



Welcome from the General Manager

Twenty years ago this month, Wilpinjong sent its first coal out of the newly established mine. In that time we've gone from a handful of people running things out of an old farmhouse to a workforce topping 700 today. It's a milestone we're incredibly proud of, and you can read the story of our journey over the past two decades in this newsletter.

We've also had a remarkable find on site this quarter: one of our team spotted a trackway of fossilised footprints embedded in rock, dating back more than 250 million years. The Australian Museum sent a team out to take the specimen away for further study.

Out in the community, we've had a great run of it lately, getting along to the Mudgee Small Farm Field Days and then the NRL game in Mudgee not long after, where our free footballs went down a treat with the crowd. We always value these events for the chance they give us to talk one-on-one with people about our plans to keep mining here into the future to support our community.

If approved, the proposed two-stage Wilpinjong Continuation Project would enable mining operations to continue responsibly through to 2038. The Stage 1 modification is currently being assessed by the NSW Government and received strong community support, with 86 per cent of submissions from the Mid-Western region in favour of the proposal.

We also welcomed our workforce back on site for another great Family Day recently. It is an absolute highlight having families on site seeing how our operation works. This edition of the newsletter features a fantastic profile on our long-serving team member Erin Dunbar, who has spent 18 years carving out both a career and a life for herself here at Wilpinjong.

I'm grateful, as ever, for the support this community continues to show us. Looking ahead, I'm keen to keep building on these connections.

Mark Eaglesham, General Manager

Out and about in the community: Field Days and NRL Mudgee Round

Wilpinjong has had a busy and rewarding few months out in the community, with the team attending both the Mudgee Small Farm Field Days and the NRL Mudgee Round. These events are always a highlight for us — a chance to meet people face-to-face, answer questions, and be part of the energy that makes the Mid-Western Region such a great place to live.

At the Field Days, it was fantastic to once again team up with our neighbours Moolarben Coal and Ulan Coal, bringing the three local mines together in one shared space. Thousands of people passed through the event across the two days, and our team enjoyed chatting with locals, visitors, families and farmers about life in the region and the work happening at Wilpinjong. Many people were curious about the mine's future, and our team appreciated the chance to share an overview of the continuation plans.

A month later, Wilpinjong was back out in the community at the NRL Mudgee Round, hosting a stall at the Panthers vs Raiders match. The atmosphere was electric, and our Peabody footys were a huge hit, with kids (and plenty of adults) lining up to grab one. It was a great afternoon of footy, fun and friendly chats — and another reminder of how much we value being part of local events.

Across both events, the message was the same: we're proud to be part of this region, and we always enjoy the chance to connect with the people who make it such a strong and welcoming community.



Catching up with locals and visitors at two much-loved events

Celebrating 20 Years of Wilpinjong Mine

Wilpinjong Mine has marked 20 years since first coal was extracted in 2006 — a milestone that reflects not just the growth of the operation, but its long-standing connection to the Mudgee region. What began as a small team working from a converted farmhouse has grown into one of the area's largest employers, now supporting more than 700 people and contributing significantly to the local economy.

The early years were shaped by determination and community spirit. Construction began in 2006, and within months the first coal was on trains bound for Newcastle. As the mine expanded, so did opportunities for local people, with many residents choosing mining as a stable, well-paid career that allowed them to stay in the region. Former farmers, tradespeople and workers from all walks of life helped build the operation into what it is today.

Over two decades, Wilpinjong has continued to evolve — increasing production, adopting new technology, and expanding into new pits — while maintaining a strong focus on safety and progressive rehabilitation. The mine's partnership with the local Aboriginal community has also deepened, with Rocky Hill recognised as a significant cultural heritage site and cared for in collaboration with Registered Aboriginal Parties.

Just as importantly, Wilpinjong has become woven into the fabric of the community. The mine has supported more than

160 local organisations over the past decade, contributed to improved local infrastructure, and helped bring major events like the NRL Mudgee Round to the region. Many long-term employees say the biggest change they've seen is the prosperity the mine has helped create — from new jobs and thriving businesses to families choosing to build their lives in Mudgee and Gulgong.

Twenty years on, Wilpinjong remains a place built on hard work, local pride and a commitment to doing right by its people, its community and the land. It's a story shaped by thousands of hands — and one that continues to grow.



Two decades strong: Wilpinjong's journey since first coal in 2006

A step back in time: Ancient *Lystrosaurus* tracks discovered at Wilpinjong

Wilpinjong recently had a remarkable brush with prehistory, after a team member uncovered a set of fossilised footprints on site — tracks now believed to be more than 250 million years old, dating back to the Permian period. The discovery offers a rare glimpse into life long before the age of dinosaurs, when creatures such as *Lystrosaurus* roamed the ancient supercontinent Gondwana.

Early analysis suggests the trackway may represent a well-preserved example of known Permian footprints, and palaeontologists have noted the exciting possibility that it could even be a previously undocumented ichnotype in Australia. Specialists from the Australian Museum visited Wilpinjong to inspect and collect the specimen, which will now undergo detailed study, including 3D scanning and formal curation within a recognised collection.

Wilpinjong Mine General Manager Mark Eaglesham said the find is a reminder of the region's deep geological story. "It's pleasing our team has been able to help bring to light a story that may otherwise never have been told. We're proud this specimen will now be preserved and studied appropriately through the Australian Museum."

For a mine that spends its days looking forward, this discovery offered a rare chance to look back — way back — at the ancient world beneath our feet.



Dr Matthew McCurry, Australian Museum Curator of Palaeontology (left), and Tanner Arnold, Wilpinjong Mine Production Operator (right)

Family day fun at Wilpinjong

Family Day is always a favourite on the Wilpinjong calendar, and this year's event was no exception, with employees and contractors bringing their loved ones on site to see first-hand where they work and what a day at the mine really looks like.

Families got up close to the trucks, dozers and excavators that keep the operation running, joined a guided pit tour

together, and settled in for some good food and catching up over lunch.

It's a day that's as much about family and community as it is about mining, and one that reminds everyone just how much pride our workforce takes in the job they do.

Check out the great collage of images from the day below.



Honouring a legacy, building her own: Erin Dunbar

Erin Dunbar joined Wilpinjong in 2008 after moving to the Central West for a change of pace and a new career direction. Having previously worked as a paralegal secretary, she found the transition into mining a steep learning curve — but one she embraced wholeheartedly. After completing a twelve-month traineeship with Thiess, she became a permanent member of the Wilpinjong team and has since worked across almost every corner of the operation.

One of Erin's proudest moments came in 2012, when she received the Thiess Annual Mining Safety Leadership Award for a hazard ID she submitted on the workshop fuel farm. She represented Wilpinjong at an awards dinner on the Gold Coast and took home the 'Leadership in Action' Award — along with a travel voucher that allowed her to holiday in Canada.

Over the years, Erin has progressed from trucks to watercarts, dozers and eventually excavators. She has a special connection to the bulldozers, seeing her work as a way of honouring her grandfather, who was tragically killed in a dozer rollover in the 1970s. Erin says she still feels most at home in a dozer, and is proud to have been part of breaking down barriers for women in mining, with female operators now a strong and visible part of the workforce.

Her career has included memorable moments — from climbing excavator ladders while heavily pregnant to

welcoming her two children in 2015 and 2017. Erin is grateful for Peabody's support, which has allowed her to balance parenting with meaningful employment through a weekend night-shift arrangement. She looks forward to returning to crew in the future.

After eighteen years on site, Erin says the best parts of the job are still the machines, the people and the incredible sunrises and night skies. She's made lasting friendships, worked across all crews, and even met her fiancé, Wez, at Wilpinjong. And in true Wilpinjong fashion, she's driven the same 75 Series LandCruiser to site for the entire journey.



Erin's career journey is one of growth and grit

Community information and feedback

Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

Our CCC members share information about our mine with the community and provide us with community feedback. Minutes of quarterly meetings are on our website. New members can apply to join the CCC.

Email: kbennetts@peabodyenergy.com

Community contact information



Email:
info@peabodyenergy.com

Web:
www.wilpinjongmine.com.au

Complaints: 1300 606 625
Blasting information: 1800 649 783
Phone: (02) 6370 2500

Monthly 'Have a Chat' sessions

When:

First Thursday of the month - 1:30 to 4:30pm

Where:

Wollar Store

Members of our leadership team will answer your questions or hear your concerns over a cuppa.

You can just drop in.



Scan the QR code to register
your support for continued
mining at Wilpinjong
wilpinjongmine.com.au