

MAWSE CODE

MAY 2010



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CONTACT: HEAD OFFICE: COHUNA

141 King George St
Cohuna 3568

Ph: (03) 5456 2409

Fax: (03) 5456 2428

Email: sales@mawsons.com.au

www.mawsons.com.au

WELLBEING ON THE INSIDE.

As part of our on-going employee wellbeing program, staff at the last managers' meeting heard from a specialist Beyond Blue depression counsellor. This excellent presentation improved everyone's appreciation of the debilitating effects of depression and anxiety.

After the Beyond Blue presentation Colleen Balfour (Mawsons OH&S Manager) introduced our new Employee Assistance Program. This program offers all employees and their immediate families access to an expert counselling service which is completely independent of Mawsons. Counselling for a wide range of personal and psychological problems is free and strictly confidential. Counselling can be over-the-phone or face-to-face and includes advice or support in matters including depression, anxiety, drug abuse, gambling and family disputes. Over the next couple of weeks, Colleen will be visiting sites to deliver more information about the program.

BROKEN HILL AND SEYMOUR

The last edition of Mawse Code mentioned two exciting new acquisitions for Mawsons. This edition includes more information about the Broken Hill concrete & quarry operation and Seymour concrete plant. Managers, Paul Bell, John Harry and Dave Windram are settling in to

their new roles and with the support of the local teams, are quickly establishing a good name for Mawsons in these new markets.

BUDGETS 2010 /2011

Our budget for the financial year commencing 1 July 2010 was adopted when the Board and Executive met recently in Cohuna. I would like to thank everyone who helped pull this complex process together; the input from all levels of management is invaluable in producing a workable set of numbers to use as a guide for our business.

The budget for next year is set against a different set of circumstances than 2009/2010; in this new budget we are hopeful that the Financial Crisis has passed and the drought is breaking. With expectations of increased government infrastructure spending in the run up to an election and improved economic conditions in regional centres, next year's budget targets present real challenges for all our team.

I am sure that everyone will continue to work hard on safely providing excellent service and products so that we only need a little bit of luck to "Ice the cake" and record another strong performance in 2010/2011.

John Mawson,
Managing Director

DEVELOPMENTS IN SHOTCRETE

Contributed by Dale Evans

Recently I was lucky enough to attend the 3rd International Conference of Engineering Developments in Shotcrete. The three day conference was held in Queenstown New Zealand in March, attended by 150 delegates made up of engineers, shotcrete suppliers, mine operators and material suppliers from all over Australia as well as from overseas.

Topics covered at the conference ranged from selection of shotcrete fibres and other materials, to mix designs and innovations in applying shotcrete.

John Robinson, Senior Rock Mechanic Engineer and Barry Pridham, Shotcrete Supervisor from Northgate Minerals Fosterville Gold Mine also attended the conference.

Pictured is John with crutches, Dale and Barry. The other picture shows the traditional welcome performed by the local Maori community on the first day of the conference.



AROUND THE TRAPS

WANGARATTA NEWS

Well done to Rick Layley and Wayne York who assisted in putting out a fire in January this year. The fire started on the nature strip of Wangaratta Recycling Centre, just down the road from the Wangaratta Concrete Plant.

A cyclist riding past alerted Wayne to the situation as he was washing down his chute. Wayne advised Rick who drove the loader down with a couple of buckets of water, while Wayne took the truck and used the mixer's water hose to help contain the fire.

It is believed the fire may have been started by a passer-by flicking a cigarette butt.

What can't be seen in the photo below are all the pallets of recycled paper stored just on the other side of the fence.



VALE KEN WHITE

Ken White joined the team at Pyramid Hill Quarries in October, 1989 after his position as Station Master at Pyramid Hill Railway Station was discontinued.

Ken's thorough understanding of the districts around Pyramid and his pleasant, efficient manner with customers made him a very valuable employee. His firm but fair approach earned him much respect and his willingness to "go a bit further" for customers made him very popular.

Ken was an honest hard working man who never shied away from a busy day on the weighbridge even when it meant enforcing tough credit or load restraint rules (tarping), legal load mass requirements or mastering new Command Despatch and eReq programs.

Among Ken's interests and hobbies was the collection of antiques, including a collection of Aladdin lamps. He also had a passion for "mini" cars and was always on the look out for odd pieces of Bakelite to add to his Bakelite collection.

Ken was proud of his old shot gun and his prowess with it and was very good at keeping old things going – including his lawn mowers as he moved from one to the other when they broke down.

Ken dealt with his cancer bravely, recovering well from very serious surgery and enjoying time with his family and friends. It was great to see him at last years' family day in Maldon.

Ken was laid to rest at Pyramid Hill Cemetery on Monday January 18th, leaving behind his loving family, wife Joanne, daughters Kim and Tracey and son-in-law Brad. Ken also had three brothers Max, and twins Robin and Colin. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him in and around Pyramid Hill, where he was a strong community member.



AROUND THE TRAPS

Broken Hill AgFAir • May 8th and 9th

Over the years, Agfair has developed into the biggest biennial event on Broken Hill's calendar and draws patrons and exhibitors from all parts of Australia. The 2008 event had 300 exhibitors in attendance and saw approximately 10,000 patrons go through the gates. The 2010 event was reported as being even bigger.

Agfair 2010 marked the 20th year of operation and the partnership of the Rotary Club of Broken Hill and the Pastoralists Association of West Darling.

This year, for the first time, Mawsons had a site and this site attracted much attention during the two days. Lots of enquiries and favourable comments were received and we felt very welcome. Hopefully, this will be the first of much successful participation in the Broken Hill AgFAir.

Pictured below are some photos taken during the two day event.



It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet
Who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Soldier, not the union official
Who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the Soldier, who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by the flag,
Who allows the protester to burn the flag.

By Father Dennis Edward O'Brien
United States Marine Corps.

AROUND THE TRAPS

SEYMOUR CONCRETE

On 1st February, we acquired a concrete plant and garden supplies business in Seymour.

The township is on the Hume Highway, 100 kilometres from Melbourne and has a population of 6,300. It services the surrounding agricultural areas as well as the nearby military base at Puckapunyal which is an important training centre for the Australian Army.

Our new Manager, Dave Windram, sharpened his management skills at Yea, supplying concrete to the Sugarloaf

Pipeline project before putting his hand up for this job.

We expect Dave will quickly become part of the Seymour community with his interests in local football, fishing and camping.

The core team at Seymour comprises Dave as Manager with Cartage Contractor, Clive Minter as the main carrier, assisted by Darren Crook, Gary Kersten and Benny Iacopino.

HAZELDENE'S NEW CHICKEN HATCHERY

Our links with the Hazeldene Chicken farming business have been further strengthened with our success in supplying concrete to their new venture at Prairie.

Ian Morrison and his team are on site caring for the concrete requirements for thirty two growing sheds which will produce about 20,000 chickens a day when completed.

So, when you are next in the supermarket, watch out for the Hazeldene brand.



AROUND THE TRAPS

PENTAGON FEEDS

During the last six months, Mawsons were delighted to have been involved in the development of Pentagon Feeds at the new Industrial Estate in Cohuna through the provision of over 760 cubic metres of concrete and considerable volumes of quarry products.

The purpose of the new plant is to provide high quality pig feed to five piggeries in the Cohuna area, whose owners have combined forces and invested in this new facility. The project has been managed by Agar Kingma with John Hawken as site foreman who were pleased to describe the production process to us:

Trucks delivering the input materials arrive onto the weighbridge, designed with safety in mind to minimise the need for the driver to leave the cabin of the truck. The input grain is then dumped into a large below-ground bin and transferred by bucket elevators into 2,000tn of silo storage capacity, ready for processing.

The input grain material is weighed off via an automated auger system, controlled by a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) with the food ration mix design having been predetermined in the program. The grain is ground to the desired size, measured off in

the correct batch proportions, special nutritional additives introduced and all mixed to achieve uniformity in the batch. Steam is used to cook the product and provide moisture for pelletising. The pellets are extruded, cut and cooled before storage in the output bins of 660tn capacity, ready for shipping to the relevant piggery. The entire process is automated.

The output from the mill enables the pigs to be provided with seven different rations of feed as they grow, with specialised rations being provided to the breeding stock.

The plant is highly efficient, as the automation means it is capable of being managed by one operator. The PLC programming can be managed off site with regular reports being available off site also. The development will be an important contributor to our local economy, with eight delivery trucks sourcing raw grain and a further eight trucks delivering finished product.

Congratulations must go to the owners and to the building team who have managed to complete this project safely, on time and inside budget.

Images: Input Silos, Blending and Pelletising Plant, PLC nerve centre.



STAFF PROFILE - ROSS CRICHTON

Name: Ross Crichton

Plant: Cohuna Concrete Plant

Place of Birth: Cohuna

Family: Wife Lea, Sons Wayne and Craig, and new granddaughter Millah

Started with Mawsons: April 1985

Positions held with Mawsons: Cohuna concrete truck driver, Tip truck driver, Transport Manager, Manager Cohuna Concrete Plant

Favourite Food: Stir Fry (It wasn't Ross who ate the pies that were meant for the Torrumbarry Weir boys.....It was the Echuca Boys !!!)

Favourite Holiday Spot: Maroochydore

Footy Club: Bombers

Interests outside of work: Football, Tennis, Family Outings, *Community Involvement:* building of skate park.

Memorable jobs worked on: Torrumbarry Weir construction,

delivering concrete to Hume Freeway by-pass between Wangaratta and Benalla

Best thing about working with Mawsons: Very friendly family orientated business

Worst thing about working with Mawsons: No-one will forgive me or forget: but I really didn't eat the pies !!!



AROUND THE TRAPS

MEMORIES OF EARLIER DAYS

I came to Cohuna as a boy in 1947 from West Maitland to work on a dairy farm, where I stayed for a couple of years before I left to take up a job with E. B. Mawson & Sons at their Mt Hope Quarry in 1949.

The Quarry Manager then was Tom Turner, Jim Strachan was loader and dump truck driver, Jim Butler the powder monkey and I was the jack hammer man. I used to drive the truck down to the pit in the mornings and Jim would drive the loader down. Then I would set up the hose from the air pipes which drew compressed air from the plant engine room and start drilling holes in the oversize rocks for secondary blasting, or popping, as it was called.

Before lunch break, we would blow the rocks that Jim Butler had loaded with gelignite high explosive. Now and again, Jim would "get on the grog" over the weekend and that would last for three days. Then, I would have to do the whole job myself, drilling the rocks, loading with gelignite and blasting.

The first time I did the loading of gelignite by myself, I overdid the gelignite and when I fired the shot, the rocks went everywhere, except staying in the pit. The next thing I knew, Tom came running and yelling at me "What the hell was I doing?" because the stones had gone up over the crusher and sheds and the lunch room. That was the last shot I fired for quite a while.

About two weeks later, Jim Strachan was sick so I had to drive the loader and truck. The loader was a Fordson Major with a cable operated bucket and the truck was an ex army Blitz with a five cubic yard tipping body.

The morning went well, but the second load after lunch I had trouble. The job demanded that you back the truck up a long ramp and tip your load of rock into a hopper to be fed into the crusher. This time, the truck didn't stop when I pushed the brake pedal, as you always had to pump the pedal to get the brakes to work and the next thing truck and I were in the hopper, looking up at the sky. Then Tom burst out of the plant and wanted to know what I was doing in the hopper.

That was the end of my driving for a while and it was back to the jack hammer. Not long after that I went back to milking cows until I returned to Mawsons in July, 1951 where I remained until retiring in 1990.

Bruce Smith



HISTORY OF MAWSONS

Don't forget your items of historical interest!

With Mawsons Centenary of business coming up in 2012, we are asking those of you who wish to supply items of interest and photographs to be included with memorabilia to be displayed, to send or give them to Shirley to prepare for the event.

Where possible, we will make copies of photographs or articles and return your originals as soon as practicable.

Please give Shirley a call at the Cohuna office if you would like to discuss this event with her.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Our Family Day this year will be held at the Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill on **Sunday October 3rd**. A great day is planned, with lots of exhibits, paddlesteamer rides, lunch, and fun activities for all ages. Hope you can join us.



MARCH 2010 QUARTER SAFETY AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nomination 1 – Darren Allen & Wayne Keyte *Nominated by – John Mawson (Managing Director)*

1%... Previously, when loads of incoming raw materials were coming in over the weigh bridge, Darren would have to notify the concrete batcher on UHF. The problem was that the batcher would more often than not, be on the loader, therefore holding TR98 up for about 4-5 mins every load. The alternative was for Darren to get out of the truck and check his own weight, also holding him up for a similar time.

The solution? We have installed a remote camera into TR98 so Darren can view his weights from the truck, eliminating this waiting time, freeing the batcher from this job as well.

As a result, we can get an extra 1 to 2 loads of raw material each day due to this camera thus increasing productivity and improving safety of the operators.

Nomination 2 – Lawrence Mathers (Mobile Quarry Employee)

Nominated by – Geoff Wakeman (General Manager of Quarries)

The number one safety concern at Lake Cooper has been the low power lines at the workshop.

We have had a price of \$70k+ to put them underground but this is too expensive, given that we plan to build a new workshop in a totally different location some time this financial year.

At this morning's safety meeting Lawrence Mathers suggested that, as the visibility of the lines is the major concern, why don't we get them wrapped in highly visible "tape" so that they are easy to see.

This is a very simple (and dare I say obvious) short-term solution that I would like to nominate Lawrence for the next Safety Award.

THE WINNER

The winner of the March Quarter Safety Award is Lawrence Mathers. He will be issued with a certificate of congratulations and a meal voucher to the value of \$100- to a local eatery. He will also go into the running for Mawsons Annual Safety Award which is presented every year at Mawsons Family Day.

Congratulations to Lawrence on a job well done.

June 2010 Quarter Safety Award

If you wish to nominate someone for the June 2010 Quarter Safety Award please do not hesitate to contact Colleen Balfour (0438 562409) with the details.



IF YOU ARE INJURED AT WORK

1. Seek first aid treatment for the injury immediately. (Mawsons Emergency Procedure should be initiated when there is a serious injury)
2. Report immediately to your Site Manager.
3. Record the injury in the Site "Register of Injuries". (Should be completed by injured worker)
4. Record in O4i system. (Manager can complete)
5. If you decide to go to the doctor for treatment, notify your Site Manager before attending appointment.
6. Site Manager must contact Mawsons Return to Work Co-ordinator (Colleen Balfour 0438562409).
7. Return to Work Co-ordinator will prepare an explanatory letter for your treating Doctor and in consultation with your Site Manager, set out possible return to work activities in the form of a Return to Work Plan and an Offer of Suitable Employment. These will be forwarded electronically to your Site Manager.
8. Site Manager will print off and give to you to take to your doctor for review.
9. If you have already been to a doctor, it is recommended that you make another appointment as soon as practicable, taking the above documents with you for your doctor to review.
10. Doctor can either approve alternative duties or insist on time off work. Once that decision is made, the direction must be followed and respected.
11. Site Manager is responsible for ensuring you adhere to your agreed Return to Work duties and provides assistance where required.
12. If anyone has any questions regarding this process, they should contact Colleen Balfour immediately (0438 562 409).

AROUND THE TRAPS

GIVING A HELPING HAND

Over the school holidays I went into the kitchen in the Cohuna office to get myself a cup of coffee.

Also in the kitchen were two young girls who I'd noticed earlier quietly amusing themselves. I figured baby sitting arrangements had collapsed due to one of those emergency situations that we all seem to have.

They couldn't find a cup to get a drink so I opened the overhead cupboard and helped them pick the two fanciest cups we had and this is where the story should finish.

But the next day when I arrived at work there was a nice handwritten note on my desk: "Thank you for helping me get a cup. How are you because I'm great – Tahlia"

When I read it I realised there was two very powerful messages in that simple note:

1. How easy it is to thank someone to a higher degree than we normally do and how good it makes the recipient feel.

2. What a great motto "How are you because I'm great"

Thank you Tahlia I'm feeling great also. P.S. The note is stuck on my wall.



STORK TALK



Rick Lynas and Shais King who have identical twin girls born at Bendigo Base Hospital on Australia Day – Their names are Brealle Ava and Holly Atalia.

Darren and Karina Colville have welcomed their third son – Tait Patrick who was born on 28th January, weighing 7lbs 15ozs.

Wayne Keyte and his partner Mel have a baby girl Isla Shelley. Isla was born at 2.18am Saturday, 17th April 2010, weighing 9 lbs.

AN APPLE A DAY

The taste of fresh fruit from our lunchroom during "fruit week" each month is a real benefit to everyone. It helps us all maintain an improved level of fitness and health and remain "switched on" for the busy day ahead. Longer term, eating fruit as part of a balanced diet should help prevent chronic disease, reduce the incidence of absenteeism and improve our productivity.

The benefits of healthy eating are further enhanced with regular physical activity and by taking some time out for yourself – whether this is a day at the footy with the family, camping with friends or simply dropping a line in the river.

Let's encourage each other to value our health. We can do this by looking after our own health and thereby setting an example. Decide today to take a walk or ride a bike rather than drive the car and make the most of the fruit that appears in our lunchroom.

