



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local students inspired by science and engineering

5 July 2024 - The University of Newcastle's award-winning annual Science and Engineering Challenge ran in Muswellbrook recently (25 – 27 June). The event featured two Primary School Discovery Days and one High School Day, thanks to a partnership with Yancoal Australia.

The Science and Engineering Challenge event days target High School students in years 9 and 10 and has proven to have an impact on increasing the participation rates in the enabling sciences and mathematics. Discovery Days target years 5 and 6 Primary School students. Over the three days, the program will educate and engage over 750 students from schools across the region.

Yancoal's Mount Thorley Warkworth and Ashton Coal Mine are joint sponsors of the University's Science and Engineering Challenge, a proud partnership that has been in place since 2002. This makes Yancoal Australia the longest serving sponsor of the Science and Engineering Challenge.

Mount Thorley Warkworth General Manager Cris Shadbolt was proud to continue championing this incredible program.

"We have a solid and long-lasting relationship with the University of Newcastle. A strong STEM education is critical to working in mining and this initiative helps educate and drive the next generation of mining innovators into our industry.

"The challenge encourages students to collaborate and solve real-world challenges, giving them a unique, fun experience in science and engineering," said Cris.

The Rotary Club of Muswellbrook have been integral to the success of the event as the main body responsible for the organisation of the event. The partnership between Rotary, Yancoal Australia and the University of Newcastle has been the key to the longevity of the event in the Upper Hunter.

For more information please contact:

Mick Cassey, Events Manager, Science and Engineering Challenge, University of Newcastle

P: 02 4921 7319

E: Michael.Cassey@newcastle.edu.au

Gary Mulhearn, Environment and Community Manager, Yancoal Australia Ltd

M: 0403 963 081

E: Gary.Mulhearn@yancoal.com.au

