

Media Release

12 January 2012

All aboard the CountryLink Elvis Express Train

Central Station will be host to a horde of Elvis and Priscilla look-a-likes tomorrow morning as fans prove the King is not dead on their way to the annual CountryLink Parkes Elvis Festival aboard the CountryLink Elvis Express.

2012 marks the 10th anniversary of the 'Elvis train' which departs Sydney for the Elvis capital of Australia, Parkes, at 9.23am on Friday 13 January and *Returns to Sender* Monday 16 January.

Elvis inspired entertainment on the main concourse of Central Station will take place between 8.30am and 9am and a red carpet and balloon arch commemorating the train's 10 year anniversary will lead customers on-board the Elvis Express.

Nearly 400 Elvis fans will then be treated to entertainment throughout the journey including CountryLink's exclusive Elvis tribute artist.

"The Parkes Elvis Festival is always a highlight on CountryLink's calendar and there will be a little less conversation with all the entertainment going on," said General Manager CountryLink, Judith Sturman.

"The popularity of the Elvis Express continues to grow and from the initial eight Elvis fans we carried to Parkes in 2003, 388 enthusiasts will take the journey this year in a sold-out 8-carriage XPT train.

"The Express takes festival-goers through the Blue Mountains to the heart of NSW farming country, the type of Promised Land that CountryLink XPT and Xplorer trains travel through daily," Ms Sturman said.

"Tickets sold out in under a week for this year's Elvis Express and we encourage Elvis fans to contact the CountryLink team to be advised when tickets go on sale for the 2013 CountryLink Elvis Express."

2012 also marks the 20th anniversary of the Parkes Elvis Festival.

For media inquiries and photo or filming opportunities onboard please contact RailCorp Media on (02) 8922 4346