



COME FLY WITH ME: Regional Express pilot instructor Danica Henderson demonstrates a flight simulator the public will be able to see this weekend to Ruth McLeod. Picture: Oscar Colman

Flying fun for all at open day

► WAGGA AIRPORT

IF YOU'VE ever wanted a sneak peek at what life is like soaring the skies, this weekend's Regional Express Airline open day is for you.

On Saturday, Rex will open the doors of the Australian Airline Pilot Academy to the public in celebration of its 10-year anniversary.

With Wagga being the airline's central hub, Rex spokesperson Candice Teo said the airline had worked hard to reflect its ties to the city through the use of local performers who will entertain throughout the family fun day.

"Wagga is a very important hub for us. We have the pilot academy here and it is our main engineering base," she said.

"We really want people from across the region to come and celebrate this with us and listen to performers like Wagga

WHAT: Regional Express Airlines Wagga Open Day

WHEN: Saturday from 9am to 4pm

ENTRY: Free

Program activities

9am: Gates open

9.30am: Model aircraft and helicopter flight demonstration (and every hours thereafter)

10am: Performance by Koorringal High school band Funk Explosion

11am: Opening address by Opposition spokesman on infrastructure and transport Warren Truss and the launch of the 10th anniversary commemorative coffee-table book.

12.15pm: The Australian Army Band Kapooka marching display, followed by performances throughout the afternoon by Darren Coggan, Carl Riseley and the Royalty Dance Crew.

boy Darren Coggan, the Koorringal High School band, the Kapooka Army Band and Carl Riseley from *Australian Idol*, who just finished his cadet pilot training in Wagga."

When not enjoying the musical entertainment, guests can browse market stalls, take scenic flights and helicopter rides, hangar tours, simulator rides and other rides including a pirate ship, jumping castle, mechanical bull ride, pony

rides and food vans.

For Rex, the day is not just about a celebration, but a chance to support two Riverina charities - Country Hope and Can Assist.

All the proceeds from the day will be donated to the charities to assist them in helping Riverina families battling cancer and other medical issues.

Gates open at 9am and close at 4pm with admission free.