



In January 1878 at a ceremony in Port Augusta, the Governor of South Australia, Sir William Jervois, made the bold statement that the new railway from Port Augusta was the beginning of a transcontinental railway that would extend to Darwin. One hundred and twenty-six years later, this vision has finally been fulfilled and Pichi Richi Railway will again be part of celebrations when the first trains on their northward journey across the continent arrive in Port Augusta.

If you missed out on the Centenary of Federation parallel runs, then don't miss this rare chance. Security for these events will be tight and it is likely that access to the platform will be restricted to train ticket holders only.

*"The railway would not stop...If it only went as far as Port Darwin it would be worth constructing; but in going there it goes to Java, British India, Siam and China..."* Sir William Jervois, 18<sup>th</sup> January 1878

## First freight train to Darwin

Thursday 15th January 2004

The first standard-gauge freight train to Darwin will be met by a special PRR train in Stirling North for parallel running into Port Augusta.

Fifty-year old diesel NSU52 will haul a mixed goods and passenger train, representing a typical Commonwealth Railways train to the 'Red Centre' of the 1950s, departing from Quorn. Also, a consist of restored CR passenger vehicles will run from Port Augusta to Stirling North, powered by recently restored steam locomotive NM25.

At Stirling North, these trains will combine to form a **double-headed** mixed train for a **parallel run** with the inaugural Darwin freight into Port Augusta.

## First passenger train to Darwin

Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup>

Leading up to Sunday's event, three trains representative of the 1930s will operate from Port Augusta to Stirling North and return, using CR vehicles powered by steam locomotive NM25. Trains will depart Port Augusta at 10:30am, 12:30pm and 2:30pm.

Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>

A small consist of CR passenger vehicles, powered by 50-year old diesel NSU52 will depart Quorn for Stirling North. Steam locomotive NM25 will be hauling another consist from Port Augusta to Stirling North.

Both trains will then combine and proceed to Port Augusta headed by NM25 as a **parallel run** with the inaugural passenger train to Darwin. This train is to represent a typical 1930s Ghan to 'the Alice' and will convey vintage motor vehicles on flat cars.

NSU52 will follow later as a light engine to Port Augusta.

## Bookings

Buy your tickets from **WADLATA OUTBACK CENTRE** - 41 Flinders Terrace, Port Augusta. Telephone 8641 0793. Open 7 days. Monday-Friday 9am – 5.30pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am – 4pm.

	Fares		Departure times	Arrival times
	Adult	Child/concession		
<b>Thursday 15th January</b>				
From Quorn	\$65	\$35	2:00pm	8:40pm
From Port Augusta	\$30	\$18	3:00pm	5:00pm
<b>Saturday 31st January</b>				
From Port Augusta	\$20	\$10	10:30am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm	11:30am, 1:30pm & 3:30pm
<b>Sunday 1st February</b>				
From Quorn	\$75	\$35	1:45pm	8:40pm
From Port Augusta	\$50	\$30	2:45pm	4:25pm

**Pichi Richi Railway**  
the **original link**  
in Australia's transcontinental railways