

MEDIA RELEASE

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Rocking the Rails with Christmas Cheer

Legendary Australian rock icons James Reyne and Mark Seymour will bring Christmas to the Outback from December 1st to 4th aboard another Australian icon – the Indian Pacific, on its annual Indian Pacific Outback Christmas journey across the nation.

Over the 4,352km transcontinental journey, Reyne and Seymour will perform their hit songs (and a Christmas Carol or two) to crowds of fans in major cities and to more intimate gatherings at wayside stops in the Outback, including some of the most isolated places across the Nullarbor Plain.

The Outback Christmas train is about thanking the communities along the Indian Pacific route for their longstanding support of the mighty train and spreading the 'spirit of Christmas' across Australia.

The event also raises awareness and funds for the Australian Royal Flying Doctor Service.

"This year we are celebrating two very special milestones," said Chief Executive of Great Southern Rail, Tony Braxton-Smith. "2010 marks the 10th Anniversary of the Outback Christmas train and the 40th Anniversary of the Indian Pacific".

"What better way to celebrate the double Anniversary year of an Australian icon than with a double-act of two iconic Australian performers?"

"For the communities we visit, the event has become a well anticipated fixture in the calendar. Some are known to travel hundreds of kilometers to meet the train each year. Local children treasure the chance to sing with a superstar, but often it's Father Christmas who steals the show," said Tony.

James Reyne and Mark Seymour go down in Australian music's hall of fame for their legendary rock shows in the 80's and 90's as front men of Australian Crawl (Reyne) and Hunters and Collectors (Seymour).

"I'm looking forward to the transcontinental journey on the iconic Indian Pacific, and to seeing the people and places along the way, a truly exciting and uniquely Australian experience," said James Reyne.

Mark Seymour agreed; "This a rare opportunity to perform in some of the most remote parts of Australia, travelling on a truly epic train journey across the continent."

Previous entertainers in the Outback Christmas event have included, Nikki Webster, John Williamson, Marcia Hines, John Paul Young, Jimmy Barnes, Guy Sebastian, Human Nature, David Campbell and Shannon Noll.

Members of the public are invited to attend the public events at Sydney, Bathurst, Broken Hill, Adelaide, Watson, Rawlinna, Kalgoorlie and Perth. Concert dates and times can be found at www.greatsouthernrail.com.au.

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