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27 July 2021

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Reconnecting Communities through Small Events in Hindmarsh Shire**

Hindmarsh Shire residents will be able to start planning to attend events within the shire following the announcement from the Victorian Government that Hindmarsh Shire Council has received funding of \$30,000 through the Regional Recovery Fund to support future events.

Cr Ron Ismay, Mayor of Hindmarsh Shire Council said “Council is extremely pleased and thankful of the Victorian Government to receive this support for the ‘Reconnecting Communities through Small Events in Hindmarsh Shire’ project”.

“It will provide residents across the shire with an opportunity to once again connect by way of social interaction through a series of small community based events in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow that will also provide socio-economic growth” said Cr Ismay.

Each of the four towns have previously held community based music and social events that have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has had an impact on the connectedness and social and mental wellbeing of many residents within the broader community of the Hindmarsh Shire.

The ‘Reconnecting Communities through Small Events in Hindmarsh Shire’ will enable the re-establishment of previous events or establishment of new events.

It will also provide an increased level of confidence to residents and communities that community events and activities can be held following the COVID-19 pandemic providing appropriate safety procedures and measures are in place.

Cr Ismay said, “Although plans are yet to be finalised, initial thoughts for events included a series

of evening concerts throughout the summer months at the rear of the Dimboola Library, events in Jeparit at Menzies Square before Christmas and at Easter, the Big Sky Festival in Rainbow and a series of events in Nhill”.

“Now that the funding has been announced, Council officers will work with appropriate Town Committees and other appropriate community organisations to formalise plans and scheduling” said Cr Ismay.

For more information, please contact Monica Revell, Director Corporate and Community Services, on 03 5391 4444 or email [mrevell@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrevell@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au).

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**Chief Executive Officer**