

WHY THE GRICKS FAMILY CHOSE MUDGEE



The Gricks family originally came to Mudgee to do what was meant to be a 3 week job. That was 15 years ago.

Gricks Drilling is now run by Glen Gricks, son of the original owner, BJ Gricks. Late last year they bought a new unit from Sullair, so we wanted to catch up with him for a chat about the business and how things were going generally.

Farming, tourism and coal mining - side by side.

According to a survey completed on booking travel online, Mudgee was recently voted number one in Australia as a top spot for food and wine.

Just outside of town you'll see picturesque rolling hills of grape vines and the main street is dotted with trendy cafes and even a Michelin hatted restaurant. So besides the work, it's easy to see why the Gricks family decided to stay.

Holes ain't holes

Hammer drilling 12 inch holes down to 200-300 metres can be challenging work. You can be confronted by a variety of different ground conditions and down-hole pressures. You're likely to find water at different points in the hole, and Paleo... don't get Glen started on Paleo (Sand and Gravel overburden). Even with the best equipment, it can slow him down to just 12 metres a day.



The new Sullair unit

When Glen decided he needed a new air compressor last year he pretty much knew what he wanted. He'd done his homework on the 900/1150 CFM 500/350 psi combo – effectively two units in one – which delivered both high capacity/high pressure and low capacity/low pressure air simply by flicking a switch. He recalls the sales conversation went something like, “Do you have one in stock? How much is it? Gee, that’s a lot. I’ll take it.”

He then proceeded to invest in a customised tri-axle trailer to transport it from site to site.



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Not easily impressed.

Let’s just say that Glen is a straight talker. He is not the type who is easily impressed. So we were very happy with his appraisal of his new Sullair Combo unit. He’s had other Sullair units so he was able to

compare. “It’s quieter, it’s got the after cooler, it’s more fuel efficient and it’s mine compliant straight up,” he said. “A client looked at it the other day. Checked it out. Nodded and said ‘Nice machine.’”

That pleased Glen. And us.