



New Bendigo Gold Project Newsletter

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BENDIGO MINING SEEKS SITE EXPANSION FOR PRODUCTION

Bendigo Mining has announced plans to move into production and the Minister for Planning has been approached to consider the process for planning permission that will be required for the new activities at the Carshalton site.

The Company's extensive exploration program has identified much more gold in the southern part of the goldfield than anticipated and as a result Bendigo Mining is focusing its longer term mining plans on this part of the field. This is an exciting stage for the Company but will require some changes to the existing Carshalton site in Kangaroo Flat.

Activities requiring planning permission include the final stages of ore treatment, placement of sand products from processing within the mullock emplacement areas, and additional mullock emplacement areas, outside the bund wall, to cover the life of the mine.

Community consultation will be part of the approval process and the community will be informed of the type of approval being sought once confirmation has been received from the Minister. It is expected that the approval process will take up to 12 months.

In 1998 Bendigo Mining received an Authority to Commence work after extensive consultation through the preparation, exhibition and assessment of an Environmental Effects Statement. Planning permission was also obtained at that time for initial stages of ore processing. Since 1998 work at the Carshalton site has included surface works, development of a decline tunnel, now 5.2 km in length and 780m below surface, mullock (non gold bearing rock) emplacement, support services and minor infrastructure.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the approval process please contact Bendigo Mining on 54471834

DID YOU KNOW???????

- That the main Swan Decline tunnel is now 5.2km long and 770m below the surface.
- The end of the main decline is currently below the area between Breen and Abel Streets.
- There is approximately 8km of tunneling under the city.
- More than 110 people work on the project.

MINE PUBLIC OPEN DAY

Sunday 13th April 2003 11am - 3pm

Free buses will take visitors from:

Lansell Plaza

(Bus will pick up in the service road opposite the shopping complex-Calder Highway.)

Or

Science and Discovery Centre

opposite the Bendigo Railway Station

(Bus Stop is at the Mitchell Street end of the Science and Discovery Centre building.)

**To the Mine site in Ham Street, Kangaroo Flat.
The Free Buses will run every half hour.**

BENDIGO MINING EMPLOYEES GET BEHIND LOCAL CAUSES

In the past month employees at Bendigo Mining have been busy supporting community causes.

Six team members were involved in the Shave for a Cure and raised over \$800 for the Leukemia Foundation. Sam McGowan raised over \$350 by taking off not only his hair but his very long beard as well. Christine Thorne from Taylors for Hair and Bree Darcy from Rodney John Hairdressing donated their time to shave and colour the heads.

Twenty five team members were also involved in Clean Up Australia Day by cleaning up the Ham Street area. About 45 large bags of rubbish were collected and 2 ute loads of junk were removed from the bush and roadside verge.



Bree Darcy shaves Sam McGowan's locks

BIRD WATCH AT WOODVALE

A number of people over the years have conducted surveys of the bird population at the Woodvale ponds. Earlier this year John Lands, who lives in the area, was interested in watching out for and identifying interesting birds migrating from the Arctic regions. He noted Marsh Sandpipers, Sharp-tailed Sandpipers and Red-necked Stints at the ponds as well 50 other species.

Large numbers of midgies attract the birds. To assist in controlling the insects the Company has placed bat boxes around the area rather than

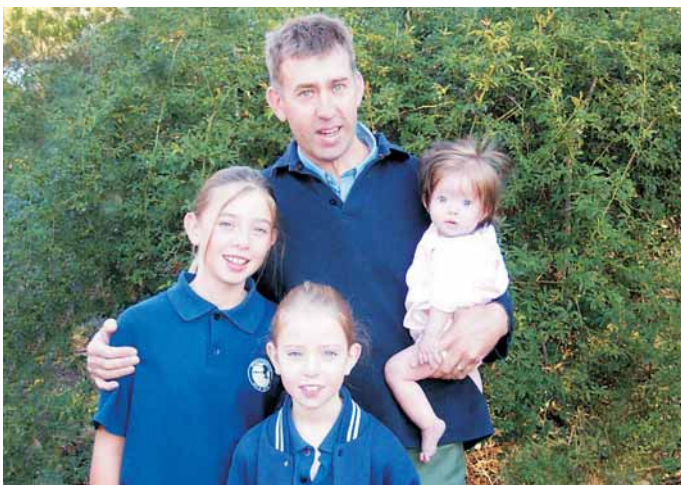
ANNUAL SOCIAL IMPACT STUDY

As part of the environmental auditing process an independent company has recently conducted the annual audit to assess Social Impact. You may have been involved in answering questions for this survey. Thank you for your co-operation as results of the survey assist us to make changes to our operation or to address issues of particular concern to the community. The results of these studies have in the past been made available to the public via the Goldfields Library and La Trobe University Library. Copies of the latest study 2002 - 2003 will also be made available to the public and a summary is always contained in the Bendigo Mining Annual Environment Report.

PERSONALITY PROFILE (Who's Who at Bendigo Mining): Phil Walklate - Project Draftsman

Phil has been part of the team at Bendigo Mining for 8 years but his first association with the Bendigo goldfield was back in 1987 while working for Western Mining. His career has also taken him to Kambalda in Western Australia as well as Stawell Gold Mines. Phil came back to Bendigo to be closer to family. He grew up in Charlton where his father has just retired as the local GP. Phil completed a Certificate in Cartography at RMIT and is currently studying for a Graduate Diploma in Computing at La Trobe University - Bendigo.

Any spare time Phil might have is taken up with his family of three lovely daughters.



ADVISORY BOARD

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

Board Members are:

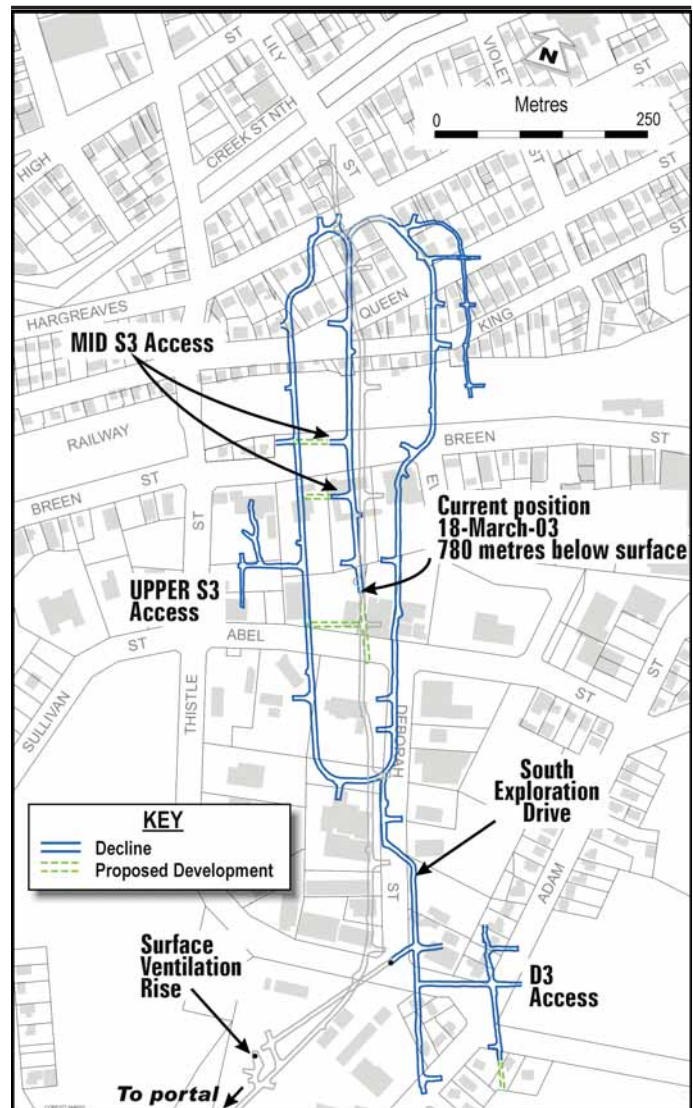
Cr. Daryl McClure, Cr. Willi Carney, Cr Rod Fyffe, Ms Ann Jones, Mrs Fay Buerger, Mr Bill Lucas, Mr Peter Galvin, Mr Leighton Rawlings, Mr Bryan Lewis, Mr Dennis Demeo, Ms Marika McMahan and Mr Maurie Sharkey.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Your community representatives are:

Mr Bernie Cusack, Mr Ken Draper, Mr Maurie Lewis, Mrs Mary Markey. Mr Ray Leerson has been invited to attend ERC meetings on behalf of the Eaglehawk community.

DECLINE DEVELOPMENT



D3 and S3 access refers to areas being targeted and tested for future gold production.

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

New Bendigo Gold Project

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