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## Media Release

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### **Get Ready for a Spectacular Celebration at the 60th Cowra Festival of International Understanding – A Taste of India!**

This weekend, Cowra is set to come alive with the vibrant colours, sounds and flavours of India as it hosts the 60th Festival of International Understanding. India, with its rich cultural heritage, traditions, and renowned hospitality, will bring an unforgettable experience to our beautiful town.

Known for its dazzling festivals, exquisite cuisine, and time-honoured customs, India is set to showcase its unique spirit and warmth, making this year's festival an exceptional celebration. Whether you're a long-time admirer of Indian culture or experiencing it for the first time, there's something special for everyone at this extraordinary event. His Excellency Mr. Gopal Baglay, High Commissioner for India, will be present to join in the celebrations.

Cowra's Mayor, Paul Smith, expressed his excitement for the weekend's festivities:

"We are thrilled to mark 60 years of bringing the world to Cowra. This year's festival promises to be one of the most colourful and vibrant yet. India's presence as our guest nation brings a fresh energy and we're excited to experience everything this beautiful country has to offer," said Mayor Smith.

The Mayor also took a moment to highlight the efforts of this year's Youth Ambassadors:

"We're incredibly proud of our Youth Ambassadors, who have already immersed themselves in Indian culture through a recent visit to the High Commission in Canberra, where they enjoyed a Holi festival and sampled authentic Indian cuisine. This group has shown immense enthusiasm and they're excited to help bring the spirit of India to Cowra this weekend," Mayor Smith added.

The weekend's festivities will be in full swing at Twigg Oval, next to the Cowra Aquatic Centre, with a range of activities for all ages. Following the street parade at 12pm, attendees can explore market stalls, food vans and enjoy performances that reflect both local and Indian cultures. From Rangoli art workshops and cricket tournaments to yoga classes, curry competitions, traditional food, lucky dips and a silent disco there's something for everyone to enjoy.

For more details, visit the Cowra Festival of International Understanding's Facebook page or head to the Cowra Council's website, where you'll find additional information under the Festival tab on the homepage.

The Cowra Festival of International Understanding is more than just a celebration of culture — it is a symbol of connection, reconciliation and community. For 60 years, this event has played a pivotal

role in fostering global relationships and understanding and Cowra, it will once again unite cultures, celebrate diversity, and strengthen friendships.

So gather your family and friends and don't miss out on this epic weekend filled with culture, food, music and joy. Cowra's incredible festival is here and it promises to be an experience you'll cherish forever!

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***Image Caption – Festival at a glance snapshot 2025***