

Company appoints new exploration manager

STAWELL - Stawell based exploration company, Navarre Minerals Limited, has announced the appointment of Wessley Edgar as Exploration Manager.

Mr Edgar, who will join the team at Navarre Minerals in August, will be a key member of the executive team and will oversee all aspects of exploration for the company.

Mr Edgar has more than 20 years' experience in the resources industry, predominantly in gold mining and exploration, and also in base metals exploration. Currently, Mr Edgar is Exploration Manager at Castlemaine Goldfields Limited, with a range of responsibilities including regional exploration management and technical project assessments for business development.

Prior to joining Castlemaine, Mr Edgar held geological roles with Placer Dome Asia Pacific, Goldfields Limited and Renison Goldfields Consolidated.

He holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) from Monash University, a Master of Mineral Economics from Curtin University and is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

Mr Edgar's appointment coincides

with the departure of Steven Harper, Chief Geologist, who ceased employment with the company earlier this month.

"We are delighted to have Wess join the team to lead the next phase of our exploration program," Navarre Managing Director, Geoff McDermott said.

"Wess has run one of the most active exploration programs in Victoria in the past decade and has expertise in the various styles of Victorian quartz-reef hosted gold deposits. His knowledge of exploration and evaluation techniques in Victoria adds greatly to the technical expertise we are building here at Navarre.

"Wess has run exploration over greenfields projects (similar to our Tandarra and Kingston projects), near mine programs and exploration in mine including the inaugural JORC Mineral Resource estimation for the Castlemaine Goldfield (Chewton Deposit at Wattle Gully) and mine resources at Ballarat.

"Wess's expertise across a range of gold deposit styles, including the style of mineralisation specific to the company's assets, as well as base metals experience, will be a great asset for Navarre."

Finance lunches to relieve busy women

STAWELL - A series of lunchtime gatherings are being planned to help the busy women of Stawell understand the myriad of financial issues facing families today and to empower them to make informed financial decisions.

WHK will host about 10 lunch time information sessions over the next 12 months, covering topics like family budgets, mortgages, debt, insurance, super and saving for children's education, as well as starting up a new business.

"Women take on so many different responsibilities, from running the family home, to working and child rearing, so they tend to be too busy to focus on the family finances," WHK's Annette Marshall said.

"But once they gain an understanding, they tend to really embrace it and get right into the decision-making.

"We're really excited to present the women of Stawell with some short and easy-to-understand information sessions that will educate and inspire them to get stuck into their financial management. They'll come to realise that it's really not that difficult."

Ms Marshall said the lunch series would be launched at noon on Wednesday, July 25 at Lillies and Lattes in Stawell.

"This gathering will enable WHK to give an overview of what information we hope to provide and for us to gauge what



Beth Gibson, owner of new business Stall - Shop Market Style, speaks with Annette Marshall from WHK about the finance lunches.

financial topics women want to get a handle on," she said.

Beth Gibson, owner of new local business Stall -Shop Market Style in the Post Office Arcade said she looked forward to learning more about the basics of family and business finance.

"I feel like my knowledge is very limited and that's pretty much because I haven't made the time to get my head around it," Ms Gibson said.

"I'm keen to get to as many sessions as I can to finally address what I need to do and take the steps necessary to get everything organised."

To book your place at the launch, contact Annette on (03) 5358 1733 or email stawell@whk.com.au before July 23.

WHK will host the initial lunch free of charge. Booking are essential as numbers are limited.

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Police catch out drivers on drugs

STAWELL - Stawell Police are concerned with the number of drivers being intercepted that are testing positive for use of illegal drugs.

Senior Sergeant Warren Groves said an operation conducted on the Western Highway last weekend revealed a disturbing trend of drug use.

S/S Groves said members arrested four drivers in three days for using drugs while driving on the highway.

Three truck drivers tested positive to an illicit drug at Stawell and a fourth truck driver lost his licence after he appeared in the Ararat Magistrates' Court on Monday.

Sergeant Rod Davis said the number of cases highlighted the fact that despite repeated warnings from authorities about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs, drivers were not heeding the message.

"Some vehicles are over 60 tonnes doing 100 kilometres an hour and drivers might be on drugs or alcohol. It is a deadly mix," Sgt Davis said.

Police intercepted a truck driver at about 1.10am on Thursday. The driver, aged 20, returned a positive preliminary oral fluid test for an illegal drug.

A second test showed a negative result and members released the driver.

Police then stopped a truck driver about 12.55am on Friday. The Mooropna man, 53, returned a positive preliminary oral fluid test and a second test was also positive.

Sgt Davis alleged police also found white powder, possibly amphetamines, in the man's truck and charged him with possession of a drug of dependence.

The man was bailed to appear in Stawell Magistrates' Court at a later date.

Members also stopped a truck driver on Saturday shortly after 2am. The Doveton man, 35, returned a positive preliminary oral fluid test to an illegal drug and a second test was also positive.

Police will await further test results to determine whether to charge the man with drug-driving.

Officers intercepted a Queensland prime mover driver at 11.40pm on Saturday. Members found the man, 41, was wanted on two outstanding warrants.

Police arrested the man after he refused a preliminary breath test and he was bailed to appear in Ararat Magistrates' Court on Monday.

The man pleaded guilty to having refused a preliminary breath test and drug and driving-related charges. He was disqualified from driving for two years and was convicted and fined \$500.

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Talking Real Estate

with Terry Monaghan from Monaghan's Real Estate

On Buying and Renovating

Many people forget that time is money, and this is never truer than in real estate. For instance, if you are buying an investment property and renovating, the sooner you finish the renovations, the sooner you can have your property tenanted and producing cash flow.

One key strategy to speeding up the renovation process is to ask your vendor for permission to enter the property before settlement for the purpose of obtaining tradespeople quotes.

At the same time you can measure up the rooms and make all necessary notes to properly prepare for the renovation. The idea here is to begin renovating the moment settlement occurs. Every day lost subtracts directly from your bottom line.

The next thing to do is to properly schedule your tradespeople. You don't, for example, want the carpet layers in before the painters. Get advice on who should have first access - such as plumbers and electricians - then co-ordinate all your tradespeople accordingly.

Another trick is to give the tradespeople as much advance notice as possible, so they, too, can plan their schedules.

Proper planning can see fully renovated kitchens and bathrooms occur in just over a week.

Another tip is to plan your renovations beforehand and to get an evaluation for both before and after the planned renovation. That way you can better calculate your budget.

If I can be of service in any matters pertaining to real estate, feel free to phone me, Terry Monaghan on 5358 1300, or to call into our offices at 189 Main Street, Stawell for further assistance.

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