Steven Rooney, appointed General Manager of McArthur River Mine in February.

Steven Rooney always knew that one day he would be a mining engineer.

But he never imagined that he would one day be in charge of one of the largest zinc, lead and silver mines in the world.

“Mining always attracted me. I liked the idea of living, exploring and working in remote Australia. I enjoy being part of small communities”

Earlier this year, he was promoted from Mine Manager to General Manager of the McArthur River Mine, 70 kilometres south-west of the Indigenous community of Borroloola in the Northern Territory.

He takes over from Sam Strohmayer, who has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer for Glencore’s Zinc Assets in Australia, which means he is ultimately responsible for MRM and the company’s Mount Isa mine.

Steven, who has worked at McArthur River for six years, now has what would be a daunting job for most people – taking charge of about 1000 workers at a multibillion-dollar open-cast mining operation.

But he says: “I enjoy a good challenge and MRM has had its share over the past few years. The fact that the operation continues to improve is recognition of the quality people that we have working at MRM and their passion to see MRM exceed.’

“The mine has a great future, I’ll have my part to play in shaping the operation, and I am looking forward to being part of that future.

Meet MRM’s new General Manager

Steven will continue to support four key MRM programs:

• Training as many Territorians as possible in particular creating opportunities for Borroloola residents;
• Engaging and increasing the use of NT suppliers;
• Developing opportunities for more female participation in the operation; and
• Engaging with the Borroloola and wider NT community.

He says recruiting Territorians makes sense.

“I read that people who have lived in the Territory for more than five years are unlikely to ever leave. “So training local people means we are training people who are likely to stay with us for a long time.

“Losing skilled staff is costly and can affect efficiency, so it makes good business sense to recruit, train and retain NT people.”

About 20 percent of MRM workforce are Indigenous, with a number of them from Borroloola.

“We will continue to do our best to continue developing opportunities for more locals to join the mine” says Steven.
Continued from page 1

“That’s good for the Borroloola community, good for the mine and good for the Territory.” About 18 percent of our staff are female, which is above the industry average. It is important that as an operation we continue to enable opportunities for women to be a part of our organisation.

“It’s about diversity of thought, not meeting targets. That is the key message,” Steve says.

Community engagement has always been a big part of MRM’s operating strategy.

The mine gives more than $1.3 million a year to the Community Benefits Trust, which was set up in 2007 for social and economic development initiatives.

It funds a range of programs, including enterprise and job creation, environment, arts, culture, health, education, social and community development.

More than $15 million has been pumped into more than 100 programs in the Gulf region.

MRM also sponsors many community events, including the hugely popular Borroloola rodeo and fundraising fun runs.

And its staff enjoys raising money for charity, with competitive camps raising money for breast cancer research and prostate cancer research.

“Community engagement is important to us,” says Steven. “We are a big part of the community and therefore important that we have a voice”

“It’s a part of the job that I particularly enjoy.”

Steven, who was born in Queensland, joined the Army after leaving school and served in the infantry for four years.

“I enjoyed life in the military and learnt a lot, particularly how vital discipline and clear communication is to ensure successful outcomes.”

“But I knew that the Army wasn’t something I wanted to do forever.”

After leaving the military, he went to the School of Mines in Kalgoorlie and studied for a Mining Engineering degree. From there Steven has spent the majority of his career living and working in the Pilbara, North West Queensland and the Northern Territory.

Steven’s wife Tammie and three children, aged 14, 11 and 9, have moved to Darwin from their farm in western Victoria.

They are settling in well – let’s hope that they don’t think Australia’s smallest capital city is a bit too big. ☺

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Message from outgoing GM

It is very pleasing for me to pass on the MRM GM role to Steven Rooney, which is a testament to his capabilities and commitment to MRM, but also to the continuing ability of MRM to grow and develop the new senior leaders in our business.

MRM is a very challenging place to work, but challenges bring out the best in people and often provide the most exciting opportunities and the most memorable shared experiences of success, particularly for those people who really care about what they’re doing and have the curiosity and perseverance to see things through.

Fortunately MRM has been able to attract and retain many people with these qualities and it has been an absolute privilege to have been your GM, and to have shared the many challenges that we’ve overcome in the last six years. MRM has been a massive part of my working life, with roughly 18 years of cumulative service, I have thoroughly enjoyed all of these times because the work has always been extremely interesting and I’ve been very lucky to work with great people. Great people are the key to any business and hopefully we’ve managed to make MRM a better and more comfortable place for all of us to spend time, so that we can retain and attract great people. Fortunately in my new role I’ll have still have some involvement in MRM and I look forward to seeing Steven Rooney and the team driving MRM to even more success in the future.

MRM Gender Diversity Working Group

We have recently formed a MRM Gender Diversity Steering Group and are now looking to form a Gender Diversity Working Group to work with the Steering Group to promote respect, inclusion, opportunity, and community in our workplace. We are seeking people from across the business at all levels who will take on responsibility for networking functions, events and as specific initiatives. Members will: Be prepared to take the lead on specific projects and initiatives; Network with others to bring gender diversity issues to the table; Want to participate in diversity and inclusion activities and networks; Support other women in the business to feel safe and valued; Want to become mentors for women in the business.

Please contact cassie.bell@glencore.com.au or 0447 507 671 to express your interest.
Organisational Announcements

Alan Richardson has been appointed to the position of Mining Services Superintendent.

Alan has provided valuable leadership and support to the Mining Department over the last 1.5 years and brings to the position more than 20 years of mining experience.

Kris Masterman has been appointed to the position of Mining Manager. Kris has successfully managed the mining operation for the past six months and has been committed to MRM for the past nine years. His wealth of knowledge with respect to MRM will continue to benefit the operation greatly. Kris’s appointment is another demonstration of MRM’s commitment to leveraging off our internal talent pool and allowing opportunities for personal growth, ensuring that the operation transitions with minimal impact.

Joseph Ikudee is returning to MRM as Mining Technical Services Superintendent.

Joseph is a Mining Engineer with more than 20 years of experience in both mine planning and mining operations. Joseph’s skills and experience will provide important direction and leadership to the mine planning function.

Vacation Students thrive

Seven university students made MRM their home for the holiday period from November to January. Andrew Helmore, Lee Marie Perham, Jason O’Meara, Lucas Frichot, Samantha Piper, Sebastian Gaggi and Louis Kubasiewicz joined the MRM team as vacation students for past three months.

The hands-on experience is proves invaluable to students as they work to make sense of what they have been studying. Andrew Helmore was attracted to MRM as he has studied the zinc deposit as a case study through his university degree.

"The geotech department has a really good culture and it creates a good learning environment, everyone is willing to teach you,” said Andrew. The 12 week practical placement enables students to complete their Engineering degree, and as a result Andrew will now stay on as a graduate geotechnical engineer at MRM.

Environment Appointments

Carolina Sardella has been promoted to the position of Lead Advisor – Monitoring. In her role as a Hydrogeologist, Carolina has played an important role in the ongoing advancement in understanding of MRM’s hydrogeological setting since joining in 2018.

Simon Longhurst has been promoted to the position of Lead Advisor – Compliance and Approvals. Since joining MRM in 217, Simon has broadened his skills and experience working across range of environmental roles.

Christine Jones will continue her successful and effective leadership of the Rehabilitation team and co-ordination of many critical environmental projects in her appointment in the position of Lead Advisor – Rehabilitation.

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Environmental Announcements

"With the EIS approved and the MMP approval pending, the direction forward is clear. This next period for the mine will require a continued focus on providing a safe workplace, clear communication and considered leadership support to ensure that we are competitive as an operation and remain effective for the life of mine.“ Kris Masterman – Mining Manager

Glencore donation to Australian bushfire relief

Like all Australians. We’ve been deeply saddened to see the destruction caused by the current bushfires and the catastrophic impacts on many families, communities and wildlife across the country.

In response to the bushfires, Glencore has donated a total of $1 million to three organisations that play a vital role in several aspects of bushfire preparation, response and recovery, $500,000 has been donated to Blaze Aid, $250,000 to Aussie Ark and $250,000 to the NSW Rural Fire Service.

On site at MRM, Mining A crew raised $5,000 for Kenny Hatwell, whose family lost their home in the bushfires in NSW. The Hatwell family generously shared the money with others in their local community.

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This image of was captured by Kevin Hunt from Mining Tech Services and titled ‘Sunset Reflections’. Submit your photo entries to: mrmprojenq@glencore.com.au or text to 0418 365 383

Upcoming Events
- Borroloola Regional Economic Forum 12th Feb
- MRM Youth Mentoring Network Lunch (Girls) 17th Feb
- MRM Youth Mentoring Network Lunch (Boys) 19th Feb
- Community Benefits Trust Board Meeting 19th Feb
- Borroloola School Site Visit (Nursery, Rehab) 4th March
- International Women’s Day 8th March
- Borroloola International Women’s Dinner 8th March
- Community Site Tour 14th March
- Cultural Workshops 7th and 28th March
- Great Humpty Ball Darwin 28th March

MRM Health & Fitness Sessions
- Frisbee Mon 17th Feb
- HIIT! Wed 19th Feb
- Touch Footy Thu 20th Feb
- Bing Bong Fit Fri 21st Feb
- Squad Sat 22nd Feb
- Functional Sun 23rd Feb
- Frisbee Mon 24th Feb
- Squad Tue 25th Feb

Well done Paul Silvio
SAFETY OBSERVATION: Witnessed a contractor working at height whilst installing security camera without fall protection.
REMEDY: Immediately instigated a safety STOP and worked through the job safety requirements with the contractor before the task could recommence.

Did you know that you could win a Glencore Safe Teams esky by submitting a hazard, safety interaction, work safety observation or safety innovation?

If your submission is selected to be showcased in the monthly HSEC corporate report you will receive this great prize to take home or use on site.

MRM In Community – Traditional Owner Christmas Lunch 2019