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Media Release:

Funding boost for local community groups

Ashton Coal is investing around \$48,000 into community groups across the Upper Hunter Valley region through Yancoal's 2022 Community Support Program.

This funding will be shared by seven local community organisations that work in the areas of health, social and community, environment, and education and training.

Ashton Coal will help fund building upgrades at the Singleton PCYC, a production at the Singleton Theatrical Society, an expansion to the sandpit at Singleton Heights Pre-School, an engine re-build for the Singleton Fire Station's 444 Lolly Run, new equipment at the Cessnock Minor Rugby League Club, and new outdoor fitness stations at the Australian Christian College Singleton.

Ashton Coal Operations Manager, Aaron McGuigan, was thrilled to celebrate the successful community groups at a recent event.

"Congratulations to all the community groups receiving funding this year as part of our Community Support Program. They make such an important contribution to the Upper Hunter Valley region, and we are proud to be able to support these organisations.

"It always pleases me to be able to host an event so we can celebrate their success and hear what equipment they are going to purchase or the enhancements they are planning to their service.

"As a large employer in the area, I see it as our responsibility to help support grass roots groups and organisations to grow and expand, thereby creating a stronger and more sustainable community," said Aaron.

Tim Shields, Principal at Australian Christian College Singleton was delighted with the funding support.

"With this \$13,000 donation, we can build much needed outdoor fitness stations which will help our students improve their cardiovascular health, strength, balance, and flexibility.

"We recognise that outdoor physical activity is important for student wellbeing and social interaction with their peers, and therefore the equipment will be available to use during breaks and for school sport.

"This equipment adds a whole new dimension to our playground, and we are very thankful to Ashton Coal for their funding," said Tim.

The Ashton Coal Community Support Program runs annually and is funded by Yancoal, aiming to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in the Hunter Valley.

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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