



PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL ENJOYS ANOTHER YEAR OF ROCKING AROUND THE CLOCK

Taking place from **Wednesday 10 to Sunday 14 January 2018**, the 26th annual **Parkes Elvis Festival** saw in excess of 25,000 Festival fans congregate in Parkes for five action packed days of live music, special events, talks and more, all in celebration of The King himself.

From Ballarat to Bourke, the UK and Japan, fans travelled from **around Australia** and **the world** to rock around the clock and enjoy non-stop Elvis Presley entertainment and Elvis-themed events. A heavy contingent of celebrity fans also joined in the festivities including model and author **Tara Moss**, former Olympic swimmer **Lisa Curry** and rock legend **Phil Emmanuel** and acclaimed music journalist **Glenn A. Baker**, both of who were a part of the Festival program.

Festival Director Cathy Treasure said, "Parkes Elvis Festival has grown over the years into a truly king-sized celebration and a globally recognized bucket list event. This weekend I met Elvis Fans from all over the world who came out for the Festival and enjoyed the very best entertainment Central West NSW has to offer."

"We'd like to thank our hardworking volunteers and Council staff for helping make this Festival a unique and wonderful celebration of The King," Ms Treasure said.

Hundreds of bejeweled jumpsuits, poodle skirts and hip swinging rockers converged on Sydney's Central Station on Thursday 11 January to board The **Elvis Express and new Blue Suede Express** trains to the Festival. Enjoying seven hours of on-board Elvis entertainment, the travellers were greeted at Parkes Railway Station by thousands of the town's locals, kicking off four days of festivities in style.

For the third year running, a preliminary round of the international **2018 Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest** was staged at Parkes Leagues Club. **Anthony Petrucci** from Melbourne placed first, followed by **Brody Finlay** of Townsville in second place and Melbourne's **Joe Piastrino** in third. Anthony will now travel to Memphis, USA, to represent Parkes at the Contest Semi -Final during Elvis Week in August.

The **2018 Miss Priscilla, Face of the Festival**, was awarded to **Alex Byrne**, of Parkes. Alex received the sash from outgoing 2017 Miss Priscilla, **Jackie Batt**, at a gala dinner on the Thursday night of the Festival.

On Saturday 13 January the town came out in droves for the **Northparkes Mines Street Parade** which saw over 10,000 people line the streets to enjoy over 170 Elvis-themed floats, vintage cars, motorcycles, walking groups and marching bands.

In 2019 Parkes Elvis Festival will celebrate its 27th year with the theme **"All Shook Up"**

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

