



south bank
corporation

media release

27 April 2007

South Bank celebrates 20 years since World Expo 88

South Bank is gearing up for the 20th anniversary of Queensland's greatest international celebration, World Expo 88.

On 30 April 1988, Brisbane opened up to the world with the most spectacular event of Australia's Bicentennial Year, attracting showcases from 36 nations and 52 governments that lasted 6 months.

In 2008, South Bank Corporation is planning to host six months of commemorative Expo starting with a special one-day celebration at South Bank Parklands on the first Sunday in May 2008.

The planning is underway to hold anniversary festivities that include an exhibition, fireworks display, community concert, black tie charity dinner, volunteers' breakfast and lights show.

South Bank Corporation Chief Executive Officer Malcolm Snow said the proposed celebrations are set to be among the most popular in South Bank's history.

"Expo was a pivot point in defining Brisbane – our development, our confidence, our perception as a world-class city," Mr Snow said.

"It is credited as the start of outdoor dining in Brisbane – and today it is hard to imagine a Brisbane without our vibrant street life.

"Almost 18 million visitors were part of Expo so we have great expectations for the 20th anniversary celebrations in 2008."

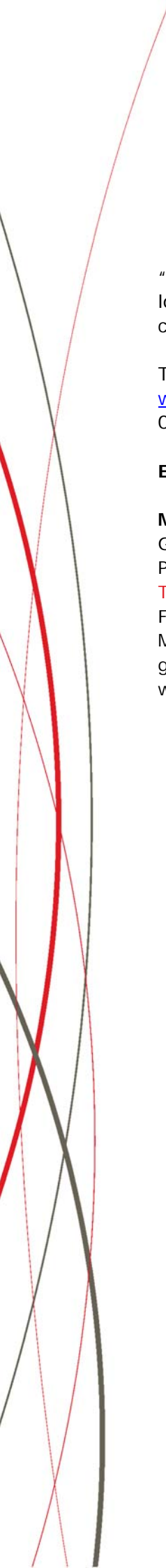
"And of course, it was the catalyst for the creation of South Bank Parklands– Brisbane's big backyard," he said.

The Corporation invited the former Chairman of World Expo '88, Sir Llew Edwards, and the then Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Sallyanne Atkinson AO, to be part of an Anniversary Celebration Advisory Group.

"We are fortunate that both Sir Llew and Sallyanne Atkinson have agreed to be part of the group to guide the planning of the anniversary celebrations," Malcolm said.

Organisers are looking to evoke Expo nostalgia using everything from historical photographs to soundtracks used at Expo. A television documentary is also planned.

Volunteers can look forward to the opportunity to share memories and rediscover Expo memorabilia at a special volunteer's event planned for during the year.



“We are encouraging all those who want to hear about and join in with the festivities to log onto our website to register their details to receive the latest information as it is confirmed.”

To register for information on the Expo Anniversary Celebrations log onto www.visitsouthbank.com.au or call the South Bank Visitor Information Centre on 07 3867 2051.

ENDS

Media Enquiries:

Glenda Viner

Public Relations Executive

Telephone 07 3867 2010

Facsimile 07 3844 9436

Mobile 0403 246 059

glenda.viner@south-bank.net.au

www.southbankcorporation.com.au