



## Mining – Land Management – BHP Billiton Mt Arthur

### Coal's Ogilvie View



*Mining companies frequently own land that is not part of the mine's operation. Ensuring that this land continues to be commercially productive makes good business sense. It also allows the properties to be maintained in a way that is sustainable and continues to contribute to the region's economy and diversity, both now and in the future.*

#### History of Ogilvie View

Ogilvie View, the former Roxburgh Estate, is a 485-hectare property located 12 kilometres southwest of Muswellbrook in the Hunter Valley. BHP Billiton Mt Arthur Coal purchased the property from Fosters in 2009.

Mt Arthur Coal's open cut mine is situated 5 kilometres south of Muswellbrook and employs around 1,500 people. Ogilvie View is located 2 kilometres west of Mt Arthur Coal, and was purchased by BHP Billiton as a buffer zone for the mine's operation.

#### Ogilvie View today

Since the property was purchased, decisions about the most productive use of the land have been made in accordance with the demands of the local market.

While the breakup of the Rosemount Estate saw many properties change land use – including the incorporation of Giants Creek and Denman vineyards into the Patinack Thoroughbred Farm – Ogilvie View continues to operate as a vineyard with 35 hectares under vines.

Recently the vineyard has been leased to an established winemaker from the Lower Hunter under a long term agreement. They manage the day-to-day operations of the vineyard and the fruit they produce is now going into their existing labels or can be sold to other winemakers in the area.

Ogilvie View is predominately Chardonnay, with some small areas of Semillon.



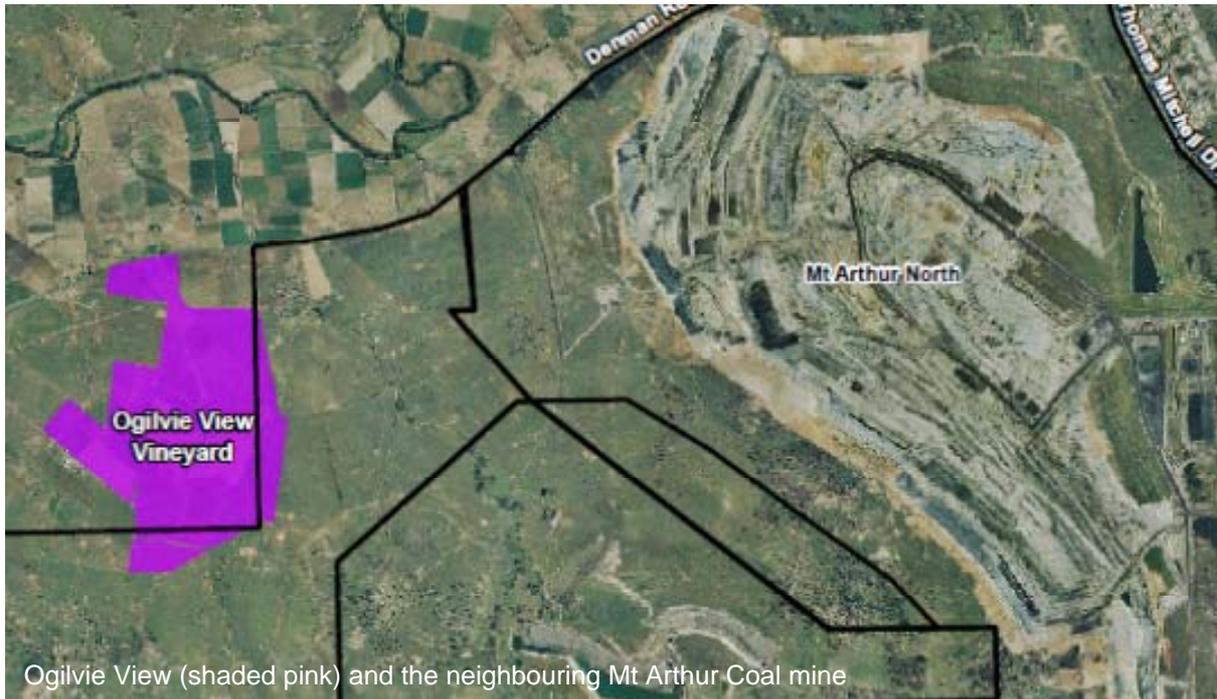
Like many vineyards throughout Australia, Ogilvie View has been impacted by the global oversupply of wine. After taking advice from consultants, vines that were less productive or had lower-demand fruit were removed from the property, creating a more manageable and cost effective vineyard.

Those areas have been recultivated and are now used for cattle grazing and intensive dry land cropping. This action was supported by other growers in the area, as it reduced local competition at a time when prices for fruit were low.

Ogilvie View has commercially positioned itself apart from other fruit producers in the area. Some of the Chardonnay fruit is produced from the vineyard's 40-year-old historic vines that are scarce and high in value. However, in response to the oversupply of Chardonnay and to meet growing market demand for diversity, Ogilvie View has replaced some of its less valuable Chardonnay holding with new fruit varieties, such as Vermentino.

Ogilvie View also has plantings of two French Chardonnay Bernard clones, the first in the Hunter Valley.

The fruit from these clones have a different flavour spectrum and they also ripen faster, which makes them less vulnerable to harsh weather conditions.



Ogilvie View (shaded pink) and the neighbouring Mt Arthur Coal mine

The viticulturist engaged to manage the property, Liz Riley, said the planting of these clones at Ogilvie View is an important educational resource for the local wine industry.

“The progress of these clones will provide benchmark information for other vineyards in the region looking to change their commercial strategy by demonstrating the viability of using different clones to produce new fruit variations and flavours.

“Due to oversupply, there is a competitive market for fruit growers in the area. However, Ogilvie View provides an alternative resource for fruit for the local industry, and provides diverse varieties, such as Vermentino.

“The vineyard’s operation supports local agricultural suppliers and helps retain employment in the industry,” she said.

Since its purchase, Mt Arthur Coal has made significant improvements to the property, including removing less productive vines, undertaking regular maintenance and implementing a soil and fertiliser program. A three-year program has also been implemented to further enhance the property’s quality and productivity.

“The work undertaken by Mt Arthur Coal at Ogilvie View to maintain the social fabric of the land suggests the company understands the impacts their operations have on the community,” Ms Riley said.

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