

MEDIA RELEASE

ALBANY'S WA DAY FESTIVAL CELEBRATES THE BEST OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA MAY 8 2017

This WA Day, the Museum of Great Southern will come to life to celebrate the best of Western Australian culture with a FREE local WA Day Festival.

On Monday 5 June from 10:30am to 3:30pm the Albany precinct will be jam-packed with free activities for the whole family including pony rides, face painting and live entertainment by Jamie the Clown and puppet performances by Southern Edge Arts.

The Museum will be transformed into a hub of activity with live music from Albany Shantymen, Noongar musicians and more. Enjoy the Lockyer Leapers perform a mesmerising skipping routine to foot stomping music.

Visitors will have the chance to experience life as WA's earliest convicts did on the voyage to King George Sound aboard the Brig *Amity* ship. Swab the decks, become a convict in chains, taste convict food and try navigating with old-fashioned equipment, discover the sights and sounds below deck that were encountered by those aboard as they headed for unknown lands.

Taste the best of Great Southern produce with free tastings of local honey, olive oils, seasonal fruits, jams and relishes. A coffee van will also be on site along with a sausage sizzle for a gold coin donation.

Help make a collective masterpiece with an Aboriginal artist or learn ancient Menang tool-making techniques with Noongar man Larry Blight.

If you can brave creepy crawlies, head on over to the Museum's Discovery Centre and discover the Wonderful World of Insects display.

History buffs, put your smartphone camera away and discover classic photos and cameras used throughout the ages with The Ace Camera Club.

A game of 'Guess What?' brought to you by Museum of the Great Southern is sure to challenge the brightest in your family, testing your knowledge on historical WA objects.

Celebrate WA Chairman Michael Anghie said: "WA Day Festival is a celebration of Western Australia: our relaxed lifestyle, beautiful landscape, local products, local pride, local music and most importantly, our people. We want as many people as possible to come out and enjoy their WA Day at this event."

Museum of the Great Southern Regional Manager Rachael Wilsher-Saa said it's great to see people come together for WA Day.

"We will be celebrating our region's history and our wonderful community as it is today at the Museum of the Great Southern this WA Day," Ms Wilsher-Saa said.

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Those unable to make it to the Museum of Great Southern are invited to join the fun at eight additional events around the state including Elizabeth Quay, Fremantle, Mandurah, Bunbury, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Geraldton, Newman and Port Hedland.

The WA Day Festival is made possible thanks to event sponsors BHP Billiton, the State Government of Western Australia and Lotterywest.

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About Celebrate WA

Celebrate WA is a not-for-profit organisation responsible for promoting and organising the annual WA Day celebrations; promoting excellence and achievement by Western Australians in all fields of endeavour; and encouraging pride in all things Western Australian.

Celebrate WA's Major Supporters include BHP Billiton, the State Government and Lotterywest.





