Viva Energy will celebrate its third birthday next month and we are proud of what we have achieved at the Geelong Refinery. We have invested $250M, developed a clear improvement plan, completed two major maintenance turnarounds (worth $150M), and commenced investments in much needed growth projects for the future.

To help share our story we have recently published a booklet titled Investing in Local Manufacturing that outlines what we are going to do, how we are going to do it and what we have already achieved. I invite you to take a look at a copy of this document on our website.

Earlier this year we announced the outcome of a review which sets out a blueprint to modernise the refinery’s Operations organisation and bring it in line with competition. Safety has been at the forefront of the review and will continue to be as we move into the next stage of this work to make the refinery sustainable for the long term.

Many things make me proud of the team here at the refinery. One example was the recent $30,000 donation by Viva Energy presented to the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Foundation on the Footy Show. This money was raised due to the initiative of a group of employees who, in support of a team member whose family has been personally affected by the disease, spent their own time to strip copper waste from electrical cables and sell it to a recycler.

I was also proud when Viva Energy announced our support for the Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services (CAAPS) with a three-year $300,000 deal for their Volatile Substance Misuse Program. This support for CAAPS aligns with our commitment to invest in community programs that address petrol sniffing and substance misuse. It is especially significant for us at Geelong Refinery as we produce the low aromatic fuel distributed to remote and Indigenous communities across northern Australia which is successfully decreasing petrol sniffing in those areas.

Finally, many people at the refinery are getting ready for Viva Energy’s first ever public Open Day on 13 August. The refinery is a large, complex and fascinating manufacturing facility and we look forward to opening our doors to show the community how we safely and reliably supply over half of Victoria’s fuel.

It’s going to be a great day out and all the details are on our website. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Local production

Manufacture has begun of the refinery’s first new solvent product since the 1980s - Vivasol X55, which is widely used for processing, cleaning and degreasing in the paint, printing and rubber manufacturing industries.

The Geelong Refinery is well-known for manufacturing niche products and is the only refinery in Australia producing solvents, bitumen and avgas. The addition of Vivasol X55 to our suite of locally produced products is a demonstration that we can adapt to changing customer and market conditions and highlights the benefit of retaining traditional manufacturing in Geelong.

New crude oil tank

Even though we didn’t find a pot of black gold under the rainbow, our new $50M crude tank is continuing to proceed well.

With the capacity of 40 Olympic swimming pools, the 100 million litre tank is now at its full height of 21 metres and is currently being painted white to match the other five crude oil tanks in the western tank farm. Once this is complete the tank will be tested, connected and commissioned ready to be fully operational by the end of the year.
In the Community

Good deeds week

Every year people from nearly 100 countries unite to do good deeds for others as part of globally acclaimed Good Deeds Day. Employees at Viva Energy, the first Australian corporate to commit to Good Deeds Day, magnified the initiative to create Good Deeds Week.

More than 750 Viva Energy employees across Australia donated over 650 hours to participate in 1,100 good deeds. And, more than $17,000 was raised for charitable organisations.

Standout contributions from teams at the refinery included the donation of 40 valves to WPC Group apprentices and Viva Energy matching a $4,000 donation by WPC Group to Very Special Kids; the Refinery’s leadership team cooked 1,500 sausages raising $2,380 for The Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services (CAAPS), Red Cross and UNICEF and over 35 members of staff donating blood at the Australia Blood Bank just to name a few.

COMMUNITY WRAP UP

2017 Role Model Grants – Now Open

Do you know someone who needs support to continue their good work?

Each year we invite Geelong’s not-for-profit organisations or registered education facilities to apply for role model grants of up to $5,000.

Applications are now open for this years’ grants to support the work of role models within our community who address mental illness, substance abuse or breaking the poverty cycle through education. Apply at vivaenergy.com.au/community by 20 November 2017.

$10K for Corio withdrawal centre

A $10,000 Viva Energy grant has given a house operated by SalvoConnect’s Geelong Residential Withdrawal Unit, a much needed makeover.

The house helps SalvoConnect clients in their journey from substance misuse to a better life. It’s the only free adult drug and alcohol residential withdrawal unit within a vast geographic catchment; from the Western suburbs of Melbourne to the South Australian border, it provides 400 episodes of much needed care every year.

Local sports support

We are proud to announce our new Northern suburbs sports club sponsorships. This is an exciting new part of our community program offering over $100,000 in sponsorship for local teams in the four highest participation sports of soccer, AFL, netball and cricket as well as support for the Geelong Cats Next Generation program.

Participation in local sports is a great way to reduce stress, improve health and wellbeing, and strengthen community bonds. That’s why we think supporting local sport is a perfect new piece of our Jigsaw puzzle which seeks to promote mental health and positive role models.

You’re invited to our Open Day

We are excited to invite Geelong residents to come and see how fuel is made on Sunday, August 13 for our first Open Day.

Designed as a day for the whole family the Open Day will include refinery bus tours, more than 30 refinery information stalls, booths manned by our valued community partners, numerous free kids’ activities as well as plenty of food and entertainment.

There’s even a chance to win two Sandown Supercar Hot Laps and to meet major sporting celebrities including Supercar drivers Fabian Coulthard and Scott McLaughlin from the Shell V-Power Racing team, racing legend Dick Johnson and Andrew Mackie from the Geelong Cats.

Registration to attend the event is essential and, as places for the bus tours are limited, we encourage people to put their name down early.


Sunday 13 August

10:00 am Welcome to Country
10:30 am Northern Bay College Bands
11:15 am Welcome by General Manager and Andrew Mackie from the Geelong Cats
11:40 am The Alice Effect
12:30 pm Dazzling Dan
1:00 pm Dick Johnson and Shell V-Power Racing Team Supercar Drivers
1:30 pm The Kite Machine
2:30 pm The Mik Maks

www.vivaenergy.com.au