



Scotgold takes wee look near Glasgow

Blair Speedy Mining

A MINING exploration company listing on the Australian Securities Exchange tomorrow is hoping to show that whisky glasses aren't the only places to find gold in Scotland.

Scotgold plans to use the \$4.9 million it raised during an initial public offering in November to establish a gold mine at Cononish, north of Glasgow in Western Scotland.

Chairman Shane Sadleir said the company aimed to become the only significant gold mining company in Scotland, a country he conceded not usually associ-

ated with gold production.

Scotgold acquired the Cononish project through the acquisition of Britain's Fynegold Exploration in May last year.

"Much of the hard work has already been done for us, with the previous owners carrying out exploration on the project over some 15 years," he said.

Diamond drilling had already been carried out and a 1.2km tunnel had been constructed by Fynegold.

The company had also been granted planning approval for a small mining operation of 25,000 ounces of gold per annum in 1996 before a down-

turn in the gold price saw the project mothballed for the past 10 years, Mr Sadleir said.

Chief executive Chris Sangster worked as general manager at Cononish from 1995 to 1999.

In addition to the Cononish mining project, Scotgold has exploration licences covering some 2200sq km in central Scotland.

Mr Sadleir said the company was eager to start looking for new deposits.

The company will have a market capitalisation of \$15.85 million when its shares list on the ASX tomorrow.