



**Wallarrah 2**  
COAL PROJECT

**Coal Project Newsletter**  
Number 29 - April 2016

## Our project is moving forward – and so are the community projects!

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The Wallarrah 2 community grants for 2016 have now been finalised and we expect these will bring much needed assistance to a broad range of community projects throughout Wyong and the wider Central Coast. We again highlight in this newsletter how beneficial some of the projects have been that were supported under our 2015 Grants Program.

The other arm of the Wallarrah 2 Community Foundation, vocational training, goes from strength to strength. This year sees a new intake of apprentices plus additional opportunities for local Indigenous youth for apprenticeship and university scholarships under our recent agreement with Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation.

We have continued to explore opportunities to progress our proposed development. The Planning and Assessment Commission has thoroughly assessed the impacts of the mine, including concerns regarding water catchment, and has stated that there is merit in allowing the project to proceed. We have however been constrained by land access to get our coal from the mine to the port. To progress our ability to transport our coal to Newcastle port by rail, we have recently applied for a mining lease. In the meantime we are continuing our engineering and environmental studies.

We continue to receive expressions of interest from local construction firms and individuals seeking employment. We are compiling a register of those interested and you are encouraged to advise us of your interest. I trust you find this newsletter interesting and informative and remember to call in or contact us if you wish to know more about the project and the opportunities it will bring.

**Peter Allonby**  
General Manager



## What's Inside

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Making opportunities with CCGT in training for the region's youth... And they are loving it!



Partnering with Guringai: Scoring goals as we kick off Indigenous employment and education initiatives.



Highlighting the great projects funded by 2015 Wallarrah 2 Community Foundation grants...

Chris Wallace helps our kids get the Fire Safe message.



### Latest News:

The 2016 Community Foundation grants will fund 9 more community projects...

## 2016 Community Foundation grants now finalised

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We are proud to announce that we have finalised our annual 2016 Grants Program under the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation, which will provide grant funding to nine community organisations, programs and initiatives that positively benefit the environment, community wellbeing or education outcomes within the Wyong Local Government Area (LGA).

Project Manager of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project, Kenny Barry, said that the Grants Program is an opportunity to support important initiatives that directly benefit members of the Wyong LGA.

“Since launching the Grants Program in 2013, we’ve had an opportunity to gain an understanding of issues impacting our community and how local organisations, groups and individuals are working to address these.

“With the wide range of worthwhile initiatives supported by the Program to date, we have already seen the positive impact that this funding has had on local community members and are proud to have an opportunity to once again support this community passion through the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation,” added Mr Barry.

### Quick Facts: Wallarah 2 Community Foundation Grants Program

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In 2015 the Foundation delivered grant funding for a wide range of initiatives.

**2015 grant recipients included:**

**HOPETOWN SCHOOL  
PLAN-IT YOUTH  
CAMP BREAKAWAY  
CC KIDS IN NEED  
FILMS4CHANGE**

**Program update:**

**NINE NEW  
PROJECTS  
FUNDED IN 2016**

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The 2016 funded projects are similarly broad & these will be highlighted in future newsletters and local media.

## Wallarrah 2 funded vital equipment upgrade for The Lakes Surf Life Saving Club

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Briley Bosworth from The Lakes SLSC testing the new equipment on Central Coast local Blake Taylor.

Under the 2015 Wallarrah 2 Community Foundation program a grant was provided to fund a new oxygen and defibrillator (AED) kit for The Lakes Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC). The new kit has replaced the Surf Club's outdated equipment, which was showing signs of significant wear.

The Lakes SLSC is operated by a committed group of members who volunteer their time to respond to incidents in their area, which spans from Frazer Park to Norah Head, including Budgewoi Beach. On a busy day, the popular coastal strip can attract upwards of 1,000 visitors.

Sean Leicester, President of The Lakes SLSC said, "Our lifesavers endured a busy season, having conducted dozens of rescues and prevented many more from getting into difficulty.

"We've already used the kit on a few occasions, including on a suspected spinal injury patient, a dislocated shoulder and a severe allergic reaction to a bluebottle sting. Thankfully, we have not needed to use the defibrillator yet.

"Our members have also been tasked to four emergency call outs that occur outside of standard hours and those who respond to these incidents always take the Oxy-Defib kit with them.

"Our lifesavers are committed to ensuring that members of the public can enjoy this public space safely and responsibly. Part of this commitment requires access to cutting edge first aid equipment, to ensure that we can provide the best support possible.

"We would like to thank Wallarrah 2 Community Foundation for providing us with the funding to purchase updated equipment, this could truly mean the difference between life and death for some of the people we rescue," added Mr Leicester.

Wallarrah 2 Coal Project was pleased to have supported the Surf Club under the 2015 Grants Program and looks forward to hearing more about the benefit of this new machine over the coming summer seasons.

## Wallahah 2's grant to Operation Saving Lives will promote community fire safety



The Wallarah 2 Community Foundation was also proud to support Operation Saving Lives in 2015, an interactive community initiative that aims to teach local children, youth and adults about fire safety and prevention.

Run by community minded volunteers with fire safety knowledge, the program will operate out of a donated Red Bus Services bus and feature a house simulator and learning space to teach participants about everyday fire hazards.

Wallahah 2 Community Foundation provided a \$5,000 grant last year to help with the development of the simulator, including the funding of a generator, smoke machines, wiring and supporting audio-visual equipment.



Retired Firefighter Chris Wallace, said that Wallarah 2 Community Foundation's grant has greatly assisted them to develop a more interactive and professional program.

"Previously, we were using a plastic cubby house and simulator that I had built on a trailer. Our new set up is much more spacious and hands on, increasing opportunities for education.

"The response from the community so far has been fantastic – there are many local organisations that are wanting us to bring the bus to their events already. We are really excited to roll out the program very soon.

*"Without the support of Wallarah's grant program we would not have been able to even think about commencing this important project for the community," added Mr Wallace.*

Peter Smith, Community Manager of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project said that projects such as Operation Saving Lives are essential for the wellbeing and safety of our community.

"This initiative has been led by a group of passionate volunteers who are committed to educating our community about household fire dangers and what to do if a house fire occurs.

"By helping community members identify these hazards, we are working to create a safer Wyong Shire and potentially preventing serious injury or death," added Mr Smith.

## Agreement with Guringai TLAC already proving valuable for Aboriginal community

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Following the announcement of the agreement between the Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation (Guringai TLAC) and Wallarah 2 in August 2015, we have been busy working with the Corporation to deliver the initial elements as part of the five-point plan.

The agreement with Guringai TLAC, the traditional owners on the NSW Central Coast, has the potential to ensure the long term sustainability of the local Aboriginal community – both now and for many generations to come.



**The five program areas that will be funded under the agreement are:**

- Apprenticeships
- Business start-up
- Mentor scheme
- Green Team scheme and;
- University scholarships.

Additionally a fundamental aspect of the agreement is our commitment to provide a guaranteed minimum target of 10 per cent Indigenous employment once the mine is operational. This agreement is ultimately expected to result in at least 30 jobs for Aboriginal people in the region.

### Walarah 2 commits to 10% Indigenous employment target!

## Guringai Stories

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Another part of the Guringai agreement that has progressed in 2016 is the Mentor Scheme. In January this year, several Guringai representatives gathered for a weekend workshop held in the Wyong Coal offices to receive specialist training in mentoring and related support services.

These individuals will support and mentor others involved in the various Guringai programs especially those young people who receive university scholarships and apprenticeships.



# Creating opportunities for Indigenous youth

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A major focus of our agreement with the Guringai TLAC is to deliver increased education and training opportunities for the Central Coast Indigenous community. Wallarah 2 has been working hard on the university scholarship and apprenticeship schemes, which will primarily benefit Indigenous young people on the Central Coast.

## **Rachel Kulk – University Scholarship Bachelor of Science**

23-year-old Rachel Kulk from Wyee is the first recipient of a scholarship under this agreement that is seeing her undertake studies for a Bachelor of Science at the University of Newcastle, Callaghan Campus.

Rachel, in her first year of the Bachelor of Science degree, is proud of her Aboriginal heritage with the Guringai people and says the opportunities created through the agreement between the Guringai TLAC and Wyong Coal are important for her family and other local Aboriginal and Indigenous young people.

*“My Aboriginality is a part of me; it’s a part of my spirit and a connection to my country,” said Rachel.*

“Science is a field I’ve always been really interested in, particularly chemistry and earth sciences are so important because we need to look after our environment for all future generations.

“I’m not sure exactly what job I’d like to do when I finish my degree yet, but postgraduate studies are definitely a goal for me. I may even pursue science within the coal industry,” she said.

*Rachel is the first of four tertiary scholarships being awarded under the agreement with Guringai TLAC. Another Indigenous student is currently awaiting the final enrolment process for university admission in the second semester of 2016 and we look forward to introducing this student in a future newsletter.*



## Sponsored Indigenous Mechanical Apprentice: William Chandler-Van Vliet

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Wallahah 2 also worked with Guringai TLAC to sponsor an apprentice that we have administered through Central Coast Group Training (CCGT). The apprenticeship scheme aims to increase education and training opportunities for the many young Indigenous people searching for work on the Central Coast.

“Wallahah 2 joined forces with CCGT five years ago to offer student apprenticeships and since that time, we’ve helped a total of 16 apprentices find work,” said Wallarah 2’s Peter Smith, Environment and Community Manager.

“We are now proud to be partnering with Guringai to continue to increase opportunities for local Indigenous youth and support young people who are struggling to find work or gain skills in a particular industry,” added Peter.

*18-year-old William Chandler-Van Vliet is undertaking his first year mechanical apprenticeship in 2016, which is funded and supported by Wallarah 2.*

William is a quarter-generation descendant of the Kamilaroi tribe on his father’s side and shares a keen interest in his family’s history.

He is undertaking his apprenticeship with ELN Ford at Tuggerah and, with the exception of one day a week at TAFE, is in the workshop full time learning the practical skills of the mechanical trade.

While it was a general interest in cars that drew William to pursue an apprenticeship in mechanics, he is enthusiastically soaking up as much knowledge of the trade as he can.

“One day I hope I can start working independently on cars and maybe even learn more about diesel vehicles” he said, adding that he wants to complete his Certificate III in Mechanics.

“At the moment I’m working on petrol vehicles, mainly helping with general servicing of over a dozen cars every day.”

William is enjoying the hands on training he is getting from experienced tradesmen in the ELN Ford workshop and says he would definitely encourage other young Indigenous and Aboriginal people to get involved in an apprenticeship.

*Wallahah 2 is proud to be supporting local young Indigenous people through the apprenticeship scheme in partnership with Guringai TLAC.*

The program not only has clear benefits in supporting education and training, it is an opportunity to bring increased awareness of Indigenous and Aboriginal culture, identity and heritage to our local community.



## MOU between Central Coast Group Training and Wallarah 2 sees Harrison thrive in new Apprenticeship

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The Central Coast is in the grips of a youth unemployment crisis, with the region's 16.8 percent youth unemployment rate soaring well above the state and national averages of 12.3 percent and 13.2 percent respectively.

16-year-old Harrison Duggan was one of thousands facing the uncertainty of unemployment until he was offered his apprenticeship with ProTruck in Fountaindale.

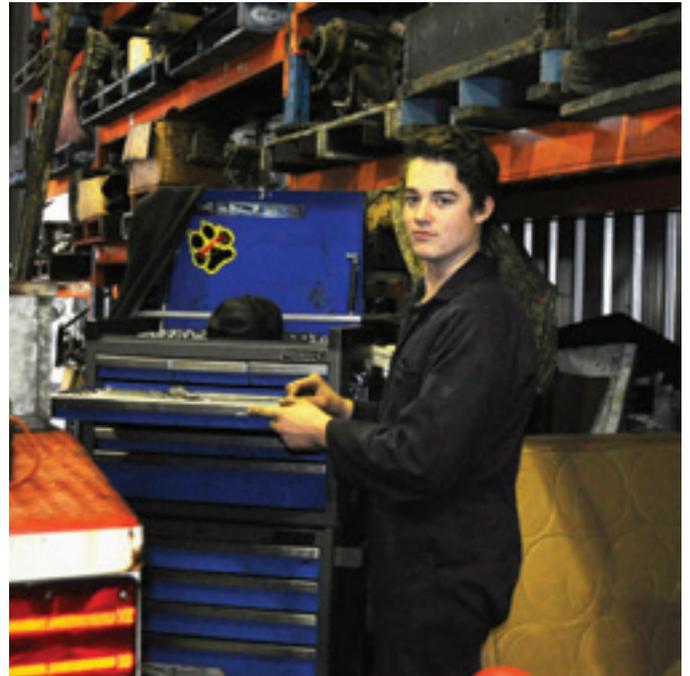
Harrison was placed in his heavy vehicle mechanical apprenticeship by Central Coast Group Training (CCGT) in partnership with Wallarah 2. Harrison was one of four apprentices to receive funding under this agreement in 2015.

We recently caught up with Harrison to find out how he found the first year of his apprenticeship and were pleased to hear that he is enjoying every minute.

"I absolutely love it and just want to keep learning more and more," said Harrison.

"I have my own mini workshop at home with a hoist and have spent lots of time with Dad on fixing parts of cars and bikes.

*"The opportunity to undertake a heavy vehicle apprenticeship is even more exciting as everything is so much bigger," added Harrison.*



Kenny Barry, Project Manager of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project, says that the Project is proud to support the growth of youth employment on the Central Coast.

"Central Coast Group Training plays a pivotal role in placing people in apprenticeships and traineeships with host employers, helping business owners bear some of the grunt of taking on an apprentice," said Kenny.

Walarah 2 is supporting another four new apprentices with Central Coast Group Training in 2016, two of which are school-based apprentices. We look forward to introducing these apprentices in our next edition.

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## Contact Us

Our offices are in 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.

A: 25 Bryant Drive, Tuggerah NSW 2259  
P: 02 4352 7500  
E: [info@wallarah.com.au](mailto:info@wallarah.com.au)  
[www.wallarah.com.au](http://www.wallarah.com.au)