

THE

UPPER HUNTER MINING DIALOGUE NEWSLETTER

DIALOGUE

MAY 2021

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

REGIONAL EVENTS PROVIDE
VALUABLE COMMUNICATION

BETTER BUSINESS

PROCUREMENT EVENTS
FOSTER LOCAL NETWORK



SCHOOL MINE TOURS

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

**2021 PROGRAM TRAVELS
EXPANDED BUS ROUTE**

WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER LIFE FOR ALL

The Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue (the Dialogue) was established in 2011 by the region's miners in response to community concerns about infrastructure and services, mine rehabilitation, water use and air quality.

The Dialogue brings together local miners, community and business leaders, environment groups, residents, regulators and other industries to better understand and address these challenges together and create a better life for all in the Upper Hunter.

The Dialogue is a collaborative effort addressing local community priorities by understanding its concerns and then working together to develop and implement solutions.

If you're interested in becoming involved in the Dialogue, please register your interest via email to info@miningdialogue.com.au



Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue

Unit 8, First Floor
Town Square Centre
159 John Street
Singleton NSW 2330

miningdialogue.com.au

Find us on Facebook

THE WORD FROM THE CHAIR

Sarah Withell
UHMD Chair



If you are a member of the Upper Hunter community and want to make the region a better place for all to live, we would very much like to have a "Dialogue" with you.

The Dialogue is calling for expressions of interest from community members to join our working groups and help develop and guide the Dialogue's positive projects and activities.

The Dialogue is a collaboration between community and the mining industry aimed at both lessening the cumulative impacts from mining and growing the benefits provided by the industry in our region.

As a community representative of the Dialogue you will have an equal voice in important discussions and developing strategies focusing on the Dialogue's main areas of interests covering environmental and economic and social development issues and opportunities.

By becoming a Dialogue working group member your voice will be part of a positive dialogue helping make the Upper Hunter a better place to live for now and into the future. For more information on how you can be involved in the Dialogue, please email your enquires and contact details to info@miningdialogue.com.au

Meanwhile, the Dialogue has hit the ground running in 2021 after last year's disruption caused by COVID-19.

Our community engagement program is well underway with our interactive display already featuring at the Upper Hunter Show in Muswellbrook and the Tocal Field Days. Community engagement is an important program for the Dialogue as it allows us to meet with community members who might otherwise have little interaction with the Dialogue.

As well as providing the Dialogue with the opportunity to provide updates and education on our projects, the face to face engagement allows us to learn more about community priorities through

discussion and surveys conducted at the community events.

The Dialogue's annual projects are also proceeding including collecting data for the important Rehabilitation Principles and Commitments and Water Accounting Framework projects

The Rehabilitation Principles and Commitments Project data is collated annually by the Dialogue and measures rehabilitation of mined land compared to how much land was disturbed by mining in a given year in the Upper Hunter.

The Water Accounting Framework Project tracks water extraction from the Upper Hunter region of the Hunter River including usage by the mining industry, agriculture, other industries and residential use.

With the collected rehabilitation statistics dating back to 2012 and the water figures to 2014, both projects provide useful data on mined land rehabilitation progress and water usage in the Upper Hunter.

Data for 2020 is currently being collected for both projects and the results are expected to be finalised and released in July for the rehabilitation project and September for the water usage.

Our Economic and Social Development Group is also "getting down to business" with two Procurement Networking Events to be staged in June and August. Working with the Singleton and Muswellbrook chambers of commerce, the events bring together local businesses interested in being suppliers with mining procurement personnel to discuss opportunities.

The events work in conjunction with the Dialogue's online Procurement Information Hub which includes procurement details for our Upper Hunter mining company industry partners and can be accessed at the Dialogue website at: miningdialogue.com.au/business-support

INTERESTED IN WHAT THE DIALOGUE DOES? TAKE A LOOK AT OUR 2019 FORUM VIDEO: www.miningdialogue.com.au/dialogue/events

GROWING OUR BUSINESS

EVENTS BRING SUPPLIERS AND INDUSTRY TOGETHER

The Dialogue is bringing local businesses and the mining industry together with two procurement networking events in June and August.

The “meet the buyer” events are designed to allow local suppliers to network directly with Upper Hunter mine procurement personnel and develop relationships valuable to both business and the mining industry.

The events offer local businesses a unique opportunity to meet face to face with mining industry procurement personnel.

The events are being co-hosted by the Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and the Singleton Business Chamber.

At both events, mining procurement personnel will be on hand to meet with local business people looking to become suppliers to the mining industry and lead them through the processes involved in becoming part of the mining supply chain.

Co-hosted by the Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce, the Wednesday, June 16 procurement event at Muswellbrook RSL Club will follow a separate, breakfast session featuring a mining economic update from NSW Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee.

Over breakfast, Mr Galilee will brief attendees on a new report analysing mining’s economic contribution to the region. Mr Galilee’s presentation will begin at 7am while the Dialogue’s Procurement Event starts at 9am and is scheduled to finish at 11am.

For more information on bookings see Muswellbrook Chamber’s website at muswellbrookchamberofcommerce.com.au

The Singleton procurement event is scheduled for Thursday, August 19 at the Singleton Civic Centre.

Booking details for the Singleton events can be found at the Singleton Business Chamber’s website at www.singletonchamber.org.au

Bookings for all of the events are essential.

miningdialogue.com.au



Suppliers and industry representatives catch up at a procurement networking event. Two events are being staged in June and August in conjunction with the Muswellbrook and Singleton chambers of commerce.

ONLINE INFORMATION HUB HELPS BUSINESS WITH PROCUREMENT PROCESS

The Dialogue is also helping suppliers to better understand mining procurement processes and how to prepare for tendering opportunities through its online Procurement Information Hub.

The Dialogue’s Mining Procurement Information Hub has been created with assistance from mining industry partners involved in local procurement to provide relevant information to local suppliers to better inform them on how to successfully prepare for engagement with the mining sector on tenders and other procurement opportunities.

One of the Dialogue’s primary objectives under the Economic and Social Development theme is to improve engagement between the mining sector and local suppliers. Critical to this is improving the understanding and awareness of procurement processes across the various Upper Hunter mining companies.

For more information on the Dialogue’s projects aimed at bringing together local businesses and mining procurement opportunities, visit our website at miningdialogue.com.au/business-support



SCHOOL MINE TOURS BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The Dialogue's School Mine Tours 2021 program gives students from across the Upper Hunter an opportunity to participate in one of 31 scheduled tours across 13 mine sites.

The 2021 tours program "hit the road" in April and is scheduled to make its final stop for the year at the end of September.

The program is geared up for its biggest year yet. A record 22 schools from across the Upper Hunter region have confirmed their involvement meaning that more than 1000 students will have the opportunity to tour a local mine site.

The Dialogue tours program sees Year 5 and Year 9 students tour working mines in the Upper Hunter and learn first-hand about the effects of mining in their day to day lives. The tours are free and are offered to all schools in the Upper Hunter region.

Following a call from community representatives at the Dialogue's 2016 Annual Forum, the program

was designed in 2017 by a Dialogue Working Group made up of teachers, community, mining industry and local government representatives.

Using educational materials and messaging developed by the Dialogue Working Group, the tours program offers a fact-based, first-hand education experience to teach local students about the impacts and benefits of coal mining in the Upper Hunter.

In first full year of operation in 2018, 17 schools in the Singleton-Muswellbrook educational catchment participated in the program.

The "tours route" was expanded in 2020 to include schools from the Upper Hunter LGA catchment however the 2020 program had to be put on hold due to COVID-19 safety protocols and restrictions on school excursions.

This year's schedule includes schools from the Singleton, Muswellbrook and Scone catchments.





FACE TO FACE WITH COMMUNITY

DIALOGUE ON DISPLAY AT HUNTER EVENTS

The Dialogue is back having a face to face “dialogue” with its community.

The Dialogue launched its 2021 community events calendar with a display at the Upper Hunter Show at Muswellbrook in March, followed by a busy three days consulting with the community at the Tocal Field Days in May.

The two appearances marked a return to community engagement activity for the Dialogue after the 2020 calendar of events had to be shelved due to COVID-19 restrictions forcing the cancellation of most community events last year.

Throughout the year, the Dialogue attends local events and shows across the Hunter with its interactive displays to educate and inform people about the Dialogue's activities as well as conduct surveys

to pinpoint the community's current issues and interests.

Dialogue representatives are on hand to explain the Dialogue's aims and offer more detail on the Dialogue's projects as well as discuss any concerns or suggestions community members might have.

Attendance at the community events is valuable as it allows the Dialogue to communicate directly with members of the community who otherwise may not have any connection with the Dialogue.

In the coming months, the Dialogue display is scheduled to attend the upcoming Procurement Networking Events, Broke Village Fair, Singleton Show, Mangoola Family Day, Dialogue Annual Forum and the Hunter Coal Festival.

For more information see www.miningdialogue.com.au

FORUM FOR EVERYONE

Community, government and mining industry representatives will come together in 2021 for the Dialogue's Annual Forum.

While the venue and date are still to be confirmed, the Dialogue is planning to hold its Annual Forum in November in Muswellbrook.

The Forum brings together community, government and industry for networking, updates on Dialogue programs and strategies as well as collaborative workshops developing future Dialogue projects and priorities.

The 2020 Annual Forum had to be postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions, making the 2021 event even more important for all people interested in helping the Dialogue make the Upper Hunter a better place for all.

Further details on the Annual Forum will be publicised on the Dialogue website as they are finalised.

JOURNEY THROUGH LIFECYCLE

VIDEO TRACKS STAGES OF OPEN CUT MINING



The Dialogue’s “The Lifecycle of a Mine” video is now available on YouTube.

Originally developed for use in the Dialogue’s community engagement activities as a Virtual Reality Experience and only able to be viewed on VR headsets, the video has been

reformatted so it is more accessible and viewable on personal computer devices.

The new versions can be viewed on mobile phones, laptop and PC screens and on TV screens. There are two versions; the first version is in 360 degree format and the viewing angle

can be manipulated by the viewer using a mouse or touch screen.

The second version is in “traditional” video format and is more suitable to be displayed on a TV screen.

The video and its commentary tracks and explains the lifecycle of an open cut mine.

The video takes viewers on a journey from the mine’s beginning at the exploration stage and travels through the different stages and operations of a mine with stops along the way including haul trucks, coal excavation, blasting and rehabilitation.

The YouTube video can be accessed through the Dialogue’s website at: <https://miningdialogue.com.au/engagement/virtual-reality>

To get the best possible video viewing experience turn the YouTube quality setting up to as high as the device you are using will support.

.....

The Dialogue’s Virtual Reality Experience is now available on YouTube and is compatible with personal computer devices and smart phones.

 **Find us on [Facebook](#)**

REHAB STILL MAJOR FOCUS

The Dialogue’s surveys continue to show rehabilitation is a priority area of interest for community members.

The Dialogue’s display and accompanying handouts offer full details on mined land rehabilitation; how the mining industry undertakes progressive rehabilitation of mined lands and how its progress is strictly monitored by the NSW Resources Regulator.

The Dialogue’s Rehabilitation Principles and Commitments Project also tracks how much mined land is rehabilitated annually

compared to the amount of land that is newly disturbed by mining in the same year. The rehabilitation data now dates back to 2012 with the 2020 results expected to be released in July.

The project’s full reported results can be viewed at miningdialogue.com.au/project/rehabilitation

Meanwhile, Dialogue industry partner Glencore and government partner NSW Resources Regulator offer some valuable insight into mined land rehabilitation through two videos showing prime examples of rehabilitation.



Glencore’s video “Rehabilitation at Mangoola Mine” shows cutting edge rehabilitation practices and can be viewed at: j.mp/Mangoola

The Resources Regulator’s case study of the fully-rehabilitated Westside Mine takes viewers through the lifecycle of a mine and can be viewed at: bit.ly/westside-casestudy

DO YOU WANT TO HELP MAKE THE UPPER HUNTER A BETTER PLACE FOR ALL TO LIVE?



Established in 2011 by the region's miners in response to community concerns, the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue welcomes community representatives as valuable and equal voices on its Joint Working Groups.

The Dialogue is a collaborative effort that addresses the local community's priorities by understanding its concerns and then working together to develop and implement solutions.

Focus areas

- Water
- Land management
- Emissions and health
- Economic and social development

Preserving vital resources for all

Minimising environmental impacts

Leaving a long term positive legacy

The Dialogue promotes

- Listening to and working in collaboration with the community to address concerns.
- Providing a reliable source of information that builds trust between the mining industry and the community.
- Coexistence with other industries.
- Contribution to a healthy living environment and stronger community in the Upper Hunter.



**Upper Hunter
Mining Dialogue**

If you are interested in helping make the Upper Hunter a better place for all please contact us by email at info@miningdialogue.com.au