snowyhydro

NEWS

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THE SCIENCE BEHIND SNOWY

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This page: Khancoban Dam.
Cover image: Science communicator and astrophysicist Kirsten Banks with Snowy Hydro scientist Johanna Speirs at Cabramurra

CEO UPDATE

A message from Managing Director and CEO Paul Broad

As spring arrives with a bit more sunshine, we at Snowy are looking forward to a bright and positive period continuing for our local communities.

It is great seeing visitors flock to the Snowy Mountains region once again after the COVID-19 restrictions of the last couple of years. Snowy Hydro has been proactive in promoting a safety-first approach for drivers on our winding and steep roads, with a number of initiatives including a winter communications campaign: 'remember, in ice and snow, take it slow!'

We're really seeing some exciting progress with our Snowy 2.0 pumped-hydro project around the mountains worksites of Lobs Hole, Tantangara, Marica and Polo Flat. There is now a project workforce of more than 2,100 and our onsite camps, plus the Joule Ridge facility in Cooma, can accommodate up to 1,800 workers - they're like small towns.

With about 150 local companies directly involved providing goods and services to Snowy 2.0, that's an economic boost of $92 million (and growing), not including the further economic uplift generated in Cooma, Tumut and beyond by regional supply chains.

The Polo Flat precast concrete segment factory has celebrated an excellent milestone, with all 25,000 of the dry access tunnel segments completed and production continuing very well.

Our people are the powerhouse of Snowy Hydro and of course Snowy 2.0. We are proud of our diversity and the opportunities we provide for the existing and future workforce. For example, one of the Snowy 2.0 apprentices, Brian Graham, is a tradie in his 60s who is retraining for his new career as an electrician. How brilliant is that? On Snowy Hydro's Snowy 2.0 project team, there are at least 14 women working in engineering roles covering hydropower, spoil and water management, structural engineering, and surface and road works.

Did you know that Snowy Hydro is one of the largest investors in renewable energy offtake agreements in Australia? We have supported the construction of 1.3 gigawatts of new wind and solar plants since 2017 and continue to expand our renewable portfolio, recently signing an offtake with CWP Renewables' new Uungula wind farm. Combined with our on-demand hydro assets, these investments allow us to supply 'firm', secure, low-emissions energy to the market.

It has been an extremely challenging period for the Australian energy sector. Severe weather conditions have compounded global fuel shortages and ongoing supply chain disruptions from COVID-19. If anything, the recent and ongoing domestic energy crisis has highlighted the value of Snowy Hydro's assets and its investments such as Snowy 2.0.

Snowy has played a key role in maintaining energy system security. Our on-demand generation and storage capability produced a record amount of energy to cover shortfalls from other sources of supply, avoiding blackouts. We did this even though it was financially costly for our business.

We used over half the water available to us under the NSW Government-issued Snowy Water Licence in the first 10 weeks of the water year, which runs from May to April. Such was our contribution to keeping the lights on. This has depleted our scarce reserves of water (our hydro 'fuel') and as a peaking generator, it has meant we have operated our built assets at levels beyond their design parameters. This is unsustainable, and the times ahead will continue to be testing.

However, we are up for the challenge. The Snowy Scheme has been a constant and reliable part of our energy system for decades and it will be so for a long time yet, as we focus on our role of underpinning energy security, leading the transition to renewables and increasing competition in energy markets, leading to lower prices for consumers.

Paul Broad
Managing Director and CEO

Lobs Hole panorama view

Snowy 2.0

LOBS HOLE

Tunnel boring machine (TBM) Lady Eileen Hudson has reached the north side of the power station complex and with less than 200m to go, is progressing steadily towards the Main Access Tunnel (MAT) finish line. Once tunnelling is complete, the TBM will be partially dismantled and removed from the MAT before being reassembled at the Talbingo adit, ready to commence the 6km tailrace tunnel. At the adit, the construction of the TBM cradle and supporting infrastructure is underway. The new cutterhead is now onsite and being welded together, along with new front and middle shields.

Development of the power station complex is now ramping up, with the construction of the road invert inside the MAT, along with drainage systems and drill and blast activities for an additional 10km of access tunnels. These will be used to access the machine and transformer halls, penstocks and the tailrace surge shaft.

TBM Kirsten has reached the halfway point of the Emergency, Cable and Ventilation Tunnel (ECVT) on the south side of the power station complex and is progressing well.

At the main camp in Lobs Hole, 1,260 rooms are now available to the workforce, which has expanded to more than 2,100 in total. Camp amenities including the club house, gymnasium, wet and dry mess and laundries are all operational and work is progressing on enclosed basketball and soccer areas and a running track.

TANTANGARA AND MARICA

Preparations are underway for the excavation of the gate shaft at Tantangara, with a large shed being erected over the shaft location to provide protection from the variable Tantangara weather. This shaft, which will be about 65 metres deep, is required for the construction of the gate valve on the headrace tunnel.

All roads at Tantangara are currently being upgraded to dual lane to allow access for heavy vehicles needed during the construction phase.

At Marica, the concrete batch plant is now commissioned and the water treatment plant is almost complete. Pre-sink excavation of the upstream surge shaft is progressing.

Tantangara intake works within the cofferdam

CONCRETE SEGMENT FACTORY

The precast TBM tunnel segments production facility at Polo Flat, Cooma, recently completed manufacturing 25,000 concrete segments for the dry access tunnels, including the MAT and the ECVT at Lobs Hole. Production is now focused on the wet tunnel segments.

Dry and wet tunnel segments have slightly different requirements in their concrete mix design. Precast segments for dry tunnels are manufactured with polypropylene fibres to provide protection in the event of a fire. These segments have been thoroughly tested under fire loads mimicking extreme fire conditions.

To date, a combined total of 38,000 segments needed to line all of the Snowy 2.0 tunnels have come off the Polo Flat production line. This represents about 30% of the 130,000-plus segments required for the entire project. The factory employs more than 100 people, including locals.

Robots clean a segment mould

Transport of TBM Lady Eileen components to site

Work underway on tunnel cross passages

Connecting the tunnels

Cross passages are tunnels that connect the Main Access Tunnel (MAT) and the Emergency, Cable and Ventilation Tunnel (ECVT). Vehicle and pedestrian access tunnels are a design requirement to allow secondary access or egress points at various intervals along the tunnels. This is also a requirement for highway tunnels constructed in cities.

There are four cross passages between the MAT and ECVT, which will be constructed using conventional drill and blast excavation fully supported with rockbolts, mesh and shotcrete. During construction, the cross passages provide a number of other benefits, including keeping pedestrians separated from vehicular traffic, ventilation, locating construction offices and storage areas.

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

Opportunities abound

Engineers working on Snowy 2.0

At Snowy Hydro, the range of engineering roles is vast to say the least. On any given day in the office, out in the field or onsite, engineers can be found investigating ground conditions and rock types, designing transmission lines, or reviewing structural plans for the new Snowy 2.0 underground power station.

Geotechnical engineer Kara Stariha says in terms of variety, Snowy 2.0 is an engineer's dream. "It is such a complicated project – it's very long, it's very deep and to get information in the early stages of design is very difficult."

Kara has been in the workforce for a decade and didn't know her particular engineering job existed until she was half-way through university. "It's really easy to see skyscrapers and bridges but there are so many specialities, and so much goes on underground with geotechnical works and mechanical works. It's a different world."

Just on Snowy 2.0, there are at least 14 women working in engineering roles covering hydropower, spoil and water management, structural engineering, and surface and road works. Lead structural engineer Arlene Dela Cruz manages design reviews inside the power station, while mechanical engineer Kirsten Brennan is focused on what goes inside the underground cavern once the tunnelling is complete, including all the turbines and power generation equipment.

Kara believes the high representation of women on the Snowy 2.0 project is partially due to improvements in working arrangements that help attract and retain them. She points to industry-wide support for families, including flexible working and parental leave for men and women, which makes it easier for women to stay in the workforce, and for men to work part-time and help support the family so their partners can return to work.

And the diversity doesn't end at gender. "In our team we have many different personalities and different ways of thinking about things. We all work so well together and I have never had any indication from anybody, anywhere that my opinion was any less because I was female or because I was young," Kara said.

With the female engineers' cohort spread across multiple Snowy sites, getting a group photo with TBM Florence before she went underground seemed like mission impossible, but they pulled it off – even the weather played nicely. And, ever resourceful, the engineers also managed to rope in a worker high up on his elevated work platform to capture the aerial shot.

Master *and* apprentice

Brian Graham as a second-year apprentice

Brian Graham in his previous trade

By the time most people reach their sixties they're starting to think seriously about retirement, but Brian Graham is bucking that trend. After a long career as a pattern maker and at the top of his trade, Brian opted for a new perspective.

When his wife Judy accepted a role with Snowy 2.0 and moved to Cooma, he resigned from the job he loved at Weir Minerals in Sydney and took a leap into the unknown. The only certainty was that there were no foundries in the Snowy Mountains so his pattern making days were most likely over.

Originally from Falkirk, Scotland, Brian served his apprenticeship with Carron Company, which made munitions during both world wars and was famous for forging the cannons used by the Duke of Wellington in the battle of Waterloo. Pattern makers use wood, metal, plastic and plaster to create a full-size model of objects to be cast in iron or other metals. In his early years, Brian made counterweights for forklift trucks and after his apprenticeship, moved to Australia to work for Mitsubishi Motors.

But it was a stint working in the boat building industry on the Gold Coast in 2010 that would again change Brian's life trajectory. He briefly met his future wife, then by coincidence met her again several years later through a mutual friend. They married In 2017 and settled into life and work in Sydney before Judy joined Snowy Hydro.

Brian found work as a mechanical trades assistant (TA) at the Polo Flat segment factory and learned from the Snowy 2.0 principal contractor Future Generation Joint Venture's training manager, Aaron Reid, that TAs could be accepted into apprenticeships. He enrolled himself at TAFE to study electrotechnology and set his heart on an electrical apprenticeship, but was unsure of his chances against much younger competition.

Tim Dean was construction superintendent at Polo Flat at the time and when an electrical apprenticeship eventually opened up on Snowy 2.0, he had no reservations considering Brian. "He was a really great candidate – punctual, solid work ethic, attention to detail, always gave 100% and to expose yourself to a whole new learning, you've got to be brave. I've never had a guy with tears in his eyes when we announced it, he was over the moon."

And Brian hasn't looked back. He is now in his second year as an electrical apprentice working at Lobs Hole, and clearly loves his new career. "I got support from Tim and Aaron and have nothing but respect for them," he said. "To give someone my age an apprenticeship like this is absolutely fantastic."

At one stage Brian was the oldest kid on the block and the only male apprentice, but he says that he's always felt accepted. "I'm just a normal guy and it's a fantastic opportunity and I can't thank people enough."

Snowy keeping the lights on

Tumut 3 Power Station at night

The Australian energy crisis remains ongoing, with Snowy Hydro being called on more than ever to keep the lights on and prices down.

Snowy's role as the National Electricity Market's (NEM) 'insurance policy', providing on-demand energy generation during the crisis, has helped avoid major blackouts, but it has also significantly impacted our business.

Snowy Hydro is a relatively small supplier of energy owing to the fact that our principal source of fuel (water) is limited. In most years we supply between 2-4% of the total energy generated in the NEM, operating at critical times of peak demand and when there are unplanned baseload outages.

The current crisis has arisen due to shortfalls from suppliers of bulk energy, including coal, wind and solar. To help manage this shortfall, Snowy Hydro has operated its assets at record levels, effectively as a baseload generator.

Some public commentary has suggested Snowy is responsible for recent high wholesale energy prices in the NEM.

Managing Director and CEO Paul Broad said that to blame this on Snowy Hydro when it stepped into the void left by bulk energy providers was absurd.

"Were it not for the actions of Snowy, prices would have been significantly higher. Our teams have worked tirelessly and closely with AEMO, the market operator, throughout this challenging period.

"In May this year, generation from the Snowy Scheme was almost double the previous monthly record. This was essential for maintaining security of supply in the NEM, but it is not sustainable.

"Snowy's ability to operate in this manner is constrained by its fuel scarcity – we don't have enough water to manage the 'energy gap' from other generators for extended periods," Mr Broad said.

The steps taken by Snowy to help keep the lights on have in fact been detrimental to our financial and risk position.

Snowy Hydro rejects any suggestion that the company has been 'profiteering' from the crisis, or has in any way exacerbated it.

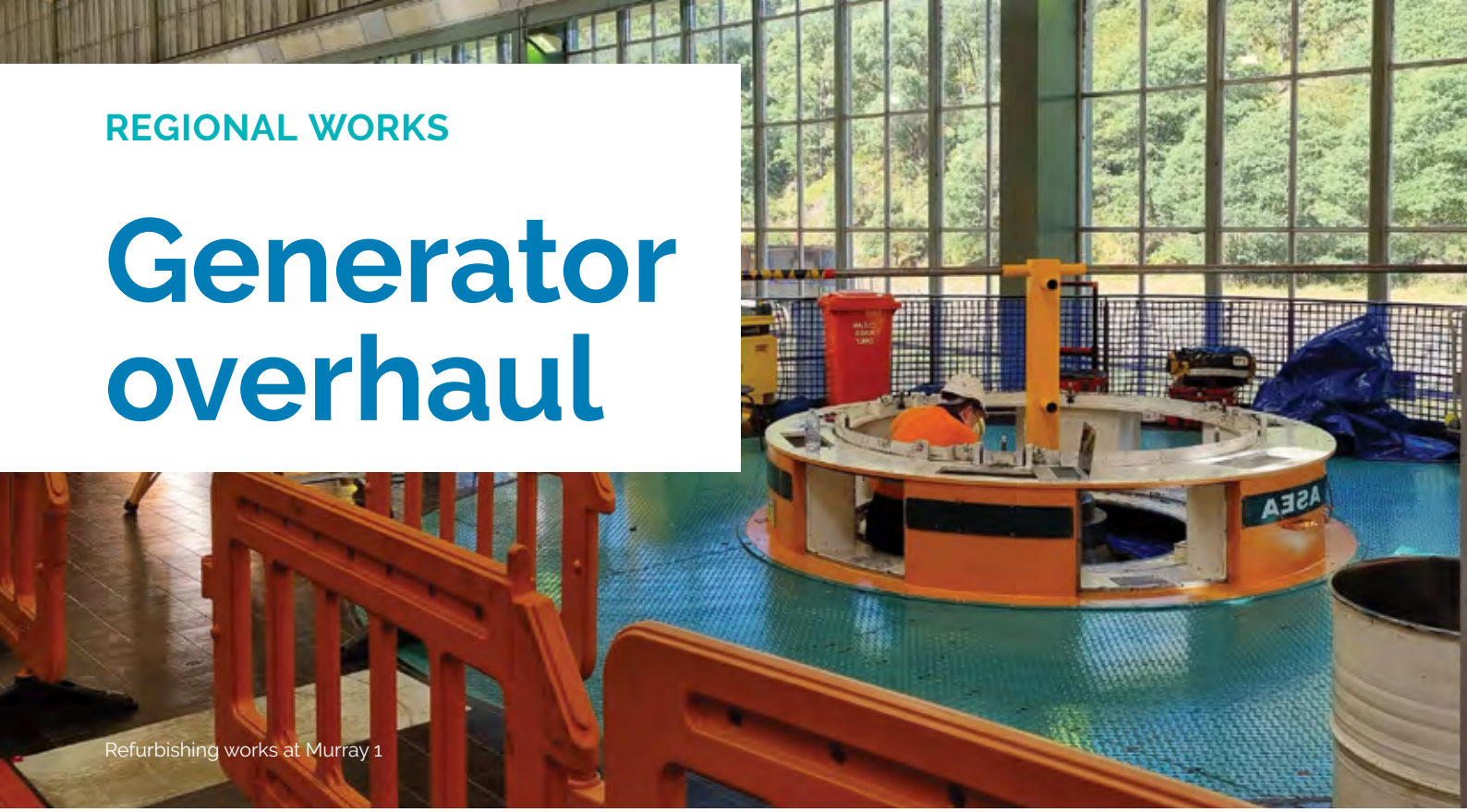
Our water resources must be carefully allocated to the highest value periods in order to keep the lights on. It is wrong to suggest that high prices could have been avoided, or that Snowy Hydro should have offered its generation at lower prices.

Doing so would have caused our hydro assets to be dispatched ahead of other forms of generation with a cheaper cost of fuel. Not only would this not have made economic sense, it would have left us unable to respond to critical demand peaks this winter and summer, further increasing the risk of blackouts.

Snowy Hydro remains focused on ensuring security of supply for the NEM during this challenging period.

REGIONAL WORKS

Generator overhaul



Refurbishing works at Murray 1

Keeping the assets of the Snowy Scheme running reliably in the market requires ongoing attention, with work ranging from small repairs to major equipment overhauls. Over recent months, the team at Murray 1 Power Station has been carrying out a significant repair and refurbishment program which will reset the service life of its generators and turbines.

There are 10 units at Murray 1 which gives Snowy flexibility to have one or two units out of action for maintenance, with minimum impact on generation and capacity.

A number of condition-based plant repairs were identified on the turbine top and bottom covers and generator rotors as part of ongoing life extension and risk management. While the units are out for repairs, the Snowy team is taking the opportunity to refurbish certain components and repair areas of general wear and tear. This includes replacement of the generator rotor poles, retiring an original design and manufacturing risk, and refurbishing the generator stator.

Typically this type of work is carried out on a 20-25 year cycle, depending on the age and condition of the plant. In some instances, once-off repairs are required to fix defects identified as part of the refurbishment.

For this latest overhaul, each generating unit is removed from service and disassembled. The generator rotor is placed in a special storage location in the station, called the poling pit, where it remains for the duration of its refurbishment. Once the rotor poles are removed, specialist machining contractors complete some machining on the rotor hub prior to installation of the new poles.

A rotor pole is used to produce and control the magnetic field in the generator, which when rotated by the turbine, induces a current flow in the generator stator conductors. This process is the essence of electrical power generation from any electrical generator.

The disassembly of the turbine and components can occur concurrently to the generator and rotor works, and the turbine top cover is transported offsite for weld and machining repairs. The remaining components are repaired and refurbished onsite by a combination of Snowy Hydro teams and external contractors.

The reassembly includes a full unit re-alignment to ensure all critical components are maintained within the tight engineering specifications. Once assembled, the unit goes through a series of stringent offline and online commissioning tests, including rotor balancing and heat runs before being given the green light for return to commercial service.

Snowy Hydro works with a range of specialist contractors from the local region and further afield to complete the refurbishment successfully. It usually takes around six or seven months to refurbish each hydro unit, depending on the scope of repairs.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Energy portfolio grows

Snowy Hydro has signed a contract to purchase power and renewables certificates from a new CWP Renewables wind farm development near Wellington in New South Wales. The deal with the Uungula wind farm is the twelfth for Snowy Hydro and will increase the total energy that Snowy purchases from renewables projects to 4.1 terawatt hours each year.

Managing Director and CEO Paul Broad said the agreement supported Snowy Hydro's commitment as a leader in Australia's renewable energy transition by providing affordable, reliable and clean energy to its commercial and industrial customers.

"Renewables are the future and by combining our contracted wind and solar projects with our on-demand hydro assets we can provide 'firm', secure, low-emissions energy to the market, while keeping the lights on," Mr Broad said.

The new deal to purchase 200 megawatts of Uungula's output for a 15-year term is set to start in 2026. CWP Renewables CEO Jason Willoughby said the agreement confirms the ongoing demand for renewables.

"It's great to have Snowy Hydro on-board as a foundation offtaker for the project, which in turn helps us continue to develop our pipeline of renewable projects," Mr Willoughby said.

"At 414 megawatts (MW), Uungula will be our largest wind farm to date and provide enough clean electricity to power more than 200,000 homes."

CWP Renewables currently owns and operates 650MW of renewable energy assets in the National Electricity Market and Snowy Hydro has an existing offtake agreement in place for power from CWP's Bango wind farm, north of Yass.

"This partnership is another example of Snowy Hydro securing greater investment in renewables across Australia, which is a win-win for everyone," Mr Broad said.

Uungula wind farm has received development approval and construction is planned to start this year, supporting more than 260 jobs.

RECREATION

Boost for alpine trout

Lake Eucumbene

Snowy Hydro has been closely engaged with the fishing community, particularly the Monaro Acclimatisation Society (MAS), since the announcement of the Snowy 2.0 pumped-hydro project.

Throughout the Snowy 2.0 approval process, Snowy worked with MAS on a proposal to grow-out trout used for restocking the local lakes from the usual 'fingerling' stage up to a size which would allow them to thrive alongside any pest fish like redfin.

This idea has worked well in places like Victoria, where people continue to enjoy a great trout fishing experience despite the presence of competition from pest species.

Now, the Snowy Mountains iconic alpine trout fisheries are set to benefit from a $5 million funding package provided by Snowy Hydro to offset any potential risks to the trout fishery as a result of Snowy 2.0, and to ensure the long-term viability of the fishery.

Working closely with Fisheries NSW and MAS, Snowy Hydro will provide funding to upgrade and augment the existing Gaden trout hatchery in Thredbo Valley to grow fingerlings up to 20-30cm, along with long-term water security so the program can continue well into the future.

Fish are already being grown at the Gaden hatchery up to this size, before being tagged and released, with evidence this is having a positive effect on the recreational fishing experience - people are catching tagged fish!

The $5 million investment from Snowy Hydro will add to the $8 million invested by the NSW Government in Gaden to provide a world-class fish hatchery facility and tourism attraction.

Snowy Hydro's Head of Environment and Lands, Charlie Litchfield, said design work for the upgrade at Gaden is underway now. "There is also agreement about the quantity of fish to be grown and where and when they will be released.

"The relationship between Fisheries NSW, MAS and Snowy is very constructive and we expect this to deliver significant benefits to recreational fishing and tourism in the Snowy Mountains for the long term.

"The commitment from Snowy Hydro should result in a significantly enhanced regional capability to hatch and grow out fish, and put them where they can be caught and enjoyed by new and experienced fishing enthusiasts."

This will build on the existing contribution made by the company and the mighty Snowy Scheme to the regional economy, without which the lakes would not be available and accessible to the local community and visitors.

Jackson Hamson

On the right path with Clontarf

Clontarf students attend an NRL training session

When Snowy apprentice Jackson Hamson first crossed paths with the Clontarf Foundation as a Year 9 student in Singleton, he wasn't sure what to expect. He had seen other youth programs come and go, but he soon realised Clontarf was no ordinary academy.

"The blokes that were working for them loved what they did and that really shone through; they were genuinely there to support the kids," Jackson said. "If you were willing to put in the effort to go to school and do the right thing, they would jump through hoops for you."

Two years later, Jackson joined a group from Clontarf travelling to visit the Snowy Scheme to learn about career opportunities. A week of work experience followed and in Year 12, as he was about to sit his HSC exams, he applied for an apprenticeship with Snowy. "I got the job and I was very keen. I knew it was going to be hard but I was well and truly ready to make that sacrifice."

After an onboarding program in Wollongong in early 2020, Jackson started at Talbingo as an apprentice mechanical engineer. A month later he was in a COVID-19 lockdown, along with the rest of Australia. "I didn't go home for three or four months, which was hard. I was only 18 and had just moved there, but the Snowy guys in Talbingo were absolutely phenomenal helping me through that."

Now a third-year apprentice in the Murray region's major outages team, Jackson is one of three Clontarf alumni employed at Snowy Hydro and wherever possible, finds ways to mentor students coming through the Foundation. "It has done a hell of a lot for my confidence and I love to give back to Clontarf because they have done so much for me."

Beginning in 2000 as a single academy in WA, the Clontarf Foundation now operates 139 academies across the country and has helped more than 5,500 young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men complete Year 12 and find employment. Snowy Hydro is a proud partner assisting Clontarf students with work experience, relationship building skills and employment opportunities.

Recently, students from Clontarf academies across NSW joined Snowy teams for Super Training events including a session at Olympic Park during the NRL State of Origin series. The trip included tickets to the NSW-Queensland game, as well as a chance for the boys to work on their football skills on the NSW team's training field at Homebush.

As for getting yourself on the right path, Jackson says he remembers advice he was once given: "It takes 10 seconds to make a bad first impression and 10 years to earn it back. Keep your head down and work hard."

Glowing pink for breast cancer

For one special winter's night each year, the city of Melbourne is awash with pink. Well-known attractions including Flinders Street Station, the Bolte Bridge and the beloved MCG turn on pink lights in support of the annual Pink Lady Match for Australians affected by breast cancer. As one of the biggest fundraising events of Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA), the game is a high-profile opportunity for AFL fans around the country to support people impacted by the disease.

Red Energy has supported BCNA since 2014 and along with providing donations and the largest volunteer group for the Pink Lady Match, Red also turns pink for the day, with co-branded merchandise to help raise awareness and funds.

In 2022, an estimated 20,640 Australians will be diagnosed with breast cancer, including 212 men. For many of them, BCNA is the first place they turn to after diagnosis. CEO Kirsten Pilatti says BCNA's role is about making sure everyone affected by breast cancer receives the very best care, treatment and support.

"We know the person who has been diagnosed will often feel more in control than those around them as they are getting the information and support. BCNA has resources for partners, family, colleagues and friends and we try to give practical information about what they can do to be a support person," Kirsten said.

The Pink Lady Match this year, played between Melbourne and Brisbane, drew a crowd of more than 38,000 fans to the MCG and raised $350,000 through the sale of BCNA beanies and the virtual 'Stand with me at the G' campaign.

"It's an amazing fundraising opportunity that builds our brand and profile with the very purpose of making sure that if someone is diagnosed with breast cancer, they know we are here for them. The Pink Lady Match reaches people who won't know today that they need us tomorrow," said Kirsten.

Red Energy extended its partnership with BCNA last year, with the introduction of the Red BCNA Saver Plan to residential customers. More than 4,300 electricity and gas accounts are now in place, contributing an additional $170,000 to BCNA's funds.

"The magic of our partnership with people like Red is they believe in what we do and they are here for all the right reasons - and the plan helps give BCNA certainty around funding for the year ahead," said Kirsten. "It is such a special way for the customers and staff at Red to contribute to BCNA in a meaningful way."

Science in the snow

Astrophysicist, science communicator and Snowy 2.0 tunnel boring machine namesake Kirsten Banks has been out and about exploring the Snowy Scheme over recent months. Kirsten is working with Snowy Hydro to create a series of educational videos: The Science Behind the Snowy Scheme, with topics including water, weather, engineering, energy, gravity and cloud-seeding.

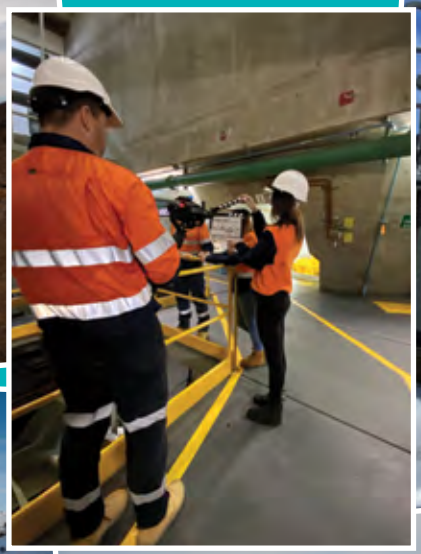
Kirsten visited the Scheme during autumn and winter, observing the different science-related activities of the seasons, and in each video talks with at least one Snowy Hydro expert.

The initial series of 10 videos, each up to three minutes long, will cover a topic as part of the Next Generation Education Hub. Accompanying activities will help students further explore the science behind the Snowy Scheme.

Followers of @AstroKirsten on TikTok may have already spotted Kirsten on location having science-y fun in the snow and cracking icy puddles. Stay tuned to Snowy Hydro's social media channels for updates as we get closer to launch later in the year.

Follow Kirsten Banks

- Tiktok @astrokirsten
- Instagram @astrokirsten
- Twitter @astrokirsten



A picture is worth a thousand words

Local students of the Snowy Mountains have shown off their artistic skills in the recent Snowy Scheme in Pictures competition. The talented students from years K-12 submitted some amazing entries with Snowy's power stations, dams and reservoirs captured as drawings or digital designs. Winners will be able to treat their family to a trip to one of the Scheme's assets and may have some of their artwork reproduced on pieces of Snowy Hydro merchandise, available for sale at the Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre later this year.

Ashton Farrell, Year 5 winner

And the winners are ...

Stage 2-3 **Ashton Farrell,** year 5
Cooma Public school.

Stage 4-5 **Sienna Prosser,** year 10
Corryong College.

Congratulations Ashton and Sienna!

Sienna Prosser, Year 10 winner

Scan to get to the
Next Generation Education Hub

Happy Birthday!

Happy birthday Next Generation Education Hub!

Snowy Hydro's interactive online learning portal celebrated its first birthday in July with an event at the Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre in Cooma. The Next Generation Education Hub features modules that align with the Australian curriculum and focuses on igniting students' imaginations and expanding their knowledge of STEM subjects.

Local children and their families were invited to celebrate the milestone. The new multi-purpose education room at the Discovery Centre was a hive of activity, with kids learning alongside Snowy engineers, building and constructing models of their own creation. The snowmaking station was popular all day – snowballs and snow people were a common theme!

Special guest Kirsten Banks, the Wiradjuri astrophysicist, science communicator and Snowy 2.0 TBM namesake, treated the kids to a Q&A in the immersive theatre. Kirsten talked about the many and varied careers in STEM and reminded the next generation about how important it is for them to follow their curiosity and interests.

Teachers and students can discover the Snowy Scheme's past, present and future and learn about how the power of water generates renewable energy. The Next Gen online platform contains downloadable activity sheets and lesson plans that include the Scheme's rich history, stories behind the engineering and the science of the Scheme.

Another great way to support Breast Cancer Network Australia

Red Energy has partnered with Breast Cancer Network Australia since 2014 to help support Australians affected by breast cancer. Our partnership enables us to contribute, support and collaborate with BCNA on what is a very personal cause to many Australians.

How we will contribute to BCNA on your behalf

When you sign up as a residential customer to a Red BCNA Saver plan, we will contribute up to $10 every month to BCNA. That's $5 for electricity and $5 for gas accounts for every month that you remain on the Red BCNA Saver plan up to the value of $120 each year.*

We're here to help

Our Customer Solutions team is based in Melbourne so our customers benefit from dealing one on one with a locally based, award-winning team and the economy benefits from keeping Aussie jobs here. To find out more or switch to the 'Red BCNA Saver plan' call us **131 806.**

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Breast Cancer Network Australia

*Offer available to residential customers signing up to the Red BCNA Saver plan. Red Energy will contribute $5 per fuel to Breast Cancer Network Australia (ABN 16 087 937 531) for each calendar month you are on the Red BCNA Saver electricity and/or gas plan, starting from and including the date Red Energy becomes responsible for your electricity and/or gas supply. Eligibility criteria and conditions apply. Basic Plan Information Documents and Fact Sheets available at redenergy.com.au/bpid.