



New Bendigo Gold Project Newsletter

Bendigo Mining N.L.
ABN 61 005 674 073

Site Office: 66 Ham St
Kangaroo Flat
Vic 3551
Phone : (03) 54 471 834
Fax : (03) 54 471 835
Email : info@bmn.l.com.au
Web Site: http://www.bmn.l.com.au

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MOVING TOWARDS PRODUCTION

The Company has accessed the first of the gold bearing reefs on the Sheepshead and Deborah lines that the old timers never reached. Sampling and trial processing is planned in the reefs for the next 12 months as part of the production feasibility study. The Directors of Bendigo Mining will consider the commitment to production in late 2003 and production could then commence in 2004. We are currently examining how best we can achieve the transition from exploration to production. All indications are that Bendigo is heading towards a long term sustainable gold mining future.

COMPANY TACKLES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Bendigo Mining Environmental Manager, Philpa Varris, recently addressed the Mining and Sustainability Conference held at La Trobe University Bendigo. More than 80 delegates from across Victoria attended the seminar, to examine issues related to the mining industry and sustainable development. Delegates explored how the minerals industry could contribute to a sustainable future for all Victorians.

MINING BY- PRODUCTS STUDY

The City of Greater Bendigo has commissioned a Mining By-Products Opportunity Study which is being undertaken by La Trobe University, Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities and URS Australia. They are looking at a number of industries that could make use of rock, sand and water from the mining operation.

Tests are being conducted to determine suitability of the rock for sub-base and base for highway upgrades, ballast for the fast rail track to Melbourne as well as other uses.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD



Left to right. Roy Woodall, John MacLeod, Peter Philip, Doug Buerger and Arnold Offenberg

The board of Bendigo Mining gathered together this month for the company's AGM, under the watchful eye of George Lansell !

GREG MILLER JOINS THE TEAM

Greg Miller has been appointed the new Manager of the Macmahon's operations here in Bendigo. Macmahon Underground Pty Ltd are the mining contractor at the New Bendigo Gold Project and have held this contract since 1997. Greg grew up in Wycheproof and studied mining engineering at Ballarat University. He is delighted to be able to take up his profession so close to home.

Former Macmahon's manager, Mike Botting, has been promoted to Area Manager for Macmahon's operations. Many people will know Mike as he has been working on the project for over 4¹/₂ years and was in contact with many people in the community.

DID YOU KNOW ????????

- That the main Swan Decline tunnel is now 4.6km long and 720m below the surface.
- The end of the decline is currently below the main Bendigo -Melbourne railway line just to the south east of the King/Thistle Street area.
- Since underground development began in Oct 1998 more than 7.3km of tunneling has been achieved.
- The miners have gained access into the gold targets on both the Deborah and Sheepshead Lines of Reef.
- More than 100 people currently work at the mine and this number continues to increase steadily.

Bendigo Mining works with local teachers on Sustainable Development

During September, 18 local teachers gathered at Bendigo Mining to talk about sustainable development and communities.

Megan Bourke, who has written and presented for the Victorian Geography Teachers Association on the topic, ran the workshop on "Sustaining a Rural Environment and its Community". Participants investigated the planning which takes place before, during and after a mineral/metal is mined. They were also involved in a number of activities which challenged them to consider the conservation of the environment as well as the economic and social sustainability of local communities.



Students from St Peter's Primary School receive a cheque from Environmental Manager, Philpa Varris. The Grade 5 & 6 students will use the Trust funds to purchase nesting boxes for the school grounds.

See back page for the list of Environmental Trust Fund recipients.



ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

At a recent meeting of the Bendigo Mining Environmental Trust eight community groups were successful in gaining funds for projects to improve the local environment. One group will receive in kind support via the provision of indigenous plant species as used on the Carshalton mine site.

The successful groups were:

Camp Hill Primary School	Catholic College Bendigo
Central Deborah Gold Mine	Eppalock Primary School
Flora Hill Primary School	Otis Foundation
St Peter's Primary School	Gravel Hill Gardens- Salvation Army
Wildlife Rescue Information Network.	

Applications for the next round of funding close on April 30 2003. Application forms can be obtained from Bendigo Mining on 03 5447 1834 or from the company web page, www.bmnl.com.au

NEW VENTILATION SHAFT COMPLETED

A 274m deep ventilation shaft has been completed to link the current ventilation system with the decline tunnel at 600m below surface. This shaft links the bottom of the existing ventilation shaft at 340m below surface to the decline tunnel at approx 600m of depth.

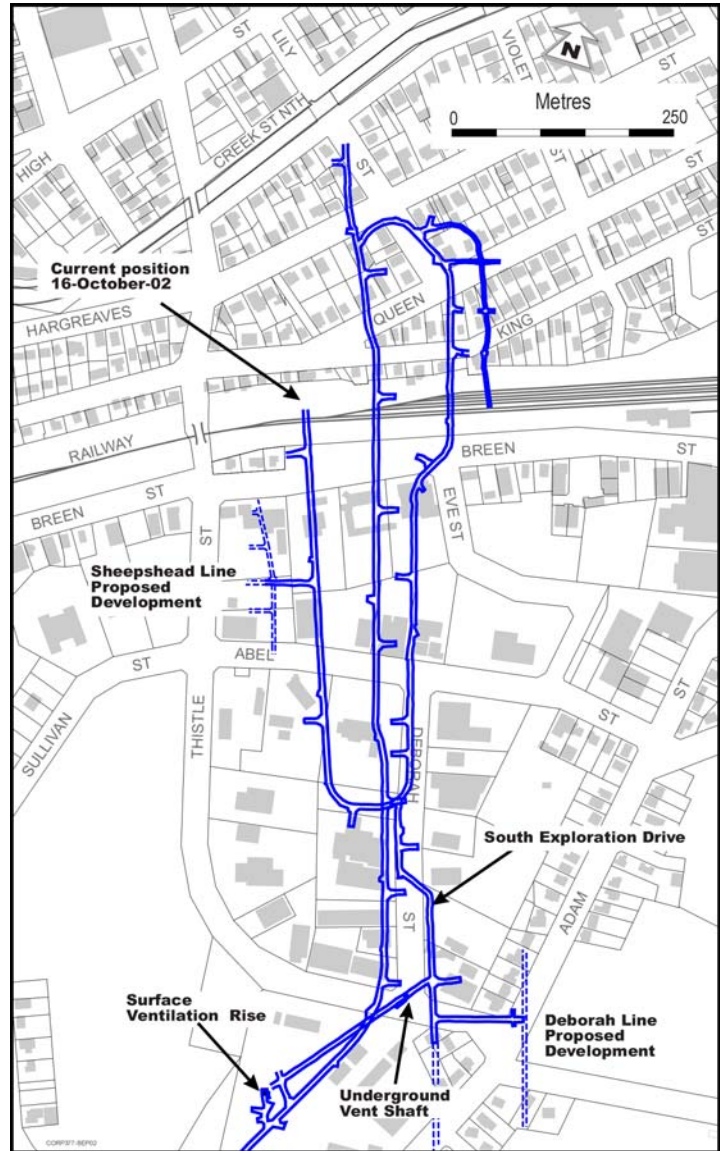
NEW MOON BULK SAMPLE PLANT

Work has commenced on the treatment of bulk samples from the mine. It is necessary to carry out this work to determine the grade of ore to be mined in the future. Trucks delivering these samples to the plant, travel via the trucking route to Eaglehawk and they enter the plant from the Raywood Road, as has been the case in past years.

PERSONALITY PROFILE (Who's Who at Bendigo Mining): Karen Lees — Environmental Officer

Karen moved to Bendigo with her partner just over a year ago and prior to being appointed as an Environmental Officer at Bendigo Mining, worked for the Dept. of Natural Resources and the Environment in Epsom as a hydro-geologist.

She grew up in Melbourne and has a Degree in Geology from RMIT. After working in the field for a number of years she has finally swapped her swag for a "renovators delight" in town. Karen spends her weekends on house renovation projects, since purchasing a Victorian cottage in Kennington. When she has a spare moment she also enjoys playing bass guitar and horse riding.



Current development of the decline

ADVISORY BOARD

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

Board Members are:

Cr. Daryl McClure, Cr. Willi Carney, Cr Rod Fyffe, Ms Ann Jones, Mrs Fay Buerger, Mr Bill Lucas, Mr Peter Galvin, Mr Leighton Rawlings, Mr Bryan Lewis, Mr Dennis Demeo, Ms Marika McMahon and Mr Maurie Sharkey.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Your community representatives are:

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

The next meeting of the ERC will be held at Bendigo Mining on December 4 2002.

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

New Bendigo Gold Project

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 1800 640 959
OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE www.bmnl.com.au