

## SPRING EVENTS SHINE IN THE DUBBOREGION

Spring in the Dubbo region was Illed with major events that boosted visitation to the region benelting the local economy.

Major events held in October in Dubbo and Wellington included the Multicultural Festival, NSW Veterans Cricket Tournament, Fong Lees Lane, Under Western Skies Festival and the Dubbo Art Fair.

"The Dubbo Art Fair provided a large boost to the visitation of the Western Plains Cultural Centre in October. It was a popular event that showcased some amazing local artists but also contributed to the local economy with artists selling direct to the public," Dubbo Regional Council Mayor Mathew Dickerson said.

"The Dubbo Art Fair has really cemented itself as the largest arts fair west of the Blue Mountains, which is a great achievement for our region and the Western Plains Cultural Centre who run this event.

"Fong Lees Lane was another well-attended event in spring that brought over 1000 people to Wellington to enjoy this wonderful colourful and cultural event that showcases a part of the town's history," Clr Dickerson said.

Accommodation occupancy for Dubbo remained steady during the spring period whilst Wellington continued to see an increase with the construction of major renewable projects contributing to the higher accommodation occupancy for Wellington.

The Wellington Visitor Information Centre saw an increase in foot tra cin the spring school holidays which coincided with the Thunder Cave at the Wellington Caves reopening to the public for tours.

"This month the Old Dubbo Gaol also won silver in the best cultural tourism category and bronze in the tourist attraction category at the NSW Tourism Awards. This is another accolade for this tourist attraction that continues to build on its visitor experience and preserve the history and stories of this signilcant cultural site."

"Summer is also shaping up to be a good period for our region with a number of major sporting events for cricket, athletics and touch football converging on the region for major events," Clr Dickerson said.

As Christmas approaches giving a gift of an experience is a great way to buy a gift that will provide a lasting memory. The Great Big Adventure Pass that provides access to the Old Dubbo Gaol, Wellington Caves, Taronga Western Plains Zoo and Royal Flying Doctor Service Visitor Experience is ideal for family or friends to experience when they visit the region.

To purchase a Great Big Adventure Pass visit greatbigadventurepass.com.au.

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