

VERTEX COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



General Manager's Update

Welcome to issue #2 of the Vertex Community Newsletter. This newsletter is one of the great ideas to come out of our RCCC (Reward Community Consultative Committee) from members of the community.

It has been another busy couple of months, with preparations for delivery of our new Jumbo. This bright yellow machine, which costs more than \$1M, drills and installs the ground support in the tunnels and also bores the holes which we fire with explosives. We now have 2 crews of experienced underground operators working this machine together with Airlegs, Loaders and Trucks, bringing the total workforce to just under 40. You may have heard some low noise through the village as we start to fire explosives to make our tunnels bigger. The firing will continue and we will record any vibrations on our sensors (see below on this).

Jeff has been busy operating the gravity plant as we continue to process the low-grade material left in Nuggety Gully. We plan on continuing to process this for another month until underground is fully up and running.

If you saw a number of emergency services vehicles in the village in the last week, don't panic! Vertex hosted members of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) on site (see below). By working together on how to manage an emergency on site, utilising emergency services and also allowing quicker access to the Bridle Track/Turon to emergency vehicles via our access track, we hope to benefit the whole community.

Chris Hamilton

01/04



More Monitoring equipment!

Vertex's new ES-405 particulate profiler (dust monitoring) and sound monitoring station have been installed alongside the existing blast monitoring units. These new units will provide us with real-time data to understand and manage the impacts of our operations.



LEMC

Vertex Minerals has joined the Bathurst Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), which allows us to collaborate with local emergency services. On Thursday 29th May, Vertex hosted members from Sofala SES, NSW Police Force, Chifley RFS, NSW Fire & Rescue and NSW Ambulance on site. Picture right shows NSW Fire and Rescue and NSW Ambulance coming from an underground tour.



Meet the Team:

Julian Geldard - Senior Geologist



What does your role involve?

My role involves finding the gold. Our team use drilling, sampling, mapping and other geological information to 3D model ore bodies underground that we use as targets. We also constantly monitor what we are currently mining and reconcile what we have mined to see how our models performed to improve on future models.

What is your professional qualification or trade?

I completed a Bachelor's Degree of Environmental Science with Honours at Monash University. I majored in Earth Sciences where my favourite topics were Geology and Geophysics. I have done various short courses and certificates in other related fields such as First Aid, Resource Estimation and Mine Design.

What career path led you to Reward Gold Mine?

I was always interested in the Earth and Planetary Geology. After graduating, I "cut my teeth" in the Kalgoorlie Goldfields. I then worked as a geophysicist, then decided I liked geology more, so I worked as a geologist in various narrow-vein gold mines in Victoria. The story at Reward, combined with my experience in similar geological settings attracted me to the role at Vertex.

What do you enjoy about your job?

I enjoy the people I work with, the setting in which I work, the history of where I work and the opportunity to build the new Vertex Geology Team from the ground down, whilst allowing me to provide for my family.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

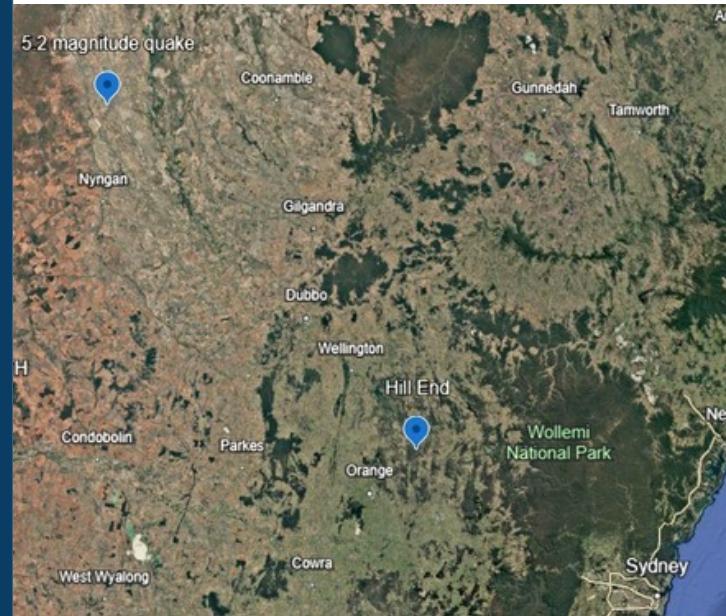
There are many challenges, which make this job so interesting. Mainly, it is the investigatory nature of finding out what happened here geologically and in a historical mining sense to navigate challenges and guide future success. That, and trying not to hit a roo every morning on the drive to work.

What do you like to do in your downtime?

My typical day off involves riding my motorcycle to the gym in the morning, going out for lunch with a mate or cooking at home with my partner, then relaxing in the afternoon by either reading (napping), listening to podcasts (napping), working on my house and car, video gaming or planning a camping trip or holiday (napping).

Nyngan Earthquake

As you may be aware, a 5.2 magnitude quake struck around 2:30am on Saturday 24th May, in a remote part of the Orana region, about 90 kilometres north of Nyngan, or around 300km north-west of Hill End. Vertex's blast monitoring equipment picked up ground vibrations from this earthquake. Our monitors picked up ground vibrations of 0.47 and 0.11 mm/s. The readings from this event help demonstrate the effectiveness of this monitoring equipment.



Wild Dog Baiting

Vertex has collaborated with the Hargraves Hill End Pest Group (HHEPG) and Local Land Services (LLS) to participate in the 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 May – 24 June 2025. This end date incorporates a mandatory four-week exclusion period following cessation of baits being laid.





Top Left: Underground Superintendent Dennis Fernandez inspecting gold bearing quartz vein

Top Right: Tomra reject pile

Middle Left: Screening process

Middle Right: Tomra Ore Sorter

Bottom: Quartz vein close-up