



illawarra **FOLK** FESTIVAL

12-15 JANUARY 2012

BULLI SHOWGROUND, WOLLONGONG, NSW



Presented by the Illawarra Folk Club Inc. PO Box 5289, Wollongong, NSW 2500

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MEDIA RELEASE: 2 December 2011

All aboard the music train

The state's biggest folk festival at Bulli in January just happens to be at the other end of one of the most scenic rail journeys in the Sydney Basin.

So the Illawarra Folk Festival has partnered with CityRail to bring festival fans south by Green Music Trains, being entertained by some of the festival stars as the train travels down the South Coast Line passing through the Royal National Park and the spectacular Northern Illawarra coastline.

When they arrive at Bulli station they'll have a short walk to Bulli Showground, home of the 27th annual Illawarra Folk Festival from January 12-15.

This year's festival has more than 150 international and Australian acts on the program, and a number have requested the opportunity to play on the train.

Some of the overseas musicians will be performing on the trains, including American husband and wife act Rick and Donna Nestler, who are well known on the American roots music and folk festival circuit, playing a variety of traditional genres including jug band, blues, country and maritime music.

"Encouraging folks to attend the festival by train is a brilliant idea," Rick said. "Trains are so much more energy efficient and it cuts down on greenhouse gasses. Putting live music on the train is icing in the cake."

Festival Artistic Director David De Santi said the Green Music Trains were a great way for Sydney patrons to get in the mood for the festival, relax and not have to worry about driving.

"We've got some of our headline acts on the trains – like sensational young Australian band Wild Gypsy and some of our visiting international acts. And we've mixed it up so that there will be

different styles in different carriages, from traditional folk to Americana, bluegrass, gypsy, Celtic, autoharps and so on.”

There will be two Green Music Trains from Sydney on the Saturday of the festival, 14 January, and one on Sunday.

The first train on Saturday will leave Bondi Junction at 8.13am, picking up at Central (platform 25) at 8.29, Hurstville at 8.48 and Sutherland at 8.59, arriving at Bulli at 9.57. The second train will follow one hour later.

On Sunday the only service will be the 8.13am train originating at Bondi Junction, with the same pick-up times along the route.

Entry into the carriages is with a CityRail ticket. Passengers can pre-purchase their festival pass at the festival website www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au or purchase at the end of your journey at the Festival Office at the Showground. To plan the trip go to 131500.com.au or call 131 500.

Here's the music program on each train:

Train 1: SATURDAY 14 JANUARY departing Bondi Junction at 8.13am:

CARRIAGE 1: Bluegrass Session with David Hellens & David Harman and The Butcher Boys. Bluegrass players welcome.

CARRIAGE 2 Autoharp & Americana Session with visiting US artists Cindy Harris, Donna & Rick Nestler, Lindsay Haisley and David Hakan. Autoharpists welcome.

Train 2 : SATURDAY 14 JANUARY departing Bondi Junction at 9.13 am, picking up at Central (platform 25) at 8.29, Hurstville at 8.48 and Sutherland at 8.59, arriving at Bulli at 9.57.

CARRIAGE 3 : Celtic and Bush Music session with Get Folked and Jack Flash from Toowoomba (Qld). Celtic musicians welcome.

CARRIAGE 4 Wild Gypsy / Balkan and world music with The Con Artists. Musicians welcome to join, especially percussionists.

CARRIAGE 5: Traditional Scottish fiddle with James Gastineau-Hills & Andrew Russell and the Simon Bradley Trio from Scotland. Fiddlers welcome. Traditional Bush Music session, byo lagerphone and home-made instruments.

Train 3: SUNDAY 15 JANUARY departs Bondi Junction at 8.13 am.

CARRIAGE 6 : Kids entertainment with King & Queen of Green, Mike and Thom Jackson and storytellers Lilli Pilli and Kiran Shah (Asia), youth performer Blake Perry.

CARRIAGE 7: Singing galore with festival artist Dani Karis and Park Folk, Merryweather and The Train Set.

CARRIAGE 8: Ukulele with North Sydney group SNUGS and festival artist CJ Shaw and inner city musicians.

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