



New South Wales

The Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Lands
Minister for Rural Affairs
Minister for Regional Development
Vice President of the Executive Council
Leader of the House – Legislative Council

December 6, 2007

IEMMA GOVERNMENT HELPS JAZZ THE TOPS AT COOLAH

NSW State Plan Priority P6: Increased business investment in rural and regional NSW

Minister for Regional Development, Tony Kelly, today announced \$10,000 of Iemma Government funding to help Coolah District Development Group stage the Jazz in the Tops festival next year.

Mr Kelly said the funding would help employ an event co-ordinator, and market and promote the festival, which will run from March 7-9, 2008.

“The Iemma Government is delighted to support this annual event, which brings a much-needed boost to the town’s economy,” Mr Kelly said.

“The Government is working hard to drive economic growth in rural NSW.”

Mr Kelly said Coolah Jazz in the Tops had received NSW Government funding for the past two years, and this assistance had helped increase attendance at the event.

“Jazz in the Tops will be promoted to a wide audience – from jazz enthusiasts to caravan and camping tourists - through television, radio, print and online advertising,” Mr Kelly said.

“This unique festival gives visitors the opportunity to listen to jazz as well as go bushwalking in the Coolah National Park.

“The 2008 line-up includes popular jazz musicians Kristin Berardi, George Washingmachine and Blues Point.”

Mr Kelly said Coolah Jazz in the Tops is an annual jazz festival jointly organised by the Coolah District Development Group and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

“And I congratulate Warrumbungle Shire Council, sponsors and local businesses for also supporting the event,” Mr Kelly said.

“The event’s organisers are also working with the Dunedoo and District Development Group to encourage visitors to the Dunedoo Bush Poetry Festival to stay for Jazz in the Tops as well.”

Mr Kelly said the Dunedoo Bush Poetry Festival, from February 28 to March 2, was also supported by the Iemma Government.



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Mr Kelly said the Lemna Government was assisting the Coolah District Development Group through the Community Economic Development Program.

“This program aims to foster economic growth and create a more positive environment for business in regional communities,” Mr Kelly said.

For more information about the NSW Government’s regional development programs, visit the Department of State and Regional Development website at www.business.nsw.gov.au/regionalprograms

For more information about Coolah Jazz in the Tops, go to www.jazzinthetops.com.au

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