



Andrew Stoner MP
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Trade and Investment
Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 18 January 2013

START OF THE 41ST TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Acting NSW Premier Andrew Stoner will tonight officially mark the start of the 41st Tamworth Country Music Festival.

"The Tamworth Country Music Festival is one of the biggest festivals on the NSW events calendar and I am honoured to be in Tamworth for the official start of the celebrations," Mr Stoner said.

"Now in its 41st year, the Tamworth Country Music Festival has been delighting thousands of visitors with the music and the sounds of Australia.

"With 2,200 performances and more than 55,000 visitors expected this year, the Tamworth Country Music Festival is sure to cement its status as one of the biggest and best country music festivals in the world.

"The Country Music Festival not only provides a great economic boost to the region but it also serves as a great advertisement for regional NSW.

"The NSW Government, through Destination NSW, is proud to support the Tamworth Country Music Festival and I am looking forward to enjoying the fantastic music on offer and meeting country music fans along the 'Boulevard of Dreams' Peel Street."

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson welcomed the Acting Premier Andrew Stoner to Country Music Capital for the 41st Tamworth Country Music Festival.

"This is an exciting time for the city and the whole region. The Tamworth Country Music Festival envelops all that is the spirit of rural NSW, its people, its music and its history and I am proud to welcome Mr Stoner to our great city," Mr Anderson said.

"I am looking forward to the announcement of the 'Queen of Country Music', which will take place at the new Toyota FanZone area in Bicentennial Park.

"The Queen of Country Music title is a year-long commitment to promoting Tamworth and surrounds, it is an ambassador role for young people which includes an exchange with country music sister city Gore in New Zealand later in the year."

The Acting Premier will officiate at the Opening Ceremony in Bicentennial Park Friday 18 January from 6.30pm alongside Adam Brand and Melinda Schneider.

The 41st Tamworth Country Music Festival will be held from 18 to 27 January 2013.