



Dave Chirnside, Jack Pay, Ollie Close and Matt Close with Luna, the original Dip Road Dog. Picture supplied.

LOCAL FARMERS RELEASE EP

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LOCAL musicians Dave Chirnside and Jack Pay are looking forward to playing their debut EP live in Kerang later this year.

The Appin South farmers, who together with brothers Matt and Ollie Close, named their band Dip Road Dogs after the Quambatook Rd house where they met, released the six-track recording, Shakshuka, last Thursday.

“It’s been a year in the making so we’re excited to get it out,” Dave said.

Last year in June the group spent 10 days in Nashville, Tennessee recording the EP.

“It was an experience to go over there and live the life of a Nashville musician for a few days,” Dave said.

“It was a bit of a cost and a lot of time on planes but it got us excited and kicked us into gear.”

The EP’s name, Shakshuka, refers to a versatile North African tomato-based dish.

“We’re tomato farmers out here at Appin,” Dave said.

“We thought it was an apt analogy because you can throw anything into shakshuka, and our EP is a collection of old and new ideas that have created a variety of genres and sounds.

“It’s a bit of a mixed bag but we think the songs gel well together.”

While Dave and Jack for years played gigs around the district covering classic Australian acts like Paul Kelly and Daddy Cool, as the Dip Road Dogs their sound has evolved.

“I guess it’s changed a bit,” Dave said.

“And the Nashville influence made us want to get into slide guitar and things like that.”

Shakshuka, described by the Dogs as “Americana folk rock”, also features synthesiser, organ and cello played by the band’s Nashville-based producer, Josh Frigo.

Its lyrics touch on wanderlust, frustration, fun, and change.

According to Dave, the EP’s somewhat melancholy single, ‘Lazy’, is “pretty much a song about a relationship not ending very well due to one person not pulling their weight”.

“It’s a warning to everyone to make sure you mow the lawns and do the dishes or you will end up alone,” he said, adding that the song is not about him.

The Dip Road Dogs have already started writing a second album.

“I guess our plan is to start playing some shows at the end of the year and try to get our music out there,” Dave said.

“We’re looking forward to getting into Sporties to try it out.”

Shakshuka is available on Spotify and iTunes.

The band can be found on Facebook and Instagram.

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