

AUSTRALIA VICTORIA DAY

3 January 2014

Media Release

Docklands to host spectacular Australia Day Fireworks

3 January 2014 - Docklands will come alive on January 26 when it hosts Melbourne's Australia Day fireworks display – the largest ever – for the first time.

The fireworks, which will kick off from Victoria Harbour at 9.30pm, will end a day of celebration at Docklands. The precinct will have transformed into Melbourne's Big Aussie Back Yard – a hive of entertainment complete with music, an activity zone, a sausage sizzle, food vendors and other entertainment.

Other Australia Day events in Melbourne include:

- Music, dance, food and great family activities in St Kilda Road, Queen Victoria Gardens and Kings Domain Gardens.
- The main stage in Kings Domain will feature jazz legend James Morrison at 12 noon.
- Sidney Myer Music Bowl will host Tidal Rhythms at the Bowl and Shortlisted! Australian Music Prize.
- Swanston Street will feature the Australia Day Parade and the Flag Raising Ceremony.

Stefan Romaniw OAM, Chair of the Australia Day Committee (Victoria), has asked Victorians to think about what it means to be Australian.

“Australia Day reminds us of what makes Australia special and how our different cultures, arts, sport and cuisine fuse to make Australia and Victoria one of the best places to live in the world,” Mr Romaniw said.

“This is a time to think about nationhood, what we believe in and how we have changed and developed in the past 100 years. There are dozens of exciting events on offer across the state this Australia Day, and I encourage everyone to take part.”

Australia Day will be celebrated on Sunday 26 January 2014, the following Monday will be a national public holiday.

For more events see summary attached or go to:

<http://www.australiaday.vic.gov.au>

For media enquiries contact:

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Summary Program of Major Events in Melbourne

Before Australia Day

Australia Day Luncheon

Thursday 23 January, 12 noon – 2.30pm, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Start the formal Australia Day celebrations with a memorable lunch. The 2014 Australia Day Luncheon will feature the Australia Post Australian Legends — outstanding contributors to Australia's culinary scene.

Tickets: 03 9320 5777 or email: luncheon@pjse.com.au

Australia Day, Sunday 26 January

Australia Day Flag Raising Ceremony

Melbourne Town Hall, Swanston Street, 10.30am – 11.00am

Free event

Witness the official Flag Raising ceremony as His Excellency, the Honourable Alex Chernov, AC QC, Governor of Victoria officiates as the National Flag is raised at 10.30am. The Governor will inspect the Tri-Service Royal Guard of Honour, and the Premier of Victoria will lead the public in the Australia Day Affirmation.

Australia Day Parade

Swanston Street, 11:00am – 11:45am

Free event

Victorians from all walks of life will participate in the annual Australia Day Parade along Swanston Street to Kings Domain. Over 2000 participants including special interest organisations will walk along Swanston Street representing Victoria's diverse history, heritage and culture.

RACV Sounds of Australia Day

Queen Victoria Gardens and St Kilda Road, 9.00am – 5.00pm

Free event

The Queen Victoria Gardens stage is the place for entertainment from 9.00am to 5.00pm. Live Australian music, performers and family activities are on offer. A huge diversity of food and beverage is available all day in the Eastern Service Lane off St Kilda Rd. Music will include the Australian Girls' Choir, Creativity Australia with One Voice, Brimbank Multicultural Choir, Sevdalinka Choir, The Melbournaires and The Melbourne Chorus.

RACV Australia Day Picnic and Federation Vehicle Display

Kings Domain Gardens, 10.00am – 4.00pm

Free event

Legendary Australian jazz trumpeter and multi-instrumentalist James Morrison and his band will perform on the main stage in Kings Domain Gardens (12 noon – 2pm). The Royal Australian Air Force's elite aerobatic team will entertain crowds with their aerial flyover and display (2pm). *(Subject to weather conditions and operational requirements).*

The Gardens will feature a host of activities, food stalls, and entertainment, including working dog displays, soccer, tai chi, mini golf and a range of other activities. Free RACV giveaways and games, learn to relax through laughter, have a health check, go prospecting, and handle baby animals.

More than 450 veteran, vintage and classic vehicles will be on show at the annual RACV Federation Vehicle display. *Proudly supported by RACV in conjunction with the Federation of Veteran, Vintage and Classic Vehicle Clubs.*

Tidal Rhythms at the Bowl

Sidney Myer Music Bowl, 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Free entry

Tidal Rhythms at the Bowl will bring the Sidney Myer Music Bowl to life with music, culture and dance. Drawing from Victoria's rich mosaic of artistic talent, the program will feature the Melbourne SKA Orchestra, Feat Grace Barbe, Pans on Fire, Massive Fam Feat Naccals, Jigsaw Sneakers, Ordoico.A, Nomadic Funk, Asanti Dance Theatre and Maracatu Estrela Do Mar. See www.multiculturalarts.com.au

Shortlisted! The Coopers Australian Music Prize

Sidney Myer Music Bowl, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Free Entry

Headlined by the 2012 Coopers AMP (Australian Music Prize) winner Hermitude, four of the 2013 Shortlisted artists will perform live showcase sets in the evening Australia Day Concert at the Bowl, where the Shortlist of artists for this year's Coopers AMP will be announced. The Coopers AMP is about discovering, promoting and rewarding Australian music of excellence by listening to all Australian artist album releases each year. See www.thecoopersamp.com.au, [facebook.com/australianmusicprize](https://www.facebook.com/australianmusicprize)

Melbourne Now: Festival for Kids

National Gallery of Victoria, 10am – 5pm

Free entry

The Gallery's Festival for Kids will feature celebrations for all ages. There will be performances, Australian stories, the Australian Youth Choir and roaming Westside Circus will add to the Aussie flavour. Kid can participate in the *Flags for Melbourne* workshops and explore the Galleries garden.

Government House Open Day

Government House Drive, Melbourne, 10.00am – 3.00pm (gates open at 9:30am)
Free entry

Government House opens its doors to the public for the annual Open Day. Visitors are invited to tour the main House, 19th century Kitchen, and Hopetoun Stables and enjoy a picnic in the grounds. There will also be children's entertainment, music and refreshments. For further details visit www.governor.vic.gov.au Notes: Bags will need to be presented to security upon entry.

Thank you Australia: Pop-up Street Art

St Paul's Court, Federation Square, 10am–5pm
Free event

Give thanks and get creative this Australia Day. Australian Unity invites you to 'Pop-up Street Art', a celebration of *Thank you Australia*. A local street artist will be crafting a 'human collage' mural wall, featuring photos from people within the community alongside their messages of thanks. There will be a photo booth and roving cameras on site for you to add your own picture and message to these unique pieces of art. For further information, visit www.australianunity.com.au

Docklands and Fireworks

NewQuay Piazza and Promenade, Docklands, 4pm - 10pm
Free

The Australia Day fireworks will be held for the first time in Docklands, with great viewing points for everyone. The soundtrack will be synchronised to a specially created Nova 100 soundtrack featuring great Aussie music. **Fireworks will begin at 9.30pm.**

Leading up to the fireworks, enjoy great entertainment including a Nova DJ spinning the hottest tunes, Chris Humfrey and his team of zoologists from Wild Action, balloon artists, magic and amazing stilt walkers. An activity zone will feature loads of action including bungee trampolines, rock climbing and a pitching tunnel. Channel 9 and Nova will have giveaways, and the Docklands Sunday market will be open into the evening.

Melbourne Victory v Sydney Football Club

Etihad Stadium, Docklands, 5.00pm
Tickets from ticketmaster.com.au or call 136 100.

Make football part of your Australia Day celebrations as Melbourne Victory take on Sydney FC in the annual U-NITE blockbuster. There will be plenty of entertainment, including performance acts from all corners of the globe, a citizenship ceremony, a curtain raiser game, sponsor activations, free giveaways and much more! After the game, cross Harbour Esplanade to NewQuay Piazza to enjoy the entertainment and fireworks in the Docklands precinct.

The information contained in this program was correct at the time of compilation however program details may change. It is advisable to check details with participating organisations or the Australia Day website www.australiaday.vic.gov.au

Further program information contact Australia Day Victoria:

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