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MEDIA RELEASE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR BLUE RIBBON GALA BALL

Tickets are selling fast for the 4th annual Blue Ribbon Gala Ball in Horsham.

Graeme Arthur, President of the Blue Ribbon Foundation's Horsham Branch said that the ball will be held on Saturday 8th August in the Horsham Town Hall and that some tickets are still available. "We have a limited number of tables available, or alternatively people can purchase single tickets" he said.

Mr Arthur said that the evening will feature upbeat Victoria Police rock band *Code One*. This is the first time *Code One* have played at the ball.

"Tickets are just \$40 each and include pre ball drinks, some nibbles and a complimentary wine glass that guests can take home as a keepsake."

"The ball is excellent value for money and this year it's shaping up to be something really special. Not only will it will be a great chance for people to dust off their dancing shoes, it's also an opportunity to celebrate one of the last events to be held in the historic Horsham Town Hall. Victoria Police Chief Commissioner Simon Overland is even coming along this year to support us" he said.

Mr Arthur said that the aim of the Blue Ribbon Foundation's Horsham Branch is to raise funds for the Emergency Department at Wimmera Health Care Group. "This year our target is to raise enough money to purchase a high performance ventilator that will provide breathing for unconscious patients in the Emergency Department. It will cost us around \$40,000" he said.

Mr Arthur said that once again there would be a charity auction featuring a range of items donated by local businesses. "We have received a great deal of community support and we are very grateful for that support" he said.

Since the Horsham Branch was formed three years ago, they have donated \$80,000 to Wimmera Health Care Group's Emergency Department in memory of Senior Constable George Howell, who died in the line of duty on 1 February 1952, aged 25 years.

People wanting more information about the gala ball, charity auction or how they can support the Blue Ribbon Foundation in other ways, should contact Mr Arthur at Horsham Police Station or Sue Frankham, Community Liaison Officer at Wimmera Health Care Group on ph. 5381 9309.

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