

11 March 2026

Media Release:

Community groups in Mudgee celebrate funding boost

Moolarben Coal Mine is investing over \$290,000 into community groups and projects across the Mid-Western region through its Community Support Program in 2026.

This funding will be shared across 44 local community organisations that will invest it in a diverse range of projects including:

- new education and training opportunities;
- enable local festivals, markets, events and shows to run;
- establish a sustainable gardening project;
- enhance vital healthcare services;
- purchase new furniture, equipment and technology upgrades;
- enhance local playgrounds;
- conduct building upgrades;
- facilitate an art exhibition; and
- new search and rescue equipment.

Representatives from the successful community groups and Moolarben Coal attended a morning tea presentation on Monday 9 March to confirm the donation and celebrate their success.

Moolarben Coal Acting General Manager, Tim Slater congratulated the 2026 successful recipients.

“We are thrilled to be funding local programs and initiatives that make a significant contribution to the region.

“Community groups are the backbone of any community and even a small donation can go a long way in making positive change in the community.

“We also acknowledge that community organisations rely heavily on funding to purchase new equipment, run events or enhance their services and we are pleased we can help make this happen.

“Some of the organisations benefitting from funding this year are Lifeline Central West, Dunedoo Sports Club, Mudgee High School, The Business Concierge, Rotary Club of Mudgee, United Hospital Auxiliaries, Rylstone Parents and Citizens Association, PCYC Mudgee, Barnardos, Mudgee Celebrity Classic 2026, Cudgong Valley Physical Culture, Gulgong VRA Rescue, Mudgee Community Preschool, Doctors for Mudgee and many more.

“We look forward to seeing all the projects improve the lives of people living in our community,” said Tim.

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

Mudgee. It provides financial assistance to local groups working in the areas of health, community, environment, arts, culture, education and training.

Since 2010, Moolarben has proudly invested over \$2,000,000 in funding to community groups and initiatives in the Mid-Western Region, reinforcing its commitment to creating a lasting, positive impact beyond mining.

Stephanie Robinson, CEO, Lifeline Central West said, “We are incredibly grateful to Moolarben Coal for their support again this year. This funding will go towards our Together for Life program and expand our critical mental health and crisis support services for the region.”

William Murphy from the Henry Lawson Society Gulgong said, “Every June long weekend, we urge locals and visitors to step back in time to the gold rush days in Gulgong and enjoy the Henry Lawson Heritage Festival. We are run by volunteers and thankful to organisations like Moolarben Coal for their ongoing financial support to help ensure the festival goes ahead and keeps poetry, storytelling and visual history alive in the community.”

For over 20 years since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia’s largest coal exporters: owning or operating eight producing mines across the country, employing over 5,500 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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