



ISSUE 12 | September 2023

Part of the community



When former Newcastle Knight and league legend Mark Hughes came to thank our staff for their support of his brain cancer foundation, I was reminded how connected our people are to the community and how they live our values of Think Sharp, Dig In and Care.

Our staff had the idea to create Mark Hughes Foundation hard hats they could purchase to raise funds for research and support of local people with brain cancer.

HVO has been a part of the community for 70 years. Because our people live and work in the community, they give back. Whether it is apprentices helping Landcare to plant trees or staff supporting local charities through Workplace Giving, they want to make their community a better place.

As a mine, we want to give back too. Recently we've supported the Singleton Art Prize, Singleton Business Awards, and the Cattle Dog Muster. Our community grants round is now open.

Providing training and job opportunities for local people and supporting local suppliers are other ways we support the community. HVO's social and economic contribution in 2022 was a staggering \$1.5 billion.

That is something everyone at HVO is very proud of. And one of the reasons why we're asking for support of our continuation of mining while the world transitions to new energy alternatives.

Dave Foster, General Manager

Community grants now open

Applications close on September 30. Visit www.hvo.com.au/community or email EnvironmentandCommunity@hvo.com.au

Apprentices plant trees for Landcare at Lake Liddell

HVO apprentices have planted 420 trees at Lake Liddell Recreation Area for Landcare.

Fourth year plant mechanic apprentice Dan Fibbens co-ordinated the day. Dan said regenerating the land is important and will create a place for families to enjoy.



"We'll be able to come back in a few years with our families and see what we have done," Dan said.

Since 2004, Upper Hunter Landcare has planted more than 22,000 trees in the area as well as undertaking erosion control, mulching trials, vegetation mapping, wind breaks, salinity studies and weed removal.

Hunter Region Landcare Network chairman Stephen Thatcher said the group received a grant to plant out four-hectares with endangered trees endemic to the area before Liddell Power Station was built.

"Local people will see a paddock of trees rather than bare earth and grassland. The trees will connect to other remnants of forest to bring in birds and animals," Stephen said.

"I was very impressed by the apprentices' work ethic, the way everyone bought into the task and helped each other. Without the HVO apprentices we'd still be here months later."



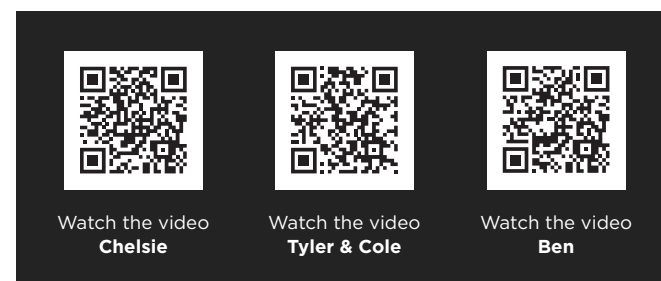
Visit hvo.com.au/videos to see the apprentices at work.

Did you know? In 2022 HVO's economic contribution was almost \$1.5b



Meet local apprentices and cadets

Our apprenticeship, cadetship and graduate programs provide local training and jobs for local people. Hear the stories of some of our team at hvo.com.au/videos



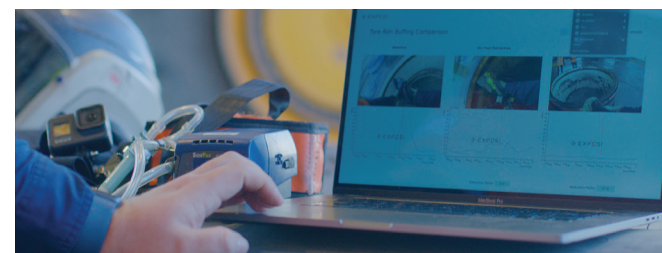
Want to unearth opportunity with a career at HVO
Visit hvo.com.au/careers

Aerial seeding reduces dust



With good weather, we were able to aerially seed 400ha of our site in July to cover exposed areas to minimise dust and improve visual amenity. Thanks to the team from SuperAir, the specially designed pasture mix will soon begin to provide good green cover.

Global first, system improves workplace safety



HVO was a finalist in the NSW Mining's 2023 HSEC Awards for adopting a global first, real time, dust monitoring software system to better protect the health and safety of its workforce.

HVO Health, Safety and Training Manager, Joel McLaren, said the Exposi system integrates with HVO's other workplace health monitoring to provide a more intelligent and faster way of identifying and resolving potential health issues. The new system sees staff wearing a GoPro or similar device combined with an on-person real-time monitoring device.

Joel said HVO began piloting the system in 2021 and it helped resolve an issue with tyre fitting.

"Exposi helped us better understand the root cause of the problem. Since implementing new controls we've had no issues. All monitoring results are below 50% of the Occupational Exposure Standard."

Response to continuation EIS submissions

Our team is reviewing every submission made to our EIS to continue mining to 2050. We're completing further studies and analysis to enable us to provide a Response to Submissions Report to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment by the end of October.

Supporting the community

Neighbourhood Centre feeds people in need



One of our 2023 Round 1 community grants is helping Singleton Neighbourhood Centre to provide another \$5,000 free, nutritious meals to a growing number of local people in need. The grant was one of eight to support community and environmental projects by local not for profit community groups.

Singleton Neighbourhood Centre manager Judy Mitchell said the funding will help it to cook meals, four days a week, through its OpenDoor@SNC program. Judy said demand for the service has increased, while food donations have decreased. In February 2023, 728 meals were cooked, compared to 564 in February 2022.

"More people are seeking help, including people who have never come to us for support before," Judy said.

"We give people breakfast and offer a cooked meal to eat at the centre or take home. For many clients this is their only hot cooked meal for the day."

"Our OpenDoor@SNC program and other services bring people together. Eating a meal with others is often some client's only social outlet. While they are here, we can link them with support services to increase their independence and resilience and improve their physical and mental wellbeing."

Applications for HVO's Round 2 grants close September 30.

Visit hvo.com.au/community



Round 1 2023 HVO Community Grant Recipients

- Aberdeen Preschool – new social area
- Singleton Heights Preschool – improving student physical development program
- Singleton Neighbourhood Centre – food program
- Kurri Minor Rugby League – safety & training equipment
- Muswellbrook Netball Association – new uniforms
- Novaskill – Mental Health First Aid Training for Singleton residents
- Singleton Mountain Bike Club – race timing equipment
- Witmore – new bins and shirts for the Community & Housing Recycling Crew.

Singleton Heights Pre-school basketball stars



Singleton Heights Pre-school used its grant so local children could complete a Stars Basketball program.

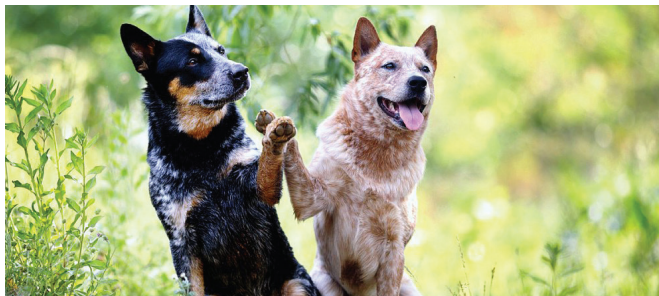
The pre-school's Director, Neisha Dean, said the 5-week tailored skills development program has made a difference in the children's skills and fitness.

"The kids have improved their motor skills including balance, endurance, coordination and as well as learning how our bodies move," Neisha said.

"It is not only the physical benefits of the sport that are evident. The children also developed their communication and social skills. Most importantly the children had fun."



See you at The Great Cattle Dog Muster



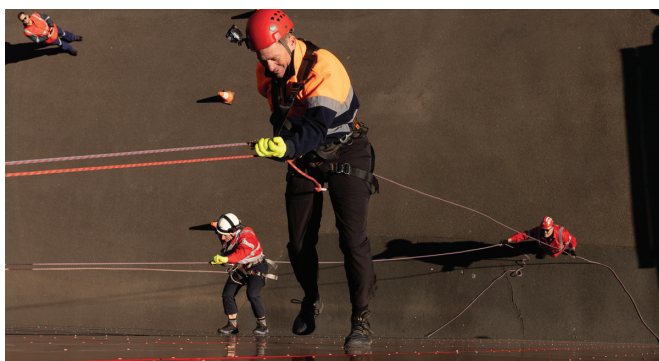
HVO is getting around the Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Great Cattle Dog Muster on September 9 to 11.

The muster has activities for the serious cattle dog enthusiast, the pet cattle dog owner, and the public.

Saturday's free community family fun day at Muswellbrook Showground will include a special appearance by cartoon icons Bluey and Bingo plus cattle dog demonstrations, competitions and exhibits, market stalls, live country music, rides and other kids' entertainment. There will be a showcase of Upper Hunter, wine, food and produce. Pet cattle dogs are welcome at the fun day.

Find out more at www.greatcattledogmuster.com.au

Dave leaps for Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service



Our General Manager Dave Foster overcame his fear of heights to raise more than \$4,200 for HVO charity partner Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. Dave joined other business leaders to abseil down McDonald Jones Stadium.

Singleton Business Awards winners

Congratulations to Wake Ag Contracting which took out the inaugural Excellence in Agriculture Award at the 2023 Business Singleton Awards. HVO was a Gold Sponsor of the event and presented this award.

Singleton Art Prize



This year HVO sponsored the Still Life Prize in the Singleton Art Prize. Our community and environment manager Andrew Speechly is pictured with the winning work "Still Life with Marmalade" by artist John Edge. The competition brings great art to Singleton. Event organiser, Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter, uses proceeds to award grants to local community projects. Apply for a grant at singletonartprize.org

Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

HVO's CCC met in May and August. Prior to the May meeting, members inspected the Archerfield, Carrington Stud and Wandewoi homesteads that HVO is upgrading and maintaining. CCC briefings and meeting minutes are at hvo.com.au/community

FREE Neighbour water filter or water tank clean

HVO offers either an under sink water filter kit or water tank cleaning to near neighbours, free of charge.

Call **0455 782 292** to register your interest.

Get in touch

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notifications - text *subscribe*
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