

COWAL

UPDATE
DECEMBER
2024



Evolution
MINING



A message from our General Manager

Welcome to the December 2024 Cowal Update. It has been an incredibly busy six months at Cowal.

The open pit has seen the benefits of the foundation laid during the second half of FY24 to ensure safe and reliable delivery in FY25, continuing the momentum of high margin cash flow generation. The underground mine has grown significantly in the last six months with production rates having reached 2MT (annualised) and continues to grow. We are anticipating Development Consent for the Open Pit Continuation Project this quarter.

I would like to congratulate Nadine Heal Cowal Gold Operations Open Pit Supervisor who won the Outstanding Tradeswoman/Operator/Technician in Australian Resources Award at the 2024 Women in Resources National Awards.

I would also like to congratulate George Mitton who was named the inaugural Outstanding Apprentice of the Year for students completing the Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade) at West Wyalong Tafe in September.

We always strive to invest in and partner with our communities to achieve meaningful outcomes and leave a positive legacy, so our communities are better off for us being there.

Supporting community organisations is one of the ways we continue to work towards these outcomes. In this edition, you can read about some of the events and organisations that have received Cowal's support.

Additionally, round two of the 2024 Cowal Partnering Program is now complete with 15 organisations across the region receiving funding. I would encourage charities, clubs, and not-for-profit organisations that need a boost to apply for the next round, which closes in February 2025.

It is also pleasing to be able to report to our community on the wonderful outcomes being achieved by Galari Agricultural Company, a Shared Value Project between Evolution and the Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation (WCCC). Full story on page 5.

Finally, as we close out 2024, I would like to thank our employees and contract partners for their hard work and commitment to safety. I would also like to acknowledge our traditional custodians and the community for your ongoing support of Cowal. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Joe Joe Mammen





Nadine Heal wins National Women in Resources Award

In September, Cowal Gold Operations Open Pit Supervisor Nadine Heal won the Outstanding Tradeswoman/Operator/Technician in the Australian Resources Award at the 2024 Women in Resources National Awards.

Nadine was recognised for her exceptional work as an operator and leader who has shown incredible resilience and dedication in advancing her career, while actively championing diversity and inclusion, and mentoring other women in technical roles. Nadine is the first woman from Cowal to take out a Women in Resources National Award.

After working as a florist in Melbourne, Nadine switched to mining in 2007 as a Haul Truck Operator at Cowal. Nadine quickly advanced, mastering roles like Blast Hole Driller and Blast Leading Hand. In 2019, Nadine became the Open Pit Supervisor, and the only woman to hold this position at the time.

Nadine’s leadership at Cowal has been transformative, including mentoring other women and enhancing their participation in mining, while balancing significant personal achievements with her own professional growth.

Nadine was joined by her wife Penny, parents and several Cowal colleagues. Nadine thanked many people from Evolution Mining and spoke passionately about the positive changes she has witnessed in the resources industry for women across her career.

Nadine said, “When I started in 2007 straight out of the florist in Melbourne, there were only five women within open pit operations, we had no women in leadership positions and very limited opportunities for career progression.”

“Today we are seeing the opposite. We are seeing the mining and resources sector growing, women are progressing further and further in their careers and every year we are seeing more women enter our industry. But what we need to keep working on, is encouraging and supporting these women, fighting for the changes we currently see and the changes we would like to see.”

With strong values, resilience and determination, Nadine is an invaluable member of the Cowal team, an inspirational female leader and an inclusion and diversity champion.

We are exceptionally proud of Nadine and excited to see one of our team members be recognised at the highest level.

NSW Minerals Council CEO Stephen Galilee congratulated the NSW winners and finalists for their accomplishments and recognition through the national awards.

“It’s fantastic to see our NSW winners and finalists recognised nationally for their achievements,” Mr Galilee said.

“Whether it’s through industry-leading employment programs or forging a successful career in the mining sector, these award winners are making an important and growing contribution to our world-class industry.”

“Congratulations to all NSW finalists in this year’s national awards, with their own contributions recognised at our NSW Women in Mining Awards held earlier this year.”

The Women in Resources National Awards are the peak industry accolades for women in the resources industry.



Partnering to deliver shared value

In 2022, Evolution entered into a Shared Value Project with the Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation (WCC) to create the Galari Agricultural Company (Galari).

Galari has been established to run an enterprise focused on cattle, sheep and wool on up to 3000 acres of pastoral land, currently owned by Evolution. The core focus of Galari is to provide training to, and employment of, Indigenous people in the local region, which is aligned with the WCC’s business goals of unlocking opportunities, building capability and championing reconciliation in their community.

Since starting operations, Galari has been acknowledged through Industry Award events and showcased on ABC Landline as a case study in partnering with the Mining Industry for a positive impact and legacy. Evolution continues to work with the WCC to secure funding from additional sources, including Government funding, to assist the WCC’s self-sufficiency and its ability to continue to deliver employment and training goals.

Results to-date

- The first group of trainees successfully completed a Certificate 4 in Agriculture
- Two trainees have gone into leadership roles at Galari and the remaining trainees have all successfully gained employment
- The next round of trainees have started the program
- Evolution has allocated additional land to Galari to grow the business
- In 2023 Evolution and the WCC won the NSW Minerals Council Health Safety and Community Award.



Growing up near Rabaul in the East New Britain Province, I watched my home, school and town be ruined by the 1994 Volcanic eruption, that in some ways prompted me to study Geology.

Meet Mags

Magdaline Keepo (Mags), Superintendent Geology, Joined CGO in 2023. We spent some time getting to know Mags, hearing about her incredible journey and what makes her happiest.

Can you tell us about growing up and your journey to Australia?

I am from Papua New Guinea where I completed most of my education, including university. I grew up in the beautiful New Britain Island on the Northeast of mainland Papua New Guinea.

My family travelled a lot due to my father's work, so I had the chance to see most of Papua New Guinea. Growing up near Rabaul in the East New Britain Province, I watched my home, school and town be ruined by the 1994 Volcanic eruption, that in some ways prompted me to study Geology. I completed University in 2004 and worked for a few years as an Exploration Geologist and Mine Geologist in Papua New Guinea before moving to Perth in 2007.

You mentioned that you and your siblings are the first people in your family to go to university? Can you elaborate on that story and what that means to your family?

My father was one of the first people in this family to be educated, when PNG was still governed by Australia. My siblings and I are the first within my family to graduate with university degrees. To think that my grandfather (maternal) was a teen, when the first Europeans made their way through the highlands of PNG and me being where I am today, is amazing.

A lot can change in just two generations. Being an educated female gives me a lot of leverage and voice within my family, tribe, and clan. Both my parents are from the highlands of Papua New Guinea, a very patrilineal society

where historically a female's role is as the home maker. This is changing with more girls getting better education. I support a lot of my female relations through school as I can see the value and benefits. By getting an education they will improve their families' living standards.

Can you tell us briefly about your career?

I have worked as a Geologist for 18 years. I have been fortunate to gain a lot of experience across geology within the resource sector, in exploration, open pit, underground and I have worked as a resource geologist. Apart from the west coast of Tasmania where I spent 13 years, I have worked in Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland and in PNG.

The highlight of my career is training and mentoring younger Geologists, vacation students and graduates. I'm also passionate about helping migrant geologists who want to work in Australia after university. When given a chance they go above and beyond and make fine geologists.

Outside of work, what makes your heart sing?

Two things outside of work make my heart sing:

1. Getting STEM programs out to local schools to get the next generation of scientists involved. As a working mum, I don't get to spend as much time out helping schools as I use to do years back, but I really value the roles of educators and am always keen to help when I can.
2. As a parent of a special needs child, I try to share my experiences with other parents in the mining industry, so their journey is less painful compared to my family when we first got the diagnostic for my son.

If you had one piece of advice for women looking at starting their career, what would that be?

Mining is a great and rewarding career, there are many amazing and caring people who work in this industry, who will help you along the way. Don't limit yourself!

Cowal celebrating 20 years of mining



In 2025 Cowal will celebrate 20 years of mining. To mark this milestone, we are thrilled to partner with the Hearts of Gold Festival to celebrate with the local community.

Building on our previous commitment to the Hearts of Gold Festival in 2023, Evolution Mining is pleased to again support this community event as a major sponsor of the 2025 and 2027 events.

Hearts of Gold Festival will be held on the 17th, 18th and 19th of October 2025. The Family Fun Night, will be the official Evolution Mining 20 years of Cowal Gold Operation celebration. More details to come in 2025.

Cowal Fundraising Committee's annual donations

Recently, the Cowal Fundraising Committee held their annual donation event and proudly donated to three worthy charitable organisations - Can Assist, Country Hope and Royal Far West.

Each received \$30,000 to support their cause and to say thank you for the incredible work they do in our communities.

Kim Artery from Royal Far West said, "We are so very grateful for Evolution Mining's incredible, generous support. Thank you!"

"Your incredible gift will help bridge the gap for Australia's country kids, giving them access to the vital developmental and mental health services they need to put them on the path to a bright future. With your support, country kids will grow up happy and healthy and reach their full potential in life."



West Wyalong Show

In September, Cowal sponsored and attended the West Wyalong Annual Show.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the community to visit our stall and hear directly from management and staff around what's happening at Cowal, partnership and career opportunities.



George named Apprentice of the Year



In September, West Wyalong TAFE NSW hosted the inaugural Outstanding Apprentice of the Year Award for students completing the Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade).

This award was initiated by CJM Welding & Fabrication and is named in memory of Ned Whiley, who was their employee and a student at West Wyalong's TAFE NSW. The award represents dedication, hard work, and a strong commitment to excellence.

Cowal's George Mitton is the first recipient to receive this award and was recognised for his exceptional performance, dedication, and skill development in his trade. He was spoken very highly of for his dedication, ability to take initiative, his perseverance and passion for learning. Congratulations George!

Cowal underground update

The Cowal underground mine has grown significantly in the last six months. Decline development advancement has reached the levels, 660 Dalwhinnie, 811 Regal Incline, and 781 Regal Decline.

Underground production rates have reached 2MT (annualised) and continues to grow. Mobile equipment numbers have increased to four Jumbo's (development drills), three Solo's (production drills), seven loaders, 12 haul trucks and ancillary equipment.

Completed project works include the first underground crib room, an underground refuelling facility, and remote control of the underground ventilation fans.

Additional project work is now underway including, a new surface workshop, the first permanent underground pump station, an underground explosives magazine, and expansion of the Wi-Fi network.

There are now more than 360 people working in the underground operation.



Skin Check Bus

In October, Evolution once again partnered with Bland Shire Council to bring the Skin Check Bus back to the community.

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world and a big part of the problem is people not getting their skin checked regularly.

The bus visited West Wyalong in April and returned to Barmedman and Mirool to provide this vital service to the community, free of charge.

This year across the Bland Shire skin checks performed in total include:

- 19th April, 113 skin checks performed
- 20th April, 116 skin checks performed
- 11th October, 90 skin checks performed
- 12th October, 60 skin checks performed



Since the installation of the first sculpture in 2020, over 100,000 people have visited the trail.

Sculpture Down the Lachlan

Sculptures Down the Lachlan, a Forbes Art Society initiative was officially opened at an outdoor ceremony. In 2019 Evolution entered into a Shared Value Project agreement with the Society to support the initiative.

Evolution provided \$450,000 in total over three years which funded three sculptures – Varanus, Roadkill and Heart of the Country.

Sculpture Down the Lachlan is a permanent inland

public art trail stretching 100 kilometres between Forbes and Condobolin, along the Lachlan River. There are 13 sculptures in total created by some of Australia's leading creatives.

Rosie Johnston, Forbes Art Society, said "All of these astounding pieces along the Lachlan capture the spirit of and strength of the region and stand as testament to the incredible artistry that this project has attracted,".

"I am deeply grateful to everyone who believed in this vision and gave their time, talent, and passion to make it a reality.

"Today we see the culmination of years of collaboration, creativity and community spirit."

Cowal Open Pit Continuation Project update



Development consent

Approvals are progressing well. The study team are engaging with the NSW Department of Planning addressing technical queries that relate to the Environmental Impact Statement as well as following up on the Response to Submissions Report.

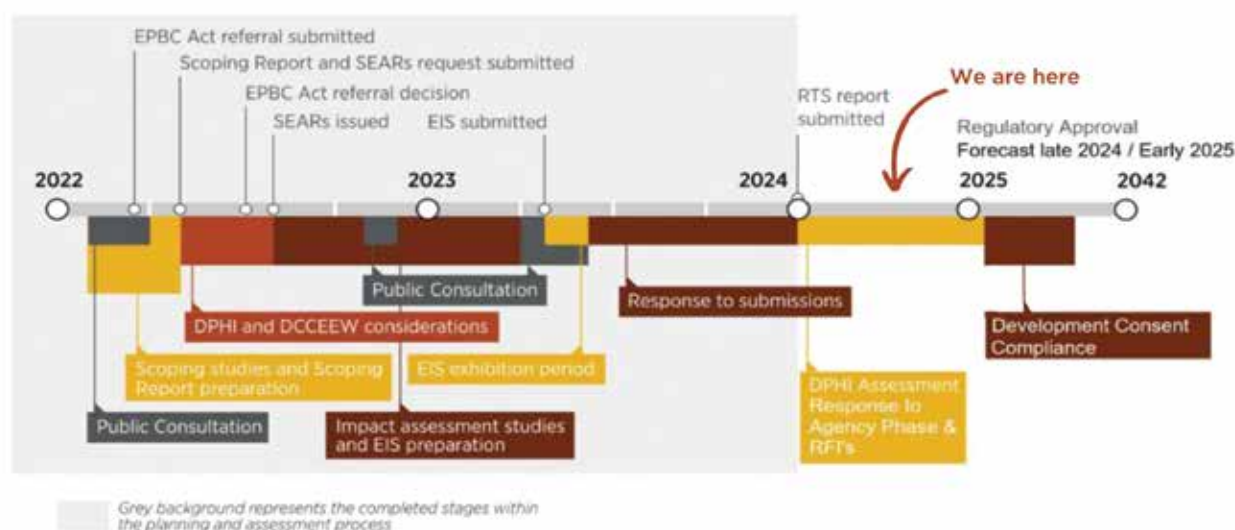
Development Consent is forecast for FY25 Q2. Following this the team will work on compliance prior to execution.

Biodeversity compliance

Due to the increase in footprint of the Project, Cowal is addressing Biodiversity Credit Liabilities. This is being undertaken concurrent to the approvals through work with ecologists and local landholders to implement stewardship sites.

Technical studies

Technical studies are progressing with a focus on updating the mine design, optimising infrastructure designs, developing the updated ROM Pad and integrating Life of Mine crushing solutions.



Facebook

Are you following Cowal on Facebook? If not, you can find the page by scanning the QR code on the right:



Follow along to see our work in the community as we help to build stronger connections in line with our values. Learn about our partnerships, scholarship and employment opportunities.



Cowal Partnering Program



Evolution Mining has a long history of supporting charities, clubs, and not-for-profit organisations that offer great outcomes in economic development, health, safety, education, environment and indigenous inclusion.

Round two of CGO's 2024 Cowal Partnering Program is now complete. The following organisations, across our shires, were successful in receiving funding:

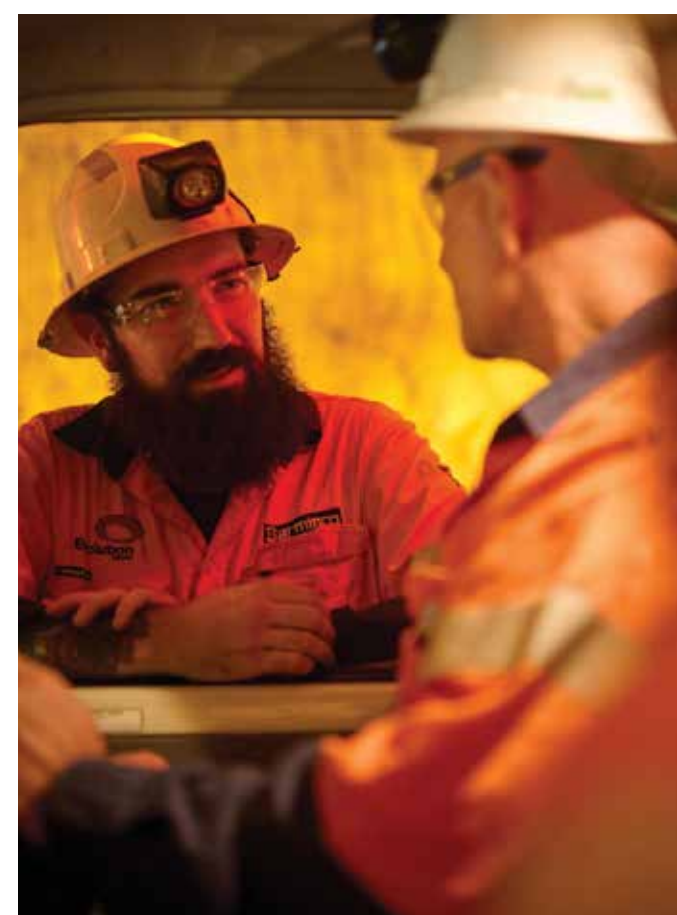
- **West Wyalong Hospital Auxillary** – 15 smart TV replacements for patients in hospital
- **West Wyalong Show Society** – 2024 sponsorship
- **West Wyalong Junior Rugby League** – equipment
- **Ungarie Bowling Club** – fence and path upgrades
- **West Wyalong Lions Club** – annual charity concert
- **West Wyalong Horse Sports and Rodeo Association** – major sponsor annual rodeo
- **Forbes Talk to meBro** – mental health support group
- **Forbes and District Tennis Club** – Little Wings charity event
- **Condobolin Public School** – yarnning circle
- **Lachlan Children's Services** – excursions for vacation students
- **Bland Shire Children's Services** – OT and Speech services

“Thank you Cowal for your generous donation to the West Wyalong Auxiliary. New smart TVs in each room will make a huge difference to patients during their stay,”

*Glenys Howarth,
President West Wyalong Auxiliary.*

- **Condobolin Chamber of Commerce** – Why Leave Town support
- **SSAA Condobolin Gun Club** – water supply project
- **Condobolin High School** – STEM Futures Robotics Program
- **Temora and District Education Fund** – scholarship support

The next round of the Cowal Partnering Program closes on 28 February 2024.



A golden opportunity

Evolution Mining's Cowal Gold Operation is an open-cut, underground and ore processing gold mining operation, located northeast of West Wyalong, NSW. Our best discoveries are found through the everyday innovation displayed by our people, our teams, our focus on getting our people home safely and our commitment to building a world-class mining company.

Does Evolution sound like you? Evolution Mining has a wide variety of rewarding opportunities available.



Visit evolutionmining.com.au/careers or scan the QR code to find out more.

Bold team. Bright future.

Cowal - Community Consultation

Cowal Gold Mine operates a dedicated 24 hour Community Feedback line and email service to respond to all community concerns or complaints.

Cowal Community Feedback Line 02 6975 3454

Cowal Community Feedback Email cgo.community@evolutionmining.com

evolutionmining.com

