty’s coal from 2021 when the existing off-take agreement with Bernie Thrasher’s Xcoal finishes.

In announcing the decision, Bounty chair Rob Stewart said they can now concentrate on the core business of mining.

"Shareholders made their wishes clear at the General Meeting on 30 September, and the board has worked hard to bring the proposal received from QCoal into a form that would meet the company’s needs," he said.

“We thank our advisers, QCoal, and also Amaroos and Glencore for their support and assistance as we have progressed to conclude this agreement.

‘Bounty is now able to move forward with confidence and focus its energies on realising the potential of our coal deposits.”

Danger in the dark

A report out recently on a collision between a haul truck and bulldozer on a NSW coal mine has led to renewed calls for proximity detection devices to be made mandatory.

Fortunately, no one was injured in the NSW incident, but for decades there have been deaths and serious injury caused by vehicle collisions in Australian mining.

In 2007, 33-year-old Jason Blee died when he was crushed underground between a wall and a shuttle car at Anglo’s Moranbah North mine. That same year two miners were seriously injured during a similar shuttle car accident at Peabody’s North Goonyella mine.

Following a coronial inquiry into Mr Blee’s death, the Coroner handed down 18 recommendations, one of which was that Proximity Detection should be fast-tracked across Queensland mining.

Twelve years on and there has been very little progress on doing this, despite advances in technology and their widespread use in the USA for over ten years.

In May, significant progress was made when BMA became the first Australian coal mine to trial proximity detection at its Broadmeadow underground coal mine. Despite reporting impressive early results, BMA has not responded to repeated attempts by Shift Miner to find out any further findings or consequences of the trial.

In the BMA trial, there are two parts to the system, a magnetic field generator on the machine, and a pad which is added to cap lamps. Each element creates a magnetic bubble around it that detects when another magnetic bubble is close.

The system works like reversing camera’s on car’s, in that the alarm escalates as the danger increases.

Underground, both the pedestrian and the operator of the vehicle first get an alert and flashing warning when they are detected. When the system senses someone in a critically dangerous position, the warning escalates causing the machine to trip and stop.
Accounting and research firm Deloitte says consensus forecasts for coking coal prices over the next two years will be “north of US$200/t” which is around 25% higher than they are now. The estimates are significantly higher than the 2019 Queensland Government predictions of US$140/t in 2020 and US$130/t in 2021, suggesting the state and industry could be in for a significant windfall.

According to Deloitte, the predictions reflect both the superior quality of Queensland coal and continued urban growth in Asia. “As a key ingredient in the manufacture of crude steel, coking coal does not have the same structural headwinds facing energy coal,” they said.

“This is a coal product intrinsically linked to the emerging Asia urbanisation growth thematic. What’s more, the intrinsic nature of China’s coal industry is playing a role.


Longer-term Deloitte is less optimistic about coking coal saying that countries like China will require less steel and that current high prices have stimulated new investment in coking coal mines, giving the supply shortages argument for coking coal less “currency”.

“It’s a different story altogether for thermal coal, with spot prices having been in steep decline for the past 12 months, weighed down by excess supply and weak demand. “Thermal coal is a tough sell in a decarbonising world, particularly to an increasingly environmentally conscious and proactive investor base,” Deloitte said.

“The diversified global miners recognise this, divesting coal assets, imposing production limits and in some cases, exiting coal altogether as a business.

“While Asia still consumes significant volumes of coal, structural headwinds are facing thermal coal demand in the wake of national clean air policies and the transition to low carbon energy sources.

“Coal is still the largest global fuel source, but it is unambiguously losing market share. “There is also less near-term price support from the market ‘fundamentals’. Increased seaborne supply volumes together with indicators of weak demand (especially China) suggest thermal coal prices will struggle over the next 12 months.”

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No driverless at Dawson

Anglo American has deferred the roll-out of autonomous haul trucks at its Dawson mining complex near Moura, after a three-month feasibility study.

In June Anglo flagged the possibility of replacing the existing fleet of 23 human-operated trucks to deliver significant productivity gains. However, after considering their options, they have decided to overhaul the current fleet and will revisit the driverless technology sometime in the future.

“The decision has been taken to overhaul the existing fleet, rather than purchase new trucks and implement AHS at Dawson Mine at this time,” a spokesperson for Anglo said.

“In the future, this decision will be revisited as we look to replace the fleet in a few years.”

While the study found that autonomous haulage systems do present opportunities to improve truck fleet performance, we will be prioritising other measures to achieve safer and more productive operations at Dawson mine.”

Further north at BMA’s Goonyella Riverside mine the first driverless haul truck is expected to arrive shortly as part of BMA’s transformation program which will see the gradual deployment of autonomous trucks at Australian coal and iron ore sites.

The use of driverless trucks has significant implications for truck drivers and mining union the CFMMEU told local media they hoped they would be part of the discussion about their implementation.

“You don’t have to be a rocket scientist to understand if you introduce automation, there will be fewer jobs,” District president Stephen Smyth said.

“We welcome the way Anglo went about this process, they engaged the union early on, did a feasibility study and then discussed it with us.

“It’s really important [mining companies] do economic impact statements before they introduce autonomous haulage, and get the views of the community and workers about it.”

Anglo produced 21.8 million tonnes of coking coal from its Australian mines in 2018, up from 19.6 million tonnes in 2017. When coal prices collapsed in the years before 2016, Anglo announced it was exiting the coal business and was in discussions with several parties - including BMA - about selling their Dawson, Moranbah North and Grosvenor mines.

However, they canned that idea after prices rallied in the second half of 2016 and now plan to reinvest in the business.

Mine pays for itself in a year

Despite forecasting a fall of $US50 million in earnings this financial year, the operators of the Curragh mine are pushing ahead with a new mine plan and investigating a significant expansion north.

Blaming a slowing world economy, Managing Director Gerry Spindler said while they had prepared for fuel prices going up, there was nothing they could do about the softer coal prices.

“We can control most things in our business, but we cannot control global market pricing for metallurgical coal,” he said.

“The recent fall in spot prices, if sustained, is likely to impact EBITDA adversely.

“In the short term, we see the possibility of prices remaining at lower levels, with the potential for further deterioration in light of the uncertainties and weakness in the global macro-economic environment.”

However, longer-term the company is predicting good times for anyone able to supply high-quality coking coal. According to their research, 40 Mtpa of new coal capacity is going to be required in the next decade as existing coal supplies run out and demand modestly increases.

While Curragh mine at Blackwater is just one of their operations, it’s proved to be a valuable one. Since buying it from Wesfarmers for $537 million in March last year, the mine has generated earnings (EBITDA) of $586 million, off the back of high coking coal prices, and a near 10% improvement in strip ratios and dragline productivity.

Building on this, Coronado has now committed $100 million to increase the Curragh wash plant capacity, reducing bottlenecks on the rail load-out facility, and developing two new box cut mining operations which they hope will increase production to 15 mtpa.

Not content with that, Coronado is also undertaking a feasibility study into developing a mining lease immediately north of their current operations. The plan would be to establish a new pit in an area known as MDL 162 and then integrate it into their existing operations.

The development area is outside the area committed to the Stanwell Power station so would not attract the Stanwell royalty.
Bid collapses, MD steps down

Winfield Energy has abandoned its unsolicited $442 million takeover of Stanmore Coal, and Stanmore’s Managing Director Dan Clifford has resigned ending a tumultuous week for the company.

Winfield and Singaporean based Golden Investments have been battling for control of Stanmore over the last two months. However, it appears Golden Investment will prevail after Winfield telling Stanmore on Thursday it was no longer interested.

“Winfield Energy advised it has not been able to engage with key shareholders of Stanmore to satisfy itself there would be a reasonable prospect that a bid would be successful if made,” Stanmore said.

“Winfield Energy has now terminated the Process Deed entered into on 12 August 2019.”

The stepping down of Mr Clifford comes after Golden Investments used its power to demand an extraordinary general meeting of Stanmore’s board during last month, during which they sought the removal of the Chairman Stuart Butel and Mr Clifford.

It was the third time Singaporean based Golden Investments had tried to remove the two executives in the period since they launched a takeover bid late year which netted them roughly 25% of the company they have today.

Current General manager of Development at Stanmore Jon Romeke will now step into the role of acting CEO. That might be a good background given Stanmore’s major development plans.

Having made record sales of around 722 thousand tonnes in the last quarter, Stanmore is pushing ahead as fast as it can to develop the nearby Isaac Downs pit roughly 10 kilometres away from current operations.

“Phase 1 exploration and coal quality drilling commenced in 2019 and has been completed,” Stanmore said.

“Assessment of the final coal quality laboratory analysis has commenced increasing the knowledge of the coal resource to enhance a bankable feasibility study.

“Infrastructure designs have been undertaken on the three major components...and an expression of interest for the provision of construction services has been completed.

“11 construction companies have responded, and an assessment is underway.”

Stanmore says it averaged US$122/t for its coal in the three months to September, while FOB costs excluding royalties were $101/t sold.

Race to meet deadlines

Pembroke Resources will now focus on getting Federal Government environmental approvals and a Mining Lease as they race to meet the deadlines they set for themselves earlier this year.

Pembroke has said previously it wants the Olive Downs Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP) built by early 2020, by which time it hopes to have reached the stage one milestone of mining around 6 million tonnes (ROM) of coking coal a year. Pembroke was recently granted an Environmental Authority (EA) by the State Government which CEO Barry Tudor says is a significant milestone in the development of the mine.

“The company now looks forward to receiving Federal Government approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and to the granting of its Mining Leases so that construction and jobs can commence,” he said.

“The grant of the EA represents the most important milestone for the project so far and provides a clear pathway towards the commencement of construction and first coal.”

The Olive Downs mine is expected to be an open-cut truck and shovel operation generating around 600 construction, and nearly a 1000 operational jobs. At full production, it would produce 15 million tonnes of coking coal (ROM) a year for 37 years.

In September last year, the Olive Downs Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was released for public opinion, and in April the company spent millions of dollars acquiring 41,000 ha of prime cattle country around Moranbah which covered the mine.

In January Pembroke struck a deal with CIMIC owned companies CPB Contracting and Sedgeman for the development of a $184 million Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHHP).

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Stepping up at Kestrel

The new owners of the Kestrel coal mine near Emerald say they have successfully stepped up production a year after buying it from Rio Tinto.

Kestrel Coal Resources’s (KCR) parent syndicate EMR Capital and PT Adaro Energy bought the mine from Rio Tinto for $2.25 billion in 2018, announcing at the time that they intended to expand operations significantly.

Current KCR CEO, Peter Smith, was one of the original managers of Kestrel when it was established in the early 1990s by ARCO and a year into the role he says the transition has been successful.

“The business is delivering what it was expected to deliver,” he said.

“We are definitely the owners and operators of the business, and the past is history, so yeah I think we are through the transition now.

“We set about expanding production from the mine we started, and we have established a different level of production capacity.

“We are running at around 9 million tonnes ROM coal and seven million tonnes sold, so that’s a significant step up on where it was when we bought it, and it’s probably where it will be for a little while now.

“We will look again at whether we can step it up again in a couple of years.”

Central to KCR’s ambitions are the coal market and its relationship with the nearby Emerald community, from where it draws 87% of its workforce.

Mr Smith has a realistic view of both.

“Like everyone else, sometimes we struggle to get the right people, but about 87% of our workforce lives in Emerald,” he said.

“We are very happy with that relationship, and I think our people like the opportunity to come to work every day and go home at night, so it’s mutually beneficial.

“The metallurgical coal market is soft at the moment.

“But it always is this time of year because the Indians get out of the market due to the monsoon.

“It’s not until they come back into the market that you actually see where the market sits.

“We really need to see where it is around the end of the year when everyone is in full swing.”

Bush poetry tradition continues

Division 8 Councillor Geoff Bethel, who officially opened the event, said Nebo was a breeding ground for poetic talent.

“This wonderful community event once again served up great entertainment, good company and delicious food prepared by the Nebo-Sarina Range Country Women’s Association,” Cr Bethel said.

“It was heart-warming to hear Dan share poems written by our own Nebo State School students. “The highlight for me was the poem Tiny Nebo, a collaboration between grade 5 and 6 students and Dan.”

Visiting Mackay-based poet Graham Ware had the crowd in stitches with his rousing rendition of Murray Hartin’s bush classic Turbulence, while Bruce Johnston’s ode to Stan Coster and Mary Stuart’s recitation of Henry Kendall’s classic The Women of the West brought tears to the eyes of some.

Rolleston gas wells

Australian Pacific LNG (APLNG) has lodged paperwork with the Federal Government for the sinking of around 100 gas wells, the development of gas processing infrastructure, and the construction of other facilities including a mining camp 40 kilometres north of Rolleston.

The application is for work in the Mahalo Development area which APLNG operates on behalf of a Joint venture comprising explorer Comet Ridge Ltd, Santos and APLNG.

In 2014, Comet Ridge and its joint venture partners successfully horizontally drilled through 360 metres of coal, at a depth of 230 metres in the area and received an initial independently certified reserve statement for the Mahalo block. It included 22 Petajoules of proven and probable reserves (2P), 124 Petajoules of proven, probable and possible (3P) reserves and a further 468 petajoules in the less dependable contingent reserves category.

While the Mahalo referral submitted this week is only for the area described above, they have requested it be considered part of a broader split referral application for more extensive gas exploration in the future. However, they said it could be years or even decades before this other work was done.

The application is the latest sign that the Bowen Basin will become the new frontier for upstream CSG development in the future. Both Arrow Energy and Santos are also working on Bowen Basin gas projects which have in the past thought could generate hundreds of jobs.

Solid $200 million over two years

Downer EDI Limited (Downer) has won a two-year extension to its pre-strip overburden removal contract at the BMA owned Goonyella Riverside coal mine.

The agreement provides for $200 million worth of work for two years with the possibility of a three-year extension after that.

Downer has been providing the same service at Goonyella since 2016, and Downer CEO Grant Fenn is pleased the relationship will continue.

“Downer has been working closely with BMA at a number of mine sites for many years, and we look forward to continuing to provide safe and productive services at the Goonyella Riverside coal mine,” he said.

In August Downer announced it had hired Macquarie Capital to consider options for selling its mining services business, having already received expressions of interest from parties keen to buy it.
Like a suite of other low-cost start-up greenfield coal projects in the Bowen Basin over the last two years, the first phase of the mine development has involved the use of trucks to get coal to nearby rail loading facilities. While using trucks is not generally considered to be a long term solution for transporting coal from either efficiency or community perspectives, it does provide a pathway for companies to get a mine up and running quickly.

In 2018, Chinese owned Wealth Mining - the final owner of the Bluff PCI Coal Project - signed a two-year agreement which sees Bounty Mining handle, wash and prepare up to 100,000 tonnes of coal from the Bluff project at the Cook Colliery 35 kilometres away.

Bluff PCI management (BCM) CEO Stuart Clarke told Shift Miner with six months under their belts, and production in a “steady state” they are looking at ways to reduce their local footprint.

“Our coal is currently being hauled via road from the Bluff site to Bounty Mining’s Cook Colliery CHPP for processing and export,” he said.

“Roadworks were completed in August on a dedicated turning lane from the Capricorn Highway into the Bluff mine site intersection, and we are awaiting the final signoff from DTMR to begin using the new turning lane. “In addition to our partnership with Bounty Mining, we are working with other local mines to use recycled water at the project.”

“We get this water from dewatering operations at neighbouring mines and combine it with our existing site dams to mitigate dust on the site, and we’re exploring the option of a permanent pipeline for this water to minimise water carting movements.”

At full operation, BPM says the mine’s haulage of coal will increase traffic on the Capricorn Highway by around 50-60 truck round trips per day and increases existing traffic movements by less than 2% per day through Bluff, and even less through Blackwater.

New Black Lung report

The Queensland Mines Department has begun the process of recruiting an independent third party to undertake a study into the prevalence of coal miners pneumoconiosis or Black Lung. In tender documents the Department says it wants to know more about the disease.

“As of 31 July 2019, 116 cases of mine dust lung disease have been reported to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy since 1984.

“This is a measure of incidence.

“The supplier will deliver a study in the form of a written report, that determines the prevalence of cases in consideration of the mining workforce population size which will indicate the significance of the number of cases of the disease diagnosed.

“The supplier will determine an annual prevalence rate and describe trends based on the available confirmed case and workforce population data.

“The rate won’t be based on positive screening results, and sufficient detail must be provided to identify disease types, mining operations and other factors to assist the broader understanding of meaningful trends.”

Mining companies are backing an appeal to the High Court of Australia to challenge a decision that they believe has given shift workers an unfair boost to their annual carers leave allocation.

In a contested court case (Mondalez v AMWU), the Federal Court resolved that under National Employment Standards all employees are to have access to 10 days of personal carers leave irrespective of how many hours they work each day. According to lobby group the Australian Resources & Energy Group, the “astonishing” Federal court decision is unfair. They argue it overturns the practise of taking “10 days” to mean 10 x 7.6 hour working days, or 76 hours in total, which would apply to all employees regardless of the shifts or rosters worked.

“In effect, this decision would provide employees working long shifts or industry-specific rosters with far greater leave entitlements than those who work a standard 38-hour week,” Chief Executive of AMMA Steve Knott said.

“This would have far-reaching implications for real-world employment practices.

“Consider an employee working a roster of 4 x 12 hour working days, followed by four non-working days (4 on / 4 off).

“The longstanding accepted practice would be to provide this employee with 76 hours of personal/carers leave, calculated as 10 x 7.6 hour days. “This would be the same entitlement provided to an employee working a standard 38-hour working week (5 days on, 2 days off).

“Under the Federal Court’s interpretation, the employee working the 4/4 roster would be provided with 120 hours of personal / carers leave (10 x 12 hour days).

“Providing them with 158% of the entitlement afforded to the employee working the 5/2 roster, despite the total hours worked each year averaging out to be roughly the same.

“The decision wildly deviates from current and widespread leave accrual practices, creating uncertainty, confusion and concern for employers and employees and the astonishing interpretation of two of the three Judges, in this case, would impact many employers across almost every industry.”

AMMA is strongly urging the Australian Government Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations, who was a party to the original decision, to intervene in the High Court appeal.
Mastermyne says it has its biggest order book on record and is in the process of training green-skins to manage the skills shortage. However, it say stories of its sale aren’t true.

The turnaround for the regions biggest mining contractor continues to build, with management back from a recent investor roadshow where it announced significant dividends and a full order book for the next twelve months.

Mastermyne has picked up lots of new work as the mining cycle turned over the two years, and was one of the big winners out of Anglo’s recently announced plan to develop the Aquila underground mine at the Capcoal complex near Middlemount. The equipment supply and road development and outbye services contracts they have are worth around $100 million in revenue to Mastermyne over two years.

In light of the significantly improved outlook, no one in the industry was overly shocked when rumours emerged that Mastermyne might be on the market.

That is except for the Mastermyne management team led by CEO Tony Caruso.

“We have got a big year coming up, pretty big order book now with circa $300 million of work to deliver, so I think that’s one of the strongest order books we have ever had,” he told Shift Miner.

“So could not be happier from that respect.

“But to talk to the rumours of the sale, I believe they have got us mixed up with another [Mackay based] contractor who is potentially out in the market looking for a new owner.

“Actually on the roadshow we just finished, one group we spoke to had been approached about buying this other mining services contractor.

“What we suspect has happened is that there was some noise around, that a contractor based out of Mackay was on the market, and they put two and two together and come up with Mastermyne which is absolutely incorrect.”

However, like many other mining support businesses, the reality of the post-construction boom downturn is still fresh in the minds of everyone at Mastermyne. After all, it was only a bit over two years ago when things got so tight at Mastermyne that one of the founding directors of the business stood down from their duties on the board to save money.

Like everyone else, Mr Caruso has been watching the coal prices fall over the last 12 months but reminds those investing, that industry has learnt their lesson, and are doing a good job keeping a lid on their costs.

“What we have seen and been quite impressed about is that operations have really maintained their cost discipline and are at the lowest quartile of cost,” he said.

“Which is obviously making it less difficult as prices come down a little bit, and industry has been anticipating $150 metallurgical coal prices for a year and a half now, and if anything we have been surprised by the fact that it held up for as long as it did.

“I think that is important for people to understand.

“The biggest lever any company can pull is increasing its production without increasing its fixed costs, and we see that discipline applied.

“It think it is the most disciplined we have ever seen the industry and providing that it’s maintained, it’s going to hold the cycle for a lot longer.”

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Sacked after a close call

A crane operator at Rio Tinto’s QAL refinery in Gladstone has paid dearly for a momentary concentration lapse that saw the crane he was driving pass close to a cyclist three months ago.

This week Patrick Hugh Harrington was fined nearly $400 for coming within one metre of a cyclist while driving a crane near the refinery. However, the real cost of the incident was the fact that he lost his job at age 53 after more than 30 years as an operator in the district.

The incident happened just before 6 am and was captured by cameras mounted on the bicycle. In footage later shown to police by the rider, the crane was filmed leaving the traffic lane and veering toward the cyclist (who was travelling in the same direction) before corrective action returned the crane to its lane.

Through his lawyer, Mr Harrington claimed not to have seen the cyclist until the last minute and claimed he was limited in his actions by the existence of a traffic island.

Magistrate Dennis Kinsella said it was “unfortunate” Harrington lost his job saying it was clear the offending was not deliberate, but a “misjudgement”.

One of the owners of the Hail Creek mine has taken a punt on the future of coal by entering into an agreement which will see them fund exploration and possible development work at the nearby Hillalong coal tenement (HCT).

Explorer Bowen Coking Coal (BCC) announced a term sheet had been signed with Japanese industrial business Sumitomo under which the latter would have 60 days to decide whether it wanted to fund a maximum of $7.5 million worth of exploration and development work, in return taking a 20% ownership in the Hillalong Coal project (HCP).

The area in question is close to an exploration zone defined by the Hillalong anticline. It’s a confusing area because there are three very similar named projects in the area, Mt Hillalong, Hillalong and Hillalong East - all with different and changing ownership structures.

This particular agreement relates to EPC 1824 and 2141 which is 16 kilometres North West of mining operations at Hail Creek in an area that Rio Tinto did extensive exploration in just prior to the last major downturn. Despite some encouraging exploration results - Rio walked away from an agreement they had with former owners Australian Pacific Coal when the boom came to an end precipitating their exit from coal mining altogether.

According to BCC if Sumitomo decides to formalise the farm-in agreement within the 60-day window there will be a step up in exploration activity.

“Sumitomo is to fund $2.5 million of pre-defined exploration expenditure, being the entire phase one exploration program for both Hillalong North and Hillalong South within 12 months of the farm-in agreement to earn an initial 10% interest in Hillalong,” they said.

“Sumitomo has the right to then earn an additional 10% by providing a further $5 million in funding for further to-be-agree exploration.”

Meanwhile, another player altogether, Shandong Energy, has said it wants to start developing its nearby Hillalong coal deposit this year. The Chinese company acquired the tenement for around $200 million during the last mining boom, when it purchased explorer, Rocklands Richfield.

Shandong plans to develop two open-cut pits and two underground longwall mines producing approximately 4.2 million tonnes a year of run-of-mine coal. It would employ roughly 450 people through both the construction and operational phases, and be known as the Hillalong Coal Project.

$35 million deal

The combined influences of high commodity prices and a large pipeline of infrastructure projects have led to surprisingly strong demand for earthmoving machinery according to a spokesperson for Greys Online.

Last month the company wrapped up a Queensland sale of a selection of mostly late-model earthmoving and construction equipment. The auction included Caterpillar and Komatsu dozers, excavators, compactors, backhoes and a range of accessories including Trimble GPS units and various buckets and attachments.

Plains East operations, although the latter of those is due for renewal.

Western Australian mining contractor NRW Holdings purchased Golding Contractors for $85 million in late 2017. Goldings is one of Central Queensland’s most well-known business success stories having been started in 1942 by Cyril Golding when he bought a half share in a logging truck.

The business expanded significantly during the construction of QAL in the 1960’s, and in 2012 the 87-year-old founder sold the business to Champ Private Equity for an estimated $350 million.

The purchase was a turning point for NRW, who struggled in the period after the mining construction boom roughly a decade ago. Their share price fell from more than $3.00 in 2012 to just $0.05 in 2016, before recovering to around $0.66 by late November when they bought Goldings.

Golding has won a two-year $35 million contract for the supply of earthmoving related services at BMA’s Blackwater mine.

Under the deal Golding will provide a range of civil works including building a new heavy vehicle road, shifting existing underground infrastructure, building levees and drains and providing the earthworks necessary for around 20km of fibre optic and overhead cabling.

The work adds to another $34 million work contract at BMA’s Goonyella operations, and a $100 million contract as tier one contractor at Stanmore’s Isaac Plains East operations, although the latter of those is due for renewal.

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BLACKWATER A BLANK CANVAS
Blackwater Art Society celebrates local talent

Michelle Bradshaw and Sheena James
(L-R) Lisa Hodge, Faye Christie and Loretta Street
(L-R) Dorothy Wilson, Alice Horsewood and Pamela Prince

Bron Monro and CHRC Mayor Kerry Hayes
(L-R) Blackwater High School Teachers Sophia, Mia, Sandy and Jacqui
Laura McIntyre and Sally Hansen

(L-R) Pete and Therese Foley and Gail Godwin Smith
(L-R) Carlie Roberts, Jane Kennedy and Sarah Wright
Emma McLennan and Leah Gastaldon

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November 2019 13
Industrial Property investment

The only way is up for Industrial real estate across Central Queensland in all communities except Gladstone according to valuers Herron Todd White. Unlike Mackay, Rockhampton and Emerald there may be further to fall in Gladstone industrial property, despite the renaissance of the coal and gas sector. “As a result of weak market sentiment and limited quality properties listed for sale, there have been no major sale transactions of industrial properties in 2019,” HTW said. While rental rates generally appear to have stabilised, one recent rental transaction of a large engineering shed (approximately 2,209 square metres) negotiated in November 2018 showed a reduction of nearly 60 per cent from the rental that was established in 2014. This rental demonstrates the continued volatility in the market and the weak demand for large industrial workshops and indicates the very limited ability for businesses in Gladstone to afford rental commitments above $200,000 per annum gross.”

Further North in Rockhampton it was better news, with HTW saying buyers are in the market for the right property and tenants. “The Siemens shed transacted in November 2018 for a purchase price of $5 million, showing an analysed market yield of about 8.9 per cent,” they said. “The improvements were purpose-built for Stramit, and about four years were remaining on the current lease.”

“The Stramit workshop transacted in October 2018 for a purchase price of $3.3 million, showing an analysed market yield of about 8 per cent.”

New mine safety body

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The State Government is proposing significant changes to mine health and safety with Mines Minister Dr Anthony Lynham introducing legislation to Parliament to establish a new safety and health regulatory body funded by Queensland resources companies.

Known as Resources Safety and Health Queensland (RSHQ), the new body will not be influenced by existing government departments and will take on the safety and health functions currently performed by the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. RSHQ’s proposed establishment stems from 68 recommendations made by the Parliamentary Select Committee into coal workers’ pneumoconiosis and follows the deaths of six mine and quarry workers in the past 12 months.

According to Lawyers Cooper Grace Ward (CGW) the new body will change the role of the existing Safety commissioner. “The Resources Safety and Health Queensland Bill 2019 provides that RSHQ will be responsible for regulating safety and health in the State’s resources industries and will comprise the coal mines, mineral mines and quarries, explosives and petroleum and gas inspectorates,” they said.

“The Bill further establishes the role of the Commissioner for RSHQ, who will be an adviser to the Minister and engage with representatives of the industries, replacing the current Commissioner for Mine Safety and Health.

“The Work Health and Safety (WHS) prosecutor will have sole responsibility for prosecuting serious offences under Queensland’s resources Acts1 while other offences may be prosecuted by either the WHS prosecutor or the appointed chief executive officer of RSHQ.”

CGW says their understanding is that RSHQ will be funded by a levy on resources companies. However, they say it is unclear from the Bill whether a new levy will be created for this specific purpose or if funds are to be redirected through the existing mining safety levy imposed on the State’s resources companies.

The introduction of the Bill follows a suite of changes to mining safety and health legislation in the past five years. The Minister has said that this will separate the job of protecting Queensland’s 70,000 plus resources workers from the job of growing and facilitating the resources sector.
BUSH STYLE
Out and about at the Brigalow Ball

(L-R) Gemma Brennan, Emily Blaney, Lilly Bartlett, Kate Peters and Cary Copping

(L-R) Anya, Clare, Geri, Casey and Bec

Ari Hannah and Thomas McKenzie

(L-R) Jessi Kelly, Brooke Black and Maicee Kelly

(L-R) Amy, Leah, Allison, Paige, Keeta and Tracey

Mark and Keeta

Annette and Maddy Hatton

(L-R) Ryan Curtis, Amba Kraut, Matt Ruthenberg and Rachel Bichel

(L-R) Scott Murray, Alicia Ashe and Tash Mahon

(L-R) Sam Bowers, Hannah Vagg and Maddy Hatton

Shonna Gorman and Ash Leeder

(L-R) Ari Hannah, Hannah Moulds and Will Dinsdale

Tayla and Kaitlyn Tobane

(L-R) Sophie Finlayson, Janelle Denman and Cate Jeffenis

Alice and John Horsewood
NAIDOC WEEK
Aboriginal Heritage Recognised In Blackwater

Elder Aunty Pat with the dancers

CHRC Mayor Kerry Hayes chatting

Bluff writer Danny Kailly who recited his Poem on Reconciliation
Uptick for bed provider

A 15% increase in room occupancy in the Bowen Basin - has helped Central Queensland’s biggest mining-accommodation provider increase revenue by 61% in the three months to September. This week US-based Civeo announced a big turnaround in demand for mining accommodation around the world, as mining companies continue to enjoy high prices and a robust outlook for commodities like coking coal. Civeo’s Chief Executive Officer Bradley Dodson said demand for mining beds was bouncing back in the Bowen Basin.

“We generated improved year-over-year revenue and Adjusted EBITDA, up 23% and 62%, respectively,” he said.

“The significant year-over-year improvement is primarily due to increased Bowen Basin activity in Australia, strong turnaround activity in the Canadian oil sands and the contribution from our newly-expanded Sitka Lodge supporting LNG activity in British Columbia.”

However, unlike the big Australian miners who make more money when the Australian dollar is low compared to the US, Civeo gets the reverse effect. So despite a significant improvement in business in Australia, their actual earnings in US dollars were more modest.

“During the third quarter of 2019, the Australian segment generated revenues of $47.7 million, operating income of $4.7 million and adjusted EBITDA of $17.2 million,” he said.

“This compares to revenues of $31.1 million, operating income of $0.5 million and adjusted EBITDA of $12.4 million in the third quarter of 2018.”

However, the biggest news is that Central Queensland’s most significant employer BMA has taken the bold step of nearly doubling the number of rooms it will pay CIVEO to use, whether or not someone is in them. In a strong signal about where BHP see the coal market going over the next two years, Civeo has been awarded two contract extensions for rooms and hospitality services at Civeo’s Dysart and Coppabella accommodation facilities worth a combined A$37 million in revenue.

“A contract extension from BMA at Civeo’s existing Dysart accommodation facility will generate approximately A$27 million in contracted revenues from 2019 to 2021,” Civeo said.

“Civeo will continue to provide rooms and hospitality services at Dysart to BMA for an additional two years through to September 2021, and as part of the extension agreement, the “take-or-pay” committed rooms will increase from 280 to 480 rooms.

“A contract extension from another major coal producer at Civeo’s existing Coppabella accommodation facility will generate approximately A$10 million in contracted revenues providing rooms and hospitality services at Coppabella for an additional 30 months through to August 2022.”

Architecturally designed for a modern lifestyle, this home is two stories with the option to extend to a third level. If you’re wanting a modern home to suit all your needs, this is certainly the home to inspect.

22 Sleipner Street Mount Archer

A LIFESTYLE OF PERFECTION ON TOP OF THE WORLD!!

- Featuring 3 bedrooms with a possible 4th room on the second level
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- Fireplace, 3 toilets, electric external blinds, endless eco-friendly glass windows, ample storage space, security lighting, and a 3000LT rainwater tank.

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SNAPPED AT DINGO
Trap Throwing and Race Day Another Big Event

Evie McLaughlan

Under 13 Winner was Ruby Williams

Fashions on the Field Under 13 girls Runner up Tiahni Thompson and her mum

Fashion on the Field Under 13 Boys Runner up was Jack Olive and Winner was Hamish Kirk

Girls Under 18 winner was Miranda Love Runner up was Bella Dahler

Open Mens winner Brandon Russell Runner up was Jack Nickel

Ladies Over 35 Runner up was Leanne Creedon and Winner Jen Marsh

Genna Dunne and Peta Ollison

Ladies Under 35 Runner up was Shannon Dunne and Winner was Trudy Roberts

(L-R) Kane Weezel, Natalie Tighe and Greg Leggott

Matthew Dunne and Nerida Luck

Heather McCoy and Julia Lamble

Sonni Wakeman and Brody Reay

(L-R) Queenie, Daphne and Sadie Russell

Kaitlyn and Clay Rogers
The future of the Callide B coal-fired power station and the 100 or so jobs it supports near Biloela will be decided by politicians according to its owners.

The power station is operated by the Government-owned corporation CS Energy which means the States Mines Minister Anthony Lynham and Treasurer Jackie Trad hold the majority of shares in the company on behalf of the people of Queensland. This also means they will decide the fate of the station beyond 2028 when it is currently scheduled for closure.

The future of the power station has become part of a political battle over whether electricity in the future can be reliably generated by renewable energy alone. In Southern states, a shift away from coal-fired baseload power has led to increased electricity supply fragility prompting the Australian Energy Market Operator to update closure dates for power generators.

In a statement, CS Energy said while the plant is scheduled to close within a decade, they can change that date according to other priorities.

“CS Energy recently informed the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) that its forecast closure date for Callide B Power Station is 2028, in accordance with new reporting requirements for large generators to provide advance notice of plant closures. “Callide B Power Station was commissioned in 1988, with an expected technical life of 40 years. It is important to note that 2028 is a forecast closure date due to the technical life of Callide B. “CS Energy is committed to working with its employees and other key stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition when Callide B is closed.”

The future of Callide B also has significant implications for the nearby Callide Mine owned by Batchfire Resources. The mine produces around 10 million tonnes of thermal coal a year of which most is sold directly to CS Energy to power the Callide B and C stations.
Dear Frank,

My husband is turning 40 next year and I think he is going through mid-life crisis. He has organised an ‘adventure race’ for his friends where they run through scrub, bike up mountains and paddle through croc-infested water. Keeping in mind they are all a bunch of 40-year-old men with dodgy knees, paunch bellies and tennis elbows, their wives are slightly concerned. Should I gently tell my husband I think the idea is crazy, or do I let him go ahead with his plans and risk being made a young widow?

Sally, Rockhampton

You should be ashamed of yourself, Sally. Trying to deprive a man his God-given right to teach mother nature a lesson by riding bikes all over her face. The battle between man and nature has been raging for centuries, and there’s an ebb and flow that makes it virtually impossible to determine a winner.

An explorer climbs a mountain, notch one up for man. Two hunters are tricked into shooting one another by a particularly smart moose, that’s one for nature.

When I was a slightly younger man, I frequently entered interspecies boxing tournaments to prove my superiority as man. I knocked out an unbelieveable 14 kangaroos in a row, a record that came back to haunt me when the RSPCA eventually shut down our flight club.

You may argue that having to perform 500 hours community service scooping up kangaroo droppings at a wildlife park was a victory for nature, but those marsupials knew who was boss. Your husband’s adventure race is important for other reasons too, Sally.

As men get older it’s only natural they start to worry about their virility.

I can still recall my dear old grandfather leaping out of his chair at his 70th birthday party and karate chopping a heavy-set waitress in the neck.

Everyone assumed he’d snapped and fallen prey to senility, but I knew the truth. He was simply proving he still had ‘the right stuff’.

That’s exactly what your husband is trying to do, Sally.

Just think of the adventure race as a money-saving exercise. If your husband competes and wins you’ll never need to fork out money for costly ‘marital aids’ like viagra, or my personal favourite - Xiang Li Ho - a highly illegal topical sex cream from North Korea.

Frank

WHATS CAUSING THE AUSSIE DROUGHT? WHY DO DENMARK TV CARE?

A random Facebook message changed everything, was it legit? Research and a chat with a TV Director in Denmark was the beginning of an epic 2 day adventure. The programme is similar to our ABC’s Foreign Correspondent. I was to speak about how mining affects our country and our town as they share a story about the drought here in Oz. What might be causing it?

In Denmark, they have no mining, so they can’t relate to why we keep doing it. Jakob, the Director did one year in Townsville and three years in Brisvegas doing his Journo degree years ago, so he understands our culture. I wouldn’t have agreed if it was another “your killing the reef, anti-Adani” perspective. I don’t need that target on my back and they would not be open to absorb my thoughts. A chat on the phone to meet the Director and find out their why and why me, helped me decide.

They didn’t want just people in suits. We were looking for down to earth Aussies, and somehow they came across me. After 30 hours of travel and plane delays, they arrived in Mackay. They followed me with a video camera for 2 days. Starting with me interviewing the Mackay Mayor for my Beers With a Miner podcast in his office. No pressure! Greg was so passionate about our area and was open and welcoming to our foreign guests.

Strange going to Mackay Council Headquarters with a camera crew and saying “I’m here to see the Mayor.” Listen to this episode at madmumzie.com/beers62 on your favourite podcast app. We then drove through Paget with the video dude in the passenger seat. Woah, way too close bud, and that is my bad side!

Onto Hay Point so they could see some coal. The lookout was perfect and they had plans of getting a drone out. “Ummmm…. I don’t reckon it’s allowed, guys”. We asked at security, and yes it is protected air space. But how cool would that have been?

I did manage to get them close enough for some great footage at the public lookout near the jetty. The videographer was excited, I said: “I’ve converted you to love coal!” He laughed.

We headed back to Mackay Marina Hotel where they were staying. I had never heard of it? Turns out it was the Clarion, it changed hands about a month earlier. Did you know? Pass it on.

They headed up for a rest after their epic journey. I went to Sails and watched the sunset with a schooner of XXXX Gold….ah… only one day to go.

Saturday we had a family and friends BBQ at the harbour. They filmed my special Peeps as we spoke on climate change, protesters, the drought and how we were all connected to mining in one way or another.

After they all left they had me out in the full sun, no hat or sunnies and questioned me more about climate change and mining. After half an hour I said: “Considering you aged me 10 years, I was red as. I can see more wrinkles already! At least I could continue drinking my beer! After all, it is the Aussie way they agreed. I learnt so much from Director Jakob and videographer Mess. I am inspired to do more videos and share my thoughts on our industry in a more public way. Lookout, they may have created a monster!

They headed to a farmer in Broken Hill and then will be hanging with the Royal Flying Doctors. I reckon the draught will hit them hard on out there. Lucky I messaged them about daylight saving starting the night before they flew. They would have had another flight delay for sure as they didn’t know. Like they call soccer football and think Ford own Holden. I nearly kicked me out of the SS right there!

Cheers MM

Note from the editor

Enjoy this? You will love her award winning podcast “Beers with A Miner” Search for “Beers With a Miner” in your favourite Podcast app, or head to MadMumzie.com/beers and push play.
Adani: Get on board

Australian based Martinus Rail has won a $100 million contract for the laying of a 200-kilometre narrow gauge railway line linking Adani’s proposed Carmichael mine into Aurizon’s existing Newlands rail system to Abbot Point.

The rail infrastructure is a critical part of Adani’s plans to develop the Carmichael coal mine and open up the Galilee Basin to coal mining more generally.

Adani Mining CEO Mr Lucas Dow says they have now awarded more than $450 million worth of contracts for the Carmichael project.

“We have always promised Queenslanders that we will deliver jobs and economic benefits for the regions, and it’s a great feeling that we are now able to convert the promises into actions,” Mr Dow said.

“Construction on the Carmichael mine and rail project is well and truly underway, and our big contracts are now also lined up as we ramp up activity,” Mr Dow said.

“We are keen to get as many regional Queensland workers and businesses on the project as possible, and with work packages and jobs being updated every week, now is the time to get involved.”

According to Mr Dow, they are continuing to invest in communities like Rockhampton and Townsville who were the most supportive through the decade long approvals process.

“We now have our mining services contractor, one of our rail earthworks contractors and Martinus Rail all based in Rockhampton,” Mr Dow said.

“Our initial rail camp provision will be in Collinsville, civil earthworks and fuel supply are coming from Townsville and telecommunications will come from Mackay.”

Managing Director for Martinus Rail, Mr Treaven Martinus, said they were keen to ensure regional communities enjoyed the benefits of the contract.

“We’ve always been highly focused on ensuring the work we deliver is resourced through regional areas that need it most, and are also often highly-skilled to deliver it,” he said.

“We look forward to partnering with numerous local Rockhampton and other regional Queensland businesses to get our part of the project underway.”

Earlier this year Adani abandoned its original plans to build an independent 388-kilometre standard gauge rail line to port. If built it would’ve been capable of accommodating trains with 220 carriages. Instead, it now plans to construct a 200-kilometre narrow gauge rail line that can only carry trains about half that length.

According to Adani, the Carmichael project will deliver 1,500 direct and 6,750 indirect jobs during ramp up and construction, with Rockhampton and Townsville the primary hubs for employment.

Delay for Longreach pipeline

Chinese-controlled gas and electricity business Jemena has completed a 60km gas pipeline linking Senex’s Project Atlas to the Wallumbilla gas hub, and will now turn its attention to a pipe into the Galilee Basin.

While the associated gas processing facility in the Surat Basin is still under construction, Senex Managing Director Ian Davies said they are on track to deliver Queensland’s first gas project dedicated to servicing domestic demand.

“Achievement of this latest milestone by Jemena supports Senex in its continuing transformation into an important supplier of natural gas to the east coast market,” he said.

“Project Atlas is supporting both local construction jobs and the manufacturing industry, with gas to be sold to local manufacturers including CSR, Orora and O-I, with more contracts currently under negotiation.”
Gold in them thar hills

Gold explorer Impact minerals and contractor Nimble Resources have struck a deal that will see gold mining around Clermont by the end of this year.

Under the deal, Nimble will process one point six million tonnes of loose overburden and will keep most of the revenue they get from selling any gold they find. Impact Minerals will use the trial mining phase to inform their plans for a bigger gold mine in the area, as well as extract a small royalty on any gold found.

Impact Minerals Limited Managing Director Dr Mike Jones said the arrangement was the least risky way to get the information they need.

“This agreement is a very positive step forward for the Blackridge project,” he said. “We know that the best way to determine the grade in coarse gold deposits such as Blackridge is to start mining.

“This is inherently very high risk, and so this agreement gives Impact a very low-risk entry to mining, by the trial mining of only a modest part of the mineralised area.

In addition, Impact, under the royalty payment provisions, will receive at least a modest cash flow from the trial.”

For years there have been explorers trying to piece together the geology of the volcanic formations around Clermont. In 1861 there was a major gold rush, and significant amounts of alluvial gold were panned from nearby creeks. The enduring mystery for explorers ever since has been where did that gold from?

Alluvial gold is surface sediment and originates from a deposit in a rock that is usually, but not always, located upstream. There is a consensus among modern-day explorers that a large deposit of gold is waiting to be discovered in the Clermont region that could possibly lead to the establishment of a mega-mine.

An average gold mine produces 35-50,000 ounces of gold a year, a large mine around 100,000 ounces a year and a mega-mine between 700,000 and a million ounces. There are only about ten mega mines in the world, so a huge discovery at Clermont would be enormous for Central Queensland.

Brisbane-based gold explorer Diatreme Resources told Shift Miner in 2014 a major discovery in the area was probably just a question of time and resources. “The area is highly prospective, and major companies acknowledge that,” they said.

“But it is an early phase exploration tenement, so the story is still unfolding.

“I think there is a high chance of a major discovery in the region, although I couldn’t give a timeline for when it might occur.

“These things come down to time, money, some luck, and usually involve a number of small explorers punching their holes and trying to piece the geology together.

“But this area is not well understood.”

Byerwen’s big day out

Five years after receiving Federal Government environmental approval and roughly four years after getting their mining lease, QCoal has officially opened the Byerwen mine, near Glenden.

In reality, the mine has been open for business for around two years. However, QCoal’s Managing Director Christopher Wallin said it was nonetheless an important day.

“With a potential mine life of over 50 years, Byerwen Coal Mine is a major employer in the Bowen Basin and contributes significantly to the local, regional and Queensland economies,” he said.

“During construction, approximately 1000 people were employed, and we will have a permanent workforce of over 500 during operations.

“In addition, the Byerwen Coal Mine has a strong track record of Indigenous employment, peaking at 14% during construction and 5% in operations. “As a growing Queensland company, we are proud of our contribution to the State through local employment, purchasing locally wherever possible and creating opportunities for regional communities.”

Earlier this year QCoal announced plans to spend more than $150 million doubling the wash plant capacity at Byerwen. The expansion reflected the healthy outlook for coal prices and will allow Byerwen to act as a processing hub for coal from a suite of other stand-alone pits being developed as part of QCoal’s “Northern Hub” strategy to export 20 million tonnes of coal by 2020.

The Byerwen project is a joint venture between QCoal Group and Japan’s JFE Steel. The mine was opened by pro-coal Federal Mines Minister Matt Canavan.

20 new Glencore jobs

Glencore’s coal business is seeking to employ 20 indigenous people from the communities around Tieri and Glenden as it expands its Employment Pathways program in Central Queensland.

The program aims to provide employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians with connections to areas where Glencore mines coal and follows a successful pilot program earlier this year through which eight Indigenous participants completed a 26-week program. According to Glencore’s Cultural Heritage Manager Brian French the program is linked to their Oaky Creek, Newlands and Hail Creek mines.

“An average gold mine produces 35-50,000 ounces of gold a year, a large mine around 100,000 ounces a year and a mega-mine between 700,000 and a million ounces. There are only about ten mega mines in the world, so a huge discovery at Clermont would be enormous for Central Queensland.”

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“But this area is not well understood.”
A coordination hub for disaster management personnel during times of severe weather events has officially opened in the Isaac region.

The Moranbah’s SES training facility on Bacon Street has been upgraded into the Isaac Local Disaster Coordination Centre.

Isaac Regional Council Mayor Anne Baker who is also the Chair of the Isaac Local Disaster Management Group along with representatives from Queensland Reconstruction Authority and Anglo American opened the centre.

Mayor Baker said the upgrades have transformed the base into a quality centre for disaster coordination.

“Hub for Isaac disasters”

“The disaster base will allow our team to better collaborate, secure resources, and communicate vital warnings and information out to our community,” she said.

“The facility now includes a dedicated 45KVA generator, video teleconferencing facilities, and operational upgrades to ensure our community can remain connected and supported if disaster strikes.

“With back-up power and improved technology services, we can streamline information sharing, and remain self-sufficient in any emergency.”

Mayor Baker thanked the Queensland Government and Anglo American, saying the upgrades have been made possible by funding provided by both the Queensland Government’s Queensland Disaster Resilience Fund (QDRF), and Anglo American’s Community Funding Program.

Pictured below are Queensland Reconstruction Authority’s Luke Del Favero, Mayor Anne Baker and Anglo American representative Sandra Thomson.

Moura teacher recognised

Moura State High School teacher Norah Parsons has been named one of Queensland’s top teachers by her peers, winning the Outstanding Contribution to Teaching category in the Queensland College of Teachers’ awards presented in Brisbane.

Norah has given 40 years of dedicated service to students at Moura State High, which is also a foundation school in the Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy (QMEA) which helps students onto pathways into the resources sector.

The QMEA is a partnership between the Queensland Resources Council and the Queensland Government under its Gateway to Industry Schools program and has 74 schools throughout Queensland.

Chief Executive of the Queensland Resources Council Ian Macfarlane acknowledged Norah’s efforts.

“It’s fitting that Norah has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to the field on the eve of Queensland’s celebration of World Teacher’s Day, which is celebrated today,” he said.

“I recently met Norah and her daughter when I visited Moura and it’s fair to say Norah is a champion of education and an idol to her students and the wider school community.

“As well, Norah is particularly supportive of the QMEA activities and largely through Norah’s efforts, the little school of 200 students punches above its weight.

“Since she became the Senior School Head of Department in 2015, all Year 12 students have achieved a Queensland Certificate of Education while all of her mathematics students studying in the five years to 2018 received a grade of A-C.”

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SODOKU

ACROSS
1. Fluid losses
5. Turns inside-out
9. Empties water from (boat)
10. South American mammal
12. Increasing in depth
13. Workers’ body
14. Martial art, ... fu
16. Heating coil
19. Below
21. Writes quickly
24. Rowing team
25. Public referee
27. Opinion
28. Authoritative (5-3)
30. Turnaround

DOWN
1. Sexual drive
2. Crops up
3. Supermarket lane
4. Secreting
6. Pastry delicacy
7. Caught on
8. Become stale
11. Storybook monster
15. Not changed
17. Protester
18. Cosiness
20. Sound siren
21. Special anniversary
22. Spanks
23. Infuse
26. Cover with cloth

THE “GREATEST AUSTRALIAN IN THE CRIB ROOM” QUIZ.

1. Who made the first flight across the Pacific from California to Brisbane in 1928?
2. Name the square-shaped sponge cake is coated in a layer of chocolate icing and desiccated coconut and often described as the “National Cake of Australia.”.
3. What was the name of Australia’s first Prime Minister?
4. The Indian Pacific rail service travels between which two cities?
5. The Adelaide Cup horse race has been competed for since which year? a) 1864 b) 1874 c) 1884
6. What is a quandong?
7. Who composed the ballad, Waltzing Matilda?

ANSWERS

1. Charles Kingsford Smith
2. Lamingtons
3. Edmund Barton
4. Sydney and Perth
5. a) 1864
6. A fruit
7. Andrew Barton ‘BANJO’ Paterson
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  - 2 x 500 XC 4 door sedans - 6 cylinders.
  - 1 is running and driveable with working factory air. Other, stripped and restoration commenced - missing motor and box. Offers over $8000 considered for the two vehicles.
  - **$21,000**
  - Call: 0427 227 612

- **2014 Toyota Landcruiser Ute**
  - **$62,000**
  - Call: 0417 649 624

- **2016 VX Diesel Prado Auto**
  - 82000 kms Immuculate Condition Crystal Pearl 7 seats - 5 doors Rego - Sep 2020 Tinted Windows Sat Nav Reverse Camera & Sensors.
  - **$57,000**
  - Call: 0408 563 041

- **Ford Falcon XA 500 Sedan**
  - XA 500 Sedan. 6 cylinder. Rust in usual places. All parts there - suit restoration. Not negotiable on price and will not be accepting offers below asking price.
  - **$5,000**
  - Call: 0427 227 612

### Truck for Sale
- **Isuzu Ffr**
  - Ex western nsw fire truck genuine low kms about 380,000km - very tidy and reliable truck, will regas aircon as it just let a seal go otherwise was freezing , CD player , 9300 GVM.
  - **$9,000**
  - Call: 0467 516 011

- **Ch Mack Tipper**
  - CH mack tipper 1998 model , new radiator , new clutch, hardox body with 2 way tail gate, airbag suspension, Alloy rims, set up for trailer, RWC no rego, in Victoria
  - **$52,000**
  - Call: 0431 841 285

### Caravan for Sale
- **Jayco Expanda Outback 16.49-3**
  - Late 2017 model, one of the last of this layout to be built Still under warranty! Sleeps up to 4 adults 2 kids. Built in shower/toilet, Reverse cycle air conditioner, 150L Domicel 3 way fridge/freezer, Hot water system.
  - **$46,000**
  - Call: 0447 200 281

- **2013 Expanda Outback**
  - Jayco 17.56.2 Excellent condition. Sleeps 6 in comfort (queen bed and double bed with innerspring mattresses), double bunk (converts into the second dinette), bathroom with shower, toilet, and vanity.
  - **$38,000**
  - Call: 0429 645 149

- **2015 Ktm 1190 Adventure R**
  - This is without a doubt one of the most immaculate 1190 adventures with all the fruit. With only 5500ks on the clock and never been offroad. Always garage and serviced with all Ktm parts.
  - **$18,000**
  - Call: 0488 016 988

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  - **$57,000**
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  - This Velocette has a rebuilt Engine and gearbox, refurbished BTH magneto and Wiring harness. This is going motorcycle with A well sort original 15/16” bore anal GP276 carburetor and well set up magneto.
  - **$17,500**
  - Call: 0407 962 358

- **Arrow X30 Go Kart**
  - 1 x Arrow X30 senior Go Kart 40mm axle 600dollar Top end rebuilt at Growler 3 hours ago.Micron 4 with new battery2 sets of rims3 sets of DFM Tyres/new front and rear sprocket and chainFull tank of fuel.
  - **$2,500**
  - Call: 0421 885 400

- **Can Am Outlander 570 Max**
  - 2016 can am outlander 570dps maxiv good condition plenty of tread on tyresNew small rip on seatJust fit new winch245hrs and 2550km.
  - **$5,800**
  - Call: 0419 646 284

- **Quintrex 510 Freedom Sport**
  - Yamaha 100 4stroke (203hrs). Boat is in top condition. Always under cover. Lawrence elite 7 HDI combo. New floor and carpet. In floor ski. 3 dual batteries. Plenty of rod holders. Rear mounted bait board.
  - **$32,000**
  - Call: 0407 350 128

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November 2019

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**2002 HAINES SIGNATURE 542F**
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$25,000

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$32,000

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**STACER 449 SEAWAY 2016 MODEL**

$17,000

**Call: 0448 745 176**

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**6.1M HAMMERHEAD BOAT 2015**
Custom Built, Centre Console, Plate Boat with 5mm Bottom and 4mm Sides 200HP Suzuki 4-cylinder Lean Burn with 1 Garmin Engine Fuel Management System (digital gauged 235 hours-270-ltr fuel tank.

$69,900

**Call: 0488 660 518**

### BOAT FOR SALE

**2007 BLUEFIN BOWRIDER 5.25**
Bluefin plate boat90hp etec 110 hrsLowrance hds 7 sounder with east coast mapsDual batteriesElectric winch.

$21,000

**Call: 0408 572 227**

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### BOAT FOR SALE

**1992 KOMATSU 155-1 BULLDOZER**
E.M.U.S MS538 Location Injune, Machine Type Bulldozer, Make Komatsu, Model D155-1, Year 1992, Hours 11k, Weight 27ton, Aircon working Yes, New tracks

$39,500

**Call: 0419 646 284**

### BOAT FOR SALE

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E.M.U.S MS532 Location Injune QLD, Type Crawler Bull Dozer, Make Komatsu, Model D155A-2, Year 1992, Hours 9165, Weight 35ton, New tracks

$155,000

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**MUSTANG 940 SKID STEER**

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**6.1M HAMMERHEAD BOAT 2015**
Custom Built, Centre Console, Plate Boat with 5mm Bottom and 4mm Sides 200HP Suzuki 4-cylinder Lean Burn with 1 Garmin Engine Fuel Management System (digital gauged 235 hours-270-ltr fuel tank.

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**1934 CHEVY ROADSTER PARTS**
Chevrolet panels. If it’s not in pics I don’t have it. Not for the faint hearted. Running boards are fibreglass. Located Homebush south of Mackay Queensland. Please call the number if interested.

$850

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### BOAT FOR SALE

**2007 BLUEFIN BOWRIDER 5.25**
Bluefin plate boat90hp etec 110 hrsLowrance hds 7 sounder with east coast mapsDual batteriesElectric winch.

$21,000

**Call: 0401 549 431**

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**1992 KOMATSU 155-1 BULLDOZER**
E.M.U.S MS538 Location Injune, Machine Type Bulldozer, Make Komatsu, Model D155-1, Year 1992, Hours 11k, Weight 27ton, Aircon working Yes, New tracks

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**Call: 0419 646 284**

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$39,500

**Call: 0419 646 284**

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E.M.U.S MS532 Location Injune QLD, Type Crawler Bull Dozer, Make Komatsu, Model D155A-2, Year 1992, Hours 9165, Weight 35ton, New tracks

$155,000

**Call: 0449 153 444**

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$4,000

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**WHEELS FOR SALE**
**Corvette C4 salad shooter wheels. Very rare wheels in Australia 5x120, 5x120, 0.13mm per stud isn’t going to make a difference 16x8, 0.325 in. BMW, commodore, golf, mini, VW, Audi, e30 etc.**

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**HOLDEN V8 HURRICANE EXTRACTORS**
HPC Coated Hurricane extractors in near new condition to suit VN,VP,VR,VS.

$600

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