

MEDIA RELEASE
19 October 2023



LAUNCH OF 2024 LAKE BOLAC EEL FESTIVAL

EARLY EEL TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

Early Eel tickets are now available for next year's Eel Festival.

The Early Eel tickets, the same price as the last festival at \$67, were released at the launch of the festival last Sunday and are available until 3 December.

Ararat Rural City Council Mayor Jo Armstrong launched the festival and said that the 2024 festival, the 14th to be held, was bound to be as good as ever.

The festival music program was also announced and includes Brett Clarke, Seal Prince and the Roof Rats, Tim Scanlan, Bruce Watson, Tenzin Choegyal, Gabby Steel Band, Andy Alberts Band and headline act Neil Murray.

With support from Ararat Rural City Council, Bendigo Bank, Pitch Festival, Beyond Colac Catchment Action Group and Glenelg Hopkins CMA, the festival committee has been able to keep all ticket prices the same as last festival.

Eastern Marr representative Paul Kelly opened the launch with a Welcome to Country complete with samples of indigenous music on the didgeridoo and clap sticks.

Well-known singer/songwriter, Neil Murray, who lives in Lake Bolac and founder of the festival, entertained with songs including 'Stand Up and Be Counted'.

The festival, which features an Art Auction on Friday night 22 March with the festival proper on 23 March, is on the theme of 'Song, Story, Dance; Celebration & Ceremony'. It includes a Forum, Workshops, Music, Twilight Ceremony, information and food stalls and Buskers Stage.

Tickets to the Art Auction are sold separately at \$33 and include dinner.

All day tickets on the Saturday are \$77 (online) after 3 December and \$88 at the gate. Under 16s are free. There is no concessional rate but accepted volunteers who commit to a minimum of 2 hours of help receive a complimentary ticket.

After Sunday's launch, guests lunched at the Lake Bolac Information and Business Centre while watching a video by festival Cultural Advisor Adeline Thomas and Glynn Coulson.

Festival tickets are through Humanitix via the link at eelfestival.org.au

Media enquiries: Sally Gibson 0409-197-717