



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Countdown to weekend of the year

May 3, 2018
COOKTOWN

The countdown is on to Cooktown's favourite festival, and Cape York's longest-running annual event, the Cooktown Discovery Festival.

The three day festival kicks off on Friday, June 15, with a packed day of events aimed to please all ages and budgets. Friday's program includes helicopter tours, botanical drawing workshops, river cruises, live entertainment, marine gunfire and the Festival's official opening, the Discovery Festival Ball. Tickets for the ball, which will be catered by the award-winning team from Cairns' Ochre Restaurant, are on sale now on the Discovery Festival website.

Cruise into Saturday with community markets, the grand parade, scavenger hunting, the poet's breakfast, cultural tours and workshops, pie and pasta eating competitions, live music, the Indigenous Warrma, fireworks, gold delivery and much, much more. "It's a cliché, but there really is something for everyone at our festival," Cook Shire Council Tourism Manager Sally Eales said. "There are so many free events and lots of family fun, as well as live entertainment at pubs and clubs, fireworks, novelty events and art and culture activities. The problem will be finding enough time to see and take part in everything!"

The fun continues on Sunday, with the not-to-be-missed Re-enactment of the first reconciliation between the local Guugu Yimithirr people and James Cook and his crew at the site of the historic meeting in 1770 on the banks of the Endeavour River. "It's a very special event, with descendants of those original men and women who met Cook taking part in the event on the same spot they have stood for thousands of years," Ms Eales said. The (sometimes literally) smash-hit billy kart races are also back, with all sorts of outlandish wheeled creations ready to race for glory, as well as a cemetery tour, family fun run, sunset cruises and street markets.

Cook Shire Council would like to acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors, the National Trust of Australia (Queensland), Tourism and Events Queensland, Cairns Hardware and the Cooktown Bowls Club.



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Visit www.cooktowndiscovery.com.au for more information on the festival, including the full program and tickets for the Ball and other paid events.

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