

## 75th Australian Jazz Convention Albury 2020 and COVID-19

It is with great regret that, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 75th Australian Jazz Convention will be postponed. The 75th AJC will take place in Albury from December 26-31, 2021 with the continuing support of our major sponsors the Albury City Council and the Commercial Club Albury.

The AJC Executive Task Force has endeavoured to make the 75th the memorable Convention it deserved to be. However, the current restrictions and possible on-going restrictions relating to Covid and safety concerns for our musicians, delegates and venue employees mean that we cannot, in all conscience, run the 75th this year.

2020 has been like no year we have experienced. We have seen our country cordoned off with border closures, community lockdowns, significant economic setbacks and panic buying. COVID-19 has changed all of our lives.

A few months ago the ETF, the team that has bought the AJC to life since the 68th, set criteria for the viability of the 75th. The criteria provide for a decision to be made based on the continuation of the 4 sqm rule in NSW and borders being open so all who wish can participate in this milestone. Although there are no uncontrolled COVID-19 outbreaks in NSW, the 4 sqm rule that limits venue capacity still operates and borders remain closed. We do not expect the 4 sqm rule to be eased prior to December.

Those who have registered have been provided with a full refund and all band registrations cancelled.

The AJC Trustees have been kept appraised during the decision-making process and support this difficult decision.

We look forward to you celebrating with us and enjoying this milestone Convention, in Albury, in late December 2021.

The Australian Jazz Convention Executive Task Force, 17th September 2020.