



**CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**

With just 15 months to go, there is much to be proud of as we continue to strive towards putting on the biggest and best sporting event Melbourne has seen – the Commonwealth Games in 2006.

Most recent was the national release of the *Games Guide* – a planning guide detailing our competition schedules and ticket prices. The Organising Committee has worked hard with the state and federal governments to ensure we deliver the most affordable and accessible Games.

For the first time Australians saw our brand in the marketplace with last month's launch of the *United by the Moment* national advertising campaign on television and in print. This was the first real step in a journey that will bring tens of thousands of people to the Games.

Just days later, I was very proud to be in London in November to witness the transformation of some of London's famous black cabs bearing colourful images of the Twelve Apostles and Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games' branding. It is exciting to know that we are encouraging Australians and our friends overseas to come and be a part the Games experience in one of the world's great cities.

I am pleased to welcome Coates Hire and Holmesglen Institute of TAFE to our Melbourne 2006 sponsor family. Coates Hire will provide a full range of construction equipment and services to the Games, and Holmesglen will be our official training provider for the Melbourne 2006 workforce.

Finally, the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation would like to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

*Ronald J. Walker*  
Ronald J. Walker AC CBE

**GAMES GUIDE JUST THE TICKET**

The competition schedule and ticket prices for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games were released for the first time nationally in the *Games Guide* through all News Limited newspapers on Sunday 21 November.

The great news for all Australians is that people will be able to experience world-class sport live at the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games for as little as \$15.

Up to 1 million tickets will be made available to the general public. More than half of all tickets will be priced at \$60 or less, with family ticket packages starting at \$45.

These are just some of the highlights of the full schedule of events and ticket prices that were unveiled in the *Games Guide* officially launched in Melbourne by Victorian Premier Steve Bracks, Federal Minister for Sport, the Hon. Rod Kemp, and Melbourne 2006 Chairman Ronald Walker at Games headquarters.

The *Games Guide* revealed the Opening Ceremony will take place at the revamped Melbourne Cricket Ground on the evening of Wednesday 15 March 2006. Tickets to the Ceremony will range from \$100 to \$590, with special family packages (two adults and two children, or one adult and three children) at \$300.

Speaking at the launch, Mr Bracks said the *Games Guide* delivered on the Victorian Government's commitment to make the Melbourne 2006 Games accessible and affordable for all Australians.

"This *Games Guide* shows we have a ticket to suit everyone," Mr Bracks said.

Senator Kemp said the launch of the *Games Guide* represented the first opportunity for all Australians – from Kalgoorlie to Katherine to Kyabram – to begin planning ahead for March 2006.

Tickets to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games will be available through a ballot in March 2005. The ballot is the best way to ensure all Australian residents have access to Games tickets.



Above: Chantelle Newbery (Diving), Katie Mactier (Cycling), Adam Vella (Shooting) and Liz Ellis (Captain – Australian Netball Team) helped launch the *Games Guide* at Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games headquarters. A host of other athletes including Aquatics - Patrick Murphy (Swimming); Irena Olevsky (Synchronised Swimming); Athletics - Jana Pitman (Track & Field); Eliza Stankovic (EAD); Badminton - Gary Tho; Basketball - Andrew Gaze; Hollie Grima; Boxing - Adam Forsyth; Cycling - Niki Gudex (Mountain Bike); Hockey - Rachel Imison; Stephen Mowlan; Lawn Bowls - Karen Murphy; Rugby 7s - Christian Lealiifano; Squash - Amelia Pittock; Table Tennis - Miao Miao; Weightlifting - Yourik Sarkisian also gave their support to the *Games Guide* launch.

Right: Members of the Australian Netball team – fresh from their thrilling championship win against New Zealand – and Karak showed their support for the *Games Guide*.



# GAMES MESSAGE REACHES THE UK 'ON THE RANK!'

London's famous black cabs will transport our Games to the UK market as part of the Games marketing program.



Twenty five transformed cabs hit the streets of London bearing colourful images of the Twelve Apostles and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games' branding. A further 150 cabs will carry decorated sidings.

The cabs, carrying a slogan 'let the Gold rush begin' are designed to motivate the London market to come to the Games in Melbourne 2006, and to encourage them to consider a holiday experience in Victoria.

As part of the marketing program the London cabbies involved will be trained as ambassadors for Victoria and the Games.

The cabs will be on London's streets from now until December 2005. They were designed in partnership with Tourism Victoria and Tourism Australia.



# THE GAMES COME TO THE CLASSROOM

Cathy Freeman, the face of the Games, and Karak, Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Mascot, helped Premier Steve Bracks launch the statewide education program in October aimed at making the Games a memorable learning experience for Victoria's students.

Students could soon be preparing a major event, getting stamps in their passport or debating selection process ethics while learning all about the Games.

A CD Rom devised by Deakin University will soon be in schools throughout Victoria teaching students the ins and outs of the Games. Project Director, Julia Walsh, said that students can tap into the athletes' experiences and read sport profiles using the sports CD Rom.

"When it comes to the Games, students will understand the sports and really be able to support them. It's about engaging and promoting the Games and students being a part of it," Ms Walsh said.

Ms Walsh said older students could host a community event or debate ethical issues. Younger students will be given the opportunity to build a traveling suitcase, encouraging them to learn about other countries using the internet. Ms Walsh said the CD Rom also assisted teachers with more than 200 lessons plans for students from prep to year 12.

Victorian schools have received a copy of *Getting Schools Involved* publication, which will provide an overall snapshot of opportunities from which teachers can choose for their students in the lead up to the Games.

"We are harnessing the excitement of the Games and translating it into teaching and learning experiences that will stay with your children long after the Games has finished," Mr Bracks said.

For more information please go to [www.melbourne2006.com.au/education/](http://www.melbourne2006.com.au/education/).



Left: Face of the Games, Cathy Freeman, launches the education program.

# MAKING A MINT

Victorian student Kelly Just has won the prestigious honour of having her design appear on a limited edition 50c Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games coin.

In November, 16-year-old Kelly Just was announced by the Royal Australian Mint as the winner of the coin design competition. The coin will be produced as a general circulating coin for distribution Australia wide and Kelly's initials will be incorporated into the coin.

Kelly's creative design shows animals mimicking athletes performing a variety of sporting activities which will feature in the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games such as Swimming, Athletics, Gymnastics and Diving. More than 20,000 votes were cast in the nation-wide competition conducted by the Royal Australian

Right: Winning coin design by Victorian student Kelly Just.

Mint to find a winning design commemorating the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

The winning design was selected by the Australian public who voted for their favourite design on the Mint's website choosing from six outstanding finalists.

The Controller of the Royal Australian Mint, Dr Vivienne Thom said: "We received many great designs from talented young students embracing the spirit of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. I would like to congratulate all who took part in this competition, the six finalists and especially Kelly for her winning design".



# UNITED BY THE MOMENT



Above: Acclaimed music composer Cezary Skubiszewski wrote an original score for the Games advertising campaign titled United by the Moment, and lead members of the acclaimed Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) through a beautiful performance of the score during the launch.

United by the Moment, the theme for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games television and print advertising campaign, was launched in November at the Regent Theatre, Melbourne. Victorian Premier Steve Bracks, Federal Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator Rod Kemp, and Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation Chairman, Mr Ronald Walker unveiled the advertising campaign to a 500 strong audience.

Master of Ceremonies, Australian swimming great Nicole Livingstone was joined by

Commonwealth Games gold medallists Tracey Wickham, netballer Janine Ilitch and diver Loudy Tourky. They each presented a snapshot of their career highlights and their enthusiasm for the Games in 2006.

Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation Chairman, Mr Ronald Walker said Melbourne was the perfect city to host the Commonwealth Games.

"We have great venues within walking distance of the city centre, great cafes, bars, restaurants and hotels, a great

transport system and a proud history of hosting big events," Mr Walker said.

Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games advertising agency, Clemenger Harvie Edge (CHE), created the United by the Moment advertising theme for the Games after conducting extensive qualitative and quantitative research into what motivational triggers would encourage Australian consumers to attend the Games in Melbourne 2006.

## GAMES VILLAGE UNVEILED



Above: Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Village.

The Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Village – the "home away from home" for the athletes ready to compete in Melbourne in March 2006 – was unveiled in October.

Located on a 20ha site in the prestigious inner suburb of Parkville, the Village site is only 20 minutes from Melbourne Airport, nine minutes to the city centre and less than 15 minutes to all city venues. The site is adjacent to Royal Park which offers a blend of open space, mature trees, sporting facilities and a major visitor attraction - Melbourne Zoo.

The Games Village will be home to around 6000 athletes and officials during the Games. The Village will be a new housing development incorporating high-standard urban design and facilities. Elite Athletes with a Disability (EAD) will compete at the 2006 Commonwealth Games – so accessibility is a key criteria for the Village.

Beyond the Games, the Village will leave behind a legacy of up to 1000 new homes, an additional four hectares of parkland and 200 social housing dwellings.



**MELBOURNE 2006**  
XVIII COMMONWEALTH GAMES  
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## GAMES ON TRACK WITH 500 DAYS TO GO

Sunday 31 October 2004 marked a significant milestone for the Games - 500 days to go until the spectacular Opening Ceremony of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games – when the largest Australian team will march onto the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Below: Australian swimmer Brooke Hanson and Melbourne Cup contender Grey Song celebrate the 500 days to go milestone.  
Source: News Limited.



The Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA) is predicting the Australian team for the XVIII Commonwealth Games will be the largest ever, with more than 620 athletes, coaches, managers, medicos and administrators taking part.

Leading the team will be one of Australia's greatest ever swimmers, John Devitt AM, who will march at the head of the team into the MCG on 15 March 2006.

Mr Devitt's announcement as the Chef de Mission to lead the 2006 Australian Commonwealth Games team was made by ACGA President Sam Coffa.

"John is not only someone widely and fondly remembered for his competitiveness in the pool

– he has a long and successful record in sports administration and team leadership," Mr Coffa said.

Mr Devitt, 67, was a triple gold medallist at the 1958 Commonwealth Games in Cardiff (110 yards, 4x220 yard freestyle relay, 4x110 yard medley relay), as well as an Olympic Gold and Silver medallist in Melbourne at the 1956 Olympics, and a gold and bronze medallist in Rome in 1960.

Since Rome, he has attended every Commonwealth and Olympic Games –except for Los Angeles in 1984. He served in the Australian Olympic team headquarters in Seoul in 1988 and in Barcelona in 1992, before being appointed Assistant Chef de Mission for both Atlanta in 1996, and Sydney in 2000. In 2001, he led Australia's team to the East Asian Games in Osaka as Chef de Mission.

## IN BRIEF

### COUNCILS ADOPT A SECOND COMMONWEALTH NATION FOR THE GAMES

Councils across Victoria have put their hands up to adopt another Commonwealth nation as part of their preparations for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

The Minister for the Commonwealth Games Justin Madden, announced the matches between municipalities and nations in October. Mr Madden said adopting a second team was one of the first initiatives of *Getting Involved* - a \$4.5 million program to help communities celebrate the Games in their own way.

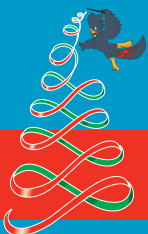
### GROWING SPONSOR FAMILY

Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games CEO, John Harnden, recently welcomed Coates Hire and Holmesglen Institute of TAFE to the Games sponsor family.

Coates Hire, Australia's largest equipment hire company, joined the Games team as an official Sponsor. Coates Hire will showcase its expertise in providing a full range of construction equipment and services for the Games.

Holmesglen Institute of TAFE is now an official Sponsor of the Games. Holmesglen is the Games training provider and will be responsible for delivering training solutions for the Games workforce which will include project management, training framework, delivery, administration, logistics and overall management.

Tower Software were also announced as the newest Official Provider of the Games and will be providing Melbourne 2006 with a comprehensive Electronic Documents and Records Management system, known as the TRIM system.



Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation would like to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. As we move forward to Games time may the year ahead bring you much happiness and continued success!