

# FESA Centre stars in Heritage Festival

FESA's Education and Heritage Centre recently threw open its doors, proving the perfect drawcard for more than 1,000 visitors who flocked there over the Perth Heritage Days Festival weekend.

While children were enchanted with the old fashioned fire engines and equipment displays, their parents took the opportunity to admire the historic architecture and a range of contemporary exhibits.

Many of Perth's best known and loved heritage buildings also provided free access, with the festival creating an atmosphere of nostalgia around the city with old trams, period costumes and industry and services brought back to life to give a glimpse into times past.

Director Community Engagement Suellen Shea said the Centre, housed in the 110 year old Central Perth Fire Station, was a focal point of the local heritage streetscape.

"The building is unique in that it has been connected to Perth's emergency services for more than a century," Suellen said.

"Being part of the heritage festival was a great way to highlight the use FESA has found for the building, and that we continue to maintain and make it available to the community."

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In addition to promoting the Centre's heritage and hazard awareness exhibits and resources, other festival activities included fire tunic dress-ups for kids, engine rides and a display of appliances from the vintage fleet.

Water pumping demonstrations by a vintage heavy pumper also proved a big hit, with visitors invited to have a go.

"It was a fantastic event and the success of the weekend was largely due to the efforts of our volunteers and both Centre and Operations staff," Suellen said.



Visitors to the FESA Education and Heritage Centre were able to hear firsthand about this restored vintage fire appliance from volunteers Jeff Graves (left) and Jess Luff (right).