

Mine needed to keep town alive

I READ with some amusement Hanna Kay's comments (in the *Hunter Valley News*, November 25) about her aversion to Bickham coal mine and its effects on an artistic commune as Murrurundi is sadly now becoming.

Once we had a shale mine close to town but it didn't do much damage.

How does she think we seniors feel watching our town slowly die?

When I was married 62 years ago we were an active town with work for all our young ones.

I reared five children, of which most moved away to keep working.

Years ago we had two doctors now it looks like we'll have none.

Why should we stop something that would bring back a bit of life to us, our young ones and our town.

**JB Gimbert
Murrurundi**