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INSIDE **TODAY**

- Bumper Christmas cash bonanza
- nbn™ rolling in
- 'Coward' fined for bruising bust-up
- Game, set, match for Saturday Tennis

Goldrush continues

Argent awarded funds for West Wyalong Project

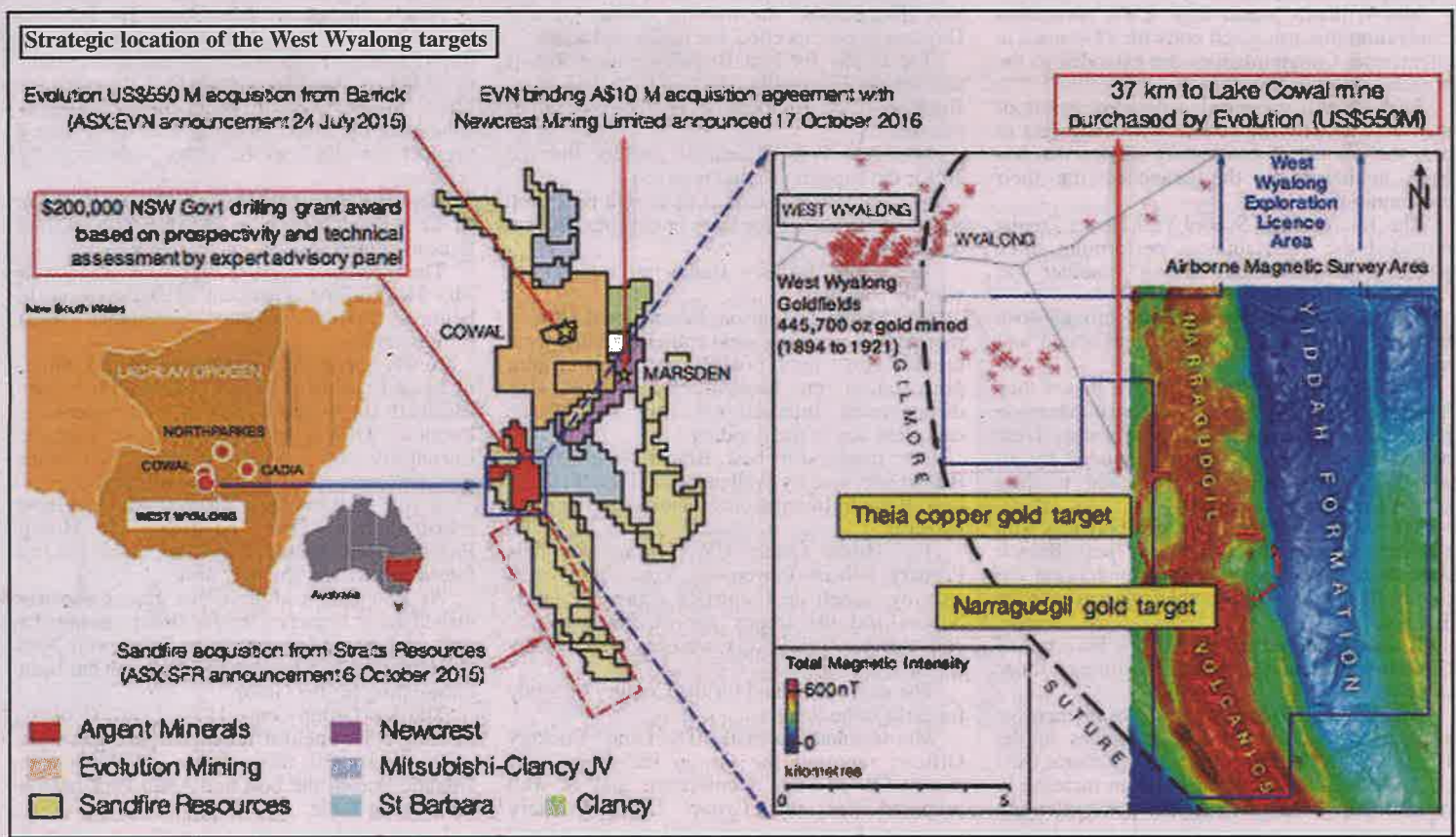
The news just keeps getting better for West Wyalong when it comes to its rich mining history and future. Managing Director of Argent Minerals Limited, David Busch this week was excited to announce the company has been awarded \$200,000 of heavily contested NSW Government funding to drill test their West Wyalong project. The award represents the largest amount available for any individual project out of the NSW Cooperative Drilling 'Round 2' funding pool total of \$2 million, which was established to provide grants to exploration companies to assist private exploration drilling programs, encourage exploration and lead to new scientific and

economic discoveries. "It's a major vote of confidence in our West Wyalong project," said Mr Busch, "it's pretty exciting news." The West Wyalong Project gold targets are located only seven kilometres from the West Wyalong goldfields that produced 445,700 ounces of gold between 1894 and 1921. It is also situated in the Macquarie Arc of the Lachlan Orogen, which hosts world-class porphyry copper-gold mines such as Newcrest's Cadia and China Molybdenum's Northparkes, and 37 kilometres to the north of West Wyalong - the Lake Cowal gold mine (Cowal). Just last week Evolution announced it had entered into a binding agreement with Newcrest

Mining Limited to purchase their Marsden copper-gold project for \$10 million, which is to the northeast of Argent's West Wyalong project. Mr Busch said Argent participated in the confidential 'Invitation To Apply' (ITA) process with a proposal for a grant to drill-test West Wyalong. An expert advisory panel assessed each application received on the basis of merit for demonstrated prospectivity, sound financial planning and a proven technical base. Those that proposed drilling in frontier regions or in areas where there is significant cover over the target were favoured. Drilling programs which test new geological concepts, whether in frontier regions or not, were

also considered. Under the terms and conditions of the Funding Deed, Argent will now be able to claim 50 percent of the direct-per metre drilling costs from NSW Cooperative Drilling following completion of the holes and associated reports. While the latest date for completion is December 22, 2017, Mr Busch said Argent will be focused on completing the drilling well before June 30 next year in order to advance its interest in the project from 51 percent to 70 percent.

Continued on Page 3



Christmas Cash Bonanza

Win \$7000 just by shopping in West Wyalong PLUS a chance to win one of our extra prizes worth more than \$1500

Drawn Thursday, December 22

Check your participating businesses for details

Brought to you by **BUSINESS West Wyalong**



TATTERSALLS HOTEL WEST WYALONG 6972 2030

LOCAL LIQUOR Specials from Wednesday, October 26 till Tuesday, November 1

Hahn Super Dry	stubbies/cans	24pk \$43	Carlton Draught	stubbies/cans	24pk \$49	Canadian Club, Jim Beam 700ml	\$36
Tooheys New	cans	30pk \$53	Carlton Dry	stubbies/cans	24pk \$46	Tanqueray Gin 700ml	\$43
Tooheys Extra Dry	stubbies	24pk \$41	Great Northern	cans	30pk \$48	Sailor Jerry Spiced Rum 700ml	\$40
XXXX Gold	stubbies	24pk \$42	Cruiser	4pk \$14 or 6 for \$65		Yalumba 2ltr Cask	\$14
XXXX Summer Bright/Lime/Mango	stubbies	24pk \$43	Canadian Club, Jim Beam, Midori	4pk 2 for \$30		Annie's Lane Range	\$15
VB	stubbies	24pk \$46	Bundy & Johnnie Walker	10pk \$35		Oyster Bay Range 750ml	2 for \$30

Don't forget we have Longnecks on Ice!!

Goldrush continues

Argent awarded funds for West Wyalong Project

Continued from Page 1

In addition to the welcome funding Mr Busch (pictured) said the selection of the West Wyalong project by the merit-based advisory panel process is a direct reflection of the prospectivity and technical basis of the project, as well as the soundness of the Company's financial management.

"The Argent/West Wyalong combination was one of 15 'preferred applicants' that were offered a NSW Cooperative Drilling Round 2 grant," he said.

Back in May this year Argent announced that two targets had been identified and delineated for drill testing at the West Wyalong project - the previously identified Theia target and the new target at Narragudgil.

"Each target has a coincident magnetic low, an IP chargeability high, and anomalous gold geochemistry," said Mr Busch.

The coincident geophysical and geochemical anomalies are considered to be potential indicators of a broad alteration system resulting from intrusive-related hydrothermal activity consistent with a porphyry copper

gold stock and associated epithermal mineralisation.

"The geophysical data is now of sufficient resolution to enable efficient drill targeting and Argent's planned drill testing of the Theia porphyry copper gold target has been extended to include drill testing of the new Narragudgil gold target," said Mr Busch.

The funding grant will be employed by Argent to drill six diamond holes for a total of 2150 metres.

In order to test the targets through cover of approximately 100 metres, the Company is planning five holes to be drilled to 350 metres and a further hole to 400 metres.

Following discussions with local landowners Mr Busch said 100 percent diamond drilling and above-ground sumps will be employed in order to address any environmental concerns about the potential release of saline water encountered by drill holes.



Given the significant rainfall at West Wyalong recently, which resulted in widespread flooding, Argent made a decision in recent weeks to expedite drilling at Kempfield, followed as soon as possible by the West Wyalong program after the ground has dried out.

"While both areas have received significant rainfall the Company is of the opinion that Kempfield, situated on higher ground with more efficient drainage, will be dried out sooner than West Wyalong for supporting

heavy equipment safely," said Mr Busch.

He added the finalisation of access had taken longer than expected however the Company expects the two remaining West Wyalong unresolved access agreements and the subsequent regulatory approvals to be in place prior to a target drilling commencement date of mid-February 2017.

"This date has been scheduled to fit in with cropping activities and remains subject to the resolution of access, completion of the regulatory approvals and statutory notification processes, as well as the weather," he added.

Bumper Christmas cash bonanza

It's now only eight weeks until Christmas with local businesses combining to offer residents the best excuse ever to shop locally.

As of this week, 31 local businesses have pooled together to offer a "Christmas Cash Bonanza" whereby shoppers have the opportunity to win a \$7000 major prize plus an additional \$1500 in vouchers.

Organised by Business West Wyalong, the Christmas/shop local promotion will be drawn on December 22.

All you have to do is spend a certain amount in one of the participating businesses.

You will then receive a ticket in the draw, one ticket per transaction. Each ticket is stamped with the business name, filled out by the customer and placed in a box in-store.

Business West Wyalong vice-chairperson, Kate Hallahan said they are very excited with the response to the promotion and thanked businesses for their participation.

It is hoped all residents will take advantage of the exceptional offer,

shop locally and be in the running to take home what would be a fantastic Christmas bonus.

Participating businesses include All Occasions, Beauty Off Main, Broadway Shoes, Body Health & Bowen, Charlies Hardware, Crowe Horwath, Cuts n Curls, Dashboard Diecast, Davies Motorcycles, Duncan's Chainsaw Centre, Hair Off Main, Harvey Norman, House of Fashion, Kristy's Cottage, Lam & Mays, Lords Optometrist, Majors Mulch, McClintock & Co, Murrays Maxi Taxi, Outwest Clothing Co, Pink Velvet, Sew & Save, Souden's Furniture, Sport Spot, The Royal Hotel & Wine Bar, thom, dick & hafrys, West Wyalong Jewellers, West Wyalong Pharmacy, West Wyalong Post Office, What's-Cookin and 761 Hair and Body.

Actual business owners are not eligible to enter the draw using tickets from their own stores however they may enter the draw when shopping at other participating businesses.

For full competition details see inside one of the participating businesses.

nbn™ rolling in



The entire Wyalong and West Wyalong township could be nbn™ live by the middle of next year.

Member for Riverina, Michael McCormack has announced a further 1700 residents and business in West Wyalong will have access to faster and more reliable internet with the rollout of the nbn™ which commenced construction last week.

With fixed wireless already live in the area, the whole community will be able to connect by mid 2017 as construction of the fixed line area, including the installation of 10 nodes and changes to the pillars, is completed by March 4, 2017.

"The nbn™ will open up a range of new opportunities for small businesses to expand their services and create more efficient trading," said Mr McCormack, who is Australia's Small

Business Minister.

"It will also allow students to learn and engage with classmates in virtual classrooms and make it easier for residents in West Wyalong to stay in touch with family and friends online.

"There are 17,651 homes and businesses ready for connection in the Riverina and Central West and a further 39,777 homes and businesses are under construction."

Welcoming the announcement, Bland Shire Council General Manager Ray Smith said the nbn™ is helping to close the digital divide in regional Australia and with that comes many economic and social opportunities for Wyalong and West Wyalong.

"Fast broadband will enable residents to access e-health services, distance education and entertainment on demand, while businesses now have the ability to increase productivity, reduce

costs and access new markets," Mr Smith said.

Bland Shire Mayor, Tony Lord was also delighted with the commencement of local construction of the nbn™.

"Wyalong and West Wyalong residents have been eagerly anticipating a connection to the nbn and it's great to see construction commence."

More information on how to connect to the nbn™ is available at www.nbnco.com.au

PICTURED working on the nbn™ construction in Church Street are subcontractors for LendLease, Adam McCallum and Mitchell Squires from McCallum Excavation Services.

23A Church Street Mob: 0438 553 413

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Be sure to make your appointment as Christmas is approaching and to avoid disappointment

- ✦ Napoleon Perdis (professional makeup)
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- ✦ Facials
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Available for men and women
'Gift Vouchers' available

Call Braela on 0438 553 413 for an appointment

November Brochure Specials

Check all the great specials in our colour brochure in today's West Wyalong Advocate

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