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Media Release:

Buckingham Tree project completed with care

While preserving local history, the Shire of Collie, Premier Coal and the Buckingham Heritage Group worked together to prune and remove vegetation around the Buckingham Hall and Old School site.

The pruning program, which involved the removal of two pine trees and the cutting back of the Buckingham Tree, will ensure the Old School Hall is safe from damage of any falling debris and the Buckingham Tree will maintain its presence as a historic marker in Collie.

With \$5,000 worth of funding from Premier Coal, the 12-member Buckingham Heritage Group collaborated with the Shire of Collie to make this project come to life.

Ian Miffing, Shire President for the Shire of Collie, was pleased with the result of the pruning project.

“The most important part of this task was preserving the hall and old school building, as they form part of Collie’s history since the early 1950’s.

“With an expert team we were able to remove the pine trees following a detailed plan. The successful extractions and removal required rigging, climbing, cutting and the necessary safety equipment.

“The Buckingham Tree sits four to five metres above ground and needed some simple branch pruning to ensure its longevity and continue as a significant historical survey marker,” said Ian.

Buckingham Hall is a weatherboard and iron hall, which has cultural heritage significance for its social importance as a school for the children of workers at the Buckingham and Bunnings Mills and later as a community hall and meeting place.

Premier Coal Operations Manager, Braedon Gaske, was proud to help fund this pruning initiative.

“We have a long history in Collie, so funding works to help preserve local historic landmarks was a perfect fit for us.

“We are pleased the project was successful and hope people continue to enjoy visiting the Buckingham Hall and Old School site in the years to come,” said Braedon.

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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