

# MEDIA STATEMENT



Wednesday, 8 March 2017

## **City backs Stawell Gift-style running event**

The City of Bunbury has thrown its support behind a Stawell Gift-style running event to be held in April 2018 that is hoped will grow into an iconic attraction for the region.

The Bunbury Geographe Gift 2018 would be held on the weekend of April 28-29 to coincide with the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games and would form part of the national athletics calendar.

It would include a combination of a family free day and road race through the Bunbury CBD on the Saturday, with professional races held on the Sunday.

The Bunbury Geographe Gift is the brainchild of Bunbury businessman Colin Piacentini and is driven by local figures Tom Dillon and Jo O'Dea, who approached the Bunbury Events Advisory Group (BEAG) in January with the concept.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said it was fantastic to see local people approaching Council with ideas that would benefit the region by attracting a large number of visitors who would require accommodation, meals and visit other attractions within the Bunbury Geographe region.

"The City is pleased to provide initial support for the Bunbury Geographe Gift 2018 in the anticipation the event is a great success and it can continue into future years," Mr Brennan said.

The City has committed \$60,000 in funding towards the event, subject to other funding and sponsorship being confirmed, through the iconic events budget.

**ENDS**

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