

(18)

Mark Flanagan

- Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Drayton South
- I am not an expert, just an average bloke with a small team that are passionate about turning mining land into lush natural pastures and wooded tree forests.
- There is no better satisfaction for me than to walk on this land and see double bars and zebs flying around the paddocks.
- For those people not from Australia or unfamiliar with the bird life, these are our native finches.
- I attend every rehabilitation conference that I can so that I can keep up with the latest practices
- Who would have guessed that by stockpiling topsoil in 1983 that we killed it?
- To compensate this, we spread the topsoil onto the areas then sweeten it up by spreading green mulch from Sydney.
- we then incorporate them together with chisel ploughs then seed then chain the areas
- I buy equipment locally and I had to purchase an aerator roller from America that crushes rocks and aerates and stabilises slopes. This machine is also used to mulch existing pasture and put the mulch back into the ground. And I have just purchased a subsoiler for ripping up old haul roads. My wife never spoke to me for 2 days with his huge expense, however, she knows how passionate I am with what I do.
- It angers me to hear these so called experts that are using old dated facts. Camberwell for a dust sample, what a joke!! As for old artefacts, I probably am the only person in this room that knows of a scar tree at Drayton
- For those people not aware of what a scar tree is, it is a tree which has had bark removed by indigenous Australians for the creation of bark canoes, shelters, shields and containers.

- We also support local businesses in the Muswellbrook and Singleton areas, purchasing tyres, fuel, hydraulic hoses et
- Instead of mines wiping out the horse racing industry they should be looking at the animal welfare people .As stated by a speaker yesterday, he stated that he had some fast ones and a lot of slow ones . BUT,where do the slow ones go? Or do we keep breeding hundreds of horses till coolmoor can find that Melbourne cup winner??
- We all know about the grey hound industry in nsw!
- I hope the PAC realise that apart from employees and contractors losing their jobs, please consider small businesses and the impact on them whilst they are trying to have a go!
- Just look out the window behind you and see 2 shops shut.
- Also I would like to comment on dust – Drayton have a very strong OHS & environment committee and they are more than aware of looking after the environment as well. In fact, if there is not a water cart running on site, the entire operations on the Drayton site stop completely. As for Drayton South, the predominant wind direction is NW/SE so the wind and any dust does NOT blow towards the studs anyway. If you want some facts, Coolmore have actually built their airstrip in this wind direction.
- Thanks very much for listening to my views – approving Drayton south will be the best outcome for small business and future jobs in the wider community.
- Drayton and the surrounding horse studs have co-existed successfully for many years –
- **WHY CHANGE WHAT WORKS**