

MEDIA RELEASE



TULIPS & TANK ENGINES TEAM UP FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

Puffing Billy Railway and the Tesselaar Tulip Festival have joined forces to give families hours of entertainment in the Dandenong Ranges these school holidays – and at a great discount!

Puffing Billy passengers travelling to Gembrook Station will be treated to free children's activities upon arrival. The activities will run from Monday 23 September through to Friday 4 October with each day providing exciting entertainment:

- Mondays – 30 minute magic show
- Tuesdays – face painting and SandWizard craft station
- Wednesdays – 45 minute family yoga class
- Thursdays – silent disco
- Fridays – Monkey Mania inflatable obstacle course

There will also be a tulip display where passengers can snap a colourful photo, and tulip-themed colouring in activities every day of the holidays, including weekends.

Passengers can travel to Gembrook from Puffing Billy's Belgrave Station or Lakeside Station (Emerald).

Perfect for families, the quieter Lakeside Station provides easy parking and smaller crowds, with the beautiful Emerald Lake Park making the perfect pre or post departure play space.

Trains depart Lakeside at 12.20pm and arrive at Gembrook at 1pm. Passengers have around an hour and a half to enjoy the free school holiday activities and explore Gembrook town before reboarding the train for a 2.45pm departure, arriving back at Lakeside at 3.20pm.

On the Lakeside to Gembrook section of the track, the train travels through the unspoilt Wright State Forest with its towering eucalypt and stringybark trees and lush fern undergrowth. It crosses four historic timber rail bridges before the forest gives way to extensive views of rolling hills and farmland.

From Belgrave, passengers will catch the 11.10am train, stopping briefly at Lakeside to pick up more passengers before continuing on to Gembrook. The return train departs Gembrook at 2.45pm and arrives back at Belgrave at 4.30pm.

Travelling from Belgrave takes passengers over the most iconic site on the Puffing Billy railway, the historic Monbulk Creek Trestle Bridge. The train winds its way through the picturesque Sherbrook Forest, with its superb mountain ash trees and lush fern gullies.

Just 20 minutes drive from Emerald, the Tesselaar Tulip Festival is also hosting a range of children's activities over the school holidays, including live entertainment, a PJ Masks show, petting zoo, garden games and tulip tractor rides. Entry is free for children aged under 16 years.

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Families wishing to visit both attractions can purchase a special ticket, which provides 25% off their Puffing Billy ride and Tesselaar Tulip Festival entry.

Book Puffing Billy tickets online (recommended to avoid disappointment) using the promotional code TULIP to receive the 25% discount. If booking online for the Tesselaar Tulip Festival, use the promotional code PBRTF19 to receive your 25% discount.

Alternatively, flyers will be available onsite at Puffing Billy Railway, the Tesselaar Tulip Festival and in visitor information centres throughout the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges, which can be presented at ticket boxes to obtain the discount.

For further information or to purchase your discounted tickets, please visit www.puffingbilly.com.au or www.tulipfestival.com.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Anna Hayward – 0438 136 220 - media@chatterboxmarketing.com.au