

Mr Chris Martin
Redwater Creek Steam and Heritage Society
0429 418 739
Fax 0364 283 995
chris@csetas.com.au
www.redwater.org.au

PRESS RELEASE

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SteamFest committee members are excited to have confirmation that the ABC's Sunday program will be broadcasting from SteamFest on March 13th. "Chris Wisbey has been a long time supporter of railways and heritage machinery." Chris Martin - Chairman of the SteamFest organizing committee said. "The ABC's support of our event will be fantastic publicity for SteamFest and the North West Coast with the broadcast being aired on ABC local radio and streamed across the globe via the Web. We hope to show Chris some sights that are rarely seen in Tasmania and the rest of Australia with steam powered chaff cutting, straw pressing, threshing, rock crushing and wood cutting and the special exhibit of a Yorkshire Steam wagon "Ethel" from Melbourne which is being transported down to this year's event by the Toll group."



Caption: "Ethel" the Yorkshire Steam Wagon will be transported to Tasmania from Melbourne by the Toll Group for SteamFest.

Many upgrades have been completed across the site including provision of power, water supply and speaker cabling. A team of Youth and Family Focus Workers have been working at the site for the last 4 months. They have done a fantastic job cleaning up the grounds, painting buildings, and completing other projects such as a concrete plinth at the base of the walls for the new display hall and erecting a roof over the container used for storage of SteamFest equipment. Their work onsite has taken a huge load off the small dedicated group of regular volunteers.

Invitations have gone out for the official opening of the SteamFest on Saturday 12th March by Dick Adams MP and the new storage/display hall will be opened by Rebecca White MP. Following the afternoon tea guests are invited to participate in the grand parade and to celebrate the opening with the SteamFest Folk Concert commencing at 3.30pm featuring well-known Cygnet Folk Festival artists - Twice Bitten, Ian Paulin, the Pot Belly Strings and Steve and Marjorie Gadd.

"There is something about the sight and smell of the steam engine which captivates both young and old alike." Mr. Martin said. "The romance of the Victorian era permeates through these old engines with their smoking oil smells and distinct sounds offset with polished brass and exposed workings and it is always heartwarming to watch the enjoyment crowds get from the working displays at SteamFest. The smiles on people's faces and their obvious fascination with these bastions of the industrial revolution make the many hours spent organizing the event worthwhile."

SteamFest 2011 will be an experience not to be missed with the wonderful music of the Sheffield Festival Music Festival - Country, Highland Pipes and Drums, the Right on Cue Choir and a great folk music line up – all being accompanied by the sights and sounds of steam engines.

A day's entertainment costs \$30 for a family (3 children), or \$15 for adults, \$10 for concession card holders and \$5 for children.

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For more information contact

**Chris Martin – details above
Or refer to www.redwater.org.au**