



Miners' Promise
your family our family

The Promise

Issue: December 2015

www.minerspromise.org.au

In this Issue...

- Xmas Message from Richard Kern – p1
- Specsavers special member offer – p2
- The Saint Barbara's Day Festival – p3
- Who is Saint Barbara? – p3
- New CBD location – p4

GIVEAWAY - WIN A \$100 WOOLWORTHS GIFT VOUCHER

As we head into the sixth year of operation, I wish to extend to all of our members and their families; our service providers; participating employers and supporters, a very big thank you – without your commitment, we would be unable to provide support to so many, when needed.

The resources sector has experienced more challenges in the past 12 months, with a significant down-turn. This has resulted in some closures, redundancies and restructuring.

However, no challenge is greater than that experienced by those who have been afflicted by the loss of a loved one – whether work-related or otherwise.

Our thoughts at this time should be focused on our families who have experienced such a loss, and Miners' Promise will continue to provide

A seasonal message from our Chairperson

ongoing support to all of them. It is a timely reminder as the festive season looms, to ensure that as a member, you consider those that matter to you and remain vigilant and stay safe – not just at work, but also on your break.

Not all of you may have the opportunity to spend Christmas with your loved ones. However we hope that if that is the case, that the New Year will bring better opportunities.

I would also like to use this opportunity to update you on some changes Miners' Promise has undergone over this past year.

I'm delighted to officially announce the recent appointment of Wayne Martin in the new position of General Manager. Wayne brings a fresh perspective to the organisation through his extensive managerial experience within Bupa Australia. Once he has found his feet, I'm sure many of you will come into contact with him.

We welcomed Brad Brierley to the Board of Directors. Brad currently works for Doray Minerals as the site Health and Safety Manager. He brings to the Board a wealth of industry experience, particularly in workplace health and safety.

Our executive team moved offices this year to a new location in the City of Perth. The new office space has been provided by the Chamber of Minerals and Energy and represents significant financial savings to the organisation



Richard Kern, Miners' Promise Chairperson

that can be channelled into our core member services.

I would also like to acknowledge my predecessor Graham Crew. Graham resigned his position as Chairperson of Miners' Promise late this year as he has taken up a new work role in Tanzania. Graham was a Director for more than two years and his contribution to the organisation has been considerable. We wish him well in his new venture.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors and Miners' Promise staff, I wish to extend to each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2016.

Warmest Regards

Richard Kern, Chairperson – Miners' Promise

Cliffs Nickel raises \$1,704 for Miners' Promise

Matt Clarke and Tony Frisby made a special visit to the Miners' Promise office in Perth this November to deliver a cheque for a whopping, \$1,704.

The funds were raised from profits of the sale of a specially designed co-branded t-shirt, an initiative instigated by a team of workers at the BHP Billiton's Cliffs Nickel Mine.

"We wanted to do something that would promote the comradery of the team at Cliffs Nickel, and some of the guys suggested it would be good to donate the profits to a good cause. So we did some research online and found Miners' Promise," said Matt Clarke, a supervisor at Cliffs Nickel.

Matt hadn't heard of Miners' Promise before thinking up this fundraising activity earlier in the year, but said when he came across the website,

he was impressed with the stories of the people they had helped and the services they offer to resource sector workers.

"Miners' Promise seemed the perfect organisation to donate the profits of the t-shirt sales to, and when I contacted them, they were really keen to be involved. So we produced a great looking shirt with the Miners' Promise logo on the front and an 'unofficial' Cliff Nickel logo on the back, designed by one our guys here at the mine site," said Matt.

Temby from Miners' Promise accepted the cheque and a t-shirt from the Cliffs Nickel team on behalf of Miners' Promise.

"This was such a great initiative and generous donation made by the Cliffs Nickel team," she said.



Left to right - Tony Frisby, Temby Fitzroy and Matt Clarke at the Miners' Promise office in Perth.



"We were delighted they thought of us, and welcome any opportunity of assistance from within the resource sector to raise awareness of what we do and why we exist.

"We also hope as a result of this great activity, we can develop even stronger ties with the mine site and hope to visit them in the New Year," she added.

The fundraising activity was so successful that the team at Cliffs Nickel have vowed to make this an annual initiative supporting Miners' Promise, and will be turning the design of the Cliffs Nickel logo into an onsite competition.

Left - Some of the Cliffs Nickel crew showcasing the new co-branded t-shirt.



 **Specsavers Member Offer** 

Need a new pair of specs?

Specsavers is offering Miners' Promise members:

- **25%** off one pair of glasses in their \$149 and above range
- Free Digital retinal photography with every standard eye exam
- Plus, limited time Hot Offers

Contact Miners' Promise now for details on how to access this offer.



Miners' Promise attends St Barbara's Day

The Saint Barbara's Day Festival was held between Thursday 3rd and Saturday 5th December this year. It opened with a service held in Saint Barbara's Square commemorating the 1,491 miners who have lost their lives in mining accidents in the Goldfields area since 1893.

Founding Director of Miners' Promise, Helen Fitzroy attended to lay a wreath at the memorial, on behalf of the organisation.

"Being involved in the Saint Barbara's Festival feels to some degree, like coming home to me," said Helen.

"I lived in Norseman for 10 years and that was where my husband was killed, but to be able to connect with others in a similar situation, to be able to assist in supporting them in some instances, to be able to just connect with the community – that to me, is what connects us, and from that I hope that

an awareness develops – I have seen and witnessed the dark side – I want all mine workers and companies to be serious and walk the talk."

"Miners' Promise has been involved with the St Barbara's Day festival since our inception in 2005. Valuing the contribution made by all miners of the Goldfields, the organisation sees the festival as an opportunity to acknowledge not only the fallen miners, but also their families, workmates and the community," added Helen.

The memorial service was followed by a street parade on Saturday, 5 December, where colourful floats descended on Hannan Street.

"It's a great day out for families with plenty of activities for the kids – and we look forward to continuing involvement with the festival in the years to come," added Helen.



Above: Lighting the miners flame to signify the opening of the festival - photo provided courtesy of the Kalgoorlie Miner.

Who is St Barbara?

Saint Barbara is the patron saint of mining in the Goldfields region. The story goes that Barbara, who lived in Third Century Eastern Europe, was the young daughter of a cruel pagan father who kept her locked in a tower until he could arrange an advantageous marriage to a wealthy suitor of his choice.

Barbara, who had secretly converted to Christianity in the tower, fled and took refuge in a mine when her father discovered her wrong-doing – fearing his wrath.

She was discovered by pagan shepherds when foraging for supplies out in the open. The shepherds betrayed her to her father, who re-captured her and ordered her torture and execution.



Above: The Miner's Memorial Wall in Kalgoorlie.



Above: Saint Barbara's Square statue, photo provided courtesy of the Kalgoorlie Miner.

Saint Barbara was cruelly tortured, but miraculously her wounds healed, and on the way to her execution, she was said to have prayed for the lives of the miners who had shielded her from harm, rather than for her own life.

Soon after her death, her father was mysteriously struck by lightning and the shepherds who betrayed her found their sheep turned to beetles!

5 x \$100 Woolies Gift Cards up for grabs!

All our members will automatically receive one entry into our Xmas Draw to win 1 of 5 \$100.00 Woolworths Wish Gift Cards.

DOUBLE your chances by liking us on facebook now!

 Find us on Facebook

If you haven't already - go to the Miners' Promise facebook page now and 'like us' and we'll add an **extra entry** into the draw for you. (Members who have already liked us on facebook will automatically receive a double entry as a thank you.)



Woolworth's Wish Gift Cards can be redeemed at Woolies, Big W, Masters, BWS, Caltex, Thomas Dux, Dan Murphy's and Cellarmasters.

Winners will be drawn on Monday 21 Dec and notified on the same day so vouchers can be sent out immediately.

Our Contact Details

Postal Address:

PO Box 7165,
Cloisters Square WA 6850

By phone:

1300 124 014

By email:

info@minerspromise.org.au

New CBD location for Miners' Promise

Miners' Promise moved to its new location within the Chamber of Minerals and Energy (CME) offices in the Central Business District in Perth (CBD) this year.

The new space provides centrally located and secure office space for the organisation to manage its operations, and represents significant financial savings giving greater flexibility in the range of services it can offer to members.

Miners' Promise is very grateful to the CME's kind generosity in providing it

with the opportunity to share office space in the heart of the CBD.

This move has reduced overheads, enabling those savings to be directly channelled into core services and other member programs, but also brings the organisation closer to many resource sector members and industry organisations.

The new office is located on Level 10, 2 Mill Street in the City of Perth. All other contact information including telephone numbers and email addresses remain the same.

Make sure you let us know if you have moved or if any of your contact details change.



 Find us on Facebook

facebook.com/minerspromiseorg

 Follow us on twitter

@minerspromise

www.minerspromise.org.au



Miners' Promise

your family our family