

HVO NEWS

ISSUE FOUR | DECEMBER 2019

Welcome from Tony Galvin, General Manager Hunter Valley Operations



Welcome to Issue Four of HVO News, our final newsletter for 2019 which contains a number of topics of interest to our community members including

rehabilitation, the near neighbour amenity resource, community grants and feral pest management.

If there is particular information you would like to see included in this newsletter, please let us know as we welcome and value feedback.

I would like to wish all of our neighbours and community members a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a safe and prosperous 2020.

Rehabilitation

Our planned rehabilitation target for 2019 was 86 hectares which has successfully been achieved, however in the current ongoing drought good ground cover growth is very difficult.

Feral Pest Management

Our feral pest management program continues to show good results with pests being controlled through shooting, trapping and baiting across our landholdings.

Results to date of the 2019 program so far include:

- 37 feral pigs culled
- 628 kangaroos culled
- 1080 baiting spring/autumn program targeting wild dogs and foxes -202.

Due to the ongoing sightings the 1080 baiting for wild dog/fox control programs are planned to continue throughout the summer of 2019-2020.



Apprentice Project

Our second Apprentice Project Days was held on Saturday 30 November. A number of HVO apprentices volunteered their time to undertake a number of projects for the Singleton Family Centre. The jobs undertaken on the day included:

- Vegetables planted in raised garden beds
- Installation of playground equipment
- Installation of a picnic setting and bench seat
- Installation of a portable yoga stand
- Installation of a new security light
- Installation of a paving area
- Removal of a fence and clothes line

If you have a community program that you would like HVO to consider as part of this program, please contact Merri Bartlett on 0455 782 292.

Local School Site Tour

HVO welcomed Mount View High School students to site on 20 August and a group of high school career advisors, from various high schools in the Hunter Valley, on 6 September.

Both groups stated they enjoyed the tour of operational and rehabilitation areas and were able to learn more about the mining process by viewing our operations in action. We look forward to welcoming other school groups wishing to visit the site in 2020.





Community Information Sessions

Community Information Sessions were held on 7 November in Jerrys Plains and 9 November in Maison Dieu with information provided on HVO operations including an overview of our proposed 2020 exploration drilling programs.

A number of our senior management team attended these meetings to meet and speak with our near neighbours. We would like to thank all of those who took the time to attend and it's very much appreciated.

We encourage our near neighbours and community members to come along to these sessions and would like to make them available at times that best suit the community. Therefore we would be interested in feedback on preferred days of the week and times to hold these sessions in future. Please feel free to SMS your preference for the timing of these sessions to Merri Bartlett on 0455 782 292.

Community Grants Program

Round Two of our Community Grants Program closed in September with 18 applications received. We are pleased to announce an additional \$41,000 has been allocated to a number of local organisations, including:

- Singleton Council (Blast and Disability Dance)
- Singleton Triathlon Club
- Hunter Wayila
- Singleton Rugby Club
- Jerrys Plains School of Arts Hall (New BBQ)



- Country Women's Association
- Singleton Australian Football Club
- Australian Stock Horse Society Eastern Branch
- St Catherine's Catholic College
- Early Links Inclusion Support Service
- Singleton Girl Guides
- Australian Christian College

Thanks to all of the community groups who applied for grants for Round Two. Round One of the 2020 program will open in April next year and I encourage community groups to apply.



Near Neighbour Amenity Resource

HVO continues to offer under sink water filter kits or water tank cleaning to our near neighbours.

If you received this newsletter and are interested in taking up the offer, please contact Merri Bartlett (merri.bartlett@hvo.com.au or 0455 782 292) to register your interest for this initiative and we will be in touch.

Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

The HVO CCC meets regularly with the previous CCC meeting held on 20 November. The forum provides for open discussion between the community, Singleton Council and HVO.

Topics of discussion include mine operations, environmental performance and community relations. Our community members on the HVO CCC include; Brian Atfield, Di Gee, David Love, Dr Neville Hodgkinson, Janelle Wenham, Todd Mills, Jeannie Hayes, Michael Wellard and Councillor Hollee Jenkins. The CCC is independently chaired by Dr Colin Gellatly AO. If you would like a copy of the CCC business papers, presentations and minutes they are available via InSite.

This can be accessed on <https://Insite.hvo.com.au/> or alternatively, if you would prefer a hard copy, please contact us.

HVO Complaints and Blasting Hotline

1800 888 733 (freecall)

- This number can be used for making a complaint about HVO's operations or for finding out road closure times for blasting
- Attended 24 hours a day / seven days a week

HVO and Insite Websites

Up to date information about HVO and our environmental monitoring performance is available on our websites.

To view this information, go to:

- HVO website, via: <https://hvo.com.au>
- HVO Insite (environmental monitoring performance) via: <https://Insite.hvo.com.au/>

HVO SMS Blast Notification System

The system is designed to provide SMS alerts relating to HVO blasting plans and road closures. Community members can subscribe to the service to receive a SMS alert at no cost.

Please send an SMS to 0447 448 982 to register your details for the service making sure that the word *subscribe* is included in the text.

If there is particular information you would like to see included in this newsletter, please let us know.

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