

 2026
Program



BENDIGO —EASTER— FESTIVAL

APRIL 3-6



www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au 


AGNICO EAGLE
FOSTERVILLE

 CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO

Highlights

SHERRIDON HOMES GALA PARADE

Sunday, 12.30pm

• **Parade route**

Celebrate a beloved festival tradition as vibrant bands, cultural groups, dancers, and community organisations bring the streets to life. Marvel at the spectacular Dai Gum Loong - the world's longest Imperial Dragon - gracefully weaving through Bendigo's historic heart in a breathtaking display of colour, music, and heritage.



BULL STREET MUSIC FESTIVAL

Friday and Saturday, 12noon-11pm

Sunday, 12noon-5pm

• **Bull Street**

Get ready for an Easter soundtrack like no other! The Sporting Globe Bendigo will host an incredible lineup of local and regional talent, creating the perfect vibe for the whole family. The highlight? Saturday night's headline act: *SOS - The Australian ABBA Tribute Show*. Don't miss it!



LA TROBE UNIVERSITY TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION

Saturday, 7.30pm

• **Parade route**

Watch Bendigo's streets come alive in this dazzling night-time event. Enjoy illuminated displays from emergency services, community groups and the Bendigo Chinese Association, all leading to a spectacular fireworks finale over Rosalind Park.



ROTARY MARKET

Friday, 9am-4pm

• **Pall Mall and Easter Fair Way**

Sunday, 9am-4pm

• **Easter Fair Way**

Stroll through a vibrant marketplace featuring over 200 stalls across two days. Discover arts and crafts, handmade creations, unique treasures, collectables, delicious produce, and so much more. Proudly presented by the Rotary Club of Sandhurst Bendigo.



VISION AUSTRALIA EASTER EGG HUNT

Friday, 9am-5pm

• **Rosalind Park**

Join in the exciting search for over 100,000 Easter eggs in support of Vision Australia's services in the Bendigo region. Tickets \$18 per child, available from Friday February 20, 2026. For more details, contact the Bendigo Visitor Centre or visit www.bendigotourism.com



MINIONS MEET-AND-GREET

Saturday, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm

Join the fun with an exciting character meet-and-greet featuring Kevin and Stuart from Despicable Me! Snap photos, and enjoy interactive moments with these beloved characters - creating unforgettable memories for fans of all ages.



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QUEEN RHAPSODY

Saturday, 5pm-7pm

• **Rosalind Park**

Queen Rhapsody brings Queen's iconic energy to life through a powerful Freddie-inspired frontman, authentic sound and high-energy performances of the band's greatest hits. Proudly presented by Bendigo Easter Fair Society.



CARNIVAL CENTRAL

Friday and Saturday, 10am-11pm

Sunday, 10am-6pm

• **Mundy Street**

Step right up to Carnival Central, where thrilling rides and classic sideshow alley fun create the perfect spot for family entertainment.



Highlights

WAY OF THE CROSS

Friday, 8pm • Rosalind Park

The Way of the Cross is a theatrical, live performance. It re-tells the story of the last few days, trial, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



CFA KIDS' AMUSEMENT RIDES

Friday and Sunday, 10am-5pm

Saturday, 10am-9.30pm
• William Vahland Place

Get ready for fun! A fantastic range of amusement rides awaits, perfect for the younger members of the family. Every \$5 ride supports the combined Fire Brigades of Bendigo-so you're having fun and helping a great cause!



FOSTERVILLE GOLD MINE PANNING FOR GOLD

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10am-5pm
• Rosalind Park

Try your hand at gold panning ... you're guaranteed to find real gold! Learn more about Fosterville's mining operation, and find out why gold means so much more than just mining!



THE MIK MAKs

Friday, from 11.30am
• Rosalind Park

Children's entertainment band and YouTube sensations The Mik Maks will hit the main stage on Good Friday. Don't miss your chance to giggle, sing and dance with this family band and their loveable friend 'Drums' the Panda.



Dai Gum San Chinese Precinct

AWAKENING OF THE DRAGON

Saturday, 11am-4pm

A traditional celebration of lion and dragon dance, including contemporary elements presented by the Bendigo Chinese Association and visiting lion teams. Concluding with the lighting of 100,000 firecrackers, used to wake Dai Gum Loong from his slumber in preparation for his appearance in the Sherridon Homes Gala Parade. Visit the Easter Festival website for full schedule.



RETURN OF THE DRAGON

Sunday, approximately 2.30pm
- at the conclusion of the Sherridon Homes Gala Parade

The Bendigo Chinese Association Lion Team will combine with visiting lion and dragon teams to welcome Dai Gum Loong on his return to the Golden Dragon Museum. A great spectacle of noise, colour and movement.



GOLDEN DRAGON MUSEUM

Friday, Saturday and Monday, 9.30am-5pm

Sunday, 9.30am-11.30am and 3pm-6pm

Visit the Golden Dragon Museum and discover the largest and most significant collection of Chinese heritage and cultural material in Australia. Central to the 30,000 objects in the collection is three generations of Imperial Processional Dragons and their regalia, Loong, Sun Loong and Dai Gum Loong. *Entry fees apply.*



CHINESE HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

Friday, 10.30am-11.30am and 2pm-3pm

Discover some of the fascinating history of the Bendigo Chinese and their heritage. Bookings required, phone 5441 5044. \$5 per person.



Good Friday, April 3

BENDIGO VISITOR CENTRE

9am-4.30pm

Exhibition: *Celebrating 100 Years of the Bendigo Easter Fair Society - Custodians of our Grand Fair*

BULL STREET

12noon-11pm

Bull Street Music Festival
- presented by The Sporting Globe Bendigo

DAI GUM SAN

9.30am-5pm

Golden Dragon Museum
(entry fees apply)

10.30am and 2pm

Chinese historical walking tour (\$5 per person)

GEORGE LANSELL GARDENS

10am-5pm

Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme – learn more and play recycling games

HARGREAVES MALL

All hours

Imaginary Jungle Augmented Reality Experience

MUNDY STREET

10am-11pm

Carnival Central

PALL MALL

9am-4pm

Rotary Market

Army Reserve transport display

PIAZZA

All hours

Violet – Kewpie Doll from Sydney Olympics closing ceremony

QUEEN VICTORIA GARDENS

10am-5pm

Walk the Walls parkour obstacle course

Bendigo Health Foundation's Hop-eration

ROSALIND PARK



9am-5pm

Vision Australia Easter Egg Hunt (\$18 per child)

10am-5pm

Fosterville Gold Mine Main Stage

Live music and entertainment including The Mik Miks and Indigenous dance workshops

Activities

- Bendigo Bricks: Easter Festival Mosaic
- Connected Circus
- Discovery @ Easter
- Farmer Darryl's Animal Farm (\$7 per child)
- Fosterville Gold Mine panning for gold

- The Intercultural Picnic
- Lively chill out zone
- Roving entertainment
- Vision Australia: Seeing Eye Dogs



11am, 12.30pm and 2pm

Wadaiko Rindo Japanese Drummers - presented by Bendigo Easter Fair Society

8pm

Fosterville Gold Mine Main Stage
The Way of the Cross

WILLIAM VAHLAND PLACE

10am-5pm

CFA Kids' Amusement Rides (\$5 per ride)



Strengthening community connection

Visit us in Rosalind Park to find out how we collaborate with our neighbours and surrounding communities for better outcomes.

Learn more about [Fosterville Gold Mine](#) online:

 @fostervillegoldmine_

 Fosterville Gold Mine

 facebook.com/AEMFosterville

 fgmcommunity.com.au

We listen. We care. We act.



Easter Saturday, April 4

BENDIGO VISITOR CENTRE

9am-4.30pm

Exhibition: *Celebrating 100 Years of the Bendigo Easter Fair Society - Custodians of our Grand Fair*

BULL STREET

12noon-11pm

Bull Street Music Festival
- presented by The Sporting Globe Bendigo

DAI GUM SAN

9.30am-5pm

Golden Dragon Museum
(entry fees apply)



11am-4pm
Awakening of the Dragon

EASTER FAIR WAY

10am-3pm

Remote control car racing
Loose Parts Play Space

GEORGE LANSELL GARDENS

10am-5pm

Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme – learn more and play recycling games

HARGREAVES MALL

All hours

Imaginary Jungle augmented reality experience

10am-11.30am

CV Lion Team

10am-4pm

Moonlight Market

PIAZZA

All hours

Violet – Kewpie Doll

Meet Violet, a six-metre-tall fibreglass Kewpie doll created for the Sydney 2000 Olympics Closing Ceremony. She has appeared in the Bendigo Easter Festival parades on multiple occasions since.



MUNDY STREET

10am-11pm

Carnival Central

PALL MALL

10am-3pm

Army Reserve transport display

Bendigo Braves basketball
Little Builders by Sherridon Homes

Learn to Skate sessions
Motoring down the Mall
vehicle display
MERV – Mobile Emergency Response Vehicle

PARADE ROUTE (SEE MAP)



7.30pm

La Trobe University
Torchlight Procession followed by fireworks

QUEEN VICTORIA GARDENS

10am-5pm

Walk the Walls parkour obstacle course

Bendigo Health Foundation's Hop-eration

ROSALIND PARK

12noon, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm
Minions meet-and-greet

10am-5pm

Fosterville Gold Mine Main Stage
Live music and entertainment featuring Easter Bunny Stage Show, Bethany Fisher and a spectacular science show

Activities

- Bendigo Bricks: Easter Festival Mosaic
- Connected Circus
- Discovery @ Easter
- Easter basket weaving
- Farmer Darryl's Animal Farm (\$7 per child)
- Fosterville Gold Mine panning for gold
- The Intercultural Picnic



10am-5pm
CFA Fire truck rides
(\$5 per person)

- Kelly Sports fun zone
- Lively chill out zone
- Plaster painting
- Roving entertainment
- Vision Australia: Seeing Eye Dogs

5pm-7pm

Fosterville Gold Mine Main Stage

Queen Rhapsody – proudly presented by Bendigo Easter Fair Society

WILLIAM VAHLAND PLACE

10am-9.30pm

CFA Kids' Amusement Rides
(\$5 per ride)

Easter Sunday, April 5

BENDIGO VISITOR CENTRE

9am-4.30pm

Exhibition: *Celebrating 100 Years of the Bendigo Easter Fair Society - Custodians of our Grand Fair*

BULL STREET

12noon-5pm

Bull Street Music Festival
- presented by The Sporting Globe Bendigo

DAI GUM SAN

9.30am-11.30am and
3pm-6pm

Golden Dragon Museum
(entry fees apply)

Approximately 2.30pm

Return of the Dragon
(at the conclusion of the parade)

EASTER FAIR WAY

9am-4pm

Rotary Market

GEORGE LANSELL GARDENS

10am-5pm

Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme – learn more and play recycling games

HARGREAVES MALL

All hours

Imaginary Jungle augmented reality experience

MUNDY STREET

10am-6pm

Carnival Central

PIAZZA

All hours

Violet – Kwpie Doll from Sydney Olympics closing ceremony

PARADE ROUTE (SEE MAP)



12.30pm

Sherridon Homes
Gala Parade

10am-12noon

Sandeman Build Dragon
Mile

QUEEN VICTORIA GARDENS

10am-5pm

Walk the Walls parkour
obstacle course

Bendigo Health Foundation's
Hop-eration

ROSALIND PARK

10am-5pm

Fosterville Gold Mine
Main Stage
Live music and entertainment

Activities

- Bendigo Bricks: Easter Festival Mosaic
- Connected Circus
- CFA Fire truck rides (\$5 per person)
- Discovery @ Easter
- Easter basket weaving
- Farmer Darryl's Animal Farm (\$7 per child)
- Fosterville Gold Mine panning for gold
- The Intercultural Picnic
- Kelly Sports fun zone
- Lively chill out zone
- Plaster painting
- Roving entertainment

WILLIAM VAHLAND PLACE

10am-5pm

CFA Kids' Amusement Rides
(\$5 per ride)

building breakthroughs in LEGO® bricks

curiosity

3 MARCH – 29 NOVEMBER 2026

at the Discovery - Science and Technology Centre
7 Railway Place, Bendigo 3550



Community events

Bendigo Bonsai Club Bonsai Exhibition

Saturday and Sunday,
10am-5pm

Monday, 10am-3pm

Uniting Church Hall
25 Forest Street, Bendigo

Bendigo Foodshare Easter Bookfair

Friday, Saturday and
Sunday, 9am-5pm

Monday, 9am-3pm

MacGillivray Hall, Bendigo
TAFE, McCrae Street, Bendigo

Bendigo Treasures: Brick by Brick exhibition

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
and Monday, 10am-5pm

MacKenzie Quarters,
10 MacKenzie Street, Bendigo

Bendigo Model Railroaders 38th Annual Easter Model Train Exhibition

Saturday, 10am-5pm

Sunday, 10am-4pm

Strathdale Community Centre,
155 Crook Street,
East Bendigo

Bendigo Woodturners Major Exhibition

Friday, Saturday and
Sunday, 9am-4pm

Bendigo Trades Hall,
40 View Street, Bendigo

Church at the Lake

Friday, Saturday and
Sunday, 10am-5pm

Lake Weeroona, Napier
Street, Bendigo

Children's Dragon Making Workshop

Monday, 10am-3pm

Golden Dragon Museum,
1-11 Bridge Street, Bendigo

Photographic Print and Digital Image Exhibition

Friday, 9.30am-5pm

Saturday, 9.30am-5.30pm

Sunday, 9.30am-4.30pm

Dudley House,
60 View Street, Bendigo

Rotary Club of Kangaroo Flat Easter Hole in One Competition

Friday, Saturday and
Sunday, 9am-4pm

Rotary Gateway Park,
26 High Street, Kangaroo Flat

Rotary Club of Bendigo Easter Art Exhibition and Sales

Friday, Saturday and
Sunday, 9am-5pm

Monday, 9am-2pm

Bendigo Town Hall,
189-193 Hargreaves Street,
Bendigo

Steam to the Bendigo Easter Festival

Sunday, 8am-8pm

Southern Cross Station to
Bendigo Station and return

For ticketing, fees and
further information, visit
www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au

A century of caring for Bendigo's favourite festival

In 2026, we celebrate a century of the Bendigo Easter Fair Society Inc – the custodians of Australia's oldest community festival, first held in 1871. After years of re-forming annually, the committee became permanent in 1926, when an official body (known then as a Society) was created to oversee this much-loved event.

The original 18-member committee brought together representatives from the City of Bendigo, Borough of Eaglehawk, Bendigo Hospital, Bendigo Aged Care Asylum, and nine enthusiastic locals. Over the decades, the organisation evolved with the times, eventually becoming an Incorporated Association in 1983.

What hasn't changed is the heart of the Fair: generations of volunteers, supporters, and sponsors who've poured their energy into making Easter in Bendigo something truly special. In 2003, the City of Greater Bendigo took on the event's operations, with the Society providing an advisory role.

Reaching 100 years is a wonderful achievement – a celebration of community spirit, shared history, and the iconic festival that brings Bendigo together every Easter.

The Bendigo Easter Fair Society Inc is a community based, not-for-profit organisation. For more information visit bendigoeasterfairsociety.org.au



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE
BENDIGO EASTER FAIR SOCIETY

Custodians of Our Grand Fair

A multimedia exhibition celebrating the legacy and contributions of the Bendigo Easter Fair Society Inc through film, costume, memorabilia, and imagery.

Thursday April 2 – Saturday May 2, 2026

Living Art Space, Bendigo Visitor Centre
51-67 Pall Mall

Open daily 9am - 4.30pm



-  TOILETS
-  ACCESSIBLE TOILETS
-  PARENT ROOM
-  CHANGING PLACES
-  MARVELOO
-  BENDIGO VISITOR CENTRE
-  EVENT INFORMATION AND LOST PERSONS
-  FIRST AID
-  FOOD
-  HYDRATION STATION
-  LIVELY CHILL OUT ZONE
-  PARK 'N' RIDE TRAM STOP
-  MULTI STOREY CAR PARK
-  ACCESSIBLE PARKING
-  BIKE PARKING
-  RETAIL
-  MARKETS
See program for days and locations
-  LIVE MUSIC
-  LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
-  PETTING ZOO
-  AMUSEMENT RIDES

Need to know

FESTIVAL ACCESSIBILITY

Car parks close to the festival precinct and viewing areas along the parade route have been specifically designated to be accessible. Accessible toilet facilities are available in various locations within the festival precinct, including a Marveloo for those with a profound disability located in the McCrae Street car park. For more information and a map displaying these facilities, visit www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au

LIFELY CHILL OUT ZONE

A sensory-friendly space, presented by local disability support provider Lively. Perfect for taking a break from the excitement, it's packed with fun sensory activities for kids and a relaxed vibe for everyone to unwind. Whether it's exploring interactive play stations or simply enjoying a moment to recharge, the chill out zone is your go-to spot to pause, refresh, and keep the Easter magic alive.

LOST SOMETHING/SOMEONE?

Please visit the information tent for assistance, located in the middle of Rosalind Park near the rotunda and first aid tent.

BENDIGO EASTER FESTIVAL IS A SMOKE-FREE AND VAPE-FREE EVENT



Please be respectful of others and move outside the precinct and away from crowded areas to smoke and/or vape. Thank you.

PARKING/ROAD CLOSURES

Road closures and car park closures will be in place throughout the event. For road closures, please follow the detour signage. Some car parks within the event precinct will be closed due to fireworks, parades, carnival and event amenities. Please visit www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au for further details.

During the festival two multi storey car parks will be open with FREE parking: Hargreaves Street (opposite Bendigo Library) and Edward Street (corner of Edward Street and Queen Street).

Bicycle parking is available in Rosalind Park (View Street end). This is unsupervised, so remember to bring your bike lock.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

For information about changes to local transport services, visit www.ptv.vic.gov.au

PARK 'N' RIDE TRAM SHUTTLE SERVICE

Avoid traffic and parking woes, and arrive at the Bendigo Easter Festival on board one of Bendigo's iconic trams! Park at Central Deborah Gold Mine, Lake Weeroona or the Bendigo Joss House Temple and catch a tram to and from the city centre. Tickets are valid all day, allowing you to come and go from the festival as often as you like. \$5 per person. Children aged 15 years and under are free. Timetables and tickets are available online at www.bendigotramways.com

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on socials for all the latest updates:

Bendigo Easter Festival

Explore Bendigo

Explore Bendigo

Share your festival experience using [#bendigoeasterfestival](https://twitter.com/bendigoeasterfestival) [#explorebendigo](https://twitter.com/explorebendigo) [#daigumloong](https://twitter.com/daigumloong)

MORE INFORMATION

For all the latest festival information, changes or cancellations, follow us on Facebook or visit www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au

Information correct at time of publishing, February 10, 2026. Program is subject to change. No responsibility taken for any errors or alterations.

Premium sponsor



Gold sponsors



Bendigo Advertiser

Silver sponsors



Bronze sponsors



Event partners

