

Drayton South

Muswellbrook needs jobs. The community has received a kick in the guts as the arse dropped out of coal over the last eighteen months or so. By opening up this new resource, the spurs will be dug in deep to kickstart our local community's economy.

There are so many spin-offs that are created by mining. I was part of that, as I built locomotives for the Queensland coal industry, not to mention coal wagons, electric motors and drag lines. You name it, the mining industry can generate it - jobs that is. And not just for miners. That's why I support mining in the Hunter Valley.

Just one thing though that I'd like to see rectified here, the roads are atrocious. The NSW government needs to get it's finger out and fix the damn roads. Queensland country roads are much better. I was shocked as I drove around here in the Upper Hunter Valley, a new resident of 11 months.

I came across one tiny bridge with a plaque attached to it stating that this bridge was built in 1916. For heavens sake, have a big centenary celebration for this bridge next year and then retire it to a museum where it surely belongs.

People of the Upper Hunter Valley, you are too compliant, too docile. Queenslanders wouldn't put up with this. But then again, they haven't been medicated with [fluoride](#) for years which may explain your sluggard reactions to the degraded infrastructure in the Upper Hunter. Sorry, but it's got to be said.

If the damn government you elect is so intent on being corrupt, then you the people will suffer with bad roads and other degraded services.

And young people will die as a result. Four young women have died on Upper Hunter Valley roads just recently.

You (the government) need a fire-cracker up your coit to enable you to better serve your constituents rather than brown-nosing vested interests

(greens, etc) that have no purpose but to rip out the heart and soul out of NSW.

Also, I'm not impressed with fascist multinational companies either, scum bags mostly, but I'm not writing this for those leeches. A couple of the biggest mining companies need a boot up the bum for what they are doing to the iron ore price lately. Amounts to national treason if you ask me.

Psychopaths (scum) rise to the top in large organisations, be they private or government.

Can it be what we see about us – the degradation of roads and services and the rising ICE menace are traceable to such as these?

Getting back to coal. Whatever the problems here in the Upper Hunter, nothing will get fixed without money. Money, an honest government needs to remedy many years of neglect that the Upper Hunter has been subject to. Money that is got by royalties and taxes.

It's the people of Muswellbrook that need this mine. A chance to fix the roads and remedy other neglected services. (Fat chance of that happening, but at least 500 people will be in a job for the next 15 years plus spin-offs to the community.)

I hope that Drayton South will become a reality.

Cheers,

Shane Sigley. (written 2nd June, 2015)

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