

Peter Primrose MLC

Minister for Small Business,
Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth,
Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs



Friday, March 5, 2010

Sydney Veterans and Defence Expo on tomorrow

The Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs, Peter Primrose, has encouraged veterans, their families and people from all over Sydney to attend the inaugural Sydney Veterans and Defence Expo at Penrith Paceway tomorrow (Saturday).

Mr Primrose said the aim of the day was to provide information to the veteran and defence community on health and community services, but there were plenty of other attractions.

"The expo runs from 9am to 4pm and will be a great day out, not just for veterans, but for anyone who is interested in our military history, with displays of veterans' memorabilia and demonstrations from the defence force," Mr Primrose said.

There will also be activities and entertainment ranging from the Sydney Army Band to vocalists such as Penrith local girl Nicki Gillis, RAAF Hot Air Balloon rides, a jumping castle and Ferris wheel.

Louise Summerhayes from the RSL Welfare & Benevolent Institution said the expo was a good way of raising awareness among the general public about veterans and the work carried out by ex-service organisations.

"There's a growing concern that we need to communicate with our younger serving and ex-serving defence personnel and their families," Ms Summerhayes said.

"We believe the expo will also provide the opportunity for the sharing of our knowledge and raising awareness with up to date information on relevant issues."

The day is organised by the Sydney Veterans and Defence Expo committee – a not-for-profit organisation made up of representatives from ex-service organisations within the veteran community, including:

- RSL NSW State Branch
- Penrith RSL Sub Branch
- Blacktown RSL Sub Branch
- Auburn RSL Sub Branch
- VVAA St Marys
- VVPPA NSW State Branch Granville
- ADF – RAAF Richmond, Victoria Barracks
- Veterans Soul Choir

For more information visit the NSW RSL website at www.rslnsw.org.au