

Project Update

The Project is progressing with Wallarah 2 continuing its engagement with community stakeholders in a variety of ways. It is maintaining its focus on its community grant recipients, its partnership with Central Coast Group Training, supporting local apprentices in the area, liaising with landholders and carrying out ongoing environmental monitoring.

Wallahah 2 is also working with those stakeholders and organisations involved in the approval process to ensure the project meets all the standards and guidelines set for mine projects within NSW. Wallarah 2 looks forward to 2015, so that it may continue its efforts to not only move forward with the Project but also make further inroads to deliver real and

substantial benefits to the local community, including supporting the creation of local jobs, driving money into local businesses and regional economic output.

Kenny Barry, Project Manager Wallarah 2 said, “We are committed to the local community and bringing to fruition the Project. We anticipate that 2015 will bring with it substantial movement in relation to the Project and hope to have a final determination in 2015.

“Of course, as things wind up this year, our focus moves to family and friends, I would like to wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year from the team at Wallarah 2.”



\$100,000 committed to the community

Wallarah 2 continues to work to support projects and initiatives to create better outcomes on the Central Coast. Over the last few months, the Wallarah 2 Coal Project, under its Community Foundation Project has been visiting organisations which are carrying out projects and initiatives that assist or benefit the environment, community wellbeing and educational outcomes in Wyong.

In doing this, Wallarah has committed \$100,000 to fund a huge variety of local projects.

Peter Smith, Environment and Community Manager of Wallarah 2 Coal Project said, "This year, due to the overwhelming response and quality of submissions under the funding we

increased our allocation from \$60,000 to \$100,000, so that we could support 23 valuable community initiatives and offer real value to the regional community.

"It has been a true honour to have the opportunity to see first-hand the number of volunteers who are working behind the scenes to support our community.

"I was so pleased that in our own way Wallarah 2 was able to give back and assist the army of people working to make our region a better place every day."

Take a closer look at some of the projects which have been provided with funding by Wallarah 2:

Wallarah 2 helping next generation learn skills for a brighter future



James Atkins with Alec McCormack

In 2013, in a move to support the Wyong community, Wallarah 2 Coal Project entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Central Coast Group Training (CCGT), within which it was agreed the organisation would provide funding and support for apprentices seeking placement in the electrical, automotive and engineering trades.

In 2013, Wallarah helped place four apprentices and has taken the step to increase this number in 2014 to eight, working with new businesses to place young people in trade positions and help them develop robust skill sets that will strengthen their long-term career prospects.

Rachel Dee from CCGT said, "The Department of Employment's, Survey of Employers Recruitment Experience (Central Coast Hunter September 2013) found that 43% of surveyed employers on the Central Coast had an apprentice or trainee hired within the business. This demonstrates

iPads enhance educational programs at Toukley Preschool



Julie Tockuss &
Peter Smith

With a high number of children at the centre with additional needs, the new iPads are playing an important role in allowing the Preschool to follow through with tailored learning processes that the children are undertaking outside of school in therapy sessions and at home. The technology also plays an important step in creating a shared sense of inclusion among all the children.

Julie Tockuss, Director of Toukley Preschool said, "iPad technology is something we have used with great success in the past. However, until now we were limited in our ability to really capitalise on the equipment as it was borrowed from home or was the personal property of our teachers and carers."

Toukley Preschool continues to enhance its learning programs and processes, especially in relation to children with additional needs, thanks to the delivery of four new iPads, funded under the Wallarah 2 Community Grants Program.



Tim Cannard, Matt Harding & Kenny Barry

employers are prepared to train and recruit apprentices into entry level positions. However, the statistics also indicated Wyong Local Government area has high unemployment with 1 in 4 working age residents on a Centrelink payment.

"Given this, we believe partnerships like that with Wallarah 2 are important in helping employers and young people come together, supporting both job seekers to become work ready and also assisting our local employers to continue to hire apprentices and trainees."

Christmas all wrapped up to help those in need

With Christmas just around the corner, Wallarah 2 was pleased to help the House of Praise Turning Point Foundation's Operation Christmas Hamper project.

Operation Christmas Hamper helps ensure there is food on the tables of the most disadvantaged people in the community over the two week Christmas period - when all other support agencies are closed.

The goal of Operation Christmas Hamper is to address this shortfall over the festive season.

However the need for the service has continued to grow on the Central Coast, from 700 hampers

being distributed in 2004/2005 to more than 3,000 hampers distributed in 2013. To support the efforts of the House of Praise Turning Point Foundation, the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation Grant Program presented \$5,000 to help ensure the vulnerable within the community don't go without this Christmas.



Volunteers from House of Praise Turning Point

Apprentices Awarded

Building in the success of the apprentice program, Wallarah 2 was thrilled to be invited to the 2014 Central Coast Group Training Awards at the beginning of November to see one of the apprentices supported by the organisation, James Atkins, awarded the School-Based Trainee of the Year award. James began working at TE Connectivity at Berkeley Vale in 2013 and is currently completing an Engineering traineeship. His



James Atkins

supervisor, Alec McCormack was also a finalist in the Supervisor of the Year category.

Another winner on the night was Matthew Harding of M Harding Earthworks and Maintenance Repair. Winner of the 2014 Small Business Host Employer of the Year, Matthew has taken on a number of trainees and apprentices over the years, including currently hosting Wallarah 2's sponsored engineering student Tim Cannard.

Tim is one of five apprentices working with Matt at M Harding. Tim is a school based apprentice and is working in metal and steel fabrication.

Matt Harding, talking about the value of apprenticeships for young people said, "I am a big believer in giving apprentices a real go. I remember how hard it was transitioning into work, but with school based apprenticeships the boys have a chance to experience things first hand from a young age, learning about safety and arming themselves with new skills to take into their careers moving forward."

New hope for Norah Head Boating and Recovery Club

Following a large storm that ripped through the area three years ago, Norah Head Boating and Recovery Club discovered that significant damage had been done to the retaining wall in front of the clubhouse. Since the storm, the damage to the retaining wall has resulted in a landslip that impacts community access to the beach and ultimately threatens to cause damage to the clubhouse itself and more significant landslip activity.

The clubhouse, which was built by volunteers over four decades ago, has been forced to carry out a long, tedious and costly process to get permission to fix the retaining wall, a process which is continuing following the provision of funding from Wallarah 2.

Norah Head Boating and Recovery Club Secretary John Adams said, "This \$3,000



funding grant is a significant contribution that will allow us to continue carrying out surveys and reporting so that we may work towards getting the approvals required to address the landslide.

"This grant will go towards the next step in the process and take us closer to finally correcting the retaining wall instability caused by the landslide."

Lifesavers commemorate ANZAC Centenary

With the summer months here, Wallarah 2 was thrilled to support The Soldiers Beach Gallipoli Centenary Expedition in April 2015.

The Expedition will see 17 of the Club's lifesavers, including two junior ambassadors, travel to Gallipoli to participate in the commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the Australian landing at Anzac Cove.

The team will participate along with 50 other Australian, New Zealand and Turkish crews in a 62km surfboat race along the Gallipoli coastline. They will also deliver skills, training and education to junior members of the newly formed Turkish surf lifesaving clubs, who have been mentored by Australian Lifesavers since their inception in 2009.

Darcy Waller said, "The Club will proudly represent our region at the historic event. We are grateful for the grant we received from the

Walarah 2 Coal Project which will help send us on our way to Gallipoli.

"The primary purpose of the project is to ensure that the connection between the ANZAC's and surf life saving is appropriately acknowledged and that it will continue to be recognised for generations to come."



Soldiers Beach Surf Lifesaving Club

Did you know?

The Australian economy

The mineral resources industry is a key pillar of the Australian economy. The mineral resources industry accounts for more than 6% of Australia's economy and has invested more than \$125 billion in Australia in the last 10 years, with much of this in rural and regional communities.

Supporting local communities

Australian mining companies are highly engaged with their communities and other stakeholders, through infrastructure development and support for educational, sporting and cultural events.

Investing in our land

Mining sites currently disturb less than 0.1% of land in NSW. The industry spends more than \$200 million annually on rehabilitation of disturbed lands and is one of the largest employers of environmental professionals.

NSW Minerals Council Survey

A survey of 22 NSW exploration and mining companies' expenditure data identified the economic contribution of the industry throughout NSW in 2013/14. It demonstrated that exploration and mining companies in NSW:

- directly supported over 8,200 businesses
- directly paid \$2,900,000,000 (\$2.9 Billion) in wages and salaries
- employed over 21,500 employees (FTE)
- indirectly supported the employment of a further 140,000 jobs in NSW to bring total wages and salaries in mining-related employment to \$11.6 Billion
- directly spent \$9,600,000,000 (\$9.6 Billion) on goods and services, local councils and community groups
- contributed a direct and indirect economic benefit to NSW of \$28.9 Billion.

Source: NSW Minerals Council 2014 (www.nswmining.com.au)

Contact Us

Our offices are at 25 Bryant Drive Tuggerah and you are most welcome to visit. Please note that it is advisable to telephone first to ensure the person who can best help is available.

The Wallarah 2 team is also available on the phone 02 4352 7500 or via email info@wallarah.com.au, whichever is more convenient. See our website at www.wallarah.com.au