



PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL ADDS EXTRA EVENTS FOR 30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Parkes Elvis Festival's king-sized 30th anniversary program just keeps getting bigger and better with the Festival announcing new events, as well as some returning favourites.

Fanatics of The King will be able to view collection of Elvis themed props and items from the Festival's early years in a display. Open every day of the Festival, the display will feature props and life-size house sets from Warner Bros. including the famous Jungle Room, Carnival of Mirrors, Lansky Bros. Neon Lights and the world's largest hound dog from Baz Luhrmann's movie *Elvis*. There will also be items from the Bendigo Art Gallery's recent *Elvis: Direct from Graceland* exhibition including a replica of Elvis' own portico from his home in Graceland. Fans will also be able to see an array of memorabilia, pictures from the early years of Parkes Elvis Festival.

"We wanted to do something really special for our 30th Anniversary Festival," said **Festival Director Tiffany Steel**. "The Elvis Display will be a key feature of our 2023 program and give our audiences an immersive Elvis experience the likes of which have not been seen at the Festival before."

"We feel really lucky to have secured these amazing exhibits and sets for the Festival and are sure our attendees will be in awe of the display when they visit."

In a festival first, four Australian music legends and past Festival Wall of Fame recipients will perform in a new opening concert celebrating 30 years of Parkes Elvis Festival. 2023 Wall of Fame recipient Ross Wilson will be joined by past recipients Brian Cadd, Russell Morris and Joe Camilleri. These are some of Australia's biggest music stars that will be performing their most loved hits in two hours of rockin' fun at the Parkes Leagues Club at 12.30pm Wednesday, 4th January.

The Festival have also added a slew of beloved events from year's past including the Elvis Poets' Breakfast, Pin-Up Competition, Ukulele workshops, Blue Hawaii Pool Party and The Hound Dog pet pageant where pooches will don their best jumpsuit to compete for Best in Show.

With Elvis' birthday coinciding with the last day of the Festival (8 Jan), fans are invited to the Cooke Park Main Stage at 10:30am to sing Happy Birthday to Elvis.



Celebrating its 30th milestone, the 2023 Parkes Elvis Festival will be held over five days from **Wednesday 4 January to Sunday 8 January**.

Tickets to all Parkes Elvis Festival shows, across the many venues in the city, are available to purchase online now at www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au

The Parkes Elvis Festival is proudly supported by the NSW Government through its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

EVENT NAME: Parkes Elvis Festival

DATES: 4-8 January 2023

THEME: Blue Hawaii

WEBSITE: www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au

LOCATION: Parkes, NSW, Australia

EDITORS NOTES

Parkes Elvis Festival

Parkes Elvis Festival is held annually in the second week of January in Parkes, New South Wales, coinciding with the birthday of Elvis Presley. Parkes has a population of 12,000 and is located 365 kilometres west of Sydney. In January 2019 over 27,000 visitors attended the Festival, more than doubling Parkes' population.

The Festival began in January 1993 as a small birthday party at Gracelands Restaurant. It was so much fun they decided to do it again - and again! Over the following 10 years additional events were added and it became a two-day Festival. With the vision and effort of the voluntary organising committee as well as the support of Parkes Shire Council, the Festival exploded in popularity and word quickly spread across Australia of the fun and unique event in regional NSW.

Following its tremendous success, in 2014 the Festival transitioned management to Parkes Shire Council under a Section 355 Festival Committee. The Festival now regularly attracts visitors from all around Australia and stages more than 200 events annually. In January 2015, Parkes Elvis Festival was officially endorsed by Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc., the trustees of the estate of Elvis Presley. Official endorsement elevates Parkes Elvis Festival to the ranks of premiere Elvis tribute festivals in the world.

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