



New Bendigo Gold Project Newsletter

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MINE OPEN DAY HUGE SUCCESS

Bendigo Mining employees were delighted with the response to their recent annual public open day at the mine in Kangaroo Flat. Approximately 2000 people visited the site during the day and were able to talk to staff about the mining project and the work being carried out. The mine was in full operation throughout the day but visitors were able to walk into the boxcut and down to the portal whilst the underground miners were on a lunch break. Bendigo Mining began surface operations at the Carshalton site mid 1998.

***** CLEANER DIESEL FUEL BEING TRIALED AT BENDIGO MINING *****

Bendigo Mining is always interested in using environmentally sound products and as a result is currently involved in a trial of the new Shell Aqua Diesel. Shell is also trialing this new product with Walker's Bus Lines. Other Victorian organizations involved in the trials are:

Buloke Shire Council, Victorian Farmers Federation, Central Victorian Greenhouse Gas Consortium and the Victorian Dept of State and Regional Development. The product has just been launched by the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Ian Macfarlane.

Bendigo Mining is particularly interested in the new fuel because it has the potential to result in lower emission rates, lower running temperatures and reduced engine wear.

Maintenance Manager, Andrew Breen, said "The potential for this fuel to reduce exhaust emissions underground and extend engine component life is a major innovation."

The new fuel can be used immediately without making modifications to vehicles and more importantly can improve the environment without sacrificing existing engine power or performance.

MINE DEVELOPMENT

Development work underground has made good progress. The decline tunnel is now 3.9km in length and over 580m below surface. During March the underground team also developed a tunnel to enable ventilation at greater depths. The blasting for this development has been occurring close to the Thistle Street, Adams Street intersection and at 340m below surface. The main decline tunnel is now to the south of the Abel and Deborah Street intersection.

Work on the project is conducted 24hrs, 7 days a week.



Members of the community taking advantage of the opportunity to check out the entrance to the Swan Decline.



Bendigo Mining staff were available on the day to answer any queries and to offer information on the Bendigo Mining project.

DEWATERING

Water is pumped from the Carshalton, Red White and Blue Consolidated and New Moon shafts and is evaporated at the Woodvale ponds. Evaporation continues to be extremely high and is exceeding both the water added to the ponds, and rainfall.

Plans for the desalination plant, to treat the water from the old and new workings beneath Bendigo, are on track and it is expected that construction work will begin mid year. The plant, to be erected at the New Moon site in Eaglehawk, will produce clean water.

REHABILITATION

Bendigo Mining will rip the old track in the Faugh-a Ballagh Reserve in preparation for seeding after winter rains. During summer plant production by the Goldfields Revegetation team has gone well and with good rains these plants will be used at the Carshalton site this year. Semi advance ironbarks have been grown for the car park area.

Bendigo Mining is working toward a fox free environment at the Carshalton site to further encourage wildlife. If this is achieved it will be the only fox free site in the Bendigo region.

EXPLORATION

One drill rig is currently operating underground from the Swan Decline. This rig has been drilling into the Deborah Line of reef toward the D3 target but in March moved to drill into the Sheepshead line of reef. The decline has been developed between these two major reef structures and 1.4km of drilling was completed during March.

Historical geological research has concentrated this year on the digital rebuilding of shafts on the Derby, Stafford Fault, Napoleon, Carshalton and Christmas Lines of Reef.

Another period of bulk sampling is expected to commence at the New Moon site in Eaglehawk North mid year. The plant will operate in the same manner as previous bulk sampling.

ADVISORY BOARD

The Bendigo Mining Community Affairs Advisory Board meets regularly throughout the year.

Board Members are:

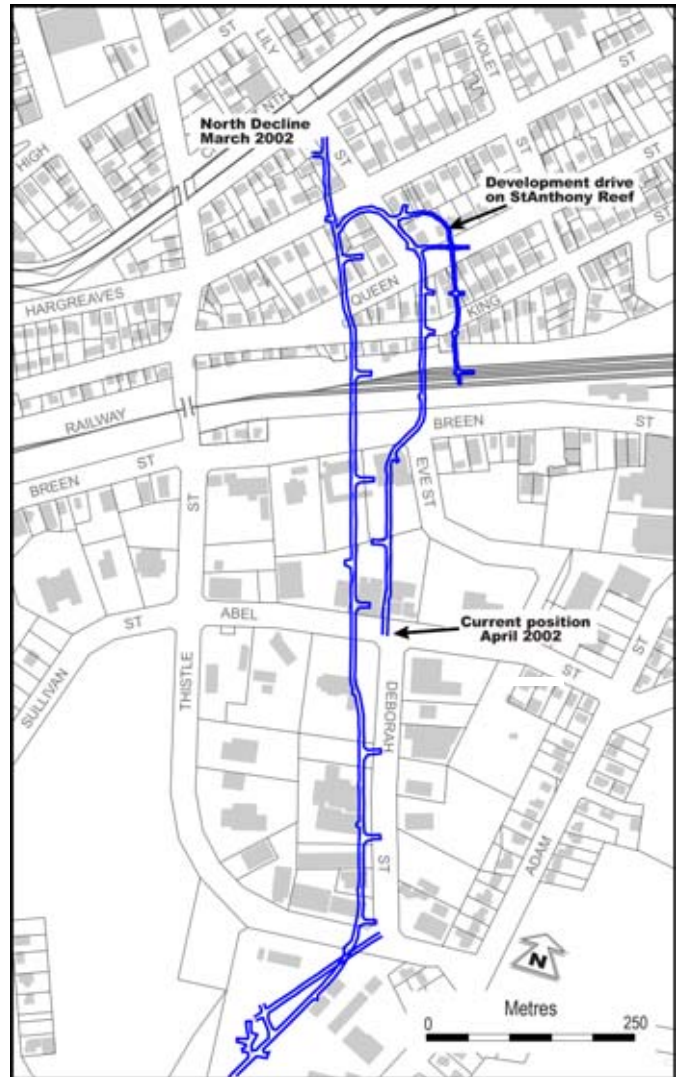
Cr. Daryl McClure, Cr. Willi Carney, Ms Ann Jones, Mrs Fay Buerger, Mr Bill Lucas, Mr Peter Galvin, Mr Leighton Rawlings, Mr Bryan Lewis, Mr Dennis Demeo, Ms Marika McMahon. Cr Rod Fyffe and Mr Maurie Sharkey have both recently accepted positions on the Advisory Board.

ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

The Bendigo Mining Environmental Trust is calling for applications for financial support from community groups to assist with local environmental projects.

Application forms can be obtained from Bendigo Mining.
Ph: 5447 1834.

Applications Close: 30 April 2002.



Development on the decline has resumed and the drilling program continues to define further targets at depth.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Four community representatives were recently re-appointed to the Bendigo Mining Environmental Review Committee after nominations were called for by the City of Greater Bendigo. The representatives will serve another 3 year term on the committee.

The next meeting of the ERC will be at the City of Greater Bendigo Offices, Lyttleton Terrace, Bendigo on June 5th 2002 at 1pm.

Your community representatives are:

Mr Bernie Cusack, Mr Ken Draper, Mr Maurie Lewis, Mrs Mary Markey.

This newsletter is published in the interests of keeping the public of Bendigo informed with the activities of the

New Bendigo Gold Project

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