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Media Release:

SK8 RIDE SCooT thrills and spills

Skateboarding, scooter and BMX riding enthusiasts in Collie are encouraged to cruise down to Collie Skate Park this school holidays for free skills workshops, thanks to a \$4,400 donation from Premier Coal and other local community businesses.

Collie Skate Park will host five clinics (15 and 17 January, 6, 16 and 18 February) with a Community Jam session on 23 February to showcase and celebrate all the skills the participants have learned over the program.

Tamsin Emmett, Community Development Officer for The Shire of Collie was pumped to see this great initiative come to life.

“We recognised a change in behaviour at the park and we are hoping by engaging with the community at the park and helping them enhance their skills, it will bring positive change at Collie Skate Park.

“We know there are many benefits to skating for kids. It can help improve a child’s balance and coordination and help strengthen important muscle groups. It also encourages social interaction and communication.

“By running these clinics, we not only hope to grow the skills of the skaters, scooters and BMX riders, but also improve their overall health and wellbeing and help build their self-esteem.

“Participants can expect to enjoy technical advice, trick tips, skill development, skatepark etiquette, compete in challenges and have lots of fun,” said Tamsin.

The clinics are open to children aged 4-18 and participants can attend one or all sessions. They simply need to bring their own equipment, wear a helmet and closed-in shoes.

Premier Coal Operations Manager, Braedon Gaske, was happy to help fund SK8 RIDE SCooT.

“Getting children outdoors and participating in physical exercise and activity is great for their social and physical wellbeing.

“As a large employer in the area, we are pleased to support family-friendly projects and initiatives that make a positive difference to our community,” said Braedon.

The donation was part of the Premier Coal Community Support Program, which is funded by Yancoal and aims to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in Collie.

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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