

AUTUMN 2015



## MAJOR REFINANCE SECURED

The securing of a new \$1.4 billion bank facility provides Whitehaven with a 'strong and sustainable' future. The facility is with a syndicate of Australian and international banks and has a A\$1.2 billion drawable line of credit for general corporate purposes, with a maturity date of July 2019. The previous facility was due to expire next year.

Paul Flynn, Whitehaven Coal Managing Director and CEO, said: "We are pleased to have completed this important transaction and welcome the support provided by the banking syndicate. The facility will enable Whitehaven to fulfil its ambition of becoming Australia's leading independent coal company by providing flexibility for the company over the next few years."

## RECORD BREAKERS

**Our Maules Creek mine is over 93 per cent complete, with the company already producing 1.1 million tonnes of coal at the project in the March quarter.**

This helped push total coal sales to 3.741 million tonnes, a 64 per cent increase on the tonnes sold in the previous corresponding period.

Export sales comprised 0.6Mt of metallurgical coal and 3.2Mt of thermal coal with domestic sales making up the balance.

With the construction of Maules Creek mine nearly complete, it is expected the operation will be declared commercial from the beginning of July.

Additional equipment commenced operations at the site in late February and production reached an annualised rate of 6.0Mt during March.

At Narrabri mine, a quarterly ROM coal production record of 2.2Mt was reached in the quarter. Saleable coal production was 1.8Mt and coal sales were 1.6Mt for the quarter.

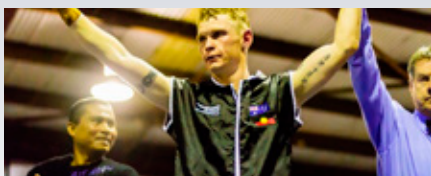
Strong production performance by the longwall in the current panel has resulted in an upgrade of the guidance provided to investors with the half year results. Narrabri is now forecast to produce between 7.0Mt and 7.2Mt ROM coal for FY2015.

At Tarrowonga mine, a change of roster has resulted in lower costs and stable production, Whitehaven said. Production from the mine was 0.5Mt ROM coal and 0.5Mt saleable coal for the quarter, up 43 per cent and down 7 per cent respectively on the previous corresponding quarter.

At Rocglen mine, while ROM coal production of 0.2Mt was 14 per cent

lower than in the previous corresponding period in line with the current mine plan. Saleable coal production of 0.2Mt was 31 per cent higher than the previous corresponding quarter.

Werris Creek mine performed strongly during the quarter producing 0.7Mt ROM coal and 0.7Mt saleable coal for the period, up by 28 per cent and 10 per cent respectively from the previous corresponding quarter.



### WADE RYAN – BOXING CHAMPION

Read more on page 3.



### DEE HEINEMANN – RODEO STAR

Read more on page 3.



### FIRE RESCUE HEROES

Read more on page 6.

# NEWS SNIPPETS



## JOB OPPORTUNITY A 'DREAM COME TRUE'

**Indigenous** employment has always been a strong focus for the company and the Maules Creek Project has been an opportunity to translate our commitment into action. In March we exceeded our voluntary goal of a 10% Indigenous employment rate, reaching 15.5 percent, with 30 Aboriginal people working at Maules Creek.

Darrin Trindall, a trainee plant operator at the Maules Creek operation, is an example of the success the program

is having. Employed late last year as part of our Indigenous employment program, the role was the fulfilment of a long-held dream of returning to live and work in his traditional homeland of Narrabri.

"I have always wanted to be a plant operator," Mr Trindall says. "And when the opportunity with Whitehaven came up, I went for it.

"I'd spent 12 years working as a nurse in remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory, and then went into

civil construction. Once I had children, I wanted a career change, and I have always wanted to come home to Narrabri, so for me the opportunity at Whitehaven was a dream come true."

The full story can be read at: [www.whitehavennews.com.au](http://www.whitehavennews.com.au)



## WOMEN IN MINING WORKSHOP

**Local** Aboriginal women were given a taste of mining at a workshop in Gunnedah.

Whitehaven hosted the 'Aboriginal Women in Mining' day at Winanga Li Centre, where participants were offered career insights into what the industry has to offer.

Around 10 local Aboriginal women attended with activities including a training pit and simulator, courtesy of training partners Skilled and Tesa. Discussion on the day included child care and flexible working priorities.

Bob Sutherland, Aboriginal Community Relations Officer, said the event was organised both to promote Whitehaven as a major local employer and also to provide local Aboriginal women with an insight into a potential career.

"The day was about providing the local women enough information in an informal and relaxed way to allow them to make an informed choice as to whether mining is a career for them," he said.



## OUR CHAMPIONS – WHITEHAVEN’S SPORTING STARS

Whitehaven Coal boasts sporting stars among our ranks. Two of our workforce at Narrabri, Wade Ryan and Dee Heinemann, recently became champions at their respective sports. Here we find out the latest on their champion efforts.



### SEVEN UP FOR RODEO CHAMPION DEE

**He's** our very own rodeo star. Dee Heinemann has once again become Australian champion Bareback Rider for the seventh time.

Dee, 34, who has been based at our Narrabri mine for the last four years, regularly swaps his hard-hat for a cowboy hat on the Australian rodeo circuit.

And the popular storeman/yardman has once again come out on top to win the Australian Bushmen's Campdraft and Rodeo Association organised competition.

The tough competition involves Dee staying on the horse for eight seconds – scoring points from judges in the process.

"I grew up with horses and have been riding since a boy. The competition is hard work but I really enjoy it," he said. "I fly to competitions at weekends. Quite a few of the other competitors come from a mining background, particularly from Western Australia."

Dean Lawrence, Commercial Manager at Narrabri, said Dee was an extremely modest and hard-working employee – with a special talent.

"To be the Australian champion Bareback Rider for the seventh time is special. While Dee assures me that he will not be chasing the all-time record of 9 wins, he has already starting competing in the 2015 series."



### WADE PACKS A PUNCH TO WIN SECOND TITLE

**Champion** boxer Wade Ryan wants to one day become a boxing World Champion.

By day a Mine Operator at Narrabri, at night Wade trains up to four hours a day, six days a week in pursuit of his dream.

Having recently won the NSW Middleweight championship, Wade now wants to continue delivering the knockout punches.

"I'm delighted to have won the NSW Middleweight title – but my ultimate goal is to win a World title. You have to aim for the top," he said.

Wade, 25, won the title in a powerful display in Dubbo last month, securing a unanimous decision after eight rounds against Michael Dan.

"It was a tough fight," he said.

The state wins puts his professional fight record at eight wins from 10 bouts and is his third consecutive victory. Next up for Wade, who trains at the Black and Blue Gym in Gunnedah, is likely to be a Gunnedah bout on 23 May.

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# MAULES CREEK

## FACTS AND FIGURES



On the morning of 17 December 2014, the very first train load of coal left Maules Creek – three months ahead of schedule and just 359 days since full approval was granted.

Here are some key facts and figures on the significant construction project at Maules Creek:

We've worked about

## 1.2 MILLION MAN HOURS

with a peak workforce of around 750 people, and zero Lost Time Injuries.

About

## 22,000 INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

of equipment, piping and steel components have been delivered to site from construction yards in nearby Narrabri and Gunnedah – about 250 of which weighed five tonnes or more.

We've built around

## 10 KM OF CONSTRUCTION ACCESS ROADS, 12 KM OF SEALED MINE ACCESS ROADS

and upgraded about

## 4 KM OF LOCAL ROADS

as part of our Voluntary Planning Agreements with Council.

We've put in place an

## 18 KM LONG WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

including an intake pump station, two booster pump stations, and five distribution and truck fill pumping stations.

We've worked with a total of

## 105 REGISTERED ABORIGINAL PARTIES

to survey 38 registered sites within the Application Area and recover over 7,000 Aboriginal artefacts for safe-keeping.





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We successfully installed over

## 30 KM OF RAIL

in under 30 days to transport our production trains. This includes Boggabri's rail loop.

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In total, we moved about

## THREE MILLION CUBIC METRES

of rock and dirt to make way for road, rail and plant area infrastructure works.

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Over the next thirty years, Maules Creek will deliver a substantial economic and social dividend to the surrounding area:

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It will create around

## 450 NEW LOCALLY BASED JOBS

- jobs created for locals, or workers prepared to move here.

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It will inject an additional

## \$68 MILLION IN WAGES

into the local economy every single year, supporting retailers and small business owners.

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It will contribute

## \$13 MILLION TOWARDS LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

improving amenity and liveability.

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It will provide around

## \$150,000 IN GRANTS

to local education and other charitable initiatives.

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Having already set ourselves a minimum target of

## 10 PER CENT INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATION

in our workforce, we've already met - and exceeded - this target at Maules Creek.



## BRAVE TRIO HELP SAVE FIRE VICTIMS

**Humble heroes credited with saving the lives of a couple trapped inside a burning house insist their actions were “nothing special”.**

Brian Jaeger, Steve Smith, Jamie Fitzroy (operators at Rocglen) were each driving home from work earlier this year when they smelled smoke coming from the unit in Chandos St in Gunnedah. Tina Beasley and her partner Craig Clarke were in the unit when a fire erupted in the kitchen.

The brave trio stopped to investigate, and Mr Jaeger rang triple-zero before finding a garden hose and sticking it through the kitchen window.

Mr Smith kicked in the door and found Tina Beasley and he dragged her out. Mr Fitzroy helped Mr Clarke down the steps. A passer-by Jackson Ludlow also aided the rescue.

Mr Smith said they just did “what anyone would do”. “We were just lucky we were there at the right time,” he said.

Fire and Rescue NSW Gunnedah station commander Rod Byrnes told the Namoi Valley Independent that Ms Beasley and Mr Clarke were “very lucky” the men noticed the fire.

“They saved the life of that lady for sure, and delayed the fire. We didn’t have to do much to put it out. Their actions were, in my mind, very brave and timely.”

The men said training they had undergone through their jobs at the mine had undoubtedly helped them to handle the life-or-death situation calmly.

Police said the home’s occupants were taken to hospital for treatment and the fire was not considered suspicious.

Mr Jaeger, 53, who managed to extinguish the blaze before firefighters arrived, dismissed suggestions their actions were worthy of bravery awards.

Jason Conomos, Operations Manager at Rocglen, said: “The boys have all been modest and said they did not want any recognition but what they did was very brave.”

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## NEW OFFICE TO BOOST COMMUNITY PRESENCE

**We** are increasing our community presence by applying to open a new regional office in the heart of Gunnedah.

The company has purchased the former Crazy Clark’s building in Gunnedah’s main street and has submitted plans to Council to create a new permanent home in the area.

The proposal is to convert the store into an office for around 30 staff. The site will also serve as a public shop-

front where members of the community can access information about Whitehaven operations and community-based activities. It is hoped the new regional hub will be open for business before Christmas 2015.

Paul Flynn, Managing Director and CEO, said: “As Whitehaven continues to grow, we believe opening an office in the heart of Gunnedah is the natural next step in integrating us further into the community.”



## SUPPORT FOR RURAL HEALTH CENTRE

**Whitehaven** donated \$10,000 to the Gunnedah Rural Health Centre for the purchase of much-needed nursing and physiotherapy equipment.

Gunnedah Rural Health Centre chairman Keith Perrett said the three-year-old community-owned, state-of-the-art centre relies on the ongoing support from the corporate sector.

“It’s wonderful to have the support of Gunnedah’s biggest employer, Whitehaven Coal, and to know they recognise the worth in our centre.”

General manager for health safety environment and communities Kirsten Gollogly said the company was proud to support the centre.

The funding will provide an ophthalmoscope (eyes and ears), a carbon dematoscope (skin), a rechargeable battery for COAG check (bloods) and vital physiotherapy equipment for the health centre.

**Pictured are Gunnedah Rural Health Centre board chairman Keith Perrett with Whitehaven Coal’s general manager for health safety environment and communities Kirsten Gollogly and Whitehaven Coal’s community relations officer Daryl Campbell. Picture courtesy of the Namoi Valley Independent.**

## SURVEY ON THE WAY

We will soon be conducting an employee satisfaction survey. As the company continues to grow, it has become increasingly important to gauge the level of satisfaction of our employees.

The survey – which will be sent electronically and in paper form to sites – will be carried out by independent research company Lonergan Research and will be anonymous and confidential. Stayed tuned for more details in the coming weeks.



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## VOTERS REJECT ‘SCARE’ CAMPAIGN

**Voters** in the New England region have rejected the claims of FIFO activists and candidates campaigning against mining at the NSW state election.

Nationals MP Kevin Anderson won the state seat of Tamworth with a swing of 3.9% towards him despite the claims of his opponents.

The coal industry’s peak lobby group has seized upon the defeat of independent Peter Draper in Tamworth as an indication of the sector’s importance to the region.

NSW Minerals Council chief executive officer Stephen Galilee said it was a “credit to the electorate” that it had rejected Mr Draper’s anti-mining “scare campaign”.

## ACTIVISTS SLAPPED WITH HEAVY FINES

**A dozen** activists were slapped with more than \$35,000 in fines after a scathing rebuke of mining protests.

Magistrate Lisa Stapleton issued tens of thousands of dollars in fines, as well as convictions, for the illegal protests last year near Maules Creek which she labelled as dangerous, and even life threatening.

In the extra sittings in Narrabri Local Court, Magistrate Stapleton expressed her disapproval of the behaviour, finding 11 offenders guilty and convicting them of the same charges of obstructing or hindering an authorisation holder.

# MEET THE TEAM

Our latest Whitehaven People Profile features Kirsten Gollogly, our General Manager – Health, Safety, Environment and Communities.



Kirsten Gollogly, Gunnedah

“I’VE REALLY ENJOYED BEING ABLE TO MOVE AROUND AND EXPERIENCE A VARIETY OF LOCATIONS AND CHALLENGES.”

**Name, where you live?** Kirsten Gollogly, Gunnedah NSW.

**Did you grow up in this area?** No, I grew up in Brisbane & the Sunshine Coast.

**Where do you work and how long have you been there?** I joined Whitehaven late last year and am based in the regional office in Gunnedah.

**What is your job title?** General Manager – Health, Safety, Environment and Communities.

**How long have you been working in this field for?** I’ve been in HSEC mining roles for the last 15 years. At various points I’ve been based in Australia, NZ, USA, UK or occasionally random Qantas clubs around the world.

**Why did you choose that field? What was the biggest influence behind this decision?** I started out as an Environmental Engineer, it was a bit of a blend of my passion for biology and belonging to a family with lots and lots of engineers.

**Have you always worked in the mining industry?** Predominantly, prior to joining Whitehaven I had roles in Bauxite, Aluminium, Copper, Gold, Diamonds and Coal operations and global corporate roles with the Rio Tinto group.

**What sort of things do you do on a day-to-day basis?** My role is quite varied, on any day it can encompass health, safety, environmental, community or aboriginal relations support for each of our current operations, legacy sites, or projects, with a generous smattering of corporate matters to round the day out.

**What do you love about your current role?** The diversity of the challenges in my role mean that it’s never boring and then there is always the less traditional topics that land with me, like planning for our new regional office in Gunnedah.

**What are the challenges of the role?** It can be quite a balancing act, working a number of complex matters for our current growing business, while also getting up to speed on the operational aspects of our history in the region.

**Do you enjoy working in the mining industry?** Yes, I think that the mining industry presents a diverse range of complex challenges that you can sink your teeth into and it tends to make the longer term commitments that enable us the time to deliver sustainable outcomes for the company and the wider community. And miners are usually a little bit mad...in a good way.

**What has been your biggest career achievement?** I’ve really enjoyed being able to move around and experience a variety of locations and challenges, there have been some higher profile moments over the years like representing the mining industry at the United Nations in Geneva.

**What are your career goals?** I would love to see the outcomes of some of the changes we are implementing to help streamline our processes as the organisation continues to grow.

**And more randomly.....**

**Outside of work, what are your hobbies and interests during your free time?** I love spending time with the family, cooking extravagant menus and spending quality time with my faithful, mischievous puppy.

**What’s your favourite all time song and why?** It really depends on the mood that I’m in, it can range from triphop to dance to old school jazz.

**What would be your ideal holiday?** Later this year I’m heading up to Alaska with some old friends for a long planned holiday.

**Who’s the most famous person you’ve ever met?** When I lived in London my place was right between the royal palaces and the theatre district. I quite literally bumped into Kevin Spacey on the street one day. I have to say that the Queen can be a bit of a noisy neighbour, the crowds and marching bands associated with the Changing of the Guard aren’t really conducive to sleeping in on weekends!

**What is your most prized possession?** Over the years my little sister has made me a number of personal gifts for me that have travelled the world and are now here in Gunnedah. They might not be super valuable, but they are amongst my favourite treasures.

## GET IN TOUCH

If you have any news, stories or ideas for future editions of Whitehaven News, please get in touch with:

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