Handlebar Hill Project receives green light

Following state government approval, Xstrata Zinc’s new AUD $79 million open cut zinc-lead mine, Handlebar Hill, will be operational from mid 2008.

The new open cut mine is located approximately 400 metres behind George Fisher Mine, approximately twenty-two kilometres south of Mount Isa.

According to Xstrata Zinc Chief Executive, Mr Santiago Zaldumbide, the approval is a further demonstration of Xstrata Zinc’s commitment to the future of the business in Mount Isa.

“The new mine approval we are announcing today further builds upon the commitment we made last August to expand the Mount Isa zinc-lead concentrator capacity by sixty per cent and the significant progress we have made in improving the operating efficiency and long-term viability of our zinc-lead business at Mount Isa over the past four years,” said Mr Zaldumbide.

Originally named Handlebar Hill due to the area’s resemblance to a handlebar moustache from initial map drawings, the mine will be 500 metres long and 300 metres wide with expected depths of 180 metres.

Over the past two years, Xstrata Zinc has conducted exploration drilling and metallurgical test work to confirm the ore reserves of 4.3 million tonnes at Zinc 6.8 per cent, Lead 2.4 percent and Silver 45 per cent.

“We have increased our ore reserves from 39 million tonnes in 2004 to 81.3 million tonnes,” said Mr Kevin Hendry, General Manager Mount Isa Zinc Lead Operations.

Ore will be mined at a rate of up to 1.75 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) and will be crushed at George Fisher mine before being trucked to the Mount Isa Mines zinc-lead concentrator. Zinc ore is currently being supplied to the concentrator by George Fisher mine and Black Star Open Cut mine. The concentrator is currently undergoing a $160 million dollar expansion which will increase throughput from 6.5 mtpa to 8 mtpa.

It is expected that approximately one hundred and twenty new jobs will initially be created from the Handlebar Hill project, bringing Xstrata Zinc’s employment numbers in Mount Isa to nearly 1,300. The open cut mine has an expected life time of two and a half years with the potential for underground mining operations into the future.

“Local contracting firm Huddy’s has been awarded the contractor rights for the construction of the Handlebar Hill project which will create extra business for the Mount Isa community,” said Mr Hendry.

Handlebar Hill is situated in the combined mineralised zone of the Northern Leases. It was first discovered in the late 1940s by geologist Mr Syd Carter, and the first shaft was sunk in December 1950, which outlined a block of carbonate ore estimated at 280,000 tonnes of 10 per cent lead. However, with the cyclical downturn in metal prices and a few operational set backs in the 1950s, exploration work came to a halt.

Xstrata acquired the Mount Isa Mines in July 2003. Xstrata Zinc reviewed the potential in the Northern Leases in 2004 and a prefeasibility study commenced to prove up the resources into reserves and a high grade ore was confirmed. Exploration work will continue to the north of Handlebar Hill to Tombstone Hill in order to prove up further reserves.

The commissioning date for Handlebar Hill is expected to be August 2007 with ore extraction in operation from as early as mid 2008.
This month Mount Isa Mines marks the passing of a great man who was instrumental in the success of Mount Isa Mines. The namesake of Xstrata’s George Fisher Mine north of Mount Isa, Sir George Read Fisher, died on 13 July aged 104.

Sir George Fisher, known as one of the four founding fathers of Australian mining, was Chairman of Mount Isa Mines Limited from 1953-1970. During these years he was the driving force behind MIM’s remarkable period of expansion of copper and silver-lead-zinc production.

Our condolences are with his family, and in keeping with Sir George Fisher and his family’s wishes, Mount Isa Mines has donated $5,000 to a worthy local community organisation - the Laura Johnson Home. I hope you enjoy reading about his celebrated life in this edition of Mine to Market.

I am pleased to report that results released from Xstrata’s culture survey highlight that 86% of employees are satisfied being a member of Xstrata Copper organisation, while 84% of employees would recommend Xstrata Copper as a good place to work. I am pleased to announce that job security and employees’ intention to stay with Xstrata Copper also rated positively in the survey.

This month, Xstrata plc Chief Executive Mick Davis visited the North Queensland operations and was impressed with the progress that both the copper and zinc businesses have achieved with their production and expansion plans. Keep up the good work.

Congratulations are extended to the Ernest Henry team whose innovation, ‘a tripod-mounted laser and a receiver mounted on a dozer blade, which eliminates any need for persons to take laser levels on foot in front of dig faces,’ has been short listed as a finalist at the prestigious Queensland Mining Industry Health & Safety Conference. The winning innovation will be announced at the awards dinner on the 6th of August in Townsville and I wish them every success.

Mount Isa’s cooler weather marks the time of year for the annual Xstrata Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo. This year also marks the beginning of a new era for the ISA Rodeo which will be held at Mount Isa’s purpose built venue Buchanan Park.

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is pleased to once again be naming rights sponsor of this great event, and the Mardi Gras Parade, and I encourage you to attend as many events as possible and get behind this ISA Rodeo to show your support.

Xstrata Zinc is pleased to announce the approval of the Handlebar Hill open cut zinc-lead mine at a capital cost of US$61 million (AUD79 million). Located 22 kilometres north of Mount Isa, ore will be crushed at George Fisher Mine and trucked to the Mount Isa zinc-lead concentrator from mid 2008.

Xstrata Zinc Chief Executive Santiago Zaldumbide, who visited Mount Isa this month, said the approval of the mine builds on the long-term viability of the zinc-lead business at Mount Isa.

Xstrata plc Chief Executive Mick Davis, also visited the Zinc Lead Operations this month. He toured the Zinc Lead Concentrator and Black Star Open Cut mine. A presentation was given to Mick on the longterm strategic plan for the Mount Isa Zinc Lead Operations.

With the acquisition of Falconbridge, Xstrata Zinc Mount Isa was given the Lady Loretta Project. Lady Loretta is located 140 kilometres north of Mount Isa. Following a pre-feasibility study being completed on Lady Loretta, the resources are 13.7 million tonnes at 17% Zinc, 5.8% Lead and 96 grams per tonne of silver. The orebody extends to a depth of 550 metres. The Project Manager for Lady Loretta is Mike Smith who is reporting to myself.

I am pleased to announce that Kieran Plasto has joined the Zinc Lead Operations as the new Human Resources Manager and Stuart Brown as the new Finance & Commercial Manager.

This month employees of Xstrata Zinc’s Black Star Open Cut mine (Technical Services) celebrated their achievement of totalling 500,000 hours of injury free work. The Disabling Injury free record was for the period from Black Star’s commissioning in July 2004 to December 2006. My congratulations are extended to Black Star workers and my encouragement to all employees remains to strive for the highest safety records.

It is pleasing to see that everybody is committed to improving our safety performance at Xstrata Zinc.

Please keep up the good work.
Sir George Fisher 1903-2007

While Australia farewells a mining legend and a man whose contributions to the Australian Mining Industry have set precedents for years to come, Mount Isans farewell the man whose vision and passion has built Mount Isa and the North West into the prospering region it is today.

Sir George Fisher passed away, surrounded by family, on Friday 13 July at the grand age of 104.

A hero in his own right, Sir George Fisher fought against all odds to see the Mount Isa community flourish and we, as Mount Isans, and employees both past and present of Mount Isa Mines Limited, trading as Xstrata Mount Isa Mines, reflect and celebrate the victorious life of an extraordinary and brilliant man.

Sir George was born George Read Fisher in Gladstone, South Australia, in 1903 and graduated from Adelaide University as a Mining Engineer in 1925. Sir George Fisher spent fifty years working in the Australian mining industry and much of the last twenty years since retirement serving the community.

From 1925 to 1951, apart from a period he spent undertaking war service in Darwin, Sir George worked for the Zinc Corporation at Broken Hill, initially as surveyor and then chief surveyor and quickly rose through the ranks to become General Manager and Director. He became president of Broken Hill Mining Managers’ Association and within his seven year presidency two Industrial Agreements were negotiated.

During the Second World War, he was seconded by Allied Works Council to supervise the installation of oil storage tunnels in the cliffs of Darwin Harbour to protect fuel supplies from Japanese bombing raids.

By the time he and his first wife Eileen moved to Mount Isa in 1952, George Fisher was already a prominent figure in the Australian mining industry. He was one of the founders of the Australian Mining Industry Council (now the Minerals Council of Australia), serving as inaugural President in 1967. Sir George was elected President three times and also Vice-President and Councillor of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. He was also a Director of the Australian Industry Development Corporation.

Sir George Fisher has a long affiliation with Mount Isa; one of the most remarkable mineral discoveries in Australia. Sir George Fisher was initially appointed Deputy Chairman of MIM holdings in January 1952 and was promoted to Chairman soon after, in 1953. It was then that he established himself as the driving force behind the company’s major and rapid expansion of copper and silver-lead-zinc production in the 1950s and 1960s.

Sir George was initially attracted to Mount Isa as it had more scope for expansion than most other mining companies in Australia at the time. Upon his appointment as Chairman he recommended an extensive exploration of the company leases to probe for possible further ore reserves. So began the Fisher Era.

Within four years of his chairmanship, total underground development had increased by 250 per cent, resulting in a boom to the township. With this came a period of rapid community expansion.

In February 1955, Sir George stated ‘The north is widely recognised as a place of great potential. It would be a tragedy if it were allowed to remain only this.’

Sir George was a visionary and had a plan and a passion to see the local community prosper from a mining camp to a thriving community where opportunities should be equal to those in the regional cities. Sir George ensured that people shouldn’t be disadvantaged by living in rural Australian towns.

‘We live in an age of progress, an age in which education is becoming increasingly important. In such times it is necessary that there should be no wasted intelligence. We intend that educational opportunities in Mount Isa shall be second to none’ (Jan 1956).
Sir George believed that his proudest achievement in Mount Isa was the company's subsidising of low-interest loans for mine workers to own their own homes, helping them to obtain a residential asset for their families, and a stake in the town.

Sir George encouraged the community and fostered cooperation to accelerate its growth. By the end of the 1950s there was a new hospital, airport, railway station and schools, churches and state housing began to flourish in the face of much government rejection, and in 1956 over fifty new enterprises opened for business.

In 1958 Sir George drove the plans to erect a new stack for the copper smelter. This symbolised Mount Isa’s upward growth. Sir George Fisher announced in a Christmas message to employees that same year ‘this is the tallest chimney in Australia and will undoubtedly be a landmark of considerable significance in North West Queensland in the future.’

In February of 1956, as chief of Mount Isa Mines, Sir George expressed his vision for the future of Mount Isa, “Half of Australia’s copper and nearly one fifth of her lead now come from Mount Isa. Much has been said about Australia’s empty north. Apart from producing valuable metals, we in Mount Isa are helping to open up and populate an otherwise empty part of the continent. We have big plans for the future and as operations expand, our national contribution will grow until the name of Mount Isa is a household word to every Australian’.

Driven by his motto that ‘any wealth that remains hidden in the ground is not really wealth at all,’ Sir George accelerated the exploration of the Mount Isa Mines lease.

Production rose dramatically from 1956 and over the next eight years more than £50,000,000 was spent on capital works.

Among his many great achievements, Sir George Fisher was awarded the 1958 Bronze Medal of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in recognition of his services to the base metal industries of Australia and in particular to the growth of the Mount Isa mineral field and integrated industries.

Sir George Fisher was made a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1961 in recognition of his services to the Australian mining and metallurgical industries and for his outstanding contribution to decentralised industry in Queensland. George Fisher became Sir George in 1967 when he was further honoured receiving a knighthood in the Queen’s Birthday honours list.

Many other honours and awards were bestowed upon him including being appointed the first chancellor of James Cook University. Sir George was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from University of Queensland and an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from James Cook University. He was also a recipient of the Aus IMM London Institute Medal.

As much as he was an influential leader, an academic and businessman, Sir George Fisher was a true Australian; a real family man and a friend to many people. He believed in mateship and he and his first wife Eileen were known and loved by all in Mount Isa. He was extremely proud of his family and delighted to have become a great-grandfather. He is described by those who knew him as enormously thoughtful and charitable towards others.

‘Mateship’ said Sir George ‘is part of the Australian legend. It is a quality of this nation which is universally admired and often coveted. It is a relationship of great sincerity between individuals and draws no social, economic or ethnic barriers. It is a welding of people not ideologies. We now live and work in an environment where “Mateship” is a tangible thing.’ (MIMAG Dec 1969).

When he started with MIM they were treating approximately 1,500 tonnes of lead-silver-zinc per day and when he left they were treating 16,000 tonnes of total lead-silver-zinc and copper ores.
However it wasn’t just his contribution to mining that made him instrumental in his contribution to the Mount Isa region, it was his passion and determination to see the Mount Isa community grow and be recognised on both the national and international map. When George Fisher arrived in Mount Isa in 1952 the population was no more that 6,000. By 1967 it had grown to nearly 20,000.

In 1966, after forty years of marriage, Eileen and two of their grandsons Tom and John Gamin were tragically killed in an airline crash. During these hard times, the Fisher family faced these adversities with great courage. During the next few years they were greatly supported by their dear friend Marie Gilbey, now Lady Fisher, and George and Marie were married in 1973.

It was George’s optimism, determination and ability to look on the best and brightest side of life that gave him the ability to strive on and overcome challenges, both in his personal and professional life.

Sir George retired from MIM in 1970. From his earlier years and during his retirement, he was still heavily involved in numerous professional and community bodies including The Queensland Art Gallery Foundation and the Queensland Country Party where he was instrumental in setting up John McEwan House. He was granted Honorary Life Membership of the National Party in 1977.

In April 1998, the then MIM Holdings announced it would proceed with the George Fisher Mine, which gave him much pleasure as he put in the first teams to drill and explore in the Hilton area. He travelled to Mount Isa in 2000 for the formal opening of the mine. His interest in the progress of those workings continued for the rest of his life.

Today, not only the George Fisher Mine, 22 kilometres north of Mount Isa but the thriving Mount Isa community itself stands testament to Sir George’s legacy to the Australian Mining Industry.

Sir George Fisher is survived by his wife, Marie, four children (Judy, Helen, Peter and Christine), thirteen grandchildren and twenty six great grandchildren.

Sir George Fisher supported many community groups and worthy causes and in keeping with Sir George Fisher’s and his family’s wishes, Mount Isa Mines has donated $5,000 to a worthy local community organisation - the Laura Johnson Home.
As part of Xstrata Copper’s Human Resources Strategy, an ongoing recruitment and development program called the Talent Pipeline has been introduced to the North Queensland operations.

Essentially designed to overcome the current skills shortage facing the mining industry, Xstrata Copper’s Talent Pipeline has a long term view of training and development with an aim to grow our own talent.

In the current market, fewer school leavers are being attracted to engineering careers and ultimately universities are graduating fewer engineering students.

“The mining sector is such a competitive industry with many graduates receiving multiple offers, so we want to ensure Xstrata is the preferred employer” said Mr Tony Page, Human Resources Manager Xstrata Copper North Queensland.

Xstrata’s long term view of development is essentially to attract and maintain the best possible employees. Currently, Xstrata is working to develop apprentices into tradespeople and recruiting graduates to develop core technical and leadership skills necessary to succeed in the mining industry.

“Xstrata’s long term approach to development lies primarily within its innovative stakeholder partnerships,” said Mr Page. “For example, Xstrata Copper formed an alliance with the University of Queensland to fund the Xstrata Chair of Metallurgical Engineering. A strong partnership has also been built with Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy to help ensure school aged children are exposed to the mining industry as part of their course curriculum. Xstrata also assists in lobbying to influence policy and curriculum in learning institutions to ensure that the education systems are providing education aligned to industry requirements,” he said.

Students as young as twelve years old (Year 7) in Mount Isa are being introduced to the mining industry to build their interest in the resources sector by participating in mine tours and conducting sample rock testing. Work experience opportunities and scholarship programs are introduced to local students in Year 10, whereas Year 11 students can participate in four weeks of work experience in their chosen fields, mainly within the engineering streams. In Year 12, students can apply for the school based apprentice program and mentoring is provided from Xstrata employees.

On a local level, Xstrata is providing real opportunities and pathways through primary and secondary schools, TAFEs and community organisations including specifically developed school courses, work experience placements and apprenticeship programs to ensure the highest quality of training and development.

“These opportunities are providing sustainable development for both the community, the mining sector and for us, as an employer. Growing employees into roles is an integral part of our employment relationship,” added Mr Page.

The success of the Talent Pipeline to date is evident.

This year, seventy four apprentices commenced a four year apprenticeship with the Xstrata Skills Centre which ultimately prepares them for a trade in the mining industry. Over one hundred and fifty school students will have completed a work experience placement within the Xstrata North Queensland operations by the end of 2007.

Xstrata Copper has recently hosted pools of potential graduates for site tours of Mount Isa and Xstrata’s mining operations. At this stage, it is estimated that between 110-120 graduates will commence work with Xstrata’s Australian operations in 2008, and 80 of those will start their careers in the North Queensland Operations.

Graduate positions across various disciplines are offered including Engineering, Human Resources, Finance, Health and Safety, Environment and Community Relations. Vacation student employment is a fundamental part of the recruitment and selection process for graduate intakes.

“Xstrata’s long term view reflects our commitment to the development of potential future employees and to fostering opportunities for the wellbeing of the communities in which we operate and where our employees and families live,” said Mr Page.
The latest edition to Ernest Henry Mines’ machinery fleet is the 3600-6 Hitachi Excavator which was delivered to site in late June.

The new excavator will be used by the mining production team to assist in the excavation of rocks in the open cut pit.

The 3600-6 Hitachi Excavator has an overall height of 7.83 metres and reaches 11.1 metres in length. This machine has a bucket size load of 60 tonnes and a digging reach of up to 18 metres.

Mining Superintendent, Mr Peter Dodds, said the 3600-6 Hitachi Excavator outsizes the EX 2500 Hitachi and is the size needed at Ernest Henry Mine to maintain estimated production targets for 2007.

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines’ Mines Rescue Team has extended their emergency response rescue training by offering a new Certificate III in Mines Rescue.

Recognised nationally, the certificate requires mine rescue participants to complete a mine induction, a four week rookie course, and one year of training.

The course was developed jointly by Xstrata Mount Isa Mines and registered training organisation Krause Health and Safety. Further skills training and specific refresher courses are also provided on a regular basis to all Mines Rescue members.

“We took the training materials and procedures and compared them with Australian Public Safety competencies and then worked together with Krause Health and Safety to bridge any gaps to ensure the training provided was at best practise and the highest industry standards,” said Mr Darren Bracey, Emergency and Protective Services Superintendent, Xstrata Copper North Queensland.

“Xstrata is a leader in this field and this is a way of bringing everything we are doing in line with what’s happening nationally,” he said.

“We are value-adding the time the Mines Rescue Team spends employed with Xstrata,” added Mr Bracey.
NAIDOC 2007 celebrated in style

NAIDOC week celebrations kicked off in style this year with the blessing ceremony at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church on the morning of Sunday 8 July followed later that day by a flag raising ceremony and a spectacular firework display at Mount Isa Civic Centre.

At the blessing ceremony, Kalkadoon Elder Mrs Isabel Monie Holt presented awards to members of Mount Isa’s indigenous Catholic Community to recognise their involvement and commitment to the Catholic Society.

Recipients included: Dr Margaret Culpan Wuchopperen- Aboriginal Medical Service, Joan Marshall-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, Barbara Campbell- Centacare Employment Mount Isa Manager, Marlene Speechley- NAIDOC Committee, Marilyn Jacob- Centacare Counselling Mount Isa Manager. Included in the service were Indigenous translations of prayers and readings.

Yamba the Honey Ant made many guest appearances throughout the week at special library readings, the NAIDOC march and family fun day. Yamba’s highlight was visiting the children in the Yalambee (meaning place of rest) community as part of the Back to Yalambee day. Children enjoyed playing and having their photos taken with Yamba who even lead them in some dance items. Centacare provided face painting for the kids as well as craft making, and a sausage sizzle. Local singer Ron Page, and his wife Francis Page, performed live music for the kids.

The Mount Isa NAIDOC week Art Competition, sponsored by Xstrata and ANZ Bank, was judged on Monday 9 July and the winners in three of the four categories were presented with their awards on Tuesday 10 July.

The winner of the Under 10 Award went to Miss Louise King with her painting entitled ‘Cultural Directions’ which symbolised pathways going forward into the future and also paths that looked back on her culture to a dreamtime.

Miss Tamara Williams won the Under 16 Award for her entry which depicted a boy’s journey into fatherhood; from schooling to graduation and becoming a father and then succeeding in his own business. The man is reflecting on his life and culture and the things he has achieved and accomplished.

The Open Amateur prize was awarded to Ms Doreen Sweeney with an art piece that symbolised looking out of herself into modern life. It also had a strong sense of how the Aboriginal people used to look at and depict animals in their art and how that has changed over the years.

Elders from the Mount Isa and surrounding community were joined by Mr Steve de Kruiff Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland, Mr Tomas Martinez General Manager Support Services and Logistics, Mr Kevin Hendry General Manager Xstrata Zinc North Queensland, Mr Mike Cooper, General Manager Zinc-Lead Concentrator and other Xstrata representatives at the Xstrata sponsored Elders Luncheon held on Wednesday 11 July at the Island Bowls Club. Close to two hundred people from Mount Isa, Camooweal, Cloncurry and Dajarra partook in the buffet style lunch and many shared memories of the trials and successes of the past fifty years.

Special guest at the Elders Luncheon was Ms Ethel Clark, who started the Mount Isa NAIDOC committee along with the help of Ms Connie Greeves when NAIDOC was originally called Old People Australia League.

“It is great to see such a big turnout. Last year we had 135 attendees and this year it’s close to 200. Everyone really enjoyed themselves and it’s such a great opportunity to gather together and reflect how far we’ve come as a community,” said Mrs Marlene Speechley from the NAIDOC Committee.

As part of the NAIDOC celebrations, Xstrata Mount Isa Mines hosted Ms Tania Major (Young Australian of the Year)
and Mr Shanaka Fernando (Australia’s Local Hero) on a site tour of Mount Isa Mines.

Tania is helped to bring public attention to issues concerning the welfare of young Indigenous people after speaking out on national television programs Four Corners and 60 Minutes. She spoke openly about domestic violence in her community and believed that speaking the truth was the best way to represent her people. Tania is a role model to many young Australians.

Shanaka has been called a social challenger and has set a precedent for restaurant owners and small companies with his restaurant Lentil as Anything which employs the concept of no set prices. Asking for donations only, where customers donate how much they think the meal was worth, encourages people to think about their ethics and challenges our consumerist society. This socially responsible way of operating a business has been financially successful and popular with the public.

Both Tania and Shanaka visited local schools, organisations and workplaces including Mount Isa Mine where they partook in a surface tour and met with Xstrata representatives.

Bringing NAIDOC week to a close were more than 250 people who marched proudly together in the annual NAIDOC week march which ended at George McCoy Park.

Mrs Speechly said participating in the march was a way to recognise those who contributed to the struggle of bringing Indigenous people equality.

“It was one of the biggest marches I have ever seen in Mount Isa and I have been here for twenty years,” said Mrs Speechley.

George McCoy Park came alive for the Family Fun Day as entertainers including Mob FM’s Barry Lea, entertained the crowd. There was something for everyone at the fun day which also included stalls, food, a guest appearance from Yamba the Honey Ant and other entertainment.

The NAIDOC week street banners, sponsored by Xstrata Mount Isa Mines, were visible during the whole week and brought that little touch of glamour to the week long celebrations of the 50th anniversary of NAIDOC week.
Xstrata and the Queensland Arts Council present
Tales My Mother Told Me

Xstrata’s Community Partnership Program North Queensland (XCPPNQ) continues its long term commitment to the Queensland Arts Council (QAC) by presenting Tales My Mother Told Me, a live performance celebrating some of Queensland’s extraordinary women.

QAC’s Playing for Queensland 2007: Tales My Mother Told Me is a project that involves collecting mother’s tales, which will result in unique performances in Mount Isa and Thuringowa in September.

The two year project involves a professional artistic team working together with regional talent to produce a unique stage performance including stories and songs from Mount Isa and Thuringowa writers.

The professional team is made up of actors Ms Barbara Lowing, Ms Paula Nazarski and Ms Amanda-Lyn Pearson, who is currently working on the new film Australia starring Nicole Kidman.

Devised and directed by Mr Marcus Hughes, the project team is working with local artists to create ten unique productions to be showcased in Redcliffe, Gayndah, Dalby, Charleville, Sarina, Bundaberg, Stradbroke Island, Bowen, Mount Isa and Thuringowa.

Young dancers from the Mount Isa Ballet School will have the opportunity to perform with dancers from the acclaimed Extensions Youth Dance Company from Townsville.

The team is also working with local singer and songwriter Ms Megan Samardin, who has previously worked on a new media opera commissioned by Arterial and Opera Queensland.

“All performances begin with an Australian gothic tale set during WWI and a series of monologues celebrating the many roles women play, particularly in regional Queensland - the mum, the daughter, the nurse, the teacher, the committee member, the dutiful wife, the worker, and the incredible resilience in adversity, whether it be during wars, migration, drought or just hard times,” said Mr Hughes.

“The entire performance celebrates the lives of women that our mothers, our mother’s mothers and their mothers before them have shared as lessons and information about our world and our place in it,” added Mr Hughes.

QAC is Australia’s largest Regional Arts Network and most extensive not-for-profit community based arts organisation. QAC promotes the value of the Arts in regional communities and supports an extensive volunteer network.

Tales My Mother Told Me will be playing at the Mount Isa Civic Centre on 1 September 2007. Tickets will go on sale in early August.
EHM hosts Chamber Music Outback Tour

As part of the Xstrata Community Partnership Program North Queensland (XCPPNQ) the Xstrata - Macair Australian Festival of Chamber Music Outback Tour visited a number of North Queensland destinations including Ernest Henry Mine (EHM).

The tour, which included the acclaimed ‘Hamer Quartet’ and world renowned, local Didgeridoo player and musician, Mr William Barton, visited Xstrata Copper’s Ernest Henry Mine where they learned about open pit mining, and in return, performed a musical interlude to employees of the mine.

Sponsored by Xstrata and MacAir, the tour mixes dramatic scenery with a selection of musical works of didgeridoo and strings selected by the Australian Festival of Chamber Music’s (AFCM) Artistic Director and internationally renowned concert pianist, Mr Piers Lane. The AFCM 2007 Outback Tour is a unique adventure with beautifully composed music performed in some of Queensland’s most spectacular and isolated locations.

EHM employees devised a unique venue for the quartet to perform - a 34 cubic metre bucket of the Liebherr 996 (500 tonne) face shovel. The artists and audience were captivated by the novel venue.

Nearly seventy employees were treated to the performance in which William Barton enchanted the audience through a powerful Didgeridoo piece which reflected his childhood in Mount Isa.

“I’ve never heard music like this - it is excellent and the setting is extraordinary,” said one employee. “I am more used to hearing grinding wheels and hammers than hearing the fine music performed by this string ensemble,” he said.

Ms Stephanie Ferdinands, Viola musician with the Hamer Quartet expressed her enthusiasm of the unique musical experience.

“I’ve never played anywhere like this before. The whole experience is just amazing and to be able to share our passion for music to an audience in such an industrial setting is absolutely unique,” said Ms Ferdinands.

Burke and Wills sports facility officially opens

On Wednesday 20th June, stakeholders and local representatives came together to celebrate the grand opening of Cloncurry State School’s Burke & Wills Sports Facility.

Xstrata funded the new sports facility through the Xstrata Community Partnership Program (XCPP), working together with the Parents and Citizens Association (P&C), Education Queensland and the Cloncurry Shire Council’s Australia Day Committee.

The complex includes a Satellite Plus Synthetic Grass Surface Court and will accommodate for a number of sports including basketball, netball, soccer, tennis, badminton and volleyball which can be enjoyed by students and the wider community.
Rodeo Fever hits Mount Isa

With just over a week until the annual Xstrata Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo rolls into town, a wave of rodeo fever is sweeping across the Mount Isa community.

This year’s 2007 Isa Rodeo is set to be the best yet. The festivities begin with the Mayoress’ Ball and the crowning of the Rodeo Queen on Saturday 4 August, followed by the Xstrata Mount Isa Mines Mardi Gras, the opening of the official Rodeo, on Friday 10 August.

2007 marks the start of a new era for the Isa Rodeo as this is the first year in which it will be held at Mount Isa’s new world class, purpose built venue, Buchanan Park.

Buchanan Park features a new rectangular arena in line with world class competition arenas in the United States. The state of the art facilities will accommodate more than 5,500 people and include a two-tier undercover grandstand.

Since its humble beginnings in 1959, when the Rotary Club’s vision was to put Mount Isa on the world map, the Mount Isa Rotary Rodeo has grown into being the biggest rodeo in the southern hemisphere.

The Xstrata Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo features events such as saddle bronc riding, bareback bronc riding, bull riding, rope and tie, steer wrestling and team roping, wild horse racing, ladies barrel racing and ladies breakaway roping.

The Isa Rodeo celebrations include art and photographic exhibitions, a ute muster and live entertainment performances by Crakajak, Shandell Tosoni and The Bostocks at the Xstrata Entertainment Centre.

Xstrata joins other community groups and business organisations in competing for the Best Float Award competition in the Rodeo’s Xstrata Mount Isa Mines Mardi Gras. This year’s route starts at Able Smith Parade and finishes at Buchanan Park. The streets will be filled with entertainment, music, dancing and food.

The world class event, with a prize pool of over $200,000, attracts some of the best local and overseas talent and is one of the major highlights on Mount Isa’s calendar.

Over 20,000 people are expected to attend over the three day Mardi Gras and Rotary Rodeo.
The official launch of the Xstrata funded SimBaby, took place on Thursday 12 July at the Mount Isa Centre for Rural and Remote Health (MICRRH).

Xstrata representatives and members of MICRRH celebrated the baby shower for the unisex SimBaby, now known as both Cooper, named after Xstrata Copper, and Zoe, named after Xstrata Zinc.

SimBaby was donated to MICRRH as part of Xstrata’s Community Partnership Program North Queensland (XCPPNQ) between James Cook University and MICRRH and is an extension of the successful SimMan partnership.

SimBaby, the infant version of SimMan, is a remote controlled mannequin that replicates many of the functions of a baby human body and simulates a range of medical conditions, symptoms and physical reactions in a large number of diverse medical scenarios.

Dr Lewis Peachey from MICRRH said the baby mannequin is a powerful learning tool which allows medical professionals and training staff to practise emergency techniques in a controlled environment.

“Simulation medicine based training is an important part of our training as it provides our practitioners with confidence, experience with the latest paediatric tools and mechanisms to act in real life situations,” said Dr Peachey.

“Simulation medicine is particularly vital in rural and remote health where there is an added stress of what can come through our doors which we might not be prepared for,” added Dr Peachy.

SimBaby is used by medical training staff from Queensland Health and the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The training will improve health professionals’ skills in advanced procedural and emergency situations.

The $110, 000 SimBaby was purchased in 2006 under Xstrata’s three year partnership with MICRRH.
Xstrata Mount Isa Mines welcomes back Ken Draffen as General Manager Engineering Services and Projects for the Xstrata Copper division.

Ken began work with Mount Isa Mines as a graduate Mechanical Engineer in 1979 and worked in many areas of the operation mainly in a maintenance or project engineering capacity. In 1984, Ken and his wife Nerida decided to take on the challenge of farming in his home state of (Western) Victoria.

In 1994, Terry O’Neill, then engineering Manager, offered Ken a job for three months to help plan for an Isasmelt rebrick. “On completion of the rebrick, Terry convinced me to stay so I worked on Copper Smelter Engineering Projects and then Copper Smelter maintenance responsibility,” said Ken.

Ken then transferred to the Refinery in Townsville in 2000 initially as Engineering and Maintenance Manager and then Refinery Manager. In 2007, Terry O’Neill asked him to help out for three months on some Copper Smelter projects. “And yes, I have decided to stay!,” says Ken.

“I have always been torn between two career paths, engineering and farming. I have been able to enjoy them both and found them both rewarding. My engineering career has developed more towards management but I still like to get involved in an interesting engineering challenge,” said Ken.

Ken’s main responsibility in his current role is overseeing Engineering Support, Site Services, Asset Management and the Skills Centre. Ken says that the most challenging part of his current role will be learning how each of the areas currently function, and the most enjoyable will be getting to know everyone.

Ken and his wife have two children, Paula, aged 22 who is currently on a twelve month travelling holiday around the world after having completed an arts and commerce degree and William, aged 20, who is in his third year of mechanical engineering at James Cook University.

In his spare time, Ken likes following most sports but especially AFL (GO CATS!) and cycling. Ken’s hobby is early model Holdens and he is currently restoring a 1974 Torana SLR 5000 L34.

Congratulations to Kieran Plasto on his new position of Manager Human Resources, Xstrata Zinc Lead Operations, North Queensland.

Kieran is responsible for the management of all Human Resources functions within the Xstrata Zinc (North Queensland) operations including the overviewing of recruitment processes, retention strategies and assisting to drive Xstrata forward in terms of staffing.

Since graduating as a psychologist from the University of Queensland in 1987, Kieran has worked in many professional positions with his most recent role being the Director of a private consulting company providing Human Resources advice and project management functions to many public and private organisations.

Kieran says that the most enjoyable part of his job is working with a dynamic management team comprising a mix of enthusiasm and experience and above all working for an organisation that is dynamic and progressive in its development with long term opportunities for professional growth.

“As a consultant I felt I was on the outside looking in and when the opportunity arose to work for Xstrata Zinc I saw it as opportunity to not only lead a dynamic HR team, but work collaboratively with other managers to make Xstrata zinc an employer of choice,” said Kieran.

Prior to moving to Mount Isa, Kieran lived in Townsville and then Brisbane. Kieran also lived in Cloncurry from 2001 to 2003 so he is very familiar with the North West region.

In the little spare time that he has, Kieran is a keen trekker and has hiked both the Kokoda Track in Papua New Gineau and the Himalayas. Despite having some near death experiences, Kieran is planning further trips to Nepal and Mt Kilimanjaro in Africa. Kieran believes that it is important to take yourself out of your comfort zone both professionally and personally in order to test yourself.
Employees of the Black Star Open Cut (BSOC) Technical Services Department had reason to celebrate as they achieved 500,000 hours Disability Injury (DI) free. The Disability Injury free period was between Black Star’s commissioning in July 2004 through to December 2006.

The Technical Services team celebrated their achievement at a free BBQ dinner held at Eastern Suburbs Bowls Club on Friday 6th July 2007. Jeff Moncrieff, Manager Technical Services, made a speech thanking all the technical services employees for their contribution to this marvellous achievement. To mark the occasion, each employee was presented with a custom made Black Star outdoor chair.

The period over which the milestone was achieved included the construction phase of the BSOC project. During this time the department’s personnel were responsible for the safety of the many contractors who contributed to the construction of offices and other infrastructure as well as the demolition of redundant equipment within the Black Star footprint.

This period saw a significant expansion in the dimensions of the BSOC pit. The pit has grown from its initial Stage 2 design of 750 metres long and 400 metres wide with a depth of 170 metres, to the current Stage 4 pit which is 800 metres long and 700 metres wide. When complete the pit will reach depths of 350 metres.

The Technical Services department has also grown during this time. Personnel numbers have increased from less than ten in July 2004 to just short of fifty by the end of 2006.

During this DI free period, the BSOC operation moved in excess of 65 million tonnes of rock, relocated the decline access three times, replaced power and water infrastructure, re-aligned roads, demolished two large water tanks and commenced rehabilitation work in the Star Gully area and on Tailings Dam 3.

“This is a remarkable achievement and something that we are all very proud of,” said Mr Moncrieff.

Congratulations to all those who contributed to this record (which has continued through 2007) and a special mention to Jeff Moncrieff, Dan Cleary- Logistics Supervisor and Peter McAllister- Technical Support Supervisor who have been a part of BSOC since its commissioning in 2004.

The Xstrata Apprentice Program is designed to enhance our maintenance programs and strategies. We develop competency based programs to suit our growing business needs for enhanced skills in our tradespeople while providing a supportive and communicative environment for the developing skills and needs of our apprentices.

Our apprentices are part of an enhanced skills program that increases as they move forward on the learning curve. This skills program leads to Nationally Recognised Qualifications that will take you as far as you can imagine.

Xstrata will be offering the following apprenticeships for commencement in January 2008:

- Diesel Fitter
- Electrical Fitter Mechanic
- Mechanical Fitter
- Auto Electrical
- Boilermaker

Advertisements will be placed in the North West Star and other Queensland newspapers during August. Applications can be submitted online at www.xstratacareers.com.au from 3rd August to 16th September 2007.
During January 2007, Xstrata Copper conducted an independent survey to measure Organisational Culture.

Using a random sampling technique, fifty per cent of the total North Queensland Copper Operations workforce was asked to participate in the survey. From that, sixty seven percent completed the survey. The survey was conducted and analysed by a third party consultant.

The survey results highlighted that 86 per cent of employees are satisfied being a member of Xstrata Copper organisation and 84 per cent of employees would recommend Xstrata Copper as a good place to work. Job security and employees’ intention to stay with Xstrata Copper were also rated positively.

Relating to Xstrata’s HSEC (Health, Safety, Environment and Community) policy, 90 per cent of people believe that safety is their personal responsibility and 83 per cent take appropriate action when required. 72 per cent of employees believe Xstrata Copper makes a good contribution to community projects.

Organisational culture can essentially be defined as the way in which an organisation works together, how teams function together and how leaders behave and communicate.

Mr Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operating Officer, Xstrata Copper North Queensland described the importance of the annual survey. “It is important to understand where we are headed as a business and how this impacts on what we do on a day to day basis. The results help us, as an organisation, to understand what we are doing well and what we can do differently to improve our culture.”

Xstrata Copper is committed to developing a strong and constructive culture so that all employees are supported in working together to achieve the best for themselves, the business and the community.

A constructive culture is one which encourages cooperation, courage and creativity, and is focussed on performance, teamwork, and innovation.

“It is a proven fact that across a range of businesses, improved performance can be generated through a constructive culture. Organisations with this type of culture are more successful as they encourage and allow members to work to their full potential,” said Mr de Kruijff.

Xstrata Copper believes that by building a constructive culture, motivation will increase as the majority of the workforce wants to achieve.

“We recognise that behaviour is a choice that each individual employee makes. Therefore in any given situation you can decide to act in a constructive manner or a defensive or critical manner” said Mr de Kruijff.

“Our job now is to encourage and increase the constructive behaviour of employees. To do this we must make employees aware of the preferred culture and start disseminating information on a constructive culture,” added Mr de Kruijff.

The survey highlighted specific opportunities for Xstrata Copper to improve constructive culture. These include increased communication to better understand the future direction of the business, further developing employees’ understanding of area objectives, roles and accountabilities and having an increased focus on operational improvement activities at a team level.

On a team level, motivation, feedback and goal definition were specified as being beneficial in improving the constructive culture within the team. Inter-department cooperation and communication is another area for improvement for Xstrata Copper.

Several ways in which Xstrata Copper plans to improve the constructive culture is through the implementation of further housekeeping initiatives across the site (which can currently be seen in the recently introduced 5s safety standards), increasing individual and team involvement in the daily planning and review meeting, increasing team and leadership development activities and enhancing the communication of business direction and performance.

Xstrata Copper plans to conduct further follow-up surveys in the next few years to ensure that the organisation is progressing towards a constructive culture.

For more information on the cultural survey, please contact your manager in the first instance.
Xstrata Copper’s Strategic Mine Planning team is progressing the pre-feasibility study of the 500 Halo project.

Pre-feasibility studies began in October 2006 with the objective of exploring the possibility of mining the underground 500 orebody and its surrounding low grade copper mineralisation between 7 level and 15 level.

The 500 Halo project will include diamond drilling the orebody to confirm shape, grade, metallurgical performance and geotechnical characteristics. This data will then be used to refine the proposed inclined cave mining method, a modification of the block caving method, and evaluate whether the project should proceed to a final feasibility study.

The main challenge in the diamond drilling program has been re-accessing old drives that have been closed off for up to forty years. It has not been possible to inspect the locations where most of the work will have to be done in advance.

Additionally, difficult conditions have provided many challenges for the team, to which many innovative solutions have been developed. For example, the access to the orebody is quite old and small with widths as narrow as 2 metres and backs lower than 2.4 metres, which limits the size of the equipment that can be used.

In many places, old steel pipes have been stripped out and hundreds of metres of rails and ballast have been removed from the floors of drives to gain access to the work sites. Many metres of drives have then had to be stripped to enable effective use of equipment and to install ground support.

When first mined in the 1960s, the 500 orebody was found to heat up with exposure to air, and to react with explosives. Considerable effort has been put into reversing the airflow coming from the old workings, the temperature of which frequently exceeded 50°C.

A significant amount of research has been invested into the explosive reactivity. The study team has developed procedures and adapted suitable surface explosives to blast in this ground and are conducting extensive testing on the diamond drill cores to further understand the pattern of reactivity.

The diamond drilling crews have achieved over 1,400 metres of drilling in very poor ground. The crews have tried a number of different drilling muds, and have maintained a perfect safety record. The electrical installation crews have installed two substations and kilometres of cables on two levels to enable all of this work to happen.

“The achievements of the pre-feasibility study to date have been remarkable considering the challenges we, as a team, have faced. The successes of the study have been a testament to the hard work put in by a lot of people from different areas of the Mine,” said Mr Chris Car, Manager Strategic Mine Planning.

The 500 Halo study team involves a number of people from both internal departments and external organisations including geologists, mining engineers, rock mechanic engineers, financial analysts, ventilation specialists, consultants, diamond drillers, electrical installation crews and mining contractors.

The pre-feasibility study is expected to complete most of its work by mid 2008 and will then make a recommendation for further feasibility studies.
Rehabilitation Trials at Ernest Henry Mine’s Tailings

Over the past month the Ernest Henry Mine’s Environment department, together with two environmental consultants in Canada, has been working on tailings cap design trials and installing new monitoring equipment on the research areas (cells) of the tailings dam.

The cells have been exposed to similar environmental conditions such as rain, temperature, moisture and wind and all cells have different soil covers. The optimal result of these cells will then be used as part of the rehabilitation program that will then cover the whole of the tailings dam.

Integral to the rehabilitation process is the identification of sustainable cover system designs for final land reform including tailings dams. The suitability of the covers depends on the availability of capping materials, capping material characteristics and the climate.

The trials have involved setting up two different areas, referred to as plots, with one plot to be used as a control on the bare tailings. The trial plots have two different cover types, one having 500 millimetres waste rock, 750 millimetres clay and 500 millimetres black soil, whilst the other has 500 millimetres waste rock and 500 millimetres black soil.

The sensors throughout the soils’ cover profile will log data such as infiltration rates and moisture conditions on the different cover designs during the next few wet seasons.

The data will be calibrated against a computer model. This model can then be used to change cap thicknesses and provide the environmental department with the best possible cap design, thus allowing Xstrata to meet its rehabilitation requirements.

Ernest Henry Mine is the first Xstrata Australia site to utilise this cutting edge technology. The results from these trials will be used for the final cover design of the 420 hectare tailings dam on site.

EHM Emergency Response Team receives advanced medical training

A selected group of Emergency Response Team (ERT) members from Ernest Henry Mine attended an emergency medical course from 24 June to 4 July. The Certificate IV in Emergency Medical Response was held over ten days and was facilitated by First Response Australia in Cairns.

The aim of the course was to conduct a comprehensive understanding of emergency medical treatments. This included competencies from prioritising emergency actions to recognising and managing head and spinal injuries.

“The course was a rewarding experience, all participants gained a broad understanding of knowledge and skills,” said Jane Jensen, Clinical Nurse, Ernest Henry Mines.

The team also completed elective modules of undertaking advanced airway management, intravenous fluids, wound closure and managing multiple casualty incidents using triage. The training has enabled Ernest Henry Mine to now have twelve qualified Emergency Medical Technicians on site.

Health & Safety Superintendent Mr Matt Grant said that the Emergency Medical Technician course has upgraded the skills and the professionalism of the team to a new level.

“The presence of Emergency Medical Technician’s on site at Ernest Henry allows us to respond quickly, whenever a medical emergency occurs, buying us precious minutes to assist our employees in their most vulnerable time” he said.
Hearing
- its worth preserving

Until you have a loss of hearing you won’t realise its major importance in your life. It allows pleasure; it gives you texture and context in life and is a major part of your safety.

Noise is the single largest contributor to hearing loss. The problem being that noise induced hearing loss occurs so gradually that you are not aware until it’s too late. An interview with Dr Brian Galton-Fenzi, Gemini Medical’s Occupational & Environmental Physician and Risk Consultant, revealed some interesting facts about our hearing.

Q. What are the effects of noise induced hearing loss?
A. Noise induced hearing loss can have several serious effects on our lifestyle and the way we communicate with others. For example people with noise induced hearing loss find it difficult to discriminate conversations whether in a meeting, a room full of talking people, or a pub. You will need the TV up louder and a constant whistling sound (tinnitus) will develop. This can leave some people extremely irate and unhappy.

Q. So how noisy does it have to be before our hearing is damaged?
A. Conversation is measured at about 75 decibels and studies have shown that there is little change to the sensitive inner ear hairs (the actual sensory part of the ear) with slightly louder conversations or noise (85 decibels). However, as soon as you raise your voice to be heard (over 85 decibels) this indicates that the noise is potentially damaging.

Hammering on metal, the use of air machines, rattle guns, most DIY machines and mobile equipment (even lawn mowers) can damage your hearing.

Once the small microscopic hairs in the inner ear are damaged they cannot be repaired. In other words, hearing loss and the resulting tinnitus are permanent.

Q. I thought that it was normal to go ‘a little deaf’ the older we got anyway
A. This is a falsehood. Many people don’t worry about hearing loss as they think it is a normal part of getting older. While a small proportion of hearing loss can be attributed to age, the majority of hearing issues is a result of working in a noisy industry.

Q. So how can we prevent our hearing from becoming damaged?
A. The prevention is PPE! Wearing the correct ear protection in your work area is essential to preserving your hearing. Make sure ear plugs fit well and are inserted correctly and ear muffs are worn in designated areas.

Don’t forget about protective equipment when you go home. Home power tools and loud audio equipment can also contribute to hearing loss.

Information packs and display material regarding this topic have been forwarded to Xstrata’s North Queensland operations.

For further information please contact Gemini Medical Services on 4744 2242.

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Back in July of 1957 one of the fastest rebuilding jobs on record, here or overseas, was carried out at Mount Isa Mines.

The Copper Smelter reverberatory furnace was demolished and rebuilt in twenty two days. The project was scheduled to take twenty eight days but Bill Cole, Smelter Foreman during this time and his crew finished six days ahead of schedule.

The reason for the rebuild was to modify and enlarge the furnace. This meant that an additional one hundred tonnes of new feed could be smeltered each day.

A total shutdown of the copper smelter was necessary in order to complete the revamp and also to install the first of the two new converter aisle cranes.

Three days after the initial coal firing was complete, the sidewalls, arch and uptake flue were knocked down and removed while still hot.

During the rebuild, twenty two feet of the arch at the firing end was replaced, the coal burners were raised three inches and the uptake flues were completely rebricked. The width of the furnace at the bath line was increased by three feet so that inside furnace dimensions were now twenty feet wide and ninety feet long.

Over 38,000 bricks weighing up to thirty five pounds each were laid over a series of twenty hour days.
Classification

Classifieds are free to Mount Isa Mines’ employees. The deadline for each issue is the first working day of every month. Forms available on the intranet. Please keep descriptions to 25 words or less.

For sale


2002 Honda CBR 1100 XX Super Blackbird, Staintune Sports Exhaust, Leather Tank Cover and Bag (Bagster). New rear tyre, 37,000 kms, Rego till Nov 07 and safety certificate. Excel cond, reliable and economical. $11,000 ono. Phone 4749 2845 or 0429 429 669.


Triumph Bonneville 1976 - Fully restored $9,000. Call Liz 0421 024 899.

Private Sale - Investment Opportunity Block of 5 Flats - (2x2br; 1x1br with Study; 1x1br; 1 studio) all recently renovated, all with reverse cycle split system inverter air cons. Close to shops, schools, post office, gym. Potential rent of $920+ per week - all leased at present (privately) with excellent tenants. $570,000. Genuine enquiries to Liz on 0421 024 899.

Steelcraft Jogger Pram, Double/twin, 3 Wheel. 1 yr old, excell cond, $250 (brought for $430). 1 wooden playpen, very good condition, $50. 1 Queen size mattress, very good condition, $150. Please call 4749 1897.

2 Safe & Sound child seats (from 0 to 4 years), good condition, $40 each. 2 single wooden bed frames $50 each. Phone 4743 8915.

Yamaha YZF450 2004 - good condition. Pro taper bars, Renthal sprockets. $4800 ono. Ph 0419 954 244.

Ride on Mower- Cox/Stockman 13HP with rear catcher. Good condition, all paperwork available- $2,750. Phone Liz on 0421 024 899.

Notices

Congratulations to Des Albert Raiseboring & Diamond Drilling Supervisor and his wife Meredith on the birth of their little girl Charlie Rae. Charlie will have lots of fun with her big sisters and brothers.

Congratulations to Percy Scobie, EHM Concentrator and his wife Theresa on the birth of baby Sam. Sam came into the world on Monday 25th June at 4.16pm, weighing 10 LB.

Learn Spanish from a native Spanish Speaker from Peru, south America. All levels. Help and advice for people travelling to Spain or Latin America. Ph 0403 719 548 or email: givis04evey@yahoo.com

Spanish Club- Are you from Latin America or have any plans to work or travel in Latin America? If so come along to Gloria Jeans on Saturdays at 1pm to meet other Spanish speakers and have a casual conversation over coffee. Additional activities for August have been organized. For more information contact Claudia on tiaclau2000@hotmail.com.

Spray Tanning, Try something new, Spay tan Parties your place or mine. With appointment times to suit shift workers for bookings and special Xstrata discount call Maggie 0408 712 402

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2007 Casa Grande Ball

will be held on Saturday 29 September from 7 pm. Tickets will go on sale Monday 3 September at the Mount Isa Civic Centre. Ticket cost $150 per person, restrictions of 1 table per person apply with no telephone sales accepted.

What’s this?

Last month’s photo competition must have been a little bit harder than usual as NO entries were received!

We have decided to leave the challenge here again this month, however this time we have made it slightly easier for you.

If you think you can place what this picture above could be, email mtrim@xstratacopper.com.au with your answer. The winner will be drawn prior to the August edition of Mine to Market.

Good Luck!