

# Dendrobium Community News

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal



MARCH 2023



## ILLAWARRA RUGBY LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) has signed a new agreement to sponsor the Illawarra Rugby League's women's and junior competitions and the Illawarra Steelers representative teams for the next three years.

South32 IMC has been a long-term supporter of the Illawarra Rugby League's women's and junior competitions, helping to grow the game locally and encouraging more people of all ages and abilities to participate in the sport of rugby league, from grassroots through to the elite level.

South32 IMC Vice President Operations Peter Baker said, "We are pleased to renew our sponsorship of the Illawarra Rugby League's women and junior teams for the next three years.

"This new agreement will help to support local people of all ages and abilities to participate in the sport of rugby league, to stay fit, well, and active, and have some fun out on the pitch with teammates and friends.

Two South32 IMC team members (pictured insert) are part of the inaugural Steelers Women's Premiership Squad. Rachael Pearson and Sharna Piccinelli are both Mechanical Apprentices at South32 IMC.





# KOALA CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH

Symbio Wildlife Park and South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (IMC) have launched a new three-year partnership designed to help support koala conservation in the Illawarra and Macarthur regions of New South Wales.

As well as delivering practical measures to support local koala conservation, the partnership will provide educational opportunities and inspiration for local school students, helping to create greater awareness of the need to protect koalas and other endangered species.

The partnership and its initiatives align with the NSW Koala Strategy, complementing conservation efforts that are already underway in other parts of the state. South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal is providing A\$470,000 to support the partnership with Symbio Wildlife Park and its initiatives, which include:

- A new research program that will use state-of-the-art drone-mounted thermal imaging cameras and other

technology to help locate koalas in their natural habitats and map their locations to gain a greater understanding of local populations and their movements.

- Creation of a new immersive conservation educational precinct at Symbio Wildlife Park, with the potential to help educate upwards of 200,000 visitors per year and provide information about the importance of protecting koalas and other endangered wildlife.
- Establishment of a new not-for-profit Symbio Wildlife Park Conservation Foundation, with the aim of supporting a sustainable future for koalas and other endangered Australian wildlife.
- Rollout of a first-of-its-kind augmented reality wildlife educational app for schools to help students learn more about koalas and other Australian wildlife.
- Creation of a Citizen Scientist Education Program linked in with local schools and development of localised web faced Koala spotter portal that utilises AI and API integration to ensure accuracy of sightings and input.

Symbio Wildlife Park Marketing Manager Kevin Fallon said “The Illawarra and McArthur regions have some of the most genetically pure koalas in Australia and this new partnership directly enables us to fast-track important conservation measures and do even more to help protect the species at a time where it has never been so critical, whilst completely changing the way in which children are educated around wildlife.

As well as hosting some key koala habitat areas, our regions have deep cultural ties to the koala stretching back thousands of years with the Dharawal people, and then much later, the first koalas collected for scientific study were found at Mount Kembla, in 1803.”

IMC Vice President Operations Peter Baker said “In addition to supporting the local koala populations, the partnership will also give local school students the chance to learn more about wildlife conservation and the importance of protecting our local environment.”

## LATEST GRANT RECIPIENTS

### DENDROBIUM COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE PROGRAM

- Mount Kembla Public School - Introducing a filming kit, including funding for a part-time Robotics teacher and the purchase of laptops, and Ipads, to our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programs, in addition to our robotics and coding, providing the opportunity for students to engage with Digital Literacy, multimedia creation, and STEM concepts through filming-based technology.

## INDIGENOUS GRANTS PROGRAM

- Dharawal Language story books - Two short story books written in both Dharawal and English and illustrated by a local Aboriginal Artist to raise awareness of the Dharawal Language in the Illawarra and Macarthur regions and the broader Dharawal Community.
- Coomie Social Enterprise (part of Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation) - Funding for a Graphic Designer to assist Coomie's social enterprise's growth and development and give local Indigenous Artists more opportunities to showcase their work.

# GREENHILLS TO WONGAWILLI POWERLINE REHAB COMPLETE

In 1940, overhead powerlines were constructed as part of an initiative to supply power to the Southern collieries from the Port Kembla Steelworks.

- Some eighty years later, the South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal team led the infrastructure's rehabilitation, successfully removing about 16km of powerlines and 129 power poles in 2019 – 2021.
- One of the largest poles to be removed was about 25 metres tall and weighed nearly 7 tonnes.
- The total project cost was about \$2.1M.
- The Consolidated Coal Lease that supported the infrastructure remained in place until recently. The NSW Government relinquished the Consolidated Coal Lease, formally lifting it on 8 November 2022.
- Thank you to the residents who supported our activities, often in their properties or adjacent areas. We are proud to improve the amenity of the local area.



## 2024 GRADUATE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Start your South32 journey - applications for our 2024 Graduate Program are now open!

A range of graduate opportunities are available at South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal in the following engineering disciplines: Mining, Mechanical, Electrical, Geotechnical, Geology and Surveying.



## COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our Community Consultative Committee meets bimonthly; minutes are publicly available on our website.

The following items were discussed at our last meeting held in February 2023 :

- Environment update, including noise, water monitoring, weed control, and dust suppression activities.
- Operations update, including progress on rehabilitation management plans
- LW19 commenced extraction in June 2022 and is nearing completion ahead of longwall change out to LW21
- Slope stability works in Kembla Heights to reduce the potential impact from further land slippage and surface borehole drilling at the mine's main carpark

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Follow the South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal Facebook Page to stay up to date with what we're doing at our operation and in the community.

To find our page, scan the QR code or go to [facebook.com/South32IllawarraMetallurgicalCoal](https://facebook.com/South32IllawarraMetallurgicalCoal)



# SOUTH32 SPONSORS GREAT ILLAWARRA WALK

South32 Illawarra Metallurgical Coal was pleased to support the Great Illawarra Walk, this year providing walkers with a t-shirt and drink bottle and covering other necessary costs (insurance and all that other important stuff) so that organisers can keep to their pledge of donating the total amount from entry fees and donations to their nominated organisations each year.

This year's recipient is the Illawarra Academy of Sport through their Athlete with a Disability (AWD) program. All funds raised will go towards building a purpose-fit gym for athletes with disabilities.

Under a blue sky the crew from i98 FM was on hand to ensure everyone started in good spirits. Along the way, an army of volunteers ensured everyone participating in the walk was hydrated and kept their sugar levels up (with lollies, of course).

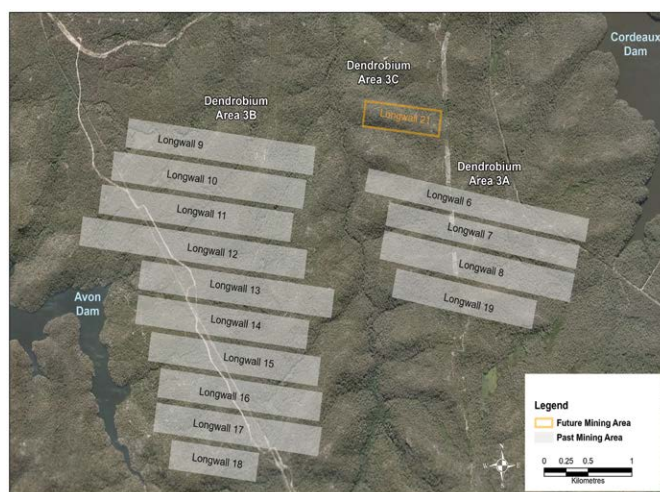
A big thank you to all our volunteers and those among the 439 walkers who covered the 40km distance, raising more than \$75,000.



## OPERATIONAL UPDATE

- **Longwall changeout:** We have commenced activities at Dendrobium Mine associated with moving to the next longwall underground, from LW19 to LW21. Changeout is expected to take around 1 month to complete up to mid-April. While there may be other heavy vehicle movements on Cordeaux Road and more staff on-site, we expect it to be at a reduced volume compared to the previous longwall changeout.
- **Illawarra Escarpment Slope stability works:** Works commenced in December 2022 to mitigate the potential impact of further land slippage at Kembla Heights. Activities are focused on installing additional erosion and sediment controls in the area. The stability works are expected to take up to 10 months to complete.
- **Kemira Valley Coal Loading Facility (KVCLF):** Works to replace the belt from the conveyor commenced in early April. Extra truck movements will be required via Cordeaux Road and Stone Road.

All activities listed will adhere to our Noise Management Plan which can be viewed on our website.



**COMMUNITY  
CALL LINE**

Residents who have questions, concerns or complaints about Illawarra Metallurgical Coal's activities are encouraged to contact us through our Community Call Line on **1800 102 210**. You can also email at [illawarracommunity@south32.net](mailto:illawarracommunity@south32.net)