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Media Release:

Horses are better protected with new shelter

The horses at HorsePower Collie can enjoy the shade in their newly built sun shelter when the weather heats up, thanks to a \$3,200 donation from Premier Coal.

Paddock management and the welfare of the horses is critical to the operation of HorsePower Collie. The horses are much loved by the riders and volunteers so ensuring they have adequate shade during hot sunny conditions prevents them from overheating.

Rhiannon Rowden, President at HorsePower Collie was delighted with the new shade structure.

“Too much heat can be dangerous for the horses so we wanted to have a shaded, well-ventilated area ready to go where our horses can rest and graze when it gets hot again.

“The funding covered the purchase of roofing materials, posts, cement and gravel and the labour to build the shelter in one of the paddocks.

“We are entirely reliant on grants, donations and fundraising to maintain our organisation and look after our ten horses so we are thankful to Premier Coal for their financial assistance.

“Everyone that rides our horses has a wonderful time and several of our riders have disabilities and come to us to experience the joy of horse riding, challenge themselves and feel a sense of achievement by giving it a go.

“We are proud to be a part of the community providing this service to people in Collie, Donnybrook, Harvey, and Bunbury and look forward to offering it for many more years to come,” said Rhiannon.

Collie HorsePower is located at Gardiner Road, Preston Settlement. It offers horse riding lessons, carriage driving, vaulting (gymnastics on horseback) activities dedicated to enriching the lives of people with and without disabilities.

Premier Coal Operations Manager, Braedon Gaske, was pleased to help improve the paddock facilities.

“HorsePower provides a vital service and brings a lot of joy to many people in our community. We are so happy to offer some financial assistance again this year to keep upgrading their facility and equipment,” said Braedon.

The donation was part of the Premier Coal Community Support Program, which is funded by Yancoal and aims to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in Collie.

Since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia's largest coal exporters: owning or operating nine producing mines across the country, employing over 4,300 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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