



PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

MESSAGE: 'HEAR THE BUSH BEAT' FESTIVAL

Congratulations to Diana Parsons and everyone taking part in the 'Hear the Bush Beat' Festival.

Life in rural and regional Australia has always involved tough challenges, and the past few years have brought many more – from drought and the impacts of climate change, to far-reaching changes in our economy.

Our greatest resource in rural and regional Australia is not our soils, livestock, minerals or sun – it is our people. That is why the 'Hear the Bush Beat' is such a terrific initiative. Because it is about helping to build community spirits and give Australians in communities across western New South Wales and beyond a sense of togetherness and a greater confidence in their future.

On behalf of the Australian Government, I wish you the very best for this Festival, and hope it can be the start of something much bigger that can build the resilience and community spirit of many Australians in remote and regional communities, and bring more people from all across Australia to the bush.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

The Honourable Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister of Australia