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MEDIA RELEASE

NAIDOC-THEMED ACTIVITIES FOR FREE HOLIDAY FUN PROGRAM

Coonamble Shire Council is again coordinating an exciting free holiday fun program for the upcoming school holiday period, with strong support of other local organisations.

The holiday period runs from Monday, 8 July, through to Friday, 19 July, and encompasses NAIDOC Week during the first week of the school break.

Council's Community Development staff have been busy coordinating a program that will both challenge and educate the young people that attend the individual sessions.

Staff have been mindful of incorporating cultural content into the program to ensure that attendees also learn about NAIDOC and join the community in marking this event respectfully.

Mayor Tim Horan said, "I am delighted to see such great programs of activity scheduled for the school holidays. I hope as many children as possible take advantage of the activities and have some fun!"

Both the Coonamble and Gulargambone programs involve NAIDOC-themed activities, cooking, sport, movies, art and free play, with the support of the Coonamble Local Aboriginal Land Council and Wayilwan Elder, Uncle Sooty Welsh.

Interrelate, MacKillop Family Services, Mission Australia and REDI.e are among the local organisations offering activities during the holiday program.

The Gulargambone program is also packed with fun and is made possible by the generous collaboration between the Gulargambone REDI.e Youth Centre staff, and Council's staff and facilities at the Gulargambone Youth Centre.

Mission Australia has taken the initiative to run an activity aimed at young people playing a variety of sports and games. Additionally, REDI.e staff will take clients and some of the Youth Centre attendees to Coonamble for Oz Tag games each Thursday for an afternoon of fun and food with a free barbecue dinner.

General Manager Paul Gallagher said, "Our community development works hard to plan these activities and organise the programs. They are very important for the community, parents and children, and we are committed to making them available."

Paul Gallagher
GENERAL MANAGER