## Coal women

### Project worksheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Project name</strong></th>
<th>Coal women</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project location</strong></td>
<td>Queensland—Bowen Basin coal fields, Brisbane</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Client</strong></td>
<td>Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State date</strong></td>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Completion date</strong></td>
<td>2010 (book published)</td>
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</tbody>
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### Senior staff involved
- Associate Professor Georgina Murray, Co-chief Investigator (Griffith University)
- Professor David Peetz, Co-chief Investigator (Griffith University)

### Project description
This project was phase two of a broader study on women in Queensland’s coal mining, giving a voice to the State’s women coal miners and the wives, daughters, mothers and sisters of coal miners, and to help them articulate their place in the history of Australian work.

### Services provided
- 107 interviews of 133 miners and their spouses (106 women and 27 men); data coded and analysed
- Gains from the study:
  - Public awareness around the issues facing women associated with the coal mining industry, and sympathy towards their and the Union’s positions
  - An awareness of the stresses for both sexes working in a largely deregulated environment, with 12-14 hour shifts becoming the norm
  - Collection of historical industry-specific photographs and documents
  - A greater understanding of, and support by the client, for its women members and potential members

### Project relevance
This project has led to the award of a competitive, nationally funded Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage grants (plus in-kind and partner contributions from the CFMEU), concluded in 2013, looking at the recurring theme of the Coal Women Project around the norm and the effects of 12-14 hour shifts. Visit the project’s website for further information: [https://www.griffith.edu.au/work-organisation-wellbeing/research/projects/the-relationship-between-working-arrangements-and-wellbeing](https://www.griffith.edu.au/work-organisation-wellbeing/research/projects/the-relationship-between-working-arrangements-and-wellbeing)

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