

# The Mix

ISSUE 11

wilmar



## Season of giving

Christmas cupcakes and sweets have been delivered to Home Hill Hospital staff as a thank you for their efforts throughout another challenging year.

Similar sweet deliveries are being made to the Ingham, Ayr, Proserpine and Sarina hospitals in the lead-up to Christmas.

Paula Scarabel (back right), Allan Cross (front left) and Sarah Harding (front right) from the Cane Products Asset Management team spread Christmas cheer to Home Hill Hospital staff (back, from left) Rose Metcalfe, Jeanelle Black and Seanne O'Shea and (front, centre) Donna Kohn.

## Sales deliver sugar buzz

Sugar Australia's Sales and Marketing team is wrapping up a successful year that has seen a new product launch and post pandemic customer growth.

General Manager Sales and Marketing Dallas Reid said there had been significant growth this year in beverage and confectionary customers as the world resurfaced from the COVID pandemic.

"It has been a very strong year across our retail and food and beverage and foodservice channels from both a volume and margin perspective," Dallas said.

"From a retail perspective, we have had a really strong year consolidating the market shares we built throughout the pandemic."

The team also launched a new Monk Fruit and Sugar Blend product this year, a healthier sugar alternative with 25 per cent fewer calories than traditional sugar products.

Made using a combination of monk fruits blended with erythritol and traditional cane sugar, the Monk Fruit and Sugar blend is a spoon-for-spoon sugar replacement, with the same taste as regular sugar.

"It is great to see such success with the new product launch, especially as we move into the holiday season," he said.

"The Monk Fruit blend aligns with our sustainability commitment, and its success means we can work to introduce more alternatives into the range, starting with a raw version of the Monk Fruit Blend next year."

However, the year wasn't all sweet for Sugar Australia, with several disruptions to the supply chain throughout the year.

"It has been a very disruptive year, with floods and supply chain issues" Dallas said.

"The bright side is, the performance inside the market has been good despite the challenges, and commercially the business hasn't skipped a beat, which has driven really solid outcomes for us."

Across the ditch at Chelsea, it has been a similarly good year, with the sales and marketing team seeing strong volumes overall as the year wraps up.

NZ Sugar Sales and Marketing Manager Sean Nattress said volumes

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had stayed strong throughout 2022, driven by good performance in the food and beverage channel and continued market share growth of the Chelsea Sugar brand.

“As we look towards the end of 2022, we have seen strong performance overall, and have stayed on target,” he said.

“Export has continued to be a challenge for us, with ongoing supply chain issues due to shipping schedules and container availability.

“Looking into 2023, we are excited about a significant new business development which will see us working across Singapore, China and India.”



Plane Creek store team members, from left, Lucy Roland, Renee Nielsen and Jo Cook.



The new compliant shelving units installed at the Plane Creek store.

## Upgrade for Plane Creek store

Plane Creek Mill's new-look store is on track to be ready for the upcoming maintenance season.

Upgrades to the store, which holds equipment and supplies for both Plane Creek Mill and Sarina Distillery, commenced in June and were executed in stages, ensuring the store remained operational.

Purchasing and Supply Manager Vaughan Jones said the refurb ensured the store now met certification standards and delivered a number of operational improvements.

“The project was driven by a need to remove infrastructure that was built to form a mezzanine floor, as well as shelving built from pallet racking, none of which could be certified,” Vaughan said.

“The new shelving is compliant and far more practical to use.”

To further the store's operational capacity, a small quantity of pallet racking has also been removed and will be relocated to the site's electrical store.

Mobile and Services Project Engineer Doug Phillips said the project delivered safety, efficiency and quality-of-life improvements within the store building.

“The revamped layout includes new receipting and pick-up areas that reduce the reliance on manual handling,” he said.

The store team has also welcomed the arrival of a new forklift, named Frankie, which provides greater operational capacity.

All major changes have been completed, leaving only small improvements to finalise.

## Safe start for apprentices

Wilmar's new apprentices are completing a two-week Safe Start Program ahead of starting work at our Queensland mills and bioethanol distillery. We will be employing a record 49 first-year apprentices for 2023. Among them are, from left, Proserpine electrical apprentice Ryan Muller, Burdekin fitting and turning apprentice Lillian Wilms, Sarina fitting and turning apprentice Ezra Tyrell, and Burdekin electrical apprentices Dana Wyllie and Jayden Guy.





Travis Fimmel leads the cast in the *Black Snow* murder mystery.



Talijah Blackman-Corowa as Isabel Baker, the teenager whose unsolved murder forms the basis of the mini-series.

## Black Snow screening soon

The cold case murder mystery filmed on Wilmar's Proserpine Mill estate and other locations in the Mackay and Whitsundays region will premiere on Stan on New Year's Day.

The Stan Original, *Black Snow*, is a gripping six-part mystery-drama series set in a fictional cane farming town in North Queensland with deep ties to the Australian South East Islander community.

It stars Travis Fimmel of *Vikings* fame as Detective Sergeant James Cormack from the State Cold Case Unit, who is sent to Ashford to begin the search for Isabel Baker's killer. Talijah Blackman-Corowa stars as 17-year-old Isabel Baker.

The series is set over two time zones: 1995 when Isabel was murdered and 2020 when the opening of a time capsule unearths a secret that leads to the cold case being reopened.

Through six one-hour episodes, Detective Sergeant James Cormack goes on a thrilling hunt for the killer.

Proserpine Mill, Wilmar cane trains and the canefields of Proserpine will feature in the mini-series.

Stan will release all six episodes on January 1.



You can watch the trailer here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gCM4Yhk-yc>

## Maintenance crew now officially Team Chelsea

After 27 years as contractors, the mechanical maintenance team at Chelsea has been officially welcomed into the company as full-time NZ Sugar employees.

It was a long-awaited structure change, with the crew being the final employees shifting away from the old contracting model following the electrical team's transition several years ago.

Carl Simons, Packing Maintenance Team Leader, Lincoln Bell, Refinery Maintenance Team Leader and Steve Greville, Technical Contractor, also celebrated 27 years with the team, having started at Chelsea when the maintenance team were first contracted.

NZ Sugar Engineering Manager Lynn Currie said the change was motivated by a recent culture survey that identified a gap with the employee structure.

"A recent engagement survey showed a gap with the maintenance team being contractors, which served as a key catalyst in the drive to bring the team on board as Chelsea employees," he said.

"It is great to see such a long-awaited change become a reality.

"The team is very happy about the transition and to now be recognised as Chelsea employees, and feel that they are on the same playing field as the rest of the crews."



Maintenance crew members, back from left: Lee Southern, Dee Barton, Gene Illingworth, Tony Lydford, Lincoln Bell, Alwyn Jones, Glenn Christianson, Walter Dean, Carl Simons, Nick Allen  
Front: Lynn Currie, Dan Parker

# Service Awards

Congratulations to all Wilmar ANZ employees who achieved service milestones between September and December 2022.

## WILMAR SUGAR AUSTRALIA

### 30 years

- September** Eino Raty (Herbert Rollingstock)
- October** David Williams (Inkerman Mill)
- November** Matthew Ingegneri (Victoria Mill), Paul Hobbs (Victoria Mill), Andreas Loizou (Pioneer Mill)

### 20 years

- November** Brett Grant (Macknade Mill), Ido Savorgnan (Burdekin Cane Supply), Shayne Rutherford (Brisbane Office)

### 10 years

- October** Lynette Dunn (Sarina Distillery)
- November** Calvin Dunn (Macknade Mill), Brian Toomey (Pioneer Mill), Ian Connell (Kalamia Mill)

## SUGAR AUSTRALIA/ NEW ZEALAND SUGAR

### 30 years

- November** Iain McKenzie (Chelsea Sugar Operations)



### 20 years

- September** Malcolm Linderboom (Chelsea Sugar Operations), Dean Bell (North Fremantle Operations), John Connelly (Yarraville Operations)
- October** Radlyn Sampson (Chelsea Sugar Operations)
- November** Mark Prince (Chelsea Sugar Operations), Alfredo Canlas (Chelsea Sugar Operations), John Verhaar (Yarraville Operations), Kirk Wright (Yarraville Operations), Patrick Allday (Yarraville Operations)
- December** Ferdinand Aquino (Chelsea Sugar Operations), Charles Garrow (Yarraville Operations)

### 10 years

- September** Mike Fury (Yarraville Industrial Sales), Arnel Caballes (Chelsea Sugar Operations)
- November** Dee Barton (Chelsea Sugar Operations), Madhu Ramasanjeevaiah (Glebe Logistics)



## A new Sweetspot is coming

The Sweetspot intranet is getting a facelift as part of migrating to its new home in SharePoint Online.

The new Sweetspot will provide a

communication hub with access to stories and lots of information about Wilmar Sugar ANZ. It will also provide access to key information to support how

we work.

Sweetspot 2.0 is launching on Valentine's Day, 14 February 2023 so get ready to be sweet on Sweetspot.



David Williams enjoys teaching kids about the sugar industry.

## Teaching the next generation

Inkerman Mill Operations Coordinator David Williams gets a kick out of educating the next generation of potential mill employees about how raw sugar is made.

During the crushing season, the shift worker is happy to visit Burdekin kindergartens and dare care centres on some of his days off to give presentations about the sugar industry.

Dave, who notched up 30 years of service last month, said it was important to teach kids about their biggest local industry.

It helps that he has plenty of early education contacts, with both his wife and daughter employed in the local childcare

industry.

"Even though my father worked in the mill when I was young, I had very little knowledge about the sugar production process or cane train safety," Dave said.

"It's important that, at a young age, kids are made aware of these things. After all, in another 20 years we might see them working in our mills."

Dave said he enjoyed seeing children's reactions to his presentation, which includes samples from the milling process.

"Some kids already know a lot about the process, while others are learning about it from scratch," he said.



Catriona Strong and husband Chris (left) with Jo Cancare and husband Damien at the family day.



Chelsea Bay Coordinator Jane Dwyer handed out glazed donuts to the appreciative crowd.



Malcolm Linderboom (second from left) and his family enjoy the Chelsea Reconnect Day.

## Sun shines on Chelsea family day

After two years of isolation and bubble maintenance, the team at Chelsea came together with their families at Reconnect Day to enjoy food, fun and socialising.

Reconnect Day featured short train rides, biscuit decorating, face painting, balloon art, a DJ and local food trucks.

With close to 100 Chelsea employees and almost 380 guests, Chelsea team members, friends and family enjoyed a perfect, sunny day at the site after two full weeks of wet weather.

The event was also an opportunity for recent retirees, who had left without much fanfare or celebration due to restrictions, to get a proper farewell.



Nicole Butler with a bag full of personal care items.



James Wallace, Sharon La Spina and Brody Di Bella with all of the items purchased for the charity.



Leanne Hockings, Sharon La Spina and Paula Scarabel with full bags ready to be donated to Share the Dignity.

## Bags of support for charity

More than 40 bags filled with personal care items will help to make life easier for women, girls and new or expectant mums needing a helping hand this Christmas.

Ladies from Wilmar's Townsville office and Burdekin mills donated bags and items to go in them to support Share the Dignity's #ItsInTheBag initiative again this year.

Wilmar supported the project by funding the purchase of enough items to fill 20 bags.

The bags were donated in late November, in time for them to be distributed before Christmas.

# In the Mix



EH&S Superintendent Rohan Geyser (left) and General Manager EH&S Dave Zeller (right) hosted Wilmar International's EH&S Program and Assurance Lead Lee Chung Seng (second from left) and EH&S Group Technical Head Lee Ming Enn earlier this month.



Townsville Christmas party's best dressed 'Aussie' female Pamela Halliday with Balazs Haris.



Townsville Christmas party's best dressed 'Aussie' male Paul Robson (left) with PJ Gilleppa.



Townsville office staff brought some extra cheer to work with matching Christmas shirts. At back, from left, are Kylie Newman, Jacob Hill, Nicole Butler, Luke Johnston, Taja Gray, Steve Godfrey and Darryl Pilchowski. At front are Neomi Butler, Mick Giorgas, Adrian Vaccher, Nina West, Tayla Hickey and Patrick Forster.



Sugar Australia North Fremantle site employees were recently awarded long service certificates. From left are Depot Officer Alan Reeves (25 years), Depot Officer Dean Bell (20 years) and Site Manager Fred Roberts (25 years).



BioEthanol Yarraville warehouse operators Preston Maiava and Michael Goncalves take a break after filling the latest order for industrial-grade ethanol.



Megan Bourne, Loui Gaggiano, Chris Ryan and Scott Gofton cook a barbecue lunch for civil safety Friday held each fortnight in the Herbert.



Kelsey Shand and Charmaine Reid at the Burdekin Christmas bash.

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