9 September, 2010

SYDNEY OLYMPIC CAULDRON HERITAGE LISTED

The Olympic Cauldron at Sydney Olympic Park, an iconic feature of the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games opening ceremonies has been given permanent heritage protection – coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the “best games ever”.

NSW Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said it is the youngest item to have been placed on the State Heritage Register.

“Heritage listing the Olympic Cauldron will preserve an enduring symbol of the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games,” the Minister said.

“The Olympic Cauldron was a significant part of the Sydney 2000 Opening Ceremony, watched by hundreds of millions of people around the world.

“It continues to serve as a reminder of a magnificent event few in Australia will forget.

“State heritage listing means the Olympic Cauldron is protected under the Heritage Act for future generations and any major works for the site will be subject to decisions or advice from the Heritage Council.”

Mr Kelly, Minister for Western Sydney and SOPA, David Borger, and Australian Olympic Committee, Secretary General, Craig Phillips, today joined volunteers, athletes and performers to announce the heritage listing and preview the 10th anniversary celebrations of the opening of the Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games planned for next week.

“Sydney came alive with Olympic fever in 2000 and those memories remain strong for many - I look forward to marking this important anniversary milestone,” Mr Borger said.

Celebrations taking place on Wednesday 15 September will include:

7:30am Team Appeal Breakfast for 2012 Australian Olympic Team
10am School Olympic Celebration
1:30pm Sydney 2000 Volunteer Reunion
4pm Free Concert in the Overflow, Sydney Olympic Park including athlete interviews, highlights of Sydney 2000 Games and performances by Marcia Hines, John Paul Young, Deborah Cheetham and Nikki Webster.
5:30pm Official Proceedings including the relighting of the Olympic Cauldron by Cathy Freeman and Louise Savage
7:30pm Sydney 2000 10th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

For more information on Sydney 2000 10th anniversary celebrations visit: www.sydney2000reunion.com