

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

Kojonup tourist train on track

Visitors to Kojonup will soon be able to combine history, scenery and the nostalgia of a vintage train journey when a revamped tourist train is launched on Saturday 6 October.

The Kojonup Tourist Railway received \$100,000 of Royalties for Regions funding through the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) to complete the project, which included road to rail conversion of the iconic Perth Zoo Train and refurbishment of existing tracks.

Wagin MLA Terry Waldron will officially open the attraction at 10.30am as part of celebrations including train rides, entertainment, stalls and displays, open to the public from 9am to 5pm.

A dedicated group of volunteers have given new life to the disused railway since 1993, repairing and relaying the train tracks and modifying the zoo train which was an integral part of the Perth Zoo experience for over a decade.

The train will undertake an eight-kilometre round trip commencing at the heritage railway station building and journeying past historic attractions and native bushland where passengers can enjoy wildflowers in season.

GSDC Board Chairperson Peter Rundle said the Kojonup Tourist Railway project would enhance the current tourism offering in the town and complement existing attractions in the tourism precinct.

"The attraction will encourage visitors to stay longer and explore Kojonup's attractions and history, which will benefit local business and the town as a whole," Mr Rundle said.

He praised the volunteers who had worked tirelessly to bring the project to fruition.

"The group have invested countless volunteer hours and resources to preserve Kojonup's railway heritage and create a tourist drawcard for the town," Mr Rundle said.

Extensions of the track are set to continue with plans to create a 22km round trip to the historic Farrar Siding.



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For more information on the train timetable and future progress visit
www.kojonuptouristrailway.com.au

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