Project Update

Thursday, November 08 2018

Students broaden their horizons

Through the prism of technology, a group of Year 9 Traralgon Secondary College students recently found themselves wandering around a rehabilitated Hazelwood Mine.

The 15 Traralgon Secondary College students were capitivated by the experience of testing virtual reality equipment which transported them from the Mine Training Centre at ENGIE Hazelwood to parklands beside a lake, filled with walking paths, flora and fauna, picnic areas, streams and much more.

Hazelwood Spatial Coordinator, John McCormack, assisted the students in testing the virtual reality headset which took them into the future and the possibilities of what could become reality in the years ahead.

The visit was facilitated by the regional Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) as part of the 'Broadening Horizons' program. Established in 2013 between the Department of Education and Training and the former Gippsland Regional Managers Forum, the program offers students a real-world learning program.

Hazelwood's Technical Services Manager, James Faithful, led the students to the top of the Mine where they were impressed by the sheer size of the void and the earthworks activities under way. James answered many questions on rehabilitation, technical studies and future uses for the Mine and its surrounds.

The Hazelwood Rehabilitation Project's Rehabilitation Closure Plan Manager, Antonia Scrase, outlined the range of work required to inform the plan.

Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner, Rae Mackay, spoke about his role and how the Latrobe Valley Regional Rehabilitation Strategy will help guide the overall rehabilitation of all three Latrobe Valley brown coal mines.

Hazelwood Communications Manager, Lauren Carey, thanked all employees who helped facilitate a "very worthwhile visit".

"It's great to see this generation of our community so interested in in what is happening at Hazelwood which was obvious from all the questions being asked," Lauren said.

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