



## Media Release

25 January 2022

### Eel Festival 2022 – Tickets now available

Tickets are now available for the Lake Bolac Eel Festival, March 25-26, 2022.

The program includes impressive local talent headed up by singer/songwriter Neil Murray ('My Island Home').

After two years in abeyance due to the pandemic, festival chair Rachel Taylor, has announced the return of the 'little festival with the big heart'.

Confirmed musicians and performers include Benny Walker, Liam Gerner, Phil and Trudy Edgeley, Sarah Carroll and Shannon Bourne, Gypsy Smash, Jim Williams, and Glynn Coulson.

The festival on the Lake Bolac foreshore includes workshops, stalls, markets and displays.

The popular Festival Forum will feature Warrnambool's Professor John Sherwood as one of the guest speakers. The Art Auction, showcasing regional artists, will open the festival on Friday March 25.

"Following the partial destruction of the ancient eel stone formation last year in Lake Bolac, which is still subject to investigation, it's important we focus as a community on caring for country and culture which the festival celebrates and commemorates," Ms Taylor said.

The theme 'Caring for Country and Culture' underscored that, she said.

Tickets are available from the festival website at [eelfestival.org.au](http://eelfestival.org.au)

Tickets purchased for the postponed 2020 festival will be honoured at the 2022 festival.

The festival is a fully vaccinated event. All attendees (artists, stall holders, volunteers, audience) able to be vaccinated will need to show their vaccination certificate on arrival.

The festival commemorates the annual autumn feast of eels in the lake by surrounding Aboriginal communities which were said by witnesses to number more than 800 people.

Established in 2005, the festival is held every two years and attracts attendees from across Victoria and interstate.

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