

# Dendrobium Community News

Illawarra Metallurgical Coal



DECEMBER 2022

## A MESSAGE FROM SIMON THOMAS

On behalf on the team at Dendrobium Mine, I would like to wish our community a safe and restful holiday season.

2022 has been a big year for Dendrobium, celebrating our 20-year anniversary and continuing to operate safely through COVID-19. We are proud to continue our partnerships with local organisations including Ride Nation, the Science Centre and Illawarra Rugby League through the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Committee. We know this would not be possible without your ongoing support.

To our team members, I'd like to thank you for your hard work this year and helping to maintain a safe and reliable operation despite some tough challenges. I wish you and your families a safe festive season and a Happy New Year.

I look forward to another great year in 2023.

Stay safe and healthy

Simon  
General Manager Dendrobium Mine



## COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our Community Consultative Committee meets bimonthly and minutes are publicly available on our website. The last meeting was held in December 2022 and the following items were discussed:

- Environment update, including noise, water and soil moisture monitoring, and weed control activities
- Operations update, including progress on subsidence management plans
- LW19 commenced extraction in June 2022 and is likely to finish in February/March 2023 ahead of the longwall change out to LW21
- Slope stability works in Kembla Heights to reduce the potential impact from further land slippage, and surface borehole drilling at the mine's main carpark
- Community investments from Illawarra Metallurgical Coal and the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program, including Figtree Public School, Illawarra Rugby League, and the Indigenous Grants Program
- The next CCC meeting will be on 2 February 2023

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal is now on Facebook.

Follow our page to stay connected with what we're doing at our operations and in the community.

To find our page, scan the QR code or go to [facebook.com/South32IllawarraMetallurgicalCoal](https://facebook.com/South32IllawarraMetallurgicalCoal)





## **SOUTH32 LAUNCHES INDIGENOUS GRANT PROGRAM**

We have established a new Indigenous Grant Program to support educational and cultural activities that promote Indigenous culture, pre-employment and start-up business development.

Applications are now open and are encouraged from groups or businesses working in the Illawarra region that can demonstrate how their project will assist the local Indigenous community.

Scan the QR code for more information or email [illawarracommunity@south32.net](mailto:illawarracommunity@south32.net).



## **SOUTH32 HELPS MOUNT KEMBLA PATHWAY GROUP**

The local pathway group consists of Mount Kembla residents who meet weekly to maintain the Mount Kembla Pathway.

Every few months our South32 volunteers work with the group, to help with weeding, mulching, planting and general maintenance of the area.

Recently, our Safety, Risk and Training team from Dendrobium Mine enjoyed some spring sunshine helping the Pathway Group with some gardening at the Stones Road Memorial site.

South32 has also offered to continue to provide secretariat support to the group, hosting their 2022 Annual General Meeting at our Dendrobium Mine this October. We were happy to present each of the members with a yellow bucket hat, to help keep them safe from the sun this summer while they work on the pathway.

## **SOUTH32 FUNDS CRITERIUM TRACK**

South32's Termira and son Emerson experienced the new Criterium Track in Unanderra for the first time, giving it the thumbs up.

The Criterium Track was built with support from the Dendrobium Community Enhancement Program (DCEP) which provided \$160,000 towards the cost of the project.

Located at Lindsay Mayne Park, it was recently opened by Wollongong City Council, providing a new space for people of all ages and abilities to cycle, rollerblade or use scooters in a safe and purpose-built environment.

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Vice President Operations, Peter Baker, said the Criterium Track was a great new public space enabling people of all ages to enjoy themselves and stay healthy.

"We're proud to have contributed some funding to help make the project a reality," he said.

"It's fantastic to see some of our own people and their families already using the Criterium Track and I'd encourage everyone to pay a visit and try it out for themselves."

DCEP Chairman Mike Archer said the Criterium Track was a fine example of the type of project the volunteer committee members are keen to support, assisting many to exercise and live a healthy lifestyle, while providing a lasting legacy for the community.







## GIVING BACK TO LOCAL APPRENTICES

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal has donated a decommissioned coaltram and a diesel industrial engine to Shellharbour TAFE so that local apprentices can use them in their hands-on workshop classes.

Coaltram '81' was the last of the CT08 coaltrams to operate at South32's Dendrobium Mine before being decommissioned earlier this year. The CT08s, which are designed to lift, move and tow loads of up to 10 tonnes, have been replaced with a fleet of new vehicles at Dendrobium.

The coaltram and diesel engine will be used by students working towards their Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology at TAFE Shellharbour. As well as learning how to repair and maintain heavy plant machinery and high-powered engines, the equipment will give students the opportunity to learn more about mobile plant braking systems, hydraulics and steering systems.

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Vice President Operations Peter Baker said "It's great to be able to donate one of the CT08 coaltrams to TAFE Shellharbour, along with a C7 diesel industrial engine, giving local apprentices the chance to get up close and personal with this heavy plant machinery."



## SOUTH32 GETS BEHIND CONVOY

On Sunday 20 November, the i98FM Illawarra Convoy of over 1,500 trucks and motorbikes set off from our Appin North Colliery and headed through Wollongong to raise funds for local children facing life threatening illnesses.

Every year South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal is proud to support Illawarra Convoy.

To help local families this year, we pledged to double every donation made to our South32 fundraising page until we hit \$50,000. Thanks to our generous people and local community, the page raised an incredible \$44,568. We were happy to match that amount, bringing the total donation tally for South32 to just under \$90,000.

The final 2022 donation figure for the entire event reached an impressive \$2,078,718.95. These funds will go towards a range of local groups and families through the Illawarra Community Foundation.

South32 Vice President Operations Peter Baker said, "It's a special time in the Illawarra when Convoy comes around, where local businesses and the community rally together for an important cause. I'm so proud that South32 can be involved and do our bit to help local families doing it tough in the lead up the Christmas."

## DENDROBIUM WASHERY CELEBRATES 1 YEAR INJURY FREE

The team at Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's Dendrobium Coal Preparation Plant (DCPP) celebrated 365 days injury free this September.

The Plant is located at the Port Kembla Steelworks and has been in continuous operation since 1948. The team is made up of 45 full-time employees and up to 90 contractors.

The Plant plays a crucial role in our operation, running 24/7 to convert raw coal product from Dendrobium Mine into a final product for use in steelmaking.

Referred to as 'coal washing', the Plant uses a variety of density and froth flotation techniques on the raw coal to separate into metallurgical coal (a major ingredient in steelmaking), and other by-products, including some thermal coal and rock.



Plant Manager Mick Bourke said he is proud of his team's achievement:

"Congratulations and thank you to the team for reaching this safety milestone. Treating each day as a safe day, by prioritising safety, is key to guaranteeing we all go home safe and well every day."

# CONNECTING WITH THE FUTURE LEADERS IN MINING



Indigenous students visit Cordeaux Colliery.

South32 speaks to local students at Dapto High School.



Illawarra Metallurgical Coal had the pleasure of hosting a group of Indigenous students at our Cordeaux Colliery this September. The day included a full site tour, hands-on workshops, career talks and Q&A sessions. The visit formed part of a 2-week course that helps candidates prepare for South32's 2023 apprenticeship intake through HVTC.

We also met with students from across the Illawarra at the Mining Skills Expo at Dapto High School this September. South32's Alex Blasi spoke with students about career pathways, apprenticeship and vacation opportunities at South32, and delivered valuable information sessions on our operations and contribution to the local economy and global steel industry.

You can learn more about career opportunities with South32 at [south32.net/people-careers](https://south32.net/people-careers)

## DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

The committee meets quarterly to review applications for funding submitted by local community groups and businesses.

DCEP provides funding to projects that add to the amenity, livability, and infrastructure in the local community.

Most recently, the committee endorsed funding for these projects:

- Unanderra Public School – Dance2bFit Program – \$10,000
- Figtree Anglican Church – Community Carols – \$27,031
- Figtree Public School – community playground - \$100,000



## OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- Mining of Longwall 19 is set to conclude in February/March 2023 ahead of the longwall changeout to Longwall 21. We will share further information about vehicle movements associated with the longwall changeout in our next newsletter, however increased truck movements in the Mount Kembla Village are expected.
- Slope stability works have commenced in Kembla Heights to mitigate impacts from further land slippage, as well as surface borehole drilling at Dendrobium Mine's main carpark.



## COMMUNITY CALL LINE

Residents who have questions, concerns or complaints about Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's activities are encouraged to contact us through our Community Call Line on 1800 102 210. You can also email at [illawarracommunity@south32.net](mailto:illawarracommunity@south32.net)