

# Tarong Power Stations and Meandu Mine neighbourhood news



Left to right: Dan Redman at Meandu, careers day at Tafe, our team supporting RUok day community check and engineers meeting with students as part of STEM.

## Meet Dan Redman Meandu Mine Site Manager

Dan started at Meandu in August last year after ten years with BHP at the Caval Ridge Mine in Moranbah and at Mt Arthur Coal Mine in the Hunter Valley.

He has two young boys and enjoys taking them fishing or playing a game of soccer in the backyard. In his spare time, Dan enjoys renovating his house and spending time with his family.

Fun facts aside, Dan has an impressive 14 years in the mining industry and is passionate about innovation and industry best practice.

“I want Meandu to be ready to tackle the challenges of the future, embedding innovation in a way that drives our hunger for improvement and provides licence for our people to lead Meandu’s operations in line with industry best practice,” Dan said.

“I want to ensure Tarong and Meandu remain cost competitive and continue to have a place in the South Burnett community for many years to come,” he said.

## Meandu Site Manager’s message

It certainly is nice to bid winter farewell and welcome you to the spring edition of our newsletter. I’d like to start by thanking the many near neighbours and community members who have taken the time to meet with me over the past year. I’ve enjoyed listening to local stories, and learning more about your contributions in our community and what’s most important to you. The vibrancy of our local schools, and dedication of community groups and committees is nothing short of impressive.

So it is with great pleasure I present a snapshot of our recent highlights on site at Meandu Mine:

- Our improved safety performance has shown we are making a positive and active investment in safety and that our people are safety leaders.
- Our engineers have spent time with local primary school students in support of STEM initiatives (science, technology, engineering and maths).
- Work on our Continuous Improvement Roadmap has commenced, with a vision to evolve our operations and embed innovation in line with industry best practice.
- We have partnered with local community groups and not for profit organisations, investing more than \$20,000 in local projects and activities attributed to achieving quality of life outcomes for local residents.
- We recently hosted some local students on work experience and were pleased to welcome the Kingaroy Clontarf Academy for a tour of our operations.
- We continue to undertake our feral animal control program.
- The Tarong Community Partnership Fund Chair, Jenny Gregg, and I celebrated the opening of the Yarraman Station Park Interpretive Centre with the Yarraman Progress Association, Toowoomba Regional Council and the community.

In closing, I value the opportunity to talk openly about our operations in our community and welcome your questions or feedback. Kirstie Schumacher is the conduit for communication between our site and our community and through her relationships continues to keep me informed. Please don’t hesitate to give her a call if there is anything specific you would like to discuss.

Kind regards,  
*Daniel Redman*

## We are moving to an electronic neighbourhood newsletter

Please email **Kirstie Schumacher** at [kirstie.schumacher@stanwell.com](mailto:kirstie.schumacher@stanwell.com) or phone 4160 9233 to register your details to continue receiving this newsletter.

## Water conservation is a priority at Tarong power stations

With water levels in Boondooma Dam continuing to fall, Tarong has enacted many water conservation methods on site. Some of these include reducing the use of Boondooma Dam water by reusing cooling tower blowdown water and drawing available water from Meandu Mine. Other measures include re-instating the Wivenhoe Pipeline in September 2017 to supplement usage of Boondooma Dam water with water from Wivenhoe.

The team will continue to work with local irrigators, the council, SunWater and the State Government to balance any water efficiency measures with the impact on water users of both Boondooma and Wivenhoe Dam and Tarong's downstream water releases into Meandu Barker Creek. Check out more about Boondooma Dam and water conservation at the Tarong power stations at [www.stanwell.com](http://www.stanwell.com)

## Improving Meandu's blasting practices

Meandu has recently reviewed its blasting practices following some feedback received by a near neighbour. This review has supported the team to model how a blast may behave due to the weather forecast. Other innovative practices, including filming each blast with a drone enable the blast engineers to understand how weather conditions at the time of firing can influence what may be noticed by near neighbours. While there is more work to be done, the team has made some great progress. If you would like to receive notifications of scheduled blasts please email [kirstie.schumacher@stanwell.com](mailto:kirstie.schumacher@stanwell.com).

## Summer readiness and outage

The team at Tarong has been working to ensure the reliability of the units in the lead up to high electricity demand experienced in the summer months.

The unit 3 overhaul will occur from 28 September until 27 November. At its peak, this outage is expected to bring up to 500 additional workers to the region.



## Strong relationships in our neighbourhood

Tarong power stations and Meandu Mine's operations are regulated by the Department of Environment and Science who ensure compliance with the site's Environmental Authority (EA). This EA governs the activities that have the potential to release contaminants or create an impact in the environment.

As part of Stanwell's commitment to the legislative requirements of its EA and those who live nearest to its operations, the team regularly reviews the data captured by the site's voluntary air, noise and vibration network. This network includes six environmental monitors, located on and around the site. These monitors are part of Tarong and Meandu's promise to prioritising the way of life for those who live in its neighbourhood and safeguarding their health, safety and wellbeing. The data collected is continuous and is used to better understand any impact the site may have on the neighbourhood to ensure considerate and informed decision making on site.

In an effort to improve this network, a new weather station has been constructed on a neighbouring property to provide accurate data about the weather conditions. While all monitoring data continues to demonstrate Tarong power stations and Meandu Mine are operating well below the limits set by the EA, this new weather station enables the teams to have a better understanding, and control over the aspects of its operations that are influenced by the weather, in particular wind speed and direction.

## Together we create energy solutions

Tarong power stations recently participated in a collaborative "trip to house load" test with Powerlink, Ergon and Energex. The ability to restore power to Brisbane in the event of a blackout is part of Stanwell's contract with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and safeguards Queensland from what was experienced in South Australia in 2016 when 1.7 million homes were impacted by blackouts.

To conduct the testing, Tarong's units were reduced to minimum operational load and then gradually restored transmission in a way that energised the transformer at South Pine, the main transmitter north of Brisbane.

The cooperative approach meant that all the players in the energy supply chain, from Powerlink, who provides poles and wires, to the retailers of electricity, were able to see the process firsthand.

## If you have any questions?

Please contact Community Relations Advisor, Kirstie Schumacher on 4160 9233 or if after hours please contact, Meandu Mine Gatehouse: 4160 7211 or Tarong Gatehouse: 4160 9260