



State Rail

**Bicentennial
Calendar
of Events**

January - December 1988

Issued December 1987

JANUARY

- Fri 1 - Sun 28 February** **The Bicentennial Festival of Sydney and Special Bicentennial Events**
The annual arts and entertainment festival in and around Sydney. Leave the car at home and catch public transport to the city - extra services will operate on many days. Details (02) 267 2311.
- Fri 1 - Tue 5** **Australian Bicentennial Exhibition - Albury/Wodonga**
Special trains will operate from Cootamundra, Junee and Wagga Wagga to Albury. If you are in Sydney, catch the Riverina XPT and see the ABE before it arrives in Sydney later in the year. Details from these railway stations or Albury/Wodonga ABE organisers on (060) 24 2000.
- Tue 12** **Launch of 3801 Bicentennial Steam Train - Sydney Station**
Steam Locomotive 3801 and a set of restored carriages will visit major NSW country centres, as well as carrying local and overseas passengers to Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.
- Sat 16 - Tue 26** **Taree - Manning River Aquatic Festival and Jazz Festival**
Catch the Holiday Coast XPT and spend a weekend in Taree at the Aquatic Festival. Details Taree BCC (065) 52 2744.
- Sun 24** **Albury - Corowa XPT Trip**
The XPT travels to Corowa for their Bicentennial celebrations. Join in local festivities, and ride the XPT on local shuttle trips. Details Albury Railway Station or (060) 21 4448.
- Sun 24** **Newcastle - The Longest Birthday Party and Major Bicentennial Celebrations**
Catch an intercity train and celebrate the Longest Birthday Party along the foreshores and main beach of Newcastle. There's a host of other great activities planned, and public transport will be free in the Newcastle metropolitan area on the 24th January, 1988. Details Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.
- Tue 26 January 1988** **Australia Day**
One of the most magnificent spectacles the City of Sydney and this Nation has ever seen. Events include the Commemoration of the Founding of the Colony of NSW, The Tall Ships, The First Fleet Re-enactment, free entertainment, fireworks and much more. Public transport will be free in the Sydney Metropolitan and Outer Metropolitan areas all day. Transport details (02) 11622.
- Sat 30 - Sun 31** **Newcastle Regatta, Transport Heritage Weekend and Steam Train Rides**
Travel behind the famous 3801 steam engine to Newcastle for a day or weekend of maritime excitement. Join in the carnival atmosphere, ride steam trains, vintage buses and watch the great procession of historic vehicles. The steam train returns to Sydney on Sunday afternoon. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812. Local steam train rides from Newcastle to Singleton, Maitland and Fassifern over the weekend. Details Newcastle Railway Station or Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.

FEBRUARY

- Fri 12 - Thu 5 March** **Ride the Indian Pacific to the Bicentennial Festival of Perth**
Book now for the great train journey across the Nullabor aboard the Indian Pacific, and enjoy this premier arts festival in Perth. Return to Adelaide on the Trans Australian and visit the Adelaide Casino or Barossa Valley. Festival details (09) 386 7977. Rail bookings on (02) 217 8818.
- Sat 20 - Sun 21** **Willoughby - Ku-ring-gai Colonial Weekend with Steam Train Rides**
Ride a steam train between Chatswood and Hornsby, and join in the local excitement. Horse drawn coaches run from Chatswood Railway Station. Steam train tickets from Chatswood and Hornsby Railway Stations. Details Willoughby BCC (02) 476 1225.
- Wed 24 - Sat 27** **Newcastle Bicentennial Show**
Catch an intercity train to Broadmeadow and join in the fun. Extra services will operate in the Newcastle Area. Details Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.

- Sat 2 - Tue 5** **Wollongong - Pageant of Nations**
Catch an intercity train to Wollongong and join in the exciting multicultural festival involving musicians, dancers and craftspeople. Details Wollongong BCC (042) 27 1988.
- Sat 2 - Sun 10** **Newcastle - Tivoli Fair**
Catch an intercity train and join in the excitement at the great "Tivoli Fair". Details Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.
- Sat 2** **Leeton Steam Celebrations and Rice Bowl Festival**
Local shuttle trips behind steam compliment the local festivities. Steam train tickets from Leeton Railway Station. Details Leeton BCC (069) 53 2611.
- Sun 3** **Narrandera Steam Celebrations, Craft Festival and Bicentennial Activities**
Local shuttle trips behind steam and an interesting programme of local events. Steam train tickets from Narrandera Railway Station. Details Narrandera BCC (069) 59 2277.
- Sun 3 - Mon 4** **Steam Trains from Sydney to Picton**
Catch a steam train to Picton for the day, and enjoy a picnic near the Thirlmere Railway Museum. Local steam train rides all day. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.
- Fri 8** **Steam Train to Wollongong**
Ride a steam train to Wollongong in the afternoon, enjoy an evening meal and return on one of State Rail's regular intercity services. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sat 9 - Sun 10** **Junee/Cootamundra State Rail Steam Spectaculars**
Steam train rides are the focal point of local Bicentennial events including the Cootamundra Expo. Ride Steam locomotive 3801 to Temora and return. School children ride on steam trains during the week. Tickets for steam train rides from Cootamundra and Junee Railway Stations. Details Junee BCC (069) 24 1674 and Cootamundra BCC (069) 42 2711.
- Sat 9 - Sun 10** **Kiama Bicentennial Celebrations and Steam Trains**
Steam trains depart Wollongong each morning for the excitement in Kiama. Tickets for these trips from Wollongong Railway Station. The restored sailing vessel, William IV, will be in the harbour, heritage celebrations dominate the local streets with processions, historic transport and live music. Shuttle trips from Kiama during Saturday and Sunday - tickets from Kiama Railway Station. Details Kiama BCC (042) 32 1122.
- Sun 10** **3801 Steam Train from Cootamundra to Sydney**
Travel behind this famous locomotive from Cootamundra and enjoy a relaxing trip to Sydney. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sun 10** **Steam Train from Kiama to Sydney**
Travel to Kiama on a regular service, and return on a steam train. Spectacular scenery along the Illawarra coastal escarpment will provide the perfect backdrop for the day. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sat 16** **Coolamon Colonial Fair**
Steam trains provide the focal point for local heritage celebrations. Steam train tickets from Coolamon Railway Station. The steam train runs from Junee in the morning, returning that evening. Details (069) 27 3016.
- Sat 16 - Wed 20** **Wagga Wagga State Rail Steam Spectacular and Heritage Week Events**
Local steam train shuttle trips are the centre of State Rail and community celebrations over the weekend. School trips during the weekdays. Steam train tickets from Wagga Wagga Railway Station. Details Wagga Wagga BCC (069) 21 1088.
- Sat 23 - Sun 24** **Maitland Steamfest**
An exciting programme of steam train rides, historic transport and local community celebrations. Steam trains run from Sydney to Maitland and return each day. Tickets from Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812. Local trips operate from Maitland, and tickets are available from the Steamfest Committee or Maitland Railway Station. Details from Maitland Steamfest Committee (049) 33 6200.
- Sat 23 - Sun 1 May** **National Hot Air Balloon Championships and Canowindra Steam Trains**
Hosts of balloons, local festivities and steam train rides guarantee an exciting time at Canowindra. Details Canowindra BCC (063) 44 1447.

Wed 27 - Thu 5 May

3801 Bicentennial Steam Train departs Sydney for Perth

The great steam train journey to Perth begins from Sydney Station. Have you booked on one of the nine great steam journeys during 1988? Details from Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Trains, PO Box 503, Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

Sat 30

Harden Steam Celebrations

Steam train rides provide a focus for local celebrations. Tickets from Harden Railway Station. Details Harden BCC (063) 86 2522.

Sat 30 - Tue 3 May

Broken Hill State Rail Steam Spectacular

The Silver City celebrates rail with a great fair, carnival and procession near the railway station. The School of the Air and the Royal Flying Doctor Service will ensure the Outback children enjoy a steam train ride and see the famous 3801 locomotive. Steam rides from Broken Hill and a luncheon trip to Menindee Lakes. The Powerhouse "Museum on the Move" Exhibition Train will also be at the railway station. Steam train tickets from Broken Hill Railway Station. Details Broken Hill BCC (080) 6077.

Sat 30 - Sun 30 October

World Expo '88 in Brisbane

Catch the Brisbane Limited Express and visit the excitement of the World Expo '88. Not only will you arrive relaxed, but you'll arrive right near the Expo site. World Expo '88 details (07) 840 1988. Make your rail booking now on (02) 217 8812.

MAY

Sun 1

Steam Trains from Sydney to Picton

Catch a steam train from Sydney to Picton, and enjoy local shuttle trips from the Thirlmere Railway Museum. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.

Sun 1

Young Steam Celebrations

Steam train trips provide the focus for the local community events on this day. Steam train tickets from Young Railway Station. Details from Young BCC (063) 82 1988.

Tue 3 - Thu 5

Steam Across the Desert

A steam trip for the adventurous. Travel from Broken Hill to Bathurst, with overnight stops at Ivanhoe and Parkes. You'll meet the people as the train stops to give the school children and the locals a ride behind a steam engine. You'll enjoy an evening under the stars at Ivanhoe, and an early run across the flat country as the dawn breaks. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.

Fri 6 - Mon 9

Newcastle Foreshore Opening and visit of the First Fleet

Newcastle Harbour is the focus for a maritime spectacular. Catch an intercity train to join in the celebrations. Details Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.

Sat 7 - Tue 10

Bathurst State Rail Steam Spectacular

Proclamation Day celebrations, Riverbank festivities and the great cavalcade of horses are complemented by steam train rides and other State Rail excitement. School children travel on steam trips on Monday and Tuesday. Steam train tickets from Bathurst Railway Station. Details Bathurst BCC (063) 33 6287.

Mon 9 - Mon 16

Scone Horse Week

Catch the Northern Tablelands XPT or Express and visit the festival in Scone. Details Scone BCC (065) 45 1466.

Tue 10

Steam Train from Bathurst to Sydney

Enjoy a day behind steam as you traverse the Central Western slopes and climb over the Blue Mountains. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.

Mon 16 - Fri 20

3801 Bicentennial Steam Tour departs Perth for Adelaide

An exciting trip through the Avon Valley, a day in Kalgoorlie, and then across the Nullabor. Details from Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Tours, PO Box 503, Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

- Thu 19 - Mon 23** **Taree Air Show**
Catch the Holiday Coast XPT to Taree for their Bicentennial Air Show. Details Taree BCC (065) 52 2744.
- Sun 22 - Fri 3 June** **Casino Beef Week**
The major rural celebration in this northern city. Catch one of State Rail's four daily services to Casino and join in the fun. Details Casino BCC (066) 62 2622.
- Sat 28 - Sun 29** **Blue Mountains/Lithgow Steam Celebrations**
Steam trains run shuttle rides out of Lithgow on Saturday, and between Katoomba and Mt Victoria on Sunday. Local community celebrations include processions, music and local craftspeople. Steam train tickets from Lithgow, Mt Victoria and Katoomba respectively. Details Blue Mountains BCC (047) 82 0504.
- Mon 30 - Fri 3 June** **3801 Bicentennial Steam Tour departs Adelaide for Sydney**
An exciting trip stopping overnight at Peterborough, Broken Hill, Parkes and Bathurst. Details from Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Tours, PO Box 503, Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

JUNE

- Sat 4** **Steam Train from Sydney to Mudgee**
Ride a steam train over the Blue Mountains and along the Cudgegong Valley to Mudgee. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sun 5** **Mudgee/Gulgong Steam Celebrations**
Join in local celebrations and ride a steam train between Mudgee and Gulgong. Steam train tickets from Mudgee and Gulgong Railway Stations. Details Mudgee BCC (063) 72 3224.
- Mon 6** **Steam Train from Mudgee to Sydney**
Spend a leisurely day behind steam as you wind through the Cudgegong Valley and then climb over the Blue Mountains in the afternoon. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Wed 8 - Thu 9** **Bankstown Bicentennial Celebrations with Steam Trains**
Travel by steam between Canterbury, Bankstown and Leightonfield as part of the local community activities. Details Bankstown BCC (02) 651 2151.
- Fri 10** **Steam Train from Sydney to Taree**
Catch a double-headed steam train from Sydney to Taree and enjoy the wonderful Mid North Coast scenery. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999, Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sat 11 - Thu 16** **Taree State Rail Steam Spectacular and City Festival**
State Rail's presence with hot air balloon, displays and steam trains will be a highlight of the local community events. The Taree City Festival will see a host of exciting activities on the weekend, with steam train rides out of Taree and Wingham. Visit the beautiful Wingham Brush and enjoy the celebrations along the Manning. School children have special rides from Tuesday to Thursday. Steam train tickets from Taree and Wingham Railway Stations. Details Taree BCC (065) 53 4133.
- Tue 14 - Sun 19** **Kempsey State Rail Steam Spectaculars**
Kempsey is host to the exciting State Rail Bicentennial package of events and local community activities support the weekend. School children ride on steam trains from Tuesday to Friday. Steam train tickets from Kempsey Railway Station. Details Kempsey BCC (065) 62 6077.
- Sat 25** **Dungog Steam Celebrations**
Steam trains are the focus for local community events. Steam train rides and tickets from Dungog Railway Station. Details Dungog BCC (049) 92 2051.
- Sat 25** **Gloucester Steam Celebrations**
Steam trains run from Gloucester on shuttle trips as part of their local celebrations. Rides and tickets from Gloucester Railway Station. Details Gloucester BCC (065) 58 1601.

Sun 26

Steam Train from Taree to Sydney

Ride behind a double-headed steam train and enjoy a leisurely Sunday ride to Sydney. Why not catch the Holiday Coast XPT on Saturday and enjoy the afternoon in Gloucester or Dungog with their local celebrations. Return on the special steam train on Sunday. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999, Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.

JULY

Sun 3

Steam Trains from Sydney to Picton

Catch a steam train to Picton and enjoy lunch near the Railway Museum at Thirlmere. Local rides on steam trains. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.

Sat 9

Lunch at Berrima

3801 steam engine runs from Sydney to Bowral, and then a coach transfer to Berrima for lunch. Alternatively, a coach trip has been arranged to visit the gardens of Bowral. Details 3801 Ltd (02) 816 3946.

Fri 15

Steam Train from Sydney to Singleton

Ride behind a steam train to Singleton, and spend the weekend in the Upper Hunter visiting vineyards. Return on regular State Rail services. Bookings from Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.

Sat 16 - Tue 19

Singleton State Rail Steam Spectaculars

An exciting weekend in Singleton with local steam train rides and community celebrations. School children ride on steam trains on Monday and Tuesday. Steam train tickets from Singleton Railway Station. Details Singleton BCC (065) 72 1866.

Thu 21 - Sun 24

Muswellbrook/Scone State Rail Steam Spectacular

Local community events are supported by steam train rides to Scone and Denman. Scone celebrates with Bicentennial events over the weekend. Muswellbrook and Scone school children ride on steam trains on Thursday and Friday. Details Muswellbrook BCC (065) 43 2866.

Sat 30 - Sun 7 August

Coffs Harbour Winterlude Festival

Catch the Holiday Coast XPT or the North Coast Overnight Express to Coffs Harbour for a week or weekend of festivities. Details Coffs Harbour BCC (066) 52 8560.

AUGUST

Fri 5 - Mon 8

Steam Enthusiasts Special to Gwabegar

Catch locomotive 5917 from Werris Creek to Binnaway - Coonabarabran - Gwabegar and return to Werris Creek. A weekend of unusual steam train activity. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.

Sat 6 - Sun 7

Binnaway/Coonabarabran Steam Celebrations

Local celebrations are supported by steam train rides over the weekend. Steam train tickets from Coonabarabran Railway Station. Details Coonabarabran BCC (068) 42 1944

Sun 7

Steam Trains from Sydney to Picton

Ride the steam train to Picton, enjoy a picnic lunch, or inspect the railway museum at Thirlmere. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.

Sat 13 - Tue 16

Moree State Rail Steam Spectacular

A weekend of steam train rides and community events including a trip to Warialda on the Sunday. School children ride steam trains during the week. Steam train tickets from Moree Railway Station and Warialda for the Sunday rides. Details Moree BCC (067) 92 9515.

- Sun 14 - Mon 22** **Tamworth Eisteddfod**
Catch the Northern Tablelands XPT or Express to Tamworth and enjoy the cultural activities during this week. Details Tamworth BCC (067) 66 1988.
- Wed 17 - Sun 21** **Narrabri State Rail Steam Spectacular**
Steam train rides from Narrabri over the weekend are the focus of local celebrations in the town. School children ride steam trains on the weekdays. Steam train tickets from Narrabri Railway Station. Details Narrabri BCC (067) 92 3112.
- Sat 20 - Sun 21** **Gosford/Wyong Steam Celebrations**
Catch a steam train from Sydney on Saturday morning and join in an exciting programme of community celebrations at Gosford, Ourimbah and Wyong. Steam train shuttle services link the centres. As well, there is a steam train to Morisset. Return to Sydney on a steam train on Sunday afternoon. Sydney - Gosford and return steam train tickets available at Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812. Steam train shuttle tickets from Gosford, Wyong and Ourimbah stations. Details Gosford BCC (043) 24 7677 or Wyong BCC (043) 53 1333.
- Tue 23 - Fri 26** **Grafton - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition**
Catch the Holiday Coast XPT to Grafton and see the ABE on the banks of the Clarence. Special trains run from Kempsey, Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Coffs Harbour, Casino, Lismore and Murwillumbah. Details Grafton BCC (066) 42 2266.
- Tue 23 - Thu 25** **Gunnedah State Rail Steam Spectacular and Agquip**
Coinciding with the exciting Agquip Show is State Rail's steam celebrations. Steam train rides for school children and adults are an added bonus to the visit to Agquip. Steam train tickets from Gunnedah Railway Station. Details Gunnedah BCC (067) 42 0422.
- Sat 27 - Wed 31** **Tamworth State Rail Steam Spectacular**
Local celebrations are enhanced by steam trains, the hot air balloon and other State Rail events. School children ride on steam trains on Monday to Wednesday. Steam train tickets from Tamworth Station. Details Tamworth BCC (067) 66 1988.

SEPTEMBER

- Thu 1 - Sun 4** **Armidale - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition**
Catch the Northern Tablelands Express and spend a weekend in Armidale with the ABE and State Rail Steam Spectacular. Special trains run from Tamworth, Glen Innes and Tenterfield to Armidale. Details (067) 72 8666.
- Fri 2 - Wed 7** **Armidale State Rail Steam Spectacular**
Local weekend events are supported by the presence of steam trains and other events. School children ride on steam trains from Monday to Wednesday. Steam train tickets from Armidale Railway Station. Details Armidale BCC (067) 72 8666.
- Sat 3** **Steam Train to the Vineyards**
3801 steam engine runs to Maitland, where coaches convey passengers to Wyndham Estate for lunch. Details from 3801 Ltd (02) 816 3946.
- Sun 4** **Steam Trains from Sydney to Picton**
Ride a steam train to Picton and enjoy lunch at the Thirlmere Railway Museum. Local steam train trips are also provided. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.
- Fri 9** **Tenterfield Steam Celebrations**
Ride a steam train from Tenterfield to the Queensland Border at Wallangarra, and join in the festivities to celebrate the centenary of the completion of the Great Northern Railway to the border. Festival activities are planned in both towns. Steam train tickets from Tenterfield Railway Station. Details Tenterfield BCC (067) 36 1295.

- Thu 8 - Sun 11** **Glen Innes Steam Celebrations**
The weekend community events focus on the railway station with steam train rides to Ben Lomond, the highest station in the state. School children from as far as Inverell ride on steam trains on the weekdays. Steam train tickets from Glen Innes Railway Station. Details Glen Innes BCC (067) 32 1415.
- Fri 9** **Steam Train to Grafton**
Travel on a steam train overnight in old-fashioned sleeping cars. Arrive in Grafton for their weekend of celebrations. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999 or (02) 217 8812.
- Sat 10 - Tue 13** **Grafton State Rail Steam Spectacular**
Grafton community join in celebrating the important role rail has played in their community. Displays, processions and steam train rides are some of the exciting activities planned. School children ride on steam trains during the weekdays. Steam train tickets from Grafton City Railway Station. Details Grafton BCC (066) 42 2266.
- Sat 10 - Wed 14** **Newcastle - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition**
Ride an intercity train to Newcastle and visit the ABE in the Hunter. Why not make it a weekend and travel to the Upper Hunter vineyards, returning on the Northern Tablelands Express on Monday? Additional services operate in the Newcastle Area. Details Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.
- Fri 16 - Sun 18** **3801 Bicentennial Steam Train departs for Brisbane**
Steam locomotive 3801, assisted by locomotive 3642, heads off north for a three day journey to Brisbane, stopping overnight at Taree and Casino. Details from Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Tours, PO Box 503, Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.
- Tue 13 - Wed 14** **Steam from the Tablelands to the Sea**
Ride behind a steam train for two pleasant days between Armidale and Sydney. On the first day the train travels through Tamworth and Quirindi, staying overnight at Muswellbrook. Enjoy a meal in one of many fine restaurants with Upper Hunter wines. On the second day, travel through Maitland and along the Brisbane Waters for an afternoon arrival in Sydney. Details Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sat 17 - Wed 21** **Coffs Harbour State Rail Steam Spectacular**
Local events including the Carnivale celebrations, Chinese junk boats, food stalls and local markets combine with steam train rides to make the Coffs Harbour Jetty the place to be over the weekend. On Saturday 17, three steam engines meet at Coffs Harbour Railway Station - join the excitement. School children ride steam trains during the week. Steam train tickets from Coffs Harbour Railway Station. Details Coffs Harbour BCC (066) 52 8560.
- Sat 17 - Sun 18** **Richmond/Windsor Town Celebrations and Steam Trains**
Ride a steam train between Richmond and Windsor and join in the local celebrations marking the foundation of the town. Live music and entertainment in the park opposite the railway station makes it the ideal venue for a picnic. Steam train tickets from Richmond and Windsor Railway Stations. Details Hawkesbury Shire BCC (045) 77 4822.
- Mon 19 - Sun 25** **Casino/Lismore State Rail Steam Spectaculars**
Local weekend events are enhanced with steam train rides, a dinner trip to Byron Bay, processions, Opera in the Park and much more. School children from Casino, Lismore and Kyogle ride steam trains on the weekdays. Steam train tickets from Casino and Lismore Railway Stations. Details from Lismore BCC (066) 21 1501 or Casino BCC (066) 62 2622.
- Tue 20 - Fri 23** **Dubbo - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition**
Catch the Central West XPT and visit the ABE in Dubbo. Why not visit the Western Plains Zoo as well - see State Rail's Bengal Tiger. Special trains run from surrounding centres. Enquire at Dubbo Railway Station. Details Dubbo BCC (068) 81 4222.

Fri 23 - Sat 24

Byron Bay Steam Celebrations

Ride a steam train from Byron Bay to Mullumbimby. Local festivities from the station to the beach ensure an exciting day in Byron Bay. School children ride on steam trains on Friday. Steam train tickets from Byron Bay Railway Station. Details Byron Bay BCC (066) 85 6723.

Sun 25

Murwillumbah/Mullumbimby Steam Celebrations

Ride a steam train between Murwillumbah and Mullumbimby, and participate in the local celebrations. Steam train rides for school children during the preceding week. Steam train tickets from Murwillumbah and Mullumbimby Railway Stations. Details Murwillumbah BCC (066) 72 0400 or Mullumbimby BCC (066) 84 2658.

Wed 28 - Thu 29

Steam Train from Casino to Sydney

Enjoy two days travelling from Casino to Sydney along the beautiful North Coast of NSW behind two steam locomotives. Enjoy the rich northern countryside as we travel to Taree on the first day. Enjoy dinner on the banks of the Manning River, and on Thursday we travel through Gloucester and Dungog, before the run across the Hawkesbury River and into Sydney. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999 or State Rail (02) 217 8812.

Sat 24

State Rail Bicentennial Ball

The great Railway Ball will be held at Sydney Station this evening. Details (02) 290 4455.

Mon 26 - Thu 6 October

Great Lakes Oyster Festival

Catch the State Rail Super Coach from Newcastle to Forster/Tuncurry for the Great Oyster Festival. Details Great Lakes BCC (065) 54 6277.

Mon 26 - Mon 3 October

Newcastle - '88 Festival of Music

Catch an intercity train to Newcastle and enjoy the fine musical performances. Details Newcastle BCC (049) 26 2035.

Thu 29 - Sun 2 October

Orange - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition

Catch the Central West XPT and visit the ABE in Orange - avoid the Sydney crowds. Special trains run from Bathurst, Blayney, Wellington and Parkes. Enquire at the above railway stations. Why not spend the weekend in Orange and return on Sunday or Monday on the XPT? Details from Orange BCC (063) 62 1755.

OCTOBER

Sat 1 - Mon 31

Oktoberfest in Melbourne

Catch the Melbourne Express or Intercapital Daylight Express and enjoy a week or weekend in the southern capital. Make your rail bookings now on (02) 217 8812. Details Victorian Bicentennial Council (03) 663 1988.

Sat 1 - Mon 3

3801 Bicentennial Steam Train departs Brisbane for Sydney

The return leg of the Railways of Australia Bicentennial Steam Tour visiting Coffs Harbour and Taree overnight. Coach excursion through the Bellinger Valley to Dorrigo Steam Preservation Railway will be an added bonus on the second day. Details from Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Tours, PO Box 503, Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

Sat 1 - Mon 3

Goulburn State Rail Steam Spectacular and Lilac Festival

Join in the celebrations of the Lilac Festival with steam train rides, displays, processions and much more. A steam train leaves Sydney on Saturday morning for Goulburn, and returns on Monday evening. Travel one way by regular State Rail services, the other by special steam train. Tickets for the Sydney - Goulburn - Sydney trips from Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812. Steam train rides for children on weekdays. Steam train shuttle tickets from Goulburn Railway Station. Details Goulburn BCC (048) 21 1444.

- Sat 1 - Mon 3** **Wollongong State Rail Steam Spectacular**
The centenary of rail to the Illawarra area is marked at Wollongong over the long weekend. Catch a steam train from Sydney to Wollongong, or ride on shuttle services out of Wollongong. Steam train shuttle tickets from Wollongong Railway Station. Sydney - Wollongong - Sydney tickets also available from Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812. Details Wollongong BCC (042) 27 1988.
- Sat 1 - Wed 5** **Parkes/Forbes State Rail Steam Spectaculars, Country and Western Concert, Mardi Gras and Henry Parkes Festival**
Local events are supported by an exciting steam train programme. School children ride steam trains on weekdays, and local celebrations focus on the railway station on the weekends. Steam train tickets from Parkes and Forbes Railway Stations. Details Parkes BCC (068) 62 4365 or Forbes BCC (068) 52 3324.
- Sun 2** **Steam Trains to Picton**
Catch a steam train to Picton, and inspect the local township. Steam rides to Thirlmere and return. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.
- Tue 4 - Sun 9** **Railway Week**
An exciting week of activities highlighting the wide range of operations undertaken by State Rail. There will be events in many centres around NSW. Ask at your local railway station for details.
- Sat 8 - Sun 9** **Warren Bicentennial Trike Race**
Hand operated trikes race between Nevertre and Warren while local celebrations occur in Warren. Details Warren BCC (068) 47 4608.
- Sat 8 - Sun 9** **Blacktown/Penrith Steam Celebrations**
A weekend of steam train rides in the west of Sydney. Steam train tickets from Blacktown or Penrith Railway Stations. Details from Penrith BCC (047) 32 2422.
- Sat 8 - Tue 11** **Wollongong - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition**
Catch an intercity train to the beautiful Illawarra and see the ABE before it arrives in Sydney. Special trains will run from Nowra and Kiama, with more frequent services between Scarborough and Wollongong. Details Wollongong BCC (042) 27 1988.
- Wed 12 - Sun 16** **Bicentennial Air Show, Richmond RAAF Base**
An International Air Show and Aviation Expo. Leave your car at home and use the special public transport services provided. Details Australian Bicentennial Authority (02) 236 1988.
- Sat 15 - Sun 16** **3801 Bicentennial Steam Train departs Sydney for Melbourne**
The eighth tour for the Bicentennial Steam Train. Passengers travel to Wagga on the first day, staying overnight in motels. Lunch at Albury on the second day sees an arrival in Melbourne in the afternoon. Details from Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Tours, PO Box 503, Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.
- Sat 15 - Mon 31** **Austeam - Melbourne - Steam and Railway Extravaganza**
Two weeks of exciting rail operations, steam train trips and a locomotive cavalcade. Details from the organisers on (03) 436 1482.
- Mon 17 - Fri 21** **Canberra - Australian Bicentennial Exhibition**
Catch the Canberra XPT, Canberra Express or Canberra Monaro Express and visit the ABE in the Australian Capital. Inspect the National Library, Gallery and High Court. Details Canberra BCC (062) 49 1988.
- Wed 19 - Thu 20** **Steam Train to Dubbo**
Travel through the central west behind a steam engine on a two day trip to Dubbo, with an overnight stop at Bathurst. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum, Rail Travel Centres or (02) 217 8812.
- Sat 22 - Thu 27** **Dubbo State Rail Steam Spectacular, Children's Week and Outback Music Spectacular**
A weekend of local celebrations with steam train rides, processions, live music and much more. School children ride on steam trains during the week. Steam train tickets from Dubbo Railway Station. Details Dubbo BCC (068) 81 4221.

Sat 29 - Mon 31

Wellington State Rail Steam Spectacular and Back to Wellington Week
The local community has organised a great array of events to support the steam train shuttle rides over the weekend. School children ride on steam trains on Monday. Steam train tickets from Wellington Railway Station. Details Wellington BCC (068) 45 1927.

Sat 29 - Sun 30

3801 Bicentennial Steam Train departs Melbourne for Sydney
The last of nine fantastic journeys between Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Canberra and Brisbane. This is your last chance to travel on one of these tours. Details Rail Travel Centres or Bicentennial Steam Tours, PO Box 503 Collins Street Post Office, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

Sat 29 - Sun 13 November

Grafton Jacaranda Festival
Catch the Holiday Coast XPT or the North Coast Overnight Express and enjoy a week or weekend in Grafton. Details Grafton BCC (066) 42 2266.

NOVEMBER

Sun 6

Steam Trains from Sydney to Picton
Ride a steam train to Picton, with shuttle trips from Thirlmere Railway Museum. Details NSW Rail Transport Museum (02) 744 9999.

Mon 14 - Sun 20

St George Great Train Festival
An exciting programme of steam rides and other rail activities in the St George area. Details St George Great Train Festival Committee (02) 57 1014 or (02) 570 4089.

DECEMBER

Sat 3 - Sun 4

Liverpool/Campbelltown Steam Celebrations and Campbelltown Foundation Day
Ride steam trains between Liverpool and Campbelltown over this weekend. Join in the exciting activities organised by the local communities to mark the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Argyll. Steam train tickets from Liverpool and Campbelltown Railway Stations. Details from Liverpool BCC or Campbelltown BCC (046) 20 1050.

Sat 10

Picnic on a Steam Train
3801 Ltd's End-of-Bicentennial-Year Christmas Party on a train. Enjoy a day trip from Sydney to Moss Vale, Robertson, Summit Tank - spectacular views of the south coast - Wollongong and back to Sydney. Details 3801 Ltd (02) 816 3946.

NOTES

1. This calendar includes all State Rail's Bicentennial activities, as well as a selection of major country events that can be reached by regular rail services.
2. The abbreviation BCC stands for Bicentennial Community Committee, and ABE for the Australian Bicentennial Exhibition.
3. Tickets for all the special steam train services will be on sale one month in advance. Some services require seat reservations and these can be made by telephone on (02) 217 8812. Regular rail bookings can be made on this number.
4. State Rail Information Booths will be located at major city railway stations on major days during January.
5. Details regarding public transport arrangements in the metropolitan area from (02) 11 622.
6. Further enquiries from the Bicentennial Unit, Corporate Relations, State Rail Authority of NSW, GPO Box 29, NSW, 2001 or telephone (02) 290 4455.

