



Issue #42 June 2023

Contact us: Donna Fisher, Company Liaison Officer 0800 WAIHIGOLD (0800 924 444) waihigold.co.nz

## **Drill Rigs and Core Sampling**

In the past we have had a number of drill rigs operating on the surface at various locations in and around Waihi. We also have drill rigs working underground. The majority of our drilling activity is to facilitate 'core sampling' for exploration purposes. Looking for gold deposits to extend the life of the operation is an ongoing part of our business.

Core sampling is the process of drilling a hole using a drill bit that is encrusted with industrial diamonds, which allows a cylinder of rock to be 'cored' as the hole advances. This type of drill hole is commonly referred to as a diamond drill hole, typically around 100mm in diameter and several hundred metres long. As the drilling advances, lengths of rock samples are routinely plucked from the bottom of the drill hole, where the rock samples are then able to be analysed by a geologist. The data that is collected from the core samples is what helps to evolve our understanding of an orebody.



A drill rig in 2019 set up behind the Waihi Rugby Club

Drill hole targeting is a delicate balancing act of combining technical expertise and statistical modelling principles with real world conditions. If the core samples are taken from points too far apart, it can be hard to draw an accurate conclusion from the data returned, and if the points are too close together it can end up costing a lot of time and effort to get back data that doesn't provide much new insight. The process is a little like playing Battleships, but in three dimensions.

It takes many 'hits' from a large number of drill holes to determine the grade and extent of an ore deposit and work out whether it can be mined. For example, it took forty exploration drill holes to confirm the extent and grade of the main section of the Correnso ore body.

If you come across one of our drill rigs, feel free to stop and watch, but please stay outside the operational area. If you want to find out more, pop into our Project Information Office at 86 Seddon Street, Monday to Friday 10am – 2pm or call 0800 924 444.

## Waihi Goldmine Tours for New Residents

On Tuesday the 27th of June, 2023, OceanaGold will be running a free Goldmine tour for new residents. If you have moved to Waihi in 2023 and want to learn more about mining or have any questions about our operations,

now's your chance!



The tours will take approximately one hour and forty-five minutes, and spaces are limited. This will be an opportunity to hear about the 150-year history of mining in Waihi, our current operations today, and proposed projects in the future.

To register for the tour or find out more information, please contact

Phillip.salmon@oceanagold.com

What: Free goldmine tours for new residents

When: 10 am Tuesday 27 June

