

18 March 2020

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### **WA Day 2020 events cancelled in response to COVID-19**

It is with regret that Celebrate WA announced that the 2020 WA Day celebrations will be cancelled given the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 virus.

We appreciate that these are the premier public events for proudly celebrating all things Western Australian and they are enjoyed by many people, however, at this time the health and safety of residents in communities across the state must be our primary focus.

The events being cancelled for 2020 are:

- WA Day Festival at Burswood, Perth on 31<sup>st</sup> May
- WA Day regional events on 31<sup>st</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June
- WA Day Festival at the Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour on 1<sup>st</sup> June
- State of the Art (SOTA) music festival on 1<sup>st</sup> June
- Western Australian of the Year Awards on 29<sup>th</sup> May

Entries for the Awards will be carried forward to 2021 to ensure that we continue to recognise the talented Western Australians who have been put forward for this honour.

Celebrate WA Chair Michael Anghie said:

“The decision to cancel the 2020 WA Day celebrations was a difficult one for the Board however importantly we must firstly protect the health and safety of our community and ensure that we preserve our ability to provide Western Australians with an even bigger chance to celebrate our state in 2021.

“We have kept our major supporters, BHP, the State Government and Lotterywest, informed of our decision and they are supportive of the action we are taking.

“During these challenging times we would like all Western Australians to remain proud of the many achievements of our state and admire the resilience of all the people who live here.

“We will be doing our best to continue promoting everything that is great about Western Australia and maintaining our optimism about the future for the state.”

### Major Supporters



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