

Community Newsletter

#6 WINTER 2013



Message from the General Manager

Since our last community newsletter CGT has been mining the gold ore zones more than 600 metres beneath the Ballarat Skate Park (Main Road) and developing our declines north towards Black Hill. During the March quarter we completed nearly 900 metres of development passing under Mair Street at around 650 metres below the Ballarat Leagues Club (see diagram next page). Production was from multiple locations in the Llanberis, Britannia and Sovereign areas where over 40,000 tonnes of ore being mined.

In our last newsletter we requested feedback on our operations activates particularly if you felt or heard our blasting activities and we would like tho think those people who took the to do this. While the majority of feedback was positive we did receive some complaints from residents regarding our activities, and we are trying to resolve these complaints. CGT is committed to minimising any undesirable impact of the operation on the community.

After receiving the feedback from residents about our firings we moved monitoring stations to the area of concern, communicated monitoring results and information about subsequent blasts and trialled changes to the blast design to reduce the vibration and noise heard on the surface. Regrettably, at this stage, we have not been able to reduce the impact to a level where the concerned residents are satisfied. While the changes have had some effect on vibration levels we have recently engaged an independent blasting consultant to review our practices and examine opportunities to further reduce the effects on the surface.

If you have a concern regarding any of our activities or are feeling or hearing any of our firings, I encourage you to call us. The information we gather from your feedback expands our knowledge on the impact we have on the community and contributes to the assessment of our social performance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lance Faulkner'.

Lance Faulkner

Free Schools Education Program

CGT sponsors Minerals Education Victoria (MEV) to assist primary schools (both public and private) in and around Ballarat and Castlemaine to talk to children about earth resources. This year almost 500 students from seven schools participated in the school presentation service. The presentations are from a qualified teacher and have clear links to the AusVELS curriculum for the following subjects *Resources in our world, Gold, Energy use, Care for the environment and Sustainability*. The sessions are offered to class sized groups at each school, taking approximately one hour. If this is a benefit to your school please contact Jenny Neales on (03) 8614 1851 or email jenny.neales@minerals.org.au.



Social and Economic Performance

CGT aims to be a good corporate citizen contributing to Ballarat both economically and socially. Some indicators of this can be easily quantified with over 220 people directly employed by CGT and the contracting companies engaged by CGT; around 80% of the people reside in the Ballarat area. In the last year alone more than \$8 million has been spent in Ballarat on goods and services and a further \$12 million paid to suppliers within Victoria. Assistance and support has also been provided to various schools and community groups either through financial or in-kind support

M.A.D.E-Australia's Newest Museum

CGT is proud to be associated with Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E.). We were approached to provide a suitable rock for the memorial walk that recognises the lives lost at Eureka.

ICE Engineering donated a truck, crane and staff to assist with the logistics of moving the 1 tonne rock into position, ready for the official opening of the museum and walk in early May.

CGT looks forward to continuing our association with M.A.D.E and encourages everyone to visit this innovative museum.

Mining Explained- Development and Production

Development is the term used for work undertaken on the main declines (tunnel) that access the ore zones and the initial drives within the ore zones. Once the geology team has identified the areas of the mine that contain gold our engineering team design the most efficient way to access the areas. At Ballarat there are two main declines (Sulieman and Woah Hawp) and a series of shorter declines that extend off them to access the ore zones.

The primary objective of the development mining team is to drill and blast an area that is 5 m wide by 5 m high advancing the drive face approximately 3.5 m with each firing. This development activity has created over 25 km of declines since 1994. CGT carries out development firings normally twice a day typically between 6:30 and 7:30 am/pm. These blast are normally not felt on the surface but may be heard.

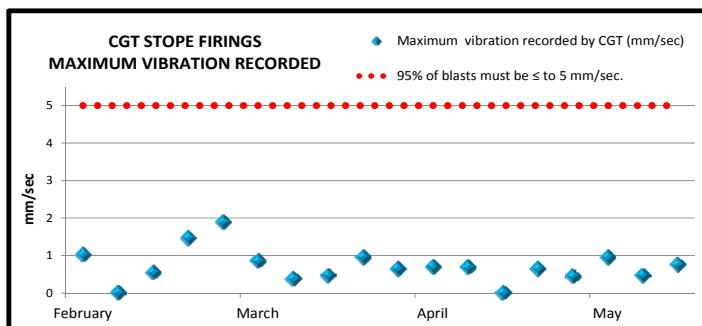
Production is the term used for the removal of the gold bearing ore. A number of mining methods are used to extract the ore; including cut and fill stoping and bench stoping. The chosen production method is dictated by the geology, production efficiency and safety considerations.

During 2013 about half of the ore mined will be removed using the bench stoping method of mining. The bench stope firings are designed to break a larger volume of rock than a development firing which means an increased amount of explosives is detonated per blast event. This has the potential to generate higher vibrations and noise on the surface compared to development firings, and we have received community feedback confirming this to be the case.

Due to the potential impact to the community bench stope firings are carried out during the day; the stope firings do not occur during the early hours of the day shift or on night shift.

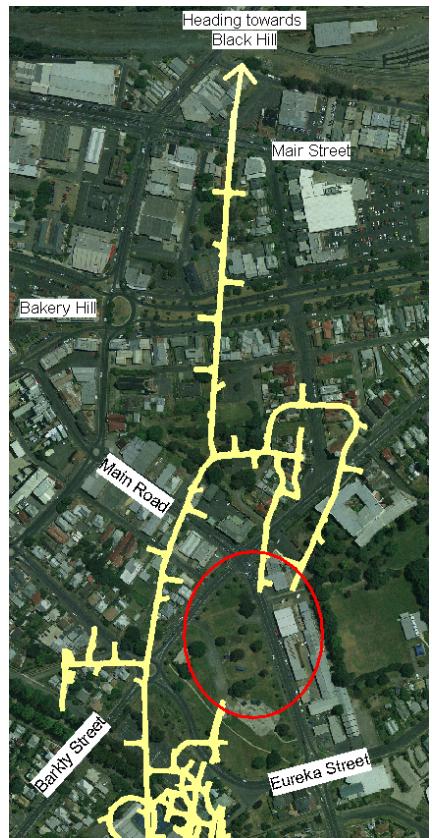
Vibration and your house

CGT is subject to regulations that require no firing to exceed 10mm/sec and 95% of all blast vibration to be less than or equal to 5mm/sec. Low level vibration associated with firings has been recorded since the recommencement of stope firings. Blasting vibration at these level will not damage houses but may be audible, rattle cutlery and windows. We install multiple blast vibration monitors for each stope firing at various surface locations and is summarised in the graph below.



For a comparison of impact: The Australian Standards states houses are to be built to withstand 50 mm/sec of movement, walking on a wooden floor is the equivalent of 3 mm/sec, slamming a door generates 12 mm/sec, normal house movement due to daily temperature changes ranges between 30 and 70 mm/sec.

A fact sheet on the impacts of blast vibration is available by contacting CGT on 5327 2555. Other sources of information include the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (www.dpi.vic.gov.au) and Department of Resources Energy and Tourism (www.ret.gov.au)



Above: Mining 600+ m under Main Rd, Barkly St and Mair St.

TSF Extension Update

The Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Stage 2B extension is progressing well (~60% complete) with favorable weather contributing to this good progress. The completion date is still expected to be in August, weather permitting. Once completed this stage will provide a further two years of storage.



Community feedback is important to us!

If you hear or feel any of our activities, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time on **5327 2555** or email: info@cgt.net.au.