



Appendix B Stakeholder Consultation



HUNTER 8 ALLIANCE PROJECT

MAITLAND TO WHITTINGHAM THIRD TRACK



FACT SHEET MAY 2009



The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) is upgrading the rail network between Maitland and Whittingham to improve rail reliability between the Hunter Valley mine sites and the Port of Newcastle, and to keep the coal rail system capacity ahead of industry demands.

The project will be carried out in two stages:

Stage 1 Minimbah to Whittingham will involve the construction of a third track; and

Stage 2 Maitland to Minimbah will involve the design and construction of a third track. An Environmental Assessment will also be undertaken as part of this project.

WHO IS THE HUNTER 8 ALLIANCE?

ARTC recently formed the Hunter 8 Alliance with John Holland Pty Ltd and GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) to design and build the new track. Both stages will be undertaken concurrently by the Hunter 8 Alliance.

BACKGROUND

On 5 September 2004, ARTC commenced a 60-year lease of the interstate and Hunter Valley rail lines of New South Wales. Since commencing this lease, the Hunter Valley rail network has been reviewed and a strategy to improve coal carrying capacity has been developed to support the rapid growth in coal demand.

At present, export coal capacity of the Hunter Valley rail network averages around 95 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). Current industry forecasts indicate demand on the Hunter Valley rail network will increase to around 180 mtpa by 2012. Design and construction of the Maitland to Whittingham Third Track is a key component in meeting the needs of industry.

The project will also bring benefits to the local and broader community by generating more than 650 fulltime jobs during construction, creating opportunities for local and regional goods and service providers, and providing greater security for existing coal industry jobs.

The closure of a number of railway crossings and the construction of bridges will also create a safer alternative for pedestrians and road users.

WHO IS ARTC?

ARTC was created by the Commonwealth and State governments in 1997 to provide a single body responsible for the National Interstate Rail Network.

WHERE TO GO FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

If you require further information about the project or to have your details included in our stakeholder database, please contact:

Community Relations Team

Hunter 8 Alliance
Reply Paid 5403
Hunter Region MC NSW 2310

Phone 1800 216 317 (free call)

Fax 02 4979 9988

Email communityinput@hunter8alliance.com.au

Web www.hunter8alliance.com.au



STAGE 1 – MINIMBAH TO WHITTINGHAM THIRD TRACK



WHERE IS IT?

The Minimbah to Whittingham Third Track will be built on the eastern side of the Main Northern Railway line and adjacent to the existing tracks. The track will run from the area west of Belford, known as Minimbah, for approximately 10.8km to Whittingham.

WHAT WILL IT INVOLVE?

- Approximately 10.8km of new track
- Two new rail underbridges
- Grade separation at Range Road level crossing
- Realignment and replacement of the Golden Highway overbridge

WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION COMMENCE?

Construction is expected to commence in May 2009 and is expected to be complete in March 2010.

WHAT IMPACTS WILL IT HAVE?

The Environmental Assessment identified that the main impacts of the project will relate to: visual amenity, property acquisition, altered access arrangements, loss of vegetation, and short-term construction related impacts such as noise, vibration, air and water quality issues.

STAGE 2 - MAITLAND TO MINIMBAH THIRD TRACK

WHERE IS IT?

The Maitland to Minimbah Third Track will run for approximately 32 km from just west of Maitland to the area west of Belford known as Minimbah. The location of the track in relation to the existing rail line will be determined as the design is refined. The track will cross the Maitland, Cessnock and Singleton Local Government Areas.



WHAT WILL IT INVOLVE?

- Approximately 32km of new track
- Modification of three existing station platforms at Belford, Gretna and Lochinvar
- Construction or modification of overbridges and underbridges

WHEN WILL IT COMMENCE?

The concept design and Environmental Assessment have already commenced and are expected to be complete by March 2010. Construction is expected to be complete in 2012. Members of the Hunter 8 Alliance team will be making contact with the community to discuss the project and carry out studies necessary for both the design and environmental assessment.

WHAT IMPACTS COULD IT HAVE?

A Preliminary Environmental Assessment has identified issues to be explored in the Environmental Assessment. The key issues are; flora and fauna in the corridor, Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage, watercourse crossings and proximity of watercourses, air and noise impacts on properties, proximity of residential and commercial properties and soil disturbance during construction.

HUNTER 8 ALLIANCE PROJECT

STAGE 2 MAITLAND TO MINIMBAH THIRD TRACK



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER #1 MAY 2009

In November 2008, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd announced as part of his Government's Nation Building package the construction of a third railway track from Maitland to Whittingham. The project is being carried out by Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) as part of its Hunter Valley Capacity Improvement Strategy.

The project will bring benefits to the community and economy by generating more than 650 fulltime jobs during construction, creating opportunities for local and regional goods and service providers, as well as enhancing the security of existing coal industry jobs.

The closure of a number of railway crossings and the construction of bridges will also create a safer alternative for pedestrians and road users.

The Maitland to Whittingham project will be carried out in two stages:

Stage 1 Minimbah to Whittingham will involve the construction of a third track. Construction of Stage 1 will commence in May 2009.

Stage 2 Maitland to Minimbah will involve the design and construction of a third track. An Environmental Assessment will also be undertaken as part of this project.

This newsletter is to provide you with information about Stage 2 - Maitland to Minimbah Third Track.

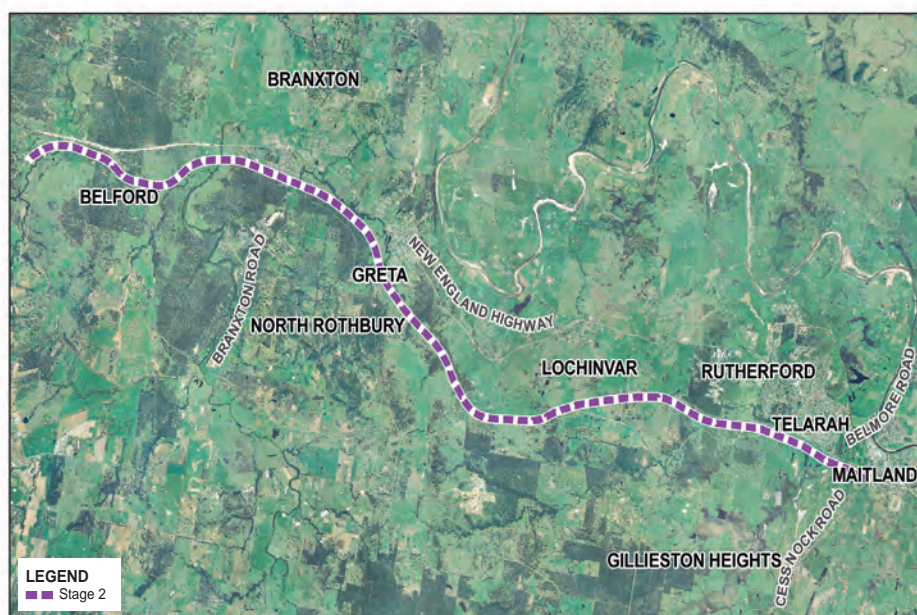
WHO IS THE HUNTER 8 ALLIANCE?

ARTC recently formed the Hunter 8 Alliance with John Holland Pty Ltd and GHD Pty Ltd to design and build the new track. Both stages will be undertaken concurrently by the Hunter 8 Alliance

WHAT WILL BE INVOLVED?

The Maitland to Minimbah Third Track involves the construction of a third track adjacent to the existing Main Northern Railway Line. The new track will extend from Maitland for approximately 32 km to Minimbah, just west of Belford, and pass through Lochinvar, Greta and Branxton railway stations.

MAITLAND TO MINIMBAH THIRD TRACK



WHAT WILL THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE THIRD TRACK INVOLVE?

- 32 km of new track paralleling the existing rail and associated turnouts and junctions
- Major earthworks, track formation, drainage and minor structures
- Construction / modification of four overbridges
- Construction / modification of eight rail underbridges
- Construction / modification of one pedestrian underbridge
- Modification of existing station platforms at Lochinvar, Greta and Branxton

WHAT WILL THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT INVESTIGATE?

The Environmental Assessment studies will investigate and assess the impacts of proposed works on:

- Flora and fauna within the rail corridor
- Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage items
- Watercourse crossings and proximity of watercourses and potential for flooding
- Soil disturbance during construction
- Visual amenity
- Surrounding properties from noise, vibration and dust generation
- Social and economic environments at a local and regional level.

A number of infrastructure elements that form part of, or cross the alignment of the project, are also proposed by the Hunter 8 Alliance to improve road and rail safety, these include:

- Construction / modification of access tracks servicing existing rail lines
- Enabling works (such as signalling and infrastructure relocation)
- Renewal / modification of two existing overbridges
- Renewal / modification of three existing road level crossings

These projects would be subject to individual assessment and approval separate to the Part 3A approval process for the Maitland to Minimbah Third Track.

WILL PRIVATE PROPERTY NEED TO BE ACQUIRED?

While the project will aim to keep the third track within the existing rail corridor, it is anticipated that some private land will need to be acquired. Consultation with landholders who are potentially directly impacted by, or adjacent to, the proposed third track has already commenced and will continue for the duration of the project.

The project team will also continue to communicate with the wider community and stakeholders interested in the project, including community and environmental groups, industry associations, cultural organisations and elected representatives.

WHEN WILL THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BE ON EXHIBITION?

The project team is currently undertaking the detailed design and environmental assessment of the project. The project team will consult with affected landholders, communities and interested stakeholders throughout the assessment and planning process. The Draft Environmental Assessment is expected to be on public exhibition by November 2009. The Minister for Planning must approve the project before it can proceed.

WHEN WILL THE THIRD TRACK BE COMPLETED?

Based on the engineering studies completed to date, it is estimated construction will be completed by 2012.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation is the process of engaging with communities and key stakeholders along the length of the proposed third track. Community consultation provides the Hunter 8 Alliance with the opportunity to understand and incorporate stakeholders' needs, aspirations, issues, concerns and expectations into its planning, implementation and operational stages of the project.

The views of stakeholders are among several important elements considered by Hunter 8 Alliance in the decision making process. Other factors include environmental, traffic, noise, economic, technical, operational, and safety considerations.

Hunter 8 Alliance is committed to working with the community and other stakeholders to actively and positively manage this project and, where possible, resolve issues that could potentially arise during the project's planning, construction, and operational stages.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the project or to have your details included in our stakeholder database, please contact:

Project information line

Phone 1800 216 317 (free call)
Email communityinput@hunter8alliance.com.au
Fax (02) 4979 9988
Web www.hunter8alliance.com.au

Community Relations Team

Hunter 8 Alliance
Reply Paid 5403
Hunter Region MC NSW 2310

HUNTER 8 ALLIANCE

MAITLAND TO WHITTINGHAM THIRD TRACK

NEWSLETTER #2 OCTOBER 2009



The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) is upgrading the rail network between Maitland and Whittingham to improve rail network capacity between the Hunter Valley and Newcastle.

The project will bring benefits to the community and economy by generating more than 650 full time jobs during construction, creating opportunities for local and regional goods and service providers, as well as enhancing the security of existing coal industry jobs. The project will be carried out by the Hunter 8 Alliance.

Who is the Hunter 8 Alliance?

ARTC recently formed the Hunter 8 Alliance with John Holland Pty Ltd and GHD Pty Ltd to design and build the new track.

The Maitland to Whittingham project will be carried out in two stages:

Stage 1 - Minimbah to Whittingham.
Stage 2 - Maitland to Minimbah.

Stage 1 Minimbah to Whittingham:

Construction works began in July 2009. These include:

- Major earthworks, including stripping of topsoil and stockpiling, cut and fill of materials, i.e. scraping/ excavating, haulage and placement of soil.
- Piling for bridge structures at Golden Highway Bridge, Range Road and Mudies Creek. This involves boring or drilling large holes to install reinforced concrete bridge piles.
- Traffic control is in place around the Golden Highway including stop/ go signs to assist heavy machinery in crossing the highway. There is also traffic control around Range Road on occasions.

Stage 2 Maitland to Minimbah:

The Maitland to Minimbah Third Track Project (Stage 2) involves the construction of a third track adjacent to the existing Main Northern Railway Line. The new track will extend from Maitland for approximately 32 km to Minimbah, just west of Belford, and pass through Lochinvar, Greta and Branxton railway stations.

Elements of the project are due to start in March 2010, with the bulk of the project starting in the third quarter of 2010.

Key dates for Stage 2

Based on the engineering studies completed to date, it is estimated construction of the third track will be completed by March 2012. There are a range of construction activities planned for Stage 2, including earthworks, signalling, platform extensions and a number of new overbridges (where the road travels above the rail track) and underbridges (where the rail is above the road or a creek).



Proposed construction work and dates

Maitland to Lochinvar	Type of Work	Start Date
Station Lane	Overbridge	April 2010
Lochinvar Station	Platform Extension	October 2010
Wollombi Road	Underbridge	February 2011
Stony Creek	Underbridge	March 2011
Lochinvar to Branxton		
Nelson Street	Overbridge	March 2010
Sawyers Creek	Underbridge	September 2010
Allandale Road	Underbridge	December 2012
Branxton Road	Overbridge	January 2011
Branxton to Minimbah		
Greta Station	Platform Extension	September 2010
Hermitage Road	Overbridge	March 2010
Jump Creek	Underbridge	December 2010
Branxton Station	Platform Extension	December 2010
Black Creek	Underbridge	January 2011



Above: Works are proposed at Nelson Street and Greta Station.
Below: Stage 1 works include the replacement of the Golden Highway bridge.



Fast facts about assessment and approval

What is an REF?

REF stands for Review of Environmental Factors. The purpose of a REF is to provide the determining authority (ARTC) with information on matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by the construction and operation of the project. The outcome is to assess whether the project is likely to significantly affect the environment for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

There are REFs in Stage 2 that will be undertaken by the Hunter 8 Alliance on behalf of the Australian Rail Track Corporation, and these are separate projects in their own right that would possibly go ahead regardless of whether the third track project proceeded and provide stand alone benefits. For example, the construction of bridges in place of level crossings would create a safer alternative for pedestrians and road users.

What is an Environmental Assessment?

Hunter 8 will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the project to satisfy the requirements of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

The Environmental Assessment includes:

- Background information, including the need for the project, its strategic context and the alternatives considered;
- A description of the project;
- Assessment and investigations of any potential key environmental impacts;
- Recommended measures proposed to minimise and manage potential environmental impacts.

What will the EA investigate?

The Environmental Assessment studies will investigate and assess the impacts of proposed works on:

- Flora and fauna;
- Indigenous and non-indigenous heritage items;
- Watercourse crossings and proximity of watercourses and potential for flooding;
- Soil disturbance during construction;
- Visual amenity;
- Surrounding properties from noise, vibration and dust generation;
- Social and economic environments at a local and regional level.

Why is Hunter 8 using both REFs and EAs on the Project?

A number of separate projects that will form part of or cross the proposed third track project are proposed by ARTC to improve road and rail safety. These projects would be



Above: Artefacts have been found in both Stage 1 and 2.

subject to an individual assessment and approval and provide benefits in their own right regardless of whether the Part 3A Environmental Assessment is carried out.

These projects will be assessed by an REF and construction would commence prior to construction of the third track.

The projects have been identified and programmed as they provide the following benefits:

- Overpasses address the existing impacts of road traffic congestion, road safety and rail safety at existing level crossings due to the current rail traffic and projected rail traffic increases.
- Other elements would assist in improved efficiencies of existing rail operations.

If the proposed third track is approved these projects would facilitate its construction and operation, and mitigate potential traffic and social impacts.

The size of the individual projects determines whether they require an REF or form part of the Environmental Assessment.

When will the EA be on exhibition?

The project team is currently undertaking the detailed design and environmental assessment of Stage 2 of the project. The project team will consult with affected landholders, communities and interested stakeholders throughout the assessment and planning process. The Environmental Assessment is expected to be on public exhibition by the first quarter of 2010. The Minister for Planning must approve the project before it can proceed.

What are the opportunities for providing feedback?

Hunter 8 Alliance is holding two community drop-in days to allow the public to ask any questions that they may have and also provide feedback, which can be considered in the EA process. Hunter 8 appreciates the importance of listening to community concerns and the value of stakeholder feedback.

Community Drop-In Days

All interested parties are invited to a drop-in event to meet and discuss the project with members of the Hunter 8 Alliance staff. You will have an opportunity to provide feedback to the team and fact sheets, newsletters and maps covering the project will be available.

Greta Drop in Day

Time: 3pm – 7pm

Date: Monday October 12

Location: Greta Arts & Sports

Community Hall, 2 Water Street, Greta.

Maitland Drop in Day

Time: 3pm – 7pm

Date: Wednesday October 14

Location: Maitland Library, 480 High Street, Maitland.

RSVP for either event at: www.hunter8alliance.com.au or by calling the Community Info Line on 1899 216 317.



Above: Stage 1 includes construction of a retaining wall at Minimbah, to hold the third track.

Below: Stage 2 would see the Hermitage Road level crossing replaced with a bridge.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more, please contact the Alliance team on:

Phone	1800 216 317
Email	communityinput@hunter8.com.au
Mail	Hunter 8 Alliance, Reply Paid 5403, Hunter Region MC, NSW 2310
Website	www.hunter8alliance.com.au

HUNTER 8 ALLIANCE

MAITLAND TO WHITTINGHAM THIRD TRACK

NEWSLETTER #3 SUMMER 2010



The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) is upgrading the rail network between Maitland and Whittingham to improve rail network capacity between the Hunter Valley and Newcastle.

The project will bring benefits to the community and economy by generating more than 650 full time jobs during construction, creating opportunities for local and regional goods and service providers, as well as enhancing the security of existing coal industry jobs. The project will be carried out by the Hunter 8 Alliance.

Who is the Hunter 8 Alliance?

In 2009 ARTC formed the Hunter 8 Alliance with John Holland Pty Ltd and GHD Pty Ltd to design and build the new track.

The Maitland to Whittingham project will be carried out in two stages:

Stage 1 - Minimbah to Whittingham.

Stage 2 - Maitland to Minimbah.

Both Stages will be undertaken concurrently by the Hunter 8 Alliance.

Stage 1 Minimbah to Whittingham:

The third track will start from Minimbah, west of Belford and continue north for approximately 10.8 kilometres to Whittingham. Construction commenced in July 2009 and is expected to be completed by early 2010.

Stage 2 Whittingham to Maitland:

Stage 2 of the new track will extend from Maitland for approximately 32 kilometres to Minimbah, just west of Belford, and pass through Lochinvar, Greta and Branxton railway stations. Elements of the project are due to start from March 2010, with the bulk of the project starting in the third quarter of 2010.

Why are you receiving a newsletter?

To date, the Hunter 8 Alliance has mainly been in contact with land holders whose property is directly affected by the Minimbah to Whittingham Third Track Project. As Stage 2 begins, Hunter 8 aim to liaise with those close to the track, or who would like to be informed about the project.

Hunter 8 is committed to consulting with the community and other stakeholders to keep all interested parties informed, and respond to any issues that may arise. As such, Hunter 8 welcomes and encourages feedback from Hunter residents about their thoughts on the project.

If you still have queries after reading this newsletter then you can contact us by phone, letter, fax, email or sign up to our e-newsletter to have your questions answered.



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Construction in 2009

Range Road

In November 2009, a 60 metre high crane lowered in the bridge beams and precast parapets on the new overpass on Range Road (see below). Earthworks to both approach roads now continue in conjunction with the bridge works.



Above: Bridge girders being installed at Range Road

New England Highway retaining wall

The landmark retaining wall along the New England Highway was completed in November, with general fill works continuing (see below).



Above: The retaining wall on the New England Highway.

Mudies Creek

Toward the end of the year, the new rail bridge over Mudies Creek had bridge planks installed, with walkways and handrails now being completed.



Above: Ten water carts are being used on Stage 1 of the project, to reduce dust. This is one way that environmental issues are addressed.

Golden Highway

The new Golden Highway Bridge should be close to complete by the time you receive this newsletter. In late November the area was a hive of activity as the deck of the bridge was cast and the associated work neared completion, including earthworks to both approach roads (see front page). During the track possession preparatory works under the existing Golden Highway Bridge were completed ready for its demolition, which is booked for early 2010.



If you would like to find out more about the Hunter 8 projects, to be kept in the loop about upcoming community drop-in days, project developments and more, then sign up to our monthly e-newsletter; it's an easy way to stay informed.

To get in on the action head to our website www.hunter8alliance.com.au and follow the prompts.

The web site also contains a range of information about the projects, and it is updated regularly.

Looking forward: What construction will begin in 2010?

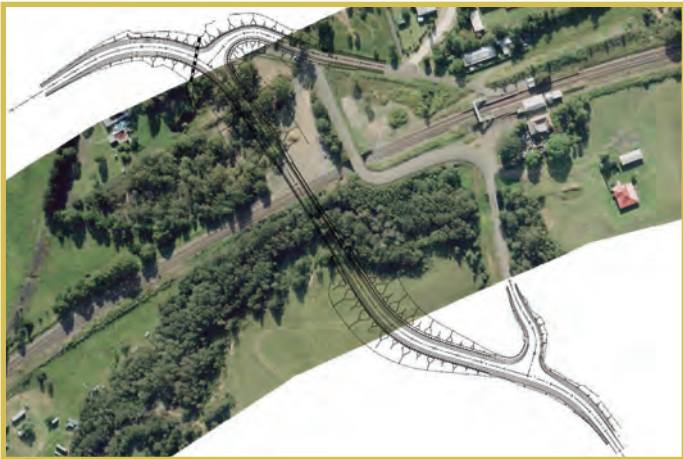
Three Overpass Bridges

In the 2nd quarter of 2010 construction will begin in three locations: Nelson Street in Greta; Station Lane, Lochinvar; and Hermitage Road, Belford. The construction of bridges in place of the level crossings in Lochinvar and Belford will create a safer alternative to crossing the rail track for pedestrians and road users. The replacement bridge in Greta will be safer with bicycle lanes and footpaths.

Stage 2 construction

Pending approval, the last quarter of 2010 will be an exciting time with the beginning of the major construction works of Stage 2 anticipated, to facilitate the third rail track between Maitland and Minimbah.

Proposed bridge designs in Stage 2



Above: The bridge design for Nelson Street Greta.



Above: The bridge design for Station Lane Lochinvar.



Above: Hermitage Road bridge design. The bridge will save travel time, fuel and make the road safer.

Proposed Construction Work and Dates

Proposed Timing	Stage	Type of Work
1 st quarter	1	AANCSA begin signalling works New Golden Highway Bridge completion Demolition of old Golden Highway bridge Range Road overpass completed Begin laying new rail track First train to use the new track
2 nd quarter	2	Station Lane Bridge Hermitage Road Bridge Nelson Street Bridge
3 rd quarter	2	Enabling works
4 th quarter	2	Earth moving for 3 rd track

Maitland Junction Upgrade

The Hunter 8 Alliance is also working on an upgrade at Maitland Junction, which is around 700 metres west of Maitland Station and west of the New England Highway overbridge (Private Trzecinski Bridge) near Telarah.

The proposed works, to enable movement of trains from one line to another, will increase available train paths benefiting passenger, coal and freight services.



Above: The area of rail line affected is the middle line above the bridge in this photograph.

The start date for the proposed Maitland Junction Upgrade is March 2010, with works expected to continue for about three months.

About the Environmental Assessment for Stage 2

What is an Environmental Assessment?

The Hunter 8 Alliance has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the project to satisfy the requirements of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

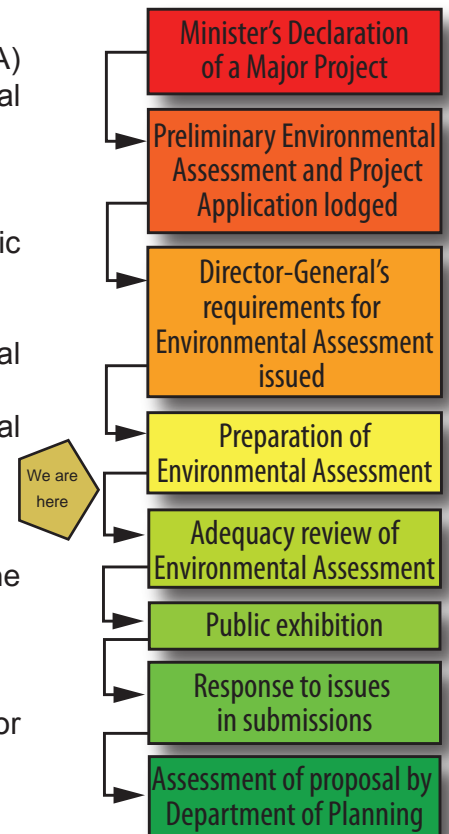
The Environmental Assessment includes:

- Background information, including the need for the project, its strategic context and the alternatives considered;
- A description of the project;
- Assessment and investigations of any potential key environmental impacts;
- Recommended measures proposed to minimise and manage potential environmental impacts.

What will the EA investigate?

The Environmental Assessment studies will investigate and assess the impacts of proposed works on areas such as;

- Flora and fauna;
- Indigenous and non-indigenous heritage items;
- Watercourse crossings, proximity of watercourses and potential for flooding;
- Soil disturbance during construction;
- Visual amenity;
- Surrounding properties from noise, vibration and dust generation;
- Social and economic environments at a local and regional level.



Above: The steps involved in preparing the Environmental Assessment.

Have your say...

Community Drop-In Sessions

All interested parties are invited to attend our drop-in events to meet and discuss the project with Hunter 8 Alliance staff. Fact sheets, newsletters and maps covering the project will also be available.

Our next Community Drop-In session will be at the Maitland Markets.

Time: 8am-2pm

When: Sunday, 7th March

Location: Maitland Showground.

Other drop-in sessions will be announced on the web site and in future newsletters.



Above: Getting down to the detail at the last drop-in session held at Greta.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more, please contact the Alliance team on:

Phone 1800 216 317
Email communityinput@hunter8.com.au
Mail Hunter 8 Alliance, Reply Paid 5403,
Hunter Region MC, NSW 2310
Website www.hunter8alliance.com.au

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MEETING MINUTES

Subject:



Project Title: Hunter 8 Alliance - Design Office

Chaired By :		Minuted by:	Mary Jane Piggot
Date :	08 September 2009	File No.	11050 - Design Approvals Stage 2 M - Design 11000 - 11999 11000 Design Management
Ref No:	H8R/DO/1255/MP/MM/1		

Attendees (Project): Johanna Maslem

Attendees (Others): Mark Mignanelli

Apologies:

Distribution (Project): Johanna Maslem

Distribution (Others):

Item	Description	Action
Creek Alignments	Maintain Stream length and slope. Revegetation required. Maintain stream power. No controlled activity permit required (Part 3A). Provide survey of existing creek, or at least keep a copy as a record in case ever asked for by DWE. As above for design. Nominate long term maintenance program for vegetation. Show how flows will be managed during construction.	
Causeway Crossings	Existing causeways can be replicated but documentation required for any upgrade works including erosion protection and geomorphic stability. Causeways to cater for base flows with higher flows to go over causeway. Causeways preferred position is on a straight section of the creek rather than on a bend. Need to consider impact on flood level. As constructed drawings to be supplied to DoP and DWE.	
Water licencing	Potential exclusion from licence for construction water. Water sharing plan that applies is likely to be the Hunter Alluvium which is unregulated. Potential to purchase a zero entitlement water licence to enable trading for water credits. Individual property owners should have records of whether their dam was provided with an embargo.	



From: Mary-Jane Piggott/Newcastle/GHD/AU on 26/05/2009 03:07:39 PM

Repository: 221447105 H8S2P2 - Flooding & Drainage

To: Shaun Taylor/Newcastle/GHD/AU@GHD

cc: Katie M Norris/Sydney/GHD/AU@GHD, Greg Sainsbury/Newcastle/GHD/AU@GHD

Subject: Fisheries comments.

Hi Shaun,

I have had a discussion with Scott Carter from Fisheries about the project and discussed his requirements for culverts, bridges and creek diversions.

With respect to culverts and bridges, he wants considered:

- | Maintain or increase existing waterway opening area;
- | Provide scour protection consistent with the RTA 2000year life requirements;
- | All scour protection to be below the invert (ie embedded);
- | Review Fisheries roadway crossing guidelines;
- | For downstream extensions, make sure the extension doesn't result in a nick point
- | Don't increase flow velocities.

With respect to creek diversions, his criterion is:

- | Maintain existing stream length (include meanders);
- | Maintain existing stream gradient;
- | Maintain existing channel profile (cross section);
- | Reinststate riparian vegetation including suitable habitats (ie slow flow areas etc)

Regards

MJ

Mary-Jane Piggott
Senior Water Resources Engineer

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Level 3, GHD Tower, 24 Honeysuckle Drive Newcastle NSW 2300 | PO Box 5403 HRMC NSW 2310 Australia
| www.ghd.com.au

P Please consider the environment before printing this email



Bernadette Wilkinson
Level 3
GHD Tower
24 Honeysuckle Drive
Newcastle
NSW 2300

Our ref: 09/7020

Dear Ms Wilkinson,

Re: Allandale Rail Cutting management measures

The Allandale Area is a well known geological heritage site listed under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act), and on the Register of the National Estate. This site coincides with the route of the Maitland to Minimbah Third Track project, currently being undertaken by Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC). ARTC proposes to upgrade this section of the northern railway, widening the existing rail formation to accommodate a third track.

The fossils present at this locality are of major significance to the biostratigraphic correlation of similar formations found along the Australian east coast, and are highly representative of the Early Permian Allandale Formation. The Allandale fauna has been recognised in Queensland and Tasmania, as well as the south coast of NSW and its biostratigraphic equivalents are known from Western Australia.

As the Maitland to Minimbah project is expected to expose 'fresh' fossiliferous horizon, and due to the geological importance of the fossils found at Allandale, Industry & Investment NSW is looking to collect fossil specimens for scientific and educational purposes. Owing to the dangerous nature of the site and the difficulty of access, it is proposed that the material is removed and placed on display elsewhere. This may include (but is not limited to) I&I NSW offices, museums, and universities. Furthermore, it would be beneficial if some fossil material was placed on display in the vicinity of the cutting for public exhibition. This is an excellent opportunity to further public appreciation of what is an exemplary instance of early Permian Australian fauna.

Yours sincerely,

Aidan Barrington
Geological Survey of NSW
New South Wales Department of Industry and Investment
Mineral Resources Division

21 October 2009



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Ms Bernadette Wilkinson
Environmental Scientist
GHD
PO Box 5403
HUNTER REGION MAIL CENTRE
NSW 2310

Date: 18 June 2009
EPBC Ref: EPBC 2009/4897
EPBC contact: Caitlin Ellis
(02) 6274 2263
Caitlin.Ellis@environment.gov.au

Dear Ms Wilkinson

Decision on referral Maitland to Minimbah Third Track Project, NSW

This proposed action, to upgrade approximately 32km of the Main Northern Railway, including construction of a third track, between the Maitland Junction and Minimbah in New South Wales, has now been considered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

We have decided that the proposed action is a controlled action and, as such, requires assessment and approval by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts before it can proceed.

It appears that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the following matters protected by the EPBC Act:

- Commonwealth actions (s28)
- Listed threatened species and ecological communities (s18 & 18A)

For example, based on the information available in the referral, the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact because:

- The project will involve clearing vegetation which could provide habitat for listed threatened species and ecological communities along the alignment;
- Potential significant impacts to heritage items within and adjacent to the rail corridor;
- Potential to have noise and vibration impacts on proximate properties through construction and operation of the new track;
- Disturbance of soil and potential for significant erosion in watercourses.

Please note that this decision only relates to the potential for significant impact on the specific matters protected by the Australian Government under Chapter 4 of the EPBC Act.

A copy of the document recording this decision is enclosed.

At this stage, a decision has not been made on the approach that must be used to assess the project. Please note that the timing for us to make a decision on the assessment approach stops on the date of this letter, and restarts once we have received further information.

I have also written to the following parties to advise them of this decision:

Proponent	Australian Rail Track Corporation
State/territory authority/authorities	NSW Department of Planning

If you have any questions about the referral process or this decision, please contact the EPBC project manager and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Ms Vicki Middleton
Assistant Secretary
Environment Assessment Branch



**Notification of
REFERRAL DECISION AND DESIGNATED PROPONENT – controlled
action**

Maitland to Minimbah Third Track Project, NSW (EPBC 2009/4897)

This decision is made under Section 75 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

Proposed action

proposed action	To upgrade approximately 32km of the Main Northern Railway, including construction of a third track, between the Maitland Junction and Minimbah in New South Wales as described in the referral and referral attachments which were accepted by the department on 19 May 2009 (EPBC 2009/4897).
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Referral decision: Controlled action

status of proposed action	The proposed action is a controlled action. <i>The project will require assessment and approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 before it can proceed.</i>
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relevant controlling provisions	The project is likely to have a significant impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)• Commonwealth action (section 28)
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designated proponent	Senior Project Manager (Major Projects-Hunter Valley) Australian Rail Track Corporation
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Person authorised to make decision

Name and position	Ms Vicki Middleton Assistant Secretary Environment Assessment Branch
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signature

Vicki Middleton

date of decision

18 June 2009



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Ms Bernadette Wilkinson
Environmental Scientist
GHD
PO Box 5403
HUNTER REGION MAIL CENTRE
NSW 2310

Date: 29 July 2009
EPBC Ref: EPBC 2009/4897
EPBC contact: David Rhind
(02) 6274 2611
David.Rhind@environment.gov.au

Dear Ms Wilkinson

Decision on assessment approach - accredited assessment. Maitland to Minimbah Third Track Project, NSW

On 18 June 2009, it was decided that the proposed action to upgrade approximately 32km of the Main Northern Railway, including construction of a third track, between the Maitland Junction and Minimbah in New South Wales, required assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Due to a lack of information at that time, we were unable to take a decision on the approach that would be used to assess the proposed action.

We have now decided that the proposed action will need to be assessed through accredited assessment

A copy of the document recording this decision is enclosed.

Details on the assessment process and the responsibilities of the proponent are set out in the enclosed fact sheet. Further information is available from the Department's website, at www.environment.gov.au/epbc.

I have also written to the following parties to advise them of this decision:

Referring party	ARTC (Mr Chris Puslednik)
State authority	NSW Department of Planning

If you have any questions about the assessment process or this decision, please contact the EPBC project manager and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Mr Chris Murphy
A/g Assistant Secretary
Environment Assessment Branch



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Notification of DECISION ON ASSESSMENT APPROACH

Maitland to Minimbah Third Track Project, NSW (EPBC 2009/4897)

This decision is made under Section 87 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Proposed action

proposed action

To upgrade approximately 32km of the Main Northern Railway, including construction of a third track, between the Maitland Junction and Minimbah in New South Wales as described in the referral and referral attachments which were accepted by the department on 19 May 2009 (EPBC 2009/4897).

Decision on assessment approach

assessment approach

The project will be assessed by accredited assessment

Person authorised to make decision

name and position

Mr Chris Murphy
A/g Assistant Secretary
Environment Assessment Branch

signature

date of decision

29 July 2009



MINUTES OF MEETING

18 May 2009

Project	Maitland to Whittingham Third Track – Stage 2	From	Daniel O'Shaughnessy
Subject	Minutes of meeting with Cessnock City Council	Tel	02 4979 9999
Venue/Date/Time	Cessnock City Council, 18/05/2009, 1:30 pm	Job No	2214471

Copies to	All Attendees Andrew Geddes (GHD) Richard Hackett (GHD) Geoff Wickens (GHD) Greg Sainsbury (GHD) Josh Boyd (ARTC) Mike Parsons (GHD) Shaun Taylor (GHD) Mary Jane Piggott (GHD) Katie Norris (GHD)		
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Attendees	Stephen Jamieson (SJ) (GHD) Daniel O'Shaughnessy (DOS) (GHD) Matthew Parsons (MP) (GHD) Jim Bullen (JB) (CCC)	Apologies	Mary Jane Piggott (GHD) Phil Miles
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Minutes	Action
Introduction	
SJ provided introduction to the project. Introduced the main interfaces with the project and CCC assets as Allandale / Lovedale Road, Nelson Street and Wine Country Drive.	
Allandale Road	
SJ advised that a rail underbridge for the third track over Allandale Road is proposed, most probably on the North side of the railway.	
JB advised that there is a huge flooding problem at the Allandale Road underbridge, with water to a depth of 1.8m recorded. The flush drains sometimes get blocked.	
JB advised that the road clearance was less with the previous under bridge. JB can't recall if flooding was as problem with the previous bridge.	
Nelson Street	
SJ advised that a new bridge over Anvil Creek was likely.	

Minutes

Action

JB advised that Nelson Street is classified as a Regional Road. This means that it is 50% funded by the RTA, 50% funded by CCC.

JB advised that Nelson Street no longer has a restricted load limit.

JB indicated that Nelson Street was generally a 60km/h speed environment.

JB advised that both sides of the railway in the vicinity of Nelson Street are likely areas of future development.

Design Standards

JB advised that the RTA Road design guide was an appropriate standard for road design.

Council Contacts

JB nominated the following people as CCC contacts:

- ▶ Jacquie Tupper – Planning
 - ▶ John Carey – Roads and traffic
 - ▶ Phil Miles – Infrastructure strategy manager
-

Daniel O'Shaughnessy

Civil Engineer

Tributes & Celebrations

FUNERALS

HEXHAM BOWLING CLUB BURNS.
Members are advised of the passing of our late member, **RICHARD BURNS.** Details see family notice.
J. Chin (Sec/Man)
P. Enright (Chairman)

DALTON MAUREEN

Relatives and Friends of GARY, SHANE, GENA and their FAMILIES are warmly invited to attend the Funeral of their dearly loved
MAUREEN DALTON
Aged 68 Years
Late of Cessnock
to leave St. John's Anglican Church, Westcott Street, Cessnock this MONDAY February 8th, 2010 after Service commencing at 10.30 a.m. for the Aberdare Cemetery.

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DODDS

The Relatives and Friends of ARTHUR DODDS (dec'd), GAIL and IAN OXFORD, LYNN (dec'd), PAULA-LEE and TERRY, ADAM, SANDIE-LYNNE and MARK, BRANDEN and MONICA, BROOKE and CHRIS, FELICITY and SEAN, CANDACE and STEPHEN, ETHAN, JOSH, DYLAN, MADELYNNE, SCARLET, VALERIE, GRAHAM (dec'd) and NARELLE (Toad), are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral Service of their dearly loved wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great grandmother, sister and aunt
VALERIE DOLORES DODDS
Of Banksia Ave Singleton
commencing at 10.30am on MONDAY 8th February 2010 in All Saints Anglican Church, Singleton, followed by a private cremation.

Partridge Bros Singleton
6572 2917 F.D.A. of NSW
www.partridgebrothers.com.au

DUCK

KEITH ROBERT
Of Maryland
Aged 73 Years
Loving husband of JUDITH, loving father and father-in-law of KATHRYN and PAUL, JANENE and DAVE, JAMIE and NICOLE, loving Fardy of his 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Sadly missed by the YATES FAMILY.

Family and Friends are invited to attend **KEITH's** Funeral Service to be held in the Mayfield Uniting Church, Highfield St. Mayfield on MONDAY (8/2/2010) commencing at 2pm. A private cremation will follow the Service.

France
FAMILY FUNERALS
Mayfield 4968 2180

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F.D.A. of NSW

FUNERALS

HAMONET (nee Brooker) RUBY NOELA
Aged 89 Years
Passed away peacefully on 1st February 2010.

Devoted and loving wife of the late Rev. NOEL HAMONET. Loved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother of PEGGY and COLIN FERRETT, HELEN and ANDREW BODIE, CATHY and MICHAEL PETERS, PHILIP HAMONET (dec'd), and FAMILIES. Loving sister, sister-in-law and aunt of the BROOKER and HAMONET FAMILIES.

Family and friends are respectfully advised that the Service for **RUBY** took place privately on THURSDAY 4th February 2010 at St John's Anglican Church, Vacy followed by interment at the Anglican Cemetery Paterson.



4983 1644

NELSON

ADA MAY
Passed away
3rd February, 2010
Aged 88 Years
Late of the Masonic Village, Kurri Kurri. Formerly of Kurri Kurri and Speers Point.

Relatives and Friends are respectfully advised that Funeral details will be published in Saturday's Herald.

LUKE APTHORPE & FAMILY
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Kurri Kurri 4937 5348
Accredited Member AFDA



PURCELL

KEITH CYRIL
Passed away
February 2nd 2010
Aged 60 Years
Late of Metford

Beloved son to PEG and **KEITH SR.** (dec'd). Loving father and father-in-law to ANTHONY (dec'd), SCOTT and KRISTY, JASON and JANELLE. Much loved grandfather to JORDAN, BROOKE, NICHOLAS, MONIQUE. A dear brother to CHRISTINE and SUSAN and a loved member of the PURCELL and LUCAS FAMILIES.

Relatives and Friends of **KEITH** are warmly invited to attend his Funeral Service to be held in the Chapel of St. Patrick's of Nulkaba this SATURDAY, February 6th 2010 commencing at 10.30am.

LANCE L. BOOTS
RAYMOND TERRACE & PORT STEPHENS
4987 2101

FUNERALS

SMITH LYNETTE MARIE
Passed away suddenly and unexpectedly
February 1st 2010
Aged 62 Years
Late of Pelaw Main

Loved mother and mother-in-law to SCOTT and TINA, KYLE and S.A.M. Loving grandmother to DAVID, JACOB, JORDAN and DECLAN. A loved sister, sister-in-law and aunt.

Relatives and Friends of **LYN** are warmly invited to attend her Funeral Service to be held in The Chapel of St. Patrick's of Nulkaba this MONDAY, February 8th 2010 commencing at 1.00pm.

C.R. SMYTH & SON
Wholly Australian and Family Owned
F.D.A. of N.S.W.
4937 4811

TORPEY

JOE
Aged 84 Years
Of Largs

Formerly Muswellbrook. Dearly loved husband of MONICA, father and father-in-law of LEA and TERRY, SUE and JOHN, DONNA and MICHAEL, PA of LIAM, GABRIEL, ALEXANDER, JESSICA, S.A.M., ELIZABETH, JAMES, ELIZA and CHARLOTTE, brother, brother-in-law and uncle of the TORPEY and HURST FAMILIES.

Family and Friends are invited to attend a Mass of Celebration for **JOE's** Life to be held at the Holy Family Catholic Church, George Street, Largs on MONDAY morning at 10.30am. **JOE's** burial will follow at Morpeth Cemetery.

PETER FRY
FUNERALS
4930 1441

FUNERAL SERVICES

A SONG

Can mean... a moment, a place, a lifetime. Female Guitarist/Singer. 4960 0338

IN MEMORIAM

BARRATT, Geoff.—
5.11.56 - 5.2.2005
Rest In Peace

Our hearts are filled with sadness, you tried so hard to stay. We always feel you are near, though it does not take the pain away.
Love from Mum and Dad.

BARRATT, Geoffrey.—
1956 - 2005
Remembered always, forever in our hearts and memories. Loved and missed by brother, JB and Robyn.

CHARLTON, Aimalena.—
05/02/82
CHARLTON, David.—
05/07/75

Remembering you both with love always. Eli and Family.
HUGHES, Ronald.—
5/2/75 - 5/2/02
Eight years have passed since you were taken from us, we miss you every day. Love always, Cheryl, Shane, Shireen, Jacinta and Cameron.

HUGHES, Ron.—
5/2/02
Another year has passed since you were tragically taken, but our memories and love of you still live on. Malcolm, Lorraine and family.

THANKS

THANK YOU Dorothy for your honesty. KCS

MARRIAGES

MORRIS (Nee Woolaston).—
Parents Lynette Woolaston and Phillip Woolaston along with Ken and Patricia Morris advise the marriage of their daughter and son Kristy and Jason will take place on Saturday 6th February at 4pm Shepherds Hill/The Terrace Newcastle. Wishing them both a long and happy future together.

VALENTINE'S DAY



Have a personal message published for your Valentine in Herald Classifieds. Send a message to your loved one by purchasing our special Valentine's Package for only

\$20.00

which includes 4 lines in the text of your message plus a border and a logo of your choice. By doing so, you will go in the draw to win a romantic weekend for 2 at Rydges Parramatta or North Sydney. Valentine's greetings will be published in Herald Classifieds on

Saturday 13 February



Phone 131 696

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES PROBATE DIVISION

After 14 days from publication of this Notice an application for Probate of the Will dated 16 April 1986 of **RAYMOND ANDERSON** late of New Lambton in the State of New South Wales, will be made by Carol Ann Newall and Marilyn Rose Wall. Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon the estate to Sparke Helmore Solicitors, Level 7, Sparke Helmore Building, 28 Honeysuckle Drive, NEWCASTLE NSW 2300.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES EQUITY DIVISION

After 14 days from publication of this notice an application for probate of the Will dated 23 May 1995 of **GWYNETH MARIE** late of Elmore Vale, New South Wales, home duties, deceased will be made by George Henry Homer and Jeanette Frances Homer the Executors named in the said Will. Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon her estate to: SCHOFIELD MUIR, Solicitors, 24 Macquarie Street, BELMONT NSW 2280 (DX 7891, NEWCASTLE)

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES EQUITY DIVISION

After 14 days from publication of this notice an application for probate of the Will dated 15 July 1991 of **PEGGY COLLINS** late of North Lambton, Home Duties, deceased will be made by Judith Anne Skerrett, Geraldine Diane Cocking (in the Will called Geraldine Dianne Cocking) and Peter Gregory Collins, the substituted executors, Frederick Blandford Collins, the instituted executor, having predeceased the testator. Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon her estate to: SCHOFIELD MUIR, Solicitors, 479 The Esplanade, Warners Bay, NSW, 2282 (DX 7891, Newcastle NSW).

LEGAL NOTICES

AFTER 14 days from publication of this notice, an application for Probate of the Will dated 27 January 1994 of the late **EILEEN IRENE CHARTERS**, late of 1/65 Union Street, The Junction, NSW 2291, Widow, will be made by Colin Frederick Charters and son, Pamela Margaret Tapp the daughter, Catherine Philomena Tindal the daughter and John Gerard Charters the son of the deceased. Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon the estate to Gianacas Argiris McDonald, 1st Floor, 200 Union Street, The Junction NSW 2291.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES SYDNEY REGISTRY EQUITY DIVISION PROBATE LIST

AFTER 14 days from publication of this notice an application for probate of the Will dated 25 May 2006 of **GLORIA RICHARD** late of Koombahia Aged Care Facility, Elmore Vale, Widow will be made by Robyn Anne Lake and Gail Marilyn Matthews. Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon her estate to Arnold Lawyers, PO BOX 15, Maitland NSW 2320. Tel: 4933 2277. Ref: NA.NL108947

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES PROBATE DIVISION

AFTER 14 days from publication of this notice an application for probate of the Will dated 19 October 1987 of **MABS JOYCE TURNER** (formerly called Mabel Joyce Turner) late of Woodlands Lodge, Lake Road, Wallsend, in the State of New South Wales, Widow, deceased, will be made by Garry John Turner the Executor named in the Will.

Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon her estate to CUNNINGHAM & ADAM Solicitors, 76 Port Stephens Street, Raymond Terrace, 2324. DX 21413. MOND TERRACE. PH: (02) 4987 3344. Fax: (02) 4983 1335

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES SYDNEY REGISTRY EQUITY DIVISION PROBATE

After 14 days from publication of this notice an application for Probate of the Will dated 1 June 2007 of **MATTHIAS STOCKER** late of Fennell Bay, will be made by Rosalinde Maria Meiners. Creditors are required to send particulars of their claims upon his Estate to Burgess Lawyers, Ground Floor, 21 Bolton Street, Newcastle NSW 2300. DX 7885 Newcastle. Ph: (02) 4929 5602. Ref: DB.LC.201025.

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AUCTION SALES

HOBBY model auction Feb 14th, 420 lots. See Wed/Sat Herald. Phone 0411 24 5551

Dingo Summer Festival
Sunday February 21st
12-5pm Bennett Park FREE EVENT

Music Stage:

Benjalu

Indigenous Dancers
CD Launch: EXPOSED
Belly Dancing Performance
Override
Side Effect

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KYLIE 0428 329 643

Rotary Club of Newcastle Rotary 2010

August this year will see our Rotary Club of Newcastle Community Services Director, Helga Saxarra, take a small group of Rotarians & friends on Safari to Kenya and Zambia. Over the years, Newcastle Rotary Club and Travelworld Newcastle, through Helga's annual African Safaris have forged good relationships and have been supporting both the Motse wa Tsholofelo Orphanage & Day Care Centre in Maun, Botswana as well as the Lubasi Home for girls in Livingstone Zambia and this trip will continue to build on our existing fellowship with our African Rotarian friends.

Contact Helga at tel: 4940 2222 or e-mail: helgas@htg.com.au

Rotary in the Community

Newcastle Rotary continue to support our projects Kaleidoscope for the John Hunter Children's Hospital, Hunter Prostate Cancer Alliance, Jenny's Place and Alzheimer's Australia NSW.

Rotary Membership

Newcastle Rotary Club meets every Monday at 12.45pm at the Bimet Lodge, Union Street. The Junction.

If you are interested in joining us please contact our President Denis Edwards on 4945 1437.

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