



May 12, 2016

MEDIA RELEASE

Reality Stars Headline Outback Concerts

The stars of X-Factor, Australian Idol, The Voice and I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here are heading to the outback this WA Day weekend to entertain the crowds at the Leonora Golden Gift carnival.

A full weekend of sport, entertainment and community activities, this year the Gift promises to be bigger and better than ever.

The town's population of 1500 will swell as athletes, entertainers, spectators and tourists roll in.

Running from **Friday June 3 to Monday June 6**, the Leonora Golden Gift is a fun filled weekend of horse racing, the Minara Resources Goldfields Cyclassic, market stalls, art prize, fireworks, entertainment, two-up and the main event the Golden Gift, Australia's richest mile running race with \$50,000 up for grabs.

This year promises a stellar entertainment lineup starting with the free community concert and fireworks. The Saturday evening event will feature Murphy's Lore (starring Chris and Courtney Murphy of *Australian Idol* fame) and The Voice Finalist Michael Stangel playing Aussie Classics. But before the big voices hit the stage, the kids will be entertained by crowd favourites, The Lulus.

Following its successful introduction last year, the Concert Under the Stars is back at Hoover House on Sunday evening featuring *X-Factor's* Big T, under 18 Australian Songwriter of the Year Frank Dixon and Michael Stangel is back, this time performing American Classics. And, fresh from the South African jungle where he starred in *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here*, we have hilarious Aussie comic Akmal. Tickets are free, but limited, so contact the Shire of Leonora to secure yours.

Shire of Leonora president Peter Craig said the local community loves celebrating this big weekend each year and it was a pleasure to bring entertainers of such caliber to the event.

"It's always a great weekend, and to have such quality acts is a real thrill not only for the locals but for the many visitors who join us," Mr Craig said.

"It is our goal to give back to our community and ensure it is a great place to live and work."

Available for comment:

Shire of Leonora President Peter Craig - $0418\ 950\ 572$ Shire of Leonora CEO Jim Epis - $0418\ 118\ 220$

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Note to Editors

There are provisions for media to attend the Leonora Golden Gift, please contact Frances Thornton for further information on 0405 135 304 or frances@francesthornton.cm.au

Broadcast quality video and photos will be available throughout the weekend.

About Leonora

Leonora is part of the Goldfields-Esperance region of Western Australia and has a rich history of mining, exploration and a well-established pastoral industry. An outback town with a difference, you'll enjoy visiting Gwalia, an abandoned old mining village that has been restored to its original condition and boasts one of Australia's finest museums.

View the Leonora Golden Gift Promotional Video here.

2016 Programme

Leonora Golden Gift

Australia's best athletes battle it out over a mile down Leonora's main street. Heats Saturday, finals on Sunday.

Leonora Golden Wheels

Watch the exciting finish of stage two of the Goldfields Cyclassic on Sunday.

Horse Racing

At the Leonora Race club Saturday and Monday

Community Concert & Fireworks – Main Street (Saturday)

<u>The Lulus</u> – WA's favourite children's entertainers <u>Murphy's Lore</u> – Featuring Courtney Murphy (Australian Idol 2004) and Chris Murphy (Australian Idol 2006) <u>Michael Stangel</u> – The Voice, 2013

Concert Under the Stars at Hoover House (Sunday)

Michael Stangel – The Voice, 2013

Big T – X-Factor 2015

Frank Dixon – Under 18 Australian Songwriter of the Year

Akmal - I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here 2016

Plus:

Kid's Zone with Silent Disco Market Stalls Leonora Art Prize And much more!