

Media release

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Apprentices claim strong ties to coal industry

Premier Coal's newest apprentices are no strangers to the coal industry.

Collie trio Brayden Dalton, Connor Stallard and Jac Hollins will start their apprenticeships with Premier on 10 January.

During an introductory visit to the Company's Collie operation, Connor was accompanied by his dad Glen Stallard who served an apprenticeship at a nearby coal-fired power station 30 years earlier.

It was similar story for Brayden, who was accompanied by his dad David Dalton who has been a fitter in the Collie coal mining industry for 26 years.

While Jac could not attend the introductory visit due to earlier commitments, his linkage to Premier Coal is already strong thanks to his dad Michael Hollins who has been an operator at the mine for 35 years.

Connor and Jac have secured heavy duty mechanic apprenticeships. "I just can't wait to get down in that pit and start working on one of those shovel," Connor said.

Brayden was equally keen to start his welder/fabrication apprenticeships after narrowly missing Premier's apprenticeship intake last year.

The trio will join Premier Coal's 13 existing apprentices, who also all hail from the Collie area.

Premier Coal General Manager Glenn Burlinson said the Company was proud to support training and employment initiatives for local young people.

He said Premier Coal had a workforce of more than 400, 70% of whom lived in the Collie area and about 95% of whom lived within a 70km radius of the town.

Photo caption: Brayden Dalton and Connor Stallard will be joined by Jack Hollins as Premier Coal's new apprentices for 2017.

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