

The Southern Cross Group

Promoting Mobility in the Global Community
www.southern-cross-group.org



**Join us to Celebrate Australian Citizenship with
Australia's Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs,
the Hon. Gary Hardgrave MP**

Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony

Thursday 20 February 2003, 5:00 pm

Australian High Commission, Australia House, The Strand, London WC2B 4LA

We are pleased to announce that at the suggestion of the Southern Cross Group, Australia's Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Gary Hardgrave MP, will preside at a Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony during his forthcoming visit to London.

Citizenship is a matter close to the hearts of many expatriates. This event will provide Australian citizens in the United Kingdom with an opportunity to reflect on their Australian citizenship and publicly affirm their loyalty and commitment to Australia. Former Australians who lost their citizenship before 4 April 2002 under the now repealed Section 17 of the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948* are also invited to attend and express their loyalty to Australia.

We will be spotlighting the various different ways in which members of the Australian diaspora obtain their citizenship - by birth, descent, adoption, loss followed by resumption, or grant as a migrant to Australia, and celebrating the common bond which we all share. Children of any age born outside Australia who are Australian citizens by descent are particularly encouraged to attend. Those who may be dual citizens of both Australia and another country are also most welcome.

The event will be attended by the Australian High Commissioner, HE Michael l'Estrange, and presided over by Minister Hardgrave. It will take the form of a short ceremony at which those present are invited to take an affirmation based on the Australian Citizenship Pledge:

*As an Australian citizen,
I affirm my loyalty to Australia and its people,
whose democratic beliefs I share,
Whose rights and liberties I respect,
and whose laws I uphold and obey.*

Non-citizens are invited to join in at the second line. Afterwards we will gather for a reception kindly hosted by the High Commission. There is no charge for this event, but pre-registration is essential, due to security considerations at Australia House, and numbers are limited. Please use the attached registration form, and return it by Monday 17 February to:

Lorraine Buckland, UK Coordinator, The Southern Cross Group
PO Box 61, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DA
Telephone: 020 7584 7268, Fax: 020 7581 9894
E-mail enquiries to info@southern-cross-group.org

Download further registration forms and an explanatory flyer from www.southern-cross-group.org

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Registration Form

Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony

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Australian High Commission, Australia House, The Strand, LONDON WC2B 4LA

Name/s of Participant/s:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

E-mail:

I / we will be attending this event.

Optional Information to help us spotlight the different ways in which expatriates become Australian citizens.

I / we am / are presently an Australian citizen/s because I / we was / were (tick as applicable):

- born in Australia;*
- born overseas to one or two Australian citizen parents and am Australian by descent;*
- adopted by one or two Australian citizen parents;*
- received Australian citizenship by grant (naturalisation);*
- resumed Australian citizenship after losing it when another citizenship was acquired.*

I / we am / are not presently an Australian citizen/s because I / we

- lost Australian citizenship when I / we acquired another citizenship while Section 17 of the Australian Citizenship Act 1948 was still in force (i.e. before 4 April 2002);*
- renounced Australian citizenship (you may give reasons if you desire);*
- Other*

I / we cannot attend this event, but please put me / us on the mailing list for future events and free e-bulletins (e-mail address required) from the SCG.

Please return this form by Monday 17 February to:

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