

VERTEX COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



General Manager's Update

Well, that year went quickly!

With Christmas only a few sleeps away, our mining elves have been hard at work both at the plant and underground. With two jumbos now developing new tunnels and strengthening existing ones, we've also welcomed our new Aramine loader from France to the underground. This impressive machine can even operate on tele-remotes—just like a remote-control car—while the operator works safely from a dedicated control hut.

Around the Mill, Glenn, Rob and the team continue to increase monthly ore processing. We've now fully transitioned to only treating fresh underground rock, and the plant is buzzing with a series of small but impactful improvements that, together, are making a huge difference.

As I write this, our second Mines Rescue training session is underway—this time focusing on Vertical Rescue. Vertex is committed to supporting our team as they work towards their Certificate III in Emergency Response.

We are also in the process of applying for a development consent modification. This will soon be open for public comment, and we welcome all feedback—positive or negative—about our activities in the community. Please keep an eye out for information on how to view the proposed changes to our working and blasting hours.

Finally, I want to extend a big thank you to the Hill End community for your support over the past year. Our team has loved being part of this community, and we look forward to the next 12 months together.

Merry Christmas to you and your family! 🎄

Chris Hamilton

Mining Language Explainer - What are the 'Backs'?

While coal mines refer to the top of a tunnel as the roof, in underground mineral mining we refer to the roof as the 'Back'. Referring to the roof as a 'Back', is a traditional term from the very early days of underground mining, coming from the fact that miners would have their backs to it while they were shoveling ore.

Mines Rescue Training

Ongoing Mines Rescue Training has been occurring onsite, with 10 employees completing their Advanced Casualty Management courses. The course consisted of pain management and first aid theory, along with several practical emergency scenarios. These scenarios provided great opportunities for the team to work together and apply their newly obtained knowledge in a real-world training scenario. The picture on the right shows Dennis, Henry and Mick treating a casualty in one such scenario.



RC Loader Update

The Remote Control loader control pod has been placed underground. The 'tele-hut' will allow the loader operator to remain in a safe location while bogging material with the loader from more dangerous areas. Some software gremlins have postponed the RC capabilities for a short time, however the loader is running manually and performing well. Above & Right: 'Tele-hut' going underground.



Meet the Team:

Shane Lewis - Purchasing&Inventory Coordinator



What does your role involve?

My Role is the Purchasing and Inventory Coordinator here at the Reward Gold mine. I look after the Purchasing and Inventory on all incoming goods and disperse them to the correct department.

What is your professional qualification or trade?

I have been doing Spare Parts and Purchasing for over 25 years. Working with Agriculture, Construction, Pumping and Mining.

What career path led you to the Reward Gold Mine?

Looking for a new challenge, as I have never worked in the Mining sector before.

What do you enjoy about your job?

The people. Everyone here at Reward are good and friendly and up for a laugh.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

Like many supply chain roles today, the hardest part is timing — balancing what's needed onsite with what suppliers can deliver. We're finding more suppliers are holding less stock, so we're needing to carry more onsite to stay ahead.

What do you like to do in your downtime?

I am originally from New Zealand and a proud rugby fan. Especially when the All Blacks take on the Wallabies. Always great rivalry and banter. When I'm not watching rugby, I spend time with family and friends and working in the garden. I also do the odd bit of wood work.

AMEC FINALISTS



Vertex have been selected as a finalist in the AMEC Environmental Award. This award aims to acknowledge a company's management of environmental impacts, or development of innovative methods to achieve better long term environmental outcomes. Vertex was selected for its gravity processing plant operations.

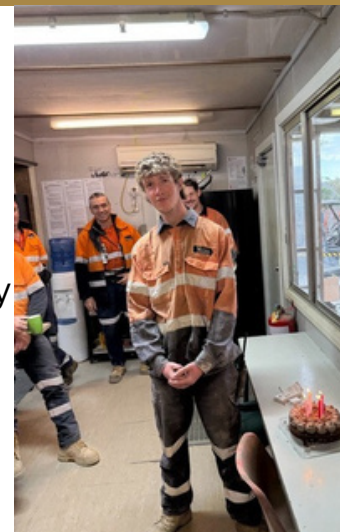
Development Consent Modification

Vertex has been working with RWCorkery and Bathurst Regional Council to work towards modifying our Development Consent. We have just provided a 'briefing paper' to Council (along with other stakeholders in the area: HETCT, RCCC, NPWS etc.) to outline what the intention of the modification will be. After feedback from Council and other regulatory bodies, we will begin the modification process.

Prior to the modification being put on exhibition, information will be provided by

Vertex on where it can be viewed.

Mill operator Kye celebrated his 22nd birthday on site, with two cakes provided by Coles Bathurst and Georgie H.





LEFT TO RIGHT:

1st row: Wallsy and Rory in front of an underground fan + Shannon and Fez on the airlegs + Pete haul'n ore out of the Adit

2nd row: Hill End Public school artwork on display at 'Fugitive' art festival + Fez on the jumbo

3rd row: Chris and Glenn excited for an underground trip + office cricket match + Mick, Henry and Dennis on scene for first aid

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