



From Robyn Archer

Happy New Year to you all. We begin 2010 with a real sense of shifting gears. Apart from planning content for 2013 itself, my mantra is 'seed now, blossom in 2013, flower for a hundred years more'.

You all know that the period around the 12th of March 2013 will be intensely celebratory. Gradually building critical mass around that time is part of what the Centenary Team has set out to do, and you will see greater activity in that period as part of the *Canberra Festival* this year. In addition to the great bands at *Celebrate in the Park*, the Canberra Symphony Orchestra will play a free concert in Commonwealth Park, and we are funding the pilot of a new concept called *FlipArt*, which will intersect in Civic and New Acton with existing components such as *Lights! Canberra! Action!* and cannon between the activities in the park.

At the same time 2010 will keep its eye on the historical timeline. One hundred years ago the borders for the ACT were established. It was also the year in which the concept of a new capital for the newly-federated Australia was introduced to the world at a major meeting of the world's urban planners in London, October 1910. Members of the team are currently working on the projects which will mark these steps in the journey that led to 'Canberra'.

Life seems busier than ever in the national capital, and I welcome the new year with energy and increasing fascination in the way major celebrations evolve.

Robyn Archer AO
Creative Director
Centenary of Canberra



Ms Robyn Archer AO is the Centenary of Canberra Creative Director



FlipArt

The 2010 *Canberra Festival* will test a new pilot event in the centre of the city as Canberra edges towards its centenary year. *FlipArt* is Australia's first dedicated celebration of street and physical theatre, an art form Australia is known for worldwide. Canberra city will be brought to life with large scale aerial displays, puppetry, roving acrobats, stilt-walkers and mime artists — all with that very special Australian sense of comedy and outdoor spirit.

Friday 12 March will see the first ever outdoor screening of the short film competition *Lights!Canberra!Action!* in Civic Square. This year's movie goers will be treated to *FlipArt* performances, including *Dislocate's* witty roving show and *Erth's* puppetry.

Come Saturday 13 March both Civic Square and Garema Place will be animated with internationally renowned physical theatre performances. *Stalker* will present their world premiere performance of 'Elevate', impressing crowds with their stilt walking prowess, while *Dislocate* and *Chrome's* charismatic roving artists will mingle with city shoppers. *Erth's* puppetry talent will impress the masses while just the sight of *Zimboyz* high energy African dance and acrobatics will leave you puffed. This terrific line up of entertainment in the city will be supported by talented local acts.

Ensure you're a part of *FlipArt!* Visiting Garema Place and Civic Square to see the best in physical theatre in Canberra on 12 and 13 March.



Acrobats from Dislocate

Canberra Festival

The 2010 *Canberra Festival* is shaping up as one of the best yet with music, food, wine, sporting events, dance, art and film all on show. From Saturday 6 March until Sunday 14 March, Canberra will play host to a range of extraordinary events, with each day presenting something new, exciting and vibrant to showcase the diversity and culture of our city.

A new, free event in this year's program is *Symphony in the Park*. On Sunday 14 March Canberrans can appreciate the sounds of our own very talented *Canberra's Symphony Orchestra*, celebrating their 60th year. The *Canberra Festival Balloon Spectacular* will again wow crowds as magnificent colours and special shapes fill Canberra skies, while the family favourite free concert *Celebrate in the Park* on Saturday 13 March will showcase some of Australia's best pop and rock entertainers. This highlights package is supported by over 30 community events, ensuring there is something for everyone to enjoy during the action packed nine-day festival.

For further information keep your eye out for the *Canberra Times* lift out in early March or visit www.events.act.gov.au



Jessica Mauboy performing at Celebrate in the Park 2009.

Young Designers Come to Canberra

In November 2009 eleven young designers from across Australia were invited to Canberra for a three-day workshop led by Creative Director Ms Robyn Archer and His Excellency Michael Bryce to discuss the Centenary of Canberra project's visual identity.

The students undertook a tour of Canberra that included a rare viewing of Marion Mahony Griffin's original 1911 renderings for Canberra, followed by a special tour of the Canberra International Arboretum and Gardens. The students took this newly gathered appreciation for their national capital to the design studio, creating logos inspired by the tour that reflected Canberra's role as heart of the nation and the vision for the Centenary of Canberra project.

The work generated during this process has provided fresh visual stimulation around the goals of the Centenary. It also tapped into one of the Creative Director's goals to ensure that the Centenary is celebrated as much in each state and territory as in the capital itself, and this project was a simple way of engaging the rest of Australia in the conversation regarding the capital's 100th birthday.



The eleven young designers – representing every state and territory – on the viewing platform of Mount Ainslie

Canberra Gold Exhibition

Each year, through the Canberra Gold Awards, the ACT Government recognises the unique contribution made to the community by those people who have lived in the ACT for 50 years or more. These people have made their lives in Canberra, bringing up family, making friends and surviving both the good times and the challenging ones.

This year, an inaugural Canberra Gold exhibition will run at Canberra Museum and Gallery from 20 February to 20 June. On display will be fascinating and quirky artefacts belonging to six individuals and one community group, all of whom have received the Canberra Gold award. In addition to providing items for display, the participants have shared the story relating to their item via a digital storytelling project. The exhibition is set to provide a glimpse into the rich and interesting tale of our community's past.

Nominations for the 2010 Gold Awards is open until the end of January. For more information visit www.cmd.act.gov.au/communication/gold.



0127: Booties and bonnet worn by Lady Lois Hicks (nee Swindon) as a baby. Photo: RLDI Lady Hicks was born in Canberra in 1929.

2010 History Highlights

Canberra's succession of historically significant birthdays in the lead-up to 2013 continues throughout 2010.

In 1910, the 'Big Border Survey' commenced. It was time for the precise borders of the approximately 1,000 square miles, given by NSW to the Commonwealth in 1909, to be demarcated. Led by Charles Scrivener, the survey would take 5 years to complete.

This anniversary will be recognised formally this year in at least two events:

- in April, 150 young surveyors from around the world will be in Canberra for the unveiling of a plaque on the ACT/NSW border (in Dunlop), which tells Canberra's grand surveying story from Robert Hoddle in the 1830s to Charles Scrivener, Percy Sheaffe, 'Happy' Harry Mouat and 'Fast' Freddie Johnston in the first decades of Federation, and
- in May, another plaque will be unveiled on the top of Mt Coree to mark the official commencement of the border survey by Sheaffe, at Coree, under Scrivener's instructions.

In the second half of the year, it is likely that there will be commemorative recognition of the first genuinely international Town Planning Conference in London in October 1910—destined to be a big influence on Canberra's design—and an exhibition that celebrates the border story, full of courage, determination, water and weather.



Charles Scrivener. Photo: National Library of Australia. It was Scrivener's contour map of the Canberra site in 1910 that was the template on which competitors in the 1911-12 international design competition for the Capital drew their entries.

History Booklets Launched

In December 2009 Ms Mary Porter MLA launched the *Keys to Canberra's History*, a series of five history booklets to the delight of Canberra's history buffs.

This informative series fills a number of gaps, revealing many previously undiscovered stories relating to Canberra's history. The booklets have been written by three well-known and respected Canberra historians: Dr David Headon, who is Centenary Advisor, Mr Greg Wood and Mr Ian Warden.

The *Keys to Canberra's History* will be distributed to all ACT public and school libraries. To obtain your copy of the booklets please contact the Centenary of Canberra unit via canberra100@act.gov.au.



Authors of the Keys to Canberra's history – (l-r) Dr David Headon, Mr Ian Warden and Mr Greg Wood – at the launch.

Dates for the Diary

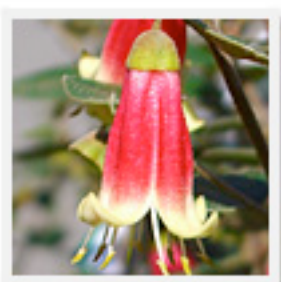
LAST CHANCE:

The *FAR-SITED: THE MAPS THAT MADE CANBERRA* exhibition continues at the National Library of Australia, showcasing maps and artefacts used 100 years ago to create Canberra. Don't miss your opportunity to see this rare collection on display within the National Library's Maps Reading Room. Free entry. Open Monday to Friday until 29 January 2010.

COMING UP:

CORREA NAMING.

A judging panel is currently considering the 225 suggested names for the Correa cultivar selected as the Centenary of Canberra native plant. The winning name will be revealed on 12 March 2010 to coincide with Canberra's 97th birthday! Look out for the next e-newsletter with the newly named Correa.



Correa cultivar selected as the Centenary of Canberra native plant

STATELINE

Throughout 2010, Centenary Adviser Dr David Headon will once again present a number of ABC TV Stateline segments celebrating memorable slices of Centenary history, commencing with a special on King O'Malley in February. For more information please visit www.abc.net.au/stateline.