

February 2025

## A message from Liz

A big hello and happy new year from me as we kick into 2025. I hope everyone got to spend the Christmas period with friends and family, doing what you enjoy. I had a few days of downtime and spent much of it on our property at Tenterfield.

At the end of last year, I was pleased to share with members of the Muswellbrook community the Closure Legacy Expectations Assessment (CLEA) Report. This report culminated a number of years of listening and engaging with the community to understand expectations around BHP's legacy in closure.

It's clear from the Report that the local community, like BHP, want the next chapter of Mt Arthur Coal to not only achieve positive environmental outcomes, but social and economic outcomes as well. We have continued to work on what might be possible with the mine land and infrastructure after 2030 to deliver on these outcomes. At this stage, we are considering the potential for pumped hydro, with a lot more work to do to enable other alternate land use options - including repurposing some of the existing infrastructure such as the workshops, office administration buildings and laydown areas. Our participation in the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry on beneficial post mining land use last year, saw us put forward what we see as the opportunity for land re-use when Mt Arthur Coal closes. This aligns well with the feedback that we received from the CLEA in that community want to see more than rehabilitation and environmental outcomes in mine closure.

I spoke a lot about these plans at the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue Community Forum late last year, and the team and I continue to talk about these plans while we're out and about. In 2024 we got along to the Singleton Show, local business chambers and hosted our own Supplier and Contractor Forum to continually share our thinking. We will continue our regular updates this year and encourage anyone looking for more information to come along.

At the back end of last year, I travelled to Japan to visit Mt Arthur Coal's customers to provide insights on how we are thinking about transition and closure and to provide confidence in our ability to continue to deliver a quality product through until 2030. Mt Arthur Coal's relationship with customers in Japan is critical to deliver the aspirations we have set in mine closure so it was great to get over there and talk through how we will continue sustainable productivity over the next five years.

Looking forward, 2025 is set to be a big year for us. We anticipate a decision on the Modification to continue mining

beyond 2026 as part of a responsible closure of the mine in 2030. We have continued to work with the Department and respond to their enquiries over the last little while. We will share any updates with you as soon as we can.

Find out more about the Modification at [www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mt-arthur-coal-mod-2-pathway-2030](http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mt-arthur-coal-mod-2-pathway-2030)

Find out more.



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**4 April 2025**

Join us for a tree planting day onsite at Mt Arthur. Get your hands dirty and help us to rehabilitate the site in preparation for closure.



## We're hiring.

With so many lifestyle roster options available, you can work where you live and learn from the best to set your future self up for success, plus enjoy all the benefits of a close-knit community. **Scan the QR code to apply.**





# Dr Justin Coulson to visit Muswellbrook in 2025 thanks to Where There's a Will

Local charity organisation, Where There's a Will (WTAW), recently launched an 18-month campaign to boost community wellbeing literacy through the delivery of events that support understanding and the practice of wellbeing.

The 'Ride the wellbeing wave' campaign supports WTAW's core mission which is to 'embed evidence-based wellbeing literacy and practices through leading and promoting ongoing cultural change in our Upper Hunter schools, families and community.'

With this mission in mind, WTAW sought funding through BHP's Benefiting My Community Program to bring a major keynote speaker to Muswellbrook as part of the campaign.

Dr Justin Coulson, Australia's leading parenting expert will visit the Upper Hunter in March 2025 as part of the 'Ride the wellbeing wave' campaign. Dr Coulson will deliver a unique and engaging community event for parents, teachers and the broader community, that will inspire everyone to learn, live, and lead wellbeing.

Visit the WTAW webpage and sign up for email updates to be notified when the date and location are finalised so you can secure your tickets.



Scan to sign up to WTAW



## Expression of Interest

### In-person consultation sessions for Indigenous Community on Land Access project

**BHP Mt Arthur Coal is proud to announce an initiative in partnership with the local Indigenous community to provide dedicated access to land for cultural purposes, creating a space where Indigenous community can connect on country and where cultural practices can be celebrated.**

Indigenous community members are invited to in-person consultation sessions to help shape the vision and approach for this project.

For further information on the project or to register your interest in a consultation session, please contact [nsweccommunity@bhp.com](mailto:nsweccommunity@bhp.com) or contact our Community Response Line 1800 882 044.

## Thank you

BHP would like to thank the Mt Arthur Coal Community Consultative Committee (CCC) members for their contributions in 2024.

- Wej Paradise – Independent Chair
- Sarah Purser – Minute Taker
- Theresa Folpp – Muswellbrook Shire Council
- De-anne Douglas – Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Diane Gee – Community Representative
- Jennifer Lecky – Community Representative
- Lavinia Hutchison – Community Representative
- Claire Quigley – Community Representative

Mt Arthur Coal is now inviting Expressions of Interest for a new member in 2025 to replace outgoing member Lavinia Hutchison. Thank you, Lavinia, for all your support and contributions in your three years with the committee.

If you would like to be involved, please email: [nsweccommunity@bhp.com](mailto:nsweccommunity@bhp.com).





International Women's Day, celebrating inspiring women within our community

## A 10-year partnership with positive impact

BHP Mt Arthur Coal is proud to partner with Upper Hunter Community Services to deliver the Community Wellbeing Project (CWP).

This positive partnership has been going for over 10 years, and in that time has provided a range of engaging community support services in response to local issues and needs.

For example, the partnership has enabled Muswellbrook Neighbourhood Service (MNS) to provide ongoing activities for the community, including:

- Community Yoga sessions for improved mental health and wellbeing
- Community Courtyard – a drop-in space where you can feel a sense of community, connect with others and interact with the incredible volunteers over a free cuppa
- Delivery of accredited courses, in partnership with Zeal Futures, to provide upskilling for community members.

Bec, a Community Courtyard volunteer, says volunteering has given her a great sense of pride. "Being a volunteer barista at the Community Courtyard every Tuesday, working with the amazing Warriors, kind volunteers and last but definitely not least the wonderful Allie who made it all possible, has been such an honour."

Likewise, Sally Pereira from Warrior Disability Services is incredibly grateful for the opportunities that have been created by the BHP and UHCS partnership. "The Warriors are incredibly grateful for the opportunities that Allie and the UHCS team have created for us this year."

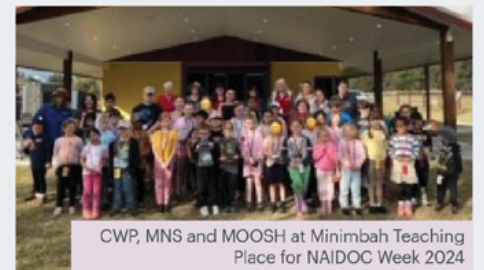
"From obtaining their barista qualifications to assisting with the coffee shop and community events, these experiences have strengthened the Warriors' confidence, independence, and sense of self-worth, empowering them to be valued members of our community," said Sally,

Over the last 12 months, the partnership has delivered some great events for Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter:

- Mental Health Month wellness expos in Muswellbrook
- R U OK? Day in Scone
- International Women's Day
- Men's Health Week Golf Day
- Picnic in the Park
- Cinema Under the Stars
- NAIDOC Week events, including a trip to Minimbah Teaching Place

## About Upper Hunter Community Services

Upper Hunter Community Services Inc (UHCS) is an incorporated association that delivers eleven community projects throughout the Upper Hunter region. UHCS aims to provide quality services that promote the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. The services available include Emergency Relief, Hunter Park Family Centre, Upper Hunter Family Support, Upper Hunter Community and Youth Development, Out of School Hours Care, Toybox Mobile Playgroup, Muswellbrook Neighbourhood Services and the Community Wellbeing Project (CWP) funded by BHP.





# MAC's Rising Stars

Congratulations to Jacinta Ferris who was recently named 2024 Apprentice of the Year for Woman in Trade and Hunter Central Coast 2024 Apprentice of the Year and third-year apprentice Cohen Watson who was awarded 2024 Most Outstanding Apprentice.

In the dynamic world of electrical work, one name has risen to the top — Jacinta Ferris.

Her dedication, skill, and commitment to excellence have earned her the title of 2024 Apprentice of the Year Woman in Trade along with 2024 Hunter Central Coast Apprentice of the Year in Electrical Trade.

In 2023 Jacinta joined BHP as an electrician where she has continued to move from strength to strength.

"From a young age, I was fascinated by how electricity powers our everyday lives," said Jacinta.

"This passion led me to pursue an Apprenticeship, where I could blend hands-on experience with theoretical knowledge."



Congratulations to Cohen Watson, third-year Apprentice, on being recognised as the Outstanding Student 2024 in his TAFE class.

Achieving this honour in his third year of studying a Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology at Tamworth is a significant accomplishment and reflects his hard work and dedication.

"If you love what you're doing you will be successful," said Cohen speaking of his recent award.

This recognition not only highlights his skill and knowledge in the field but also sets a positive example for his peers and fellow workmates.

Join MAC in wishing Cohen continued success in his studies and future career.

## Meet the team: introducing Jelinda Millgate and Liam Lawford

If you have a question about Mt Arthur Coal or would like more information on a particular part of our operation, we would like to introduce you to the team who can support your enquiry.



### Jelinda Millgate – Principal Community

Jelinda joined BHP in 2024 and is a huge advocate for the region and the local community. With many established connections and networks from her 20-year history in the region, Jelinda is a wealth of knowledge on all things Upper Hunter — and now Mt Arthur Coal.

Jelinda lives in Singleton with her daughters and dog, Juno.

Get in touch with Jelinda here: [Jelinda.millgate@bhp.com](mailto:Jelinda.millgate@bhp.com)



### Liam Lawford – Specialist Indigenous Engagement

Liam is a dedicated and passionate individual who is driven to make an impact in the community. He's skilled at establishing partnerships and driving positive change in community.

In his downtime Liam enjoys fishing and is trying his hand at pickleball.

Get in touch with Liam here: [liam.lawford@bhp.com](mailto:liam.lawford@bhp.com)



# Upper Hunter community has their say on Mt Arthur closure



Read the report or download the factsheet here.

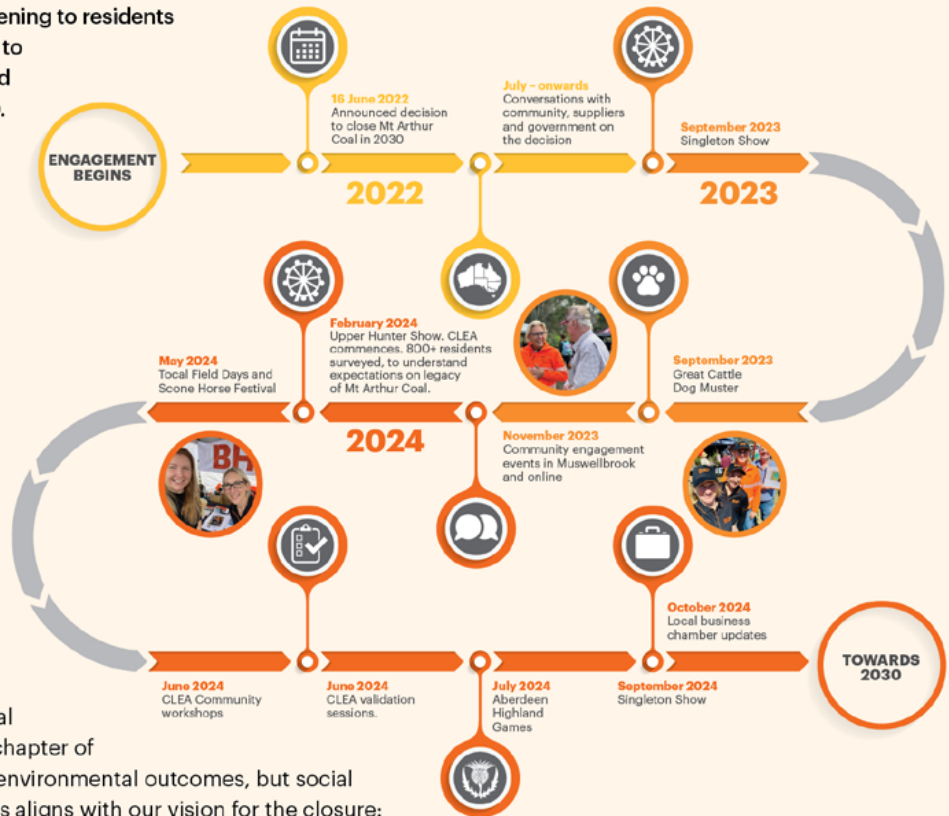
Understanding community insights and expectations is critical to achieving a successful closure and transition of Mt Arthur Coal.

Since 2022, members of the Transition and Closure team have been actively engaging and listening to residents who live in and around the operation to help them understand their views and priorities for life after mining in 2030.

In 2024, we made further efforts to deepen our understanding of community views through a dedicated and intensive engagement exercise, partnering with independent researchers, Icenii.

As a result of this work the Closure Legacy Expectations Assessment Report, Understanding Community Perspectives on Mine Closure, is now available. The Report summarises the Upper Hunter community's views and opinions about closure and provides recommendations and opportunities for BHP to consider on our Pathway to 2030 planning.

It's clear from the report that the local community, like BHP, want the next chapter of the site to not only achieve positive environmental outcomes, but social and economic outcomes as well. This aligns with our vision for the closure: People, Planet, Prosperity. To deliver a positive legacy from BHP mining in the Hunter Valley.



## Who we heard from

Number of survey respondents

800+



Age groups



16-30

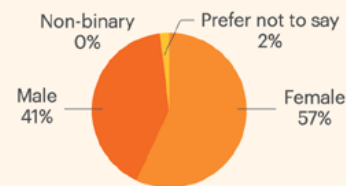


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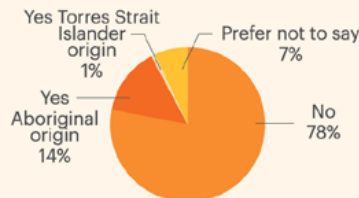


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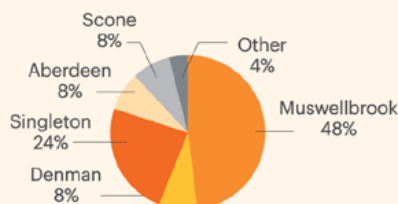
### Gender Breakdown



### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander



### Geographic Breakdown



42

Stakeholders interviewed

17

Validation sessions

4

Focus groups



# How does pumped hydro work?

As part of our future land use assessment, we're taking a closer look at renewables, in particular pumped hydro. A pumped hydro project at Mt Arthur Coal could generate power for up to 500,000 homes every day and deliver jobs during construction and beyond.

## How it works

- Stored water runs downhill to spin a turbine to generate electricity, usually through the evening when other renewable energy sources are not available (e.g. solar and wind).
- During the day, when there is plenty of energy in the system (due to wind and solar being available), water is pumped back up to the upper reservoir.
- This means that there is energy available 24 hours per day to run things like your fridge during the night.



For more on what might be possible, watch this short video.

Image for illustration purposes only.



## Supporting the workforce on their Pathway to 2030

### Workplace transition support is here!

BHP is proud to launch the NSW Energy Coal Workforce Transition Support policy, an all-encompassing framework for how BHP will support employees in the lead up to 2030. Under this policy, employees can:

- upgrade their skills or training with any course or education program that is in line with the National Qualification Framework

and be delivered by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO)

- access free financial advice sessions with Mine Super
- access career coaching and support to develop an individualised pathway to 2030 and beyond.

We launched this policy at the back end of 2024, and already it's had a great impact with over 300 employees taking up financial advice.

## Are you a former BHP employee?

If you worked in BHP's Australian operations between 2010 and May 2023, you may have had leave incorrectly deducted when you took time off work on a public holiday. If you were affected by this error, you may be eligible for a remediation payment.

To register your details and find out more, visit [www.bhp.com/payrollreview](http://www.bhp.com/payrollreview) to access our Secure Employee Portal. You can also call us on 1800 161 243 from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and Saturday from 10am to 3pm (AEDT). Do you know a former employee who might have been affected? Encourage them to get in touch with us to find out more.

Access our secure Employee Portal here to register your details and find out more.



## More information

Mt Arthur Coal is closing in June 2030. For more information call our Community Response Line on 1800 882 044 or email [nswec.community@bhp.com](mailto:nswec.community@bhp.com)

Subscribe to updates [www.bhp.com/pathway-2030](http://www.bhp.com/pathway-2030)

# BHP