

VERTEX COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



General Manager's Update

With Daffodils flowering in the village, there is a hint of spring in the air. The team at the plant are looking forward to some warmer weather, with a few mornings in July causing our pipes to freeze in the plant. Underground is approaching a few milestones, with rehab works finished to the primary fan and the new 11kv substation taken underground. Following energizing the substation, we will turn on our Primary Ventilation fan to allow access into more parts of the mine.

We have recently received our explosive storage license, which will allow us to start mining tunnels in ore. You may feel some small rumbles in the village and we are keeping our closest neighbors in the loop as we start firing again. The Mill has been running well over this time.

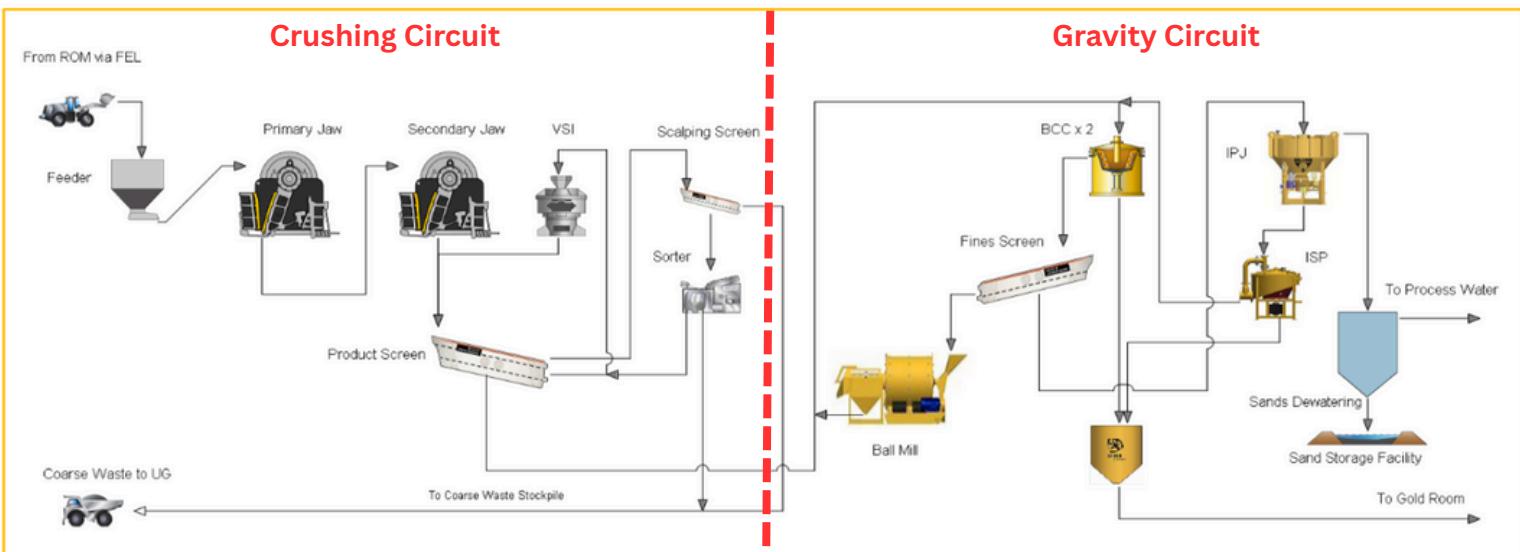
We welcome some new employees including Glenn Colgan as the new Mill Superintendent, Will Wilkins - Mine Surveyor, Chris Gittany - Surface Mechanic, Sam Chamberlain - Drill Fitter/Operator and Shane Lewis - Purchasing & Inventory Coordinator.

Chris Hamilton

01/04

Wild Dog Baiting

Vertex has continued its collaboration with the Hargraves Hill End Pest Group (HHEPG) and Local Land Services (LLS) to continue participating in the winter wild dog baiting program. This program utilises 1080 baits to target wild dogs and foxes, which harm livestock and native species. It is important that domestic animals be kept clear of these baits as they are lethal. Vertex has provided notices to our nearest neighbours and pinned on the Post Office notice board. Notice should be taken from **23 July – 27 August 2025**. This end date incorporates a mandatory four-week exclusion period following cessation of baits being laid.



WHAT MAKES THE VERTEX PROCESSING PLANT SO EFFICIENT?

If you've attended a Vertex event before, you may have heard people mention how efficient—and environmentally friendly—our processing plant is. But what exactly makes it so efficient and green? The plant's efficiency comes primarily from its use of the Tomra Laser Ore Sorter (you might have seen the video circulating on YouTube). This machine, labeled as the "sorter" in the above process diagram, uses lasers to detect gold-bearing quartz as it passes over a screen. When it identifies quartz, it uses a precise burst of pressurised air to separate it from the rest of the rock stream. The valuable material is then sent to the gravity circuit for gold separation. This targeted approach means we avoid wasting energy and water processing tonnes of barren rock as it simply passes through the crushing circuit then gets rejected.

As for being 'green', the process stands out because we don't use any chemicals during processing on-site. Unlike many gold mines that rely on toxic substances like cyanide to extract gold, Vertex

leverages the natural density difference between gold and quartz. Thanks to the unique characteristics of the Hill End deposit, we can use gravity alone to separate gold (which is 9 times denser than quartz). The result? Our waste—mostly clean quartz sand—is chemically benign and safely stored in our Sand Storage Facility.

Meet the Team:

Will Wilkin - Underground Surveyor



What does your role involve?

As an underground surveyor, my role is to provide accurate spatial data to support underground development and production. I'm responsible for tasks such as mark-ups for production drilling and development, recording completed works like development drives and other voids; and maintaining the mine's survey control network.

What is your professional qualification or trade?

I'm currently working towards my Certificate IV in Surveying and Spatial Information Services through TAFE, while gaining hands-on experience on site.

What career path led you to Reward Gold Mine?

I started out as a trainee Surveyor at Tritton for a few years, which gave me a solid foundation in underground surveying and a good understanding of how things operate.

What do you enjoy about your job?

I enjoy the variety and the challenge that comes with working underground. No two days are the same, and there's always something new to figure out.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

The underground environment can be unpredictable, with changing conditions and tight timeframes. Which can make it challenging to stay on top of everything. But that's also what keeps the job interesting.

What do you like to do in your downtime?

Since I recently moved to the area, I've been spending a lot of my downtime exploring and getting to know the local surroundings. But when I have the time, I also enjoy painting – it's a great way to switch off and get a bit creative outside of work.

Community Webpage

vertexminerals.com

The Vertex website has had an overhaul, with the updated site to go live around mid-August. With the update, we have added a "Community" page. This will be a great spot to access lots of information.

Vertex will utilise this page to publish documents such as this newsletter, public notices, RCCC meeting minutes and updates, and announcements. The webpage will not replace any traditional means of spreading these documents and notices, merely serve as an additional resource for community members.

Reward Community Consultative Committee

Vertex have established the Reward Community Consultative Committee (RCCC). The RCCC serves to act as a direct line of communication between the company and the community. So far we have held 2 meetings, with the next scheduled for the 14th of August. With 3 members (Cara George, Warwick Taylor and Learna Hazeltine), we have had some great conversations and ideas tabled already. The RCCC members are open to answer any questions you may have to the best of their ability, or if you have an issue you would like raised at a meeting, let one of them know. Vertex is open to expanding the RCCC to 5-7 total members. If you are interested in being considered to join the RCCC, feel free to email a bit about yourself and what aspect of the community you would represent to casey.robinson@vertexminerals.com.au



Preservation Works

Vertex has recently engaged local business Soil and Leaf to carry out work related to historical artefacts on-site. Casey and Peter have done an excellent job, including vegetation management and water diversion works around the hand-stacked stone walls, as shown in these photos.



Front page: Great day for water sampling along the Turon River

Above: Hand-stacked stone walls on site and water diversion works undertaken.

(Below) Left: GM Chris Hamilton and Underground Superintendent Dennis Fernandez in the shift boss office.

Right: Senior Geologist Julian Geldard and Project Planner Aaron Sippel discussing stockpile management.

