

McPhillamys Gold Project

Community Information Sheet No. 11

June 2020

After the rain: tree planting and weed control

The warm weather and rain of autumn and early winter provided perfect conditions for tree planting and local nurseries have been very busy keeping up with demand.

Regis took advantage of the conditions during May to do some tree planting on properties neighbouring McPhillamys, to establish visual screens around the project site.

Tree planting is an important part of the property management plans being developed with our near neighbours to manage potential impacts from the project site.

Autumn has also been a busy time for the project with other activities including:

- weed and feral animal control
- ongoing monitoring of air quality
- soil sampling and exploration activities
- groundwater and surface water monitoring; and
- construction of two new bores on the site for groundwater testing.

The testing will determine if the bores are suitable for construction water (subject to necessary approvals) while the water pipeline from Lithgow is being built.



Above: Leading Hand Luke Bowman preparing to plant trees.

Below L-R: Bore construction and testing at McPhillamys.





McPhillamys Gold Project: update

Regis is continuing to work on the Response to Submissions (RTS) document which will respond to the feedback and requests for information received during the public exhibition period of the Development Application and Environmental Impact Statement.

We plan to submit the RTS to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) around the middle of 2020.

The NSW Government has also advised that the project will be referred to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for assessment, given the trigger for this referral (25 or more objections) has been reached.

As part of the assessment process, the IPC will hold a public hearing in which members of the public will be able to participate and present their views on the application.

While it is not clear at this stage when the public hearing will be held, we don't expect this to take place until the end of this year or early in 2021.

We will keep the community informed of any developments through our website, newspaper ads and the McPhillamys Community Consultative Committee.

For more information on the IPC see their website at: <https://www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/>

Assessment Process



Local businesses adapting to difficult times

The spread of COVID-19 has presented some huge challenges for our community in the past few months.

At Regis, we've had to do things very differently in order to protect the health and safety of our employees, their families and the people we meet with during the course of our work.

Like a lot of local businesses, our offices were closed for a time and everybody made the switch to working from home. We stopped having face to face meetings and moved them online, via Skype and other platforms.

Whilst this presented challenges, we were able to carry on and keep the project on track, as were many local businesses who also adapted their hours and operations in order to stay open and stay safe.

Others were not as fortunate and our thoughts are with the people and businesses whose livelihoods were — and continue to be — affected by the pandemic.

With things slowly getting back to the 'new normal', businesses like Ryan's Bakery are noticing that things are picking up. Proprietor Chris Corbyn said he was pleased that they were now able to seat a limited number of people both inside and outside the bakery.

"Sue and I are also grateful for the support we have received from our loyal customers during this very difficult time," Chris said.



Above (clockwise from top): Ryan's Bakery, Fringe-The Art of Hair and the Tatts Hotel were amongst the many local businesses which had to adapt to the challenges of operating during COVID-19.

Community Consultative Committee: meeting online

We've all had to adjust to very different ways of doing business during COVID-19 and the most recent meeting of the McPhillamys Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was no exception.

In keeping with the times — and the need for social distancing — the CCC held its first online meeting on 1 June, 2020.

The response was very positive and CCC committee members rose to the challenge.

Technical glitches aside, we had a very productive meeting and each member was able to participate and contribute.

CCC presentations and meeting minutes are now available on the project website at this link:

<http://www.mcphillamysgold.com/mcphillamys/community>

Stay up to date!

**Register for McPhillamys
Project news and updates at:
www.mcphillamysgold.com**

**Or call us and we'll take your
details over the phone:
(02) 6368 4100**

Growing local: students set to sow native seeds

Following an excursion to the Regis Aziel property earlier this year, Blayney High School is hoping to grow native trees from seeds collected from the site.

Regis Resources will support the work and other environmental activities with a donation to upgrade the school's greenhouse and associated equipment.

Regis representatives Chris Roach and Louise Hobby recently met with Rachel Croft and Jeannie Hackney from the Blayney High School Agriculture department,

to discuss the project and other partnership plans for the coming year.

Chris Roach said excursions and interactive activities were temporarily on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions but it was a good time to work on repairs to the hothouse.

"We're looking at options to repair and upgrade the hothouse so that the school can build on its current program of environmental activities," Chris said.

Right (L-R): Jeannie Hackney (BHS), Chris Roach and Louise Hobby (Regis Resources), Rachel Croft (BHS) discussing plans for the BHS seed growing project.

Below: Blayney High School students collected seeds from the Regis Aziel property during an excursion in February 2020.



Danielle's focus on farming, water and the environment

Danielle is a long way from her family's beef farm in northern NSW (and even further from her origins in Queensland) but she's pleased that her new role at Regis will provide opportunities to focus on her interests in farming, water and the rural environment.

As our new Environment Superintendent, Danielle's role will see her working on a range of environmental and stakeholder issues across the project.

"I grew up watching Captain Planet and my family used to laugh at my childhood obsession with trees, rivers and algae," Danielle said, "I think they thought I had grown out of it when I did a degree in Commerce but I soon realised my real passion was with the outdoors and all those things I loved as a kid."

After further studies Danielle worked as an environmental project manager for 9 years, most recently as environment and approvals superintendent with Evolution Mining at Lake Cowal, NSW.

Danielle enjoys the mining life and is keen to see the benefits that projects like McPhillamys can bring to a community.

"Mining attracts new people, services and facilities as well as providing really interesting work and training opportunities," Danielle said.

"I'm looking forward to the McPhillamys project and to working with our neighbours and the broader community," she said.

Right:

We are pleased to welcome Danielle Wallace, who has joined Regis Resources as our environmental superintendent.

