



## News

### Security

Six thousand policemen and soldiers, under the leadership of Peter Ryan, Chief of Police of New South Wales, ensured the security of the athletes, personalities and spectators throughout the Olympic Games in Sydney.



### Coins and stamps

Over five million Olympic coins were sold, the revenue they generated representing the highest sum ever obtained from a numismatics programme. The Sydney 2000 programme eclipsed all coin sales from past editions of the Games, with 4.2 million bronze coins, 875,000 silver coins and 188,000 gold coins. Stamps bearing the image of the Australian Olympic gold medallists, issued by Australia Post, were also a success.

### Environment

Five million trees and bushes were planted by the government of New South Wales, with the assistance of schoolchildren and volunteers, to make Sydney, the host city for the

Games of the XXVII Olympiad, even greener. Planting took place all along the marathon course, main roads and railway tracks. One million trees had previously been planted across Australia as part of a project entitled *Olympic Landcare*.

Furthermore, 70 million boxes will be made from the paper collected during the Olympic Games.

The food packaging recycled from the Games could cover the Sydney Opera House over 6000 times.



### Maximum/minimum

Among the 11,000 or so athletes who participated in the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney, the two youngest took part in the 50m freestyle swimming event: Khalid Al Kulaibi, from Oman, born on 2 May 1986, and Fatima Gerashi, from Bahrain, born on 26 March 1988 (pictured above). Bruce Meredith, from the Virgin Islands, born on 19 April 1937 (pictured hereafter), was the oldest athlete at the Games in Sydney, participating



in his fourth successive Olympic Games since 1988 in the free rifle, prone position, 50m event. His contemporary, Sweden's Ulla Hakanson, born on 9 November 1937 and 11-time national dressage champion, competed in the team dressage event.

### First

Jan Zelezny, from the Czech Republic (pictured below), has gone down in IOC history in Sydney as the first active IOC member to win an Olympic gold medal. Zelezny took gold in three consecutive editions of the Games. He was elected IOC member in December 1999, and was re-elected in Sydney.





### A family affair

The Clark family, from America, entered a trio with Joetta, aged 38, her sister-in-law Jearl Miles-Clark, aged 34, and her younger sister Hazel, aged 22, who competed one after the other in the 800m heats in Sydney. After the three family members battled it out in the semi-finals, only Hazel, competing for the first time in the Games, reached the final and came seventh. Jearl, a former world 400m champion, took home the gold medal along with her team-mates in the 4x400m relay. The Sydney Olympics were Joetta's fourth and final Games.

### Facts and figures at the Olympic Village

This is the first Olympic village in the history of the Games to have accom-

modated every athlete in one location. For the first time in Olympic history, free English classes were offered in the Village to athletes, officials and staff. The Olympic Village was the fifth largest city in New South Wales. Protection of the environment was also a main concern at the Olympic Village, thus all the buses, which were accessible to disabled people, ran on natural gas. Water saving devices were installed in all the Village accommodation.

The Olympic Village housing had solar panels fitted on the roofs to generate electricity. Most of the accommodation was oriented within 20 degrees west of north and 30 degrees east of north to maximize natural light and heating. Furthermore, the biodegradable

plates and cutlery used in the Village were turned into compost.

On the food side, over the 33 days that the Olympic Village was in operation, a total of nearly two million meals were served. The main dining hall provided 50,000 meals a day, prepared by 2,000 staff according to 600 international recipes (approximately 62,000 meals a day during peak periods). Two million litres of bottled water, 28 tons of cheese and 500,000 apples were consumed over the Games period. Over 2,060 kilos of poultry and 4,545 litres of milk were consumed daily.

Beds were made 396,000 times, which equals 271 years of bed-making for an average family of four, and 4,000 bathrooms were cleaned daily in the Village during the Games.

## Olympic song\*

### 'G'day G'day\*\*

#### Verse

You are the heroes of the world  
We welcome you with open arms  
We hope you feel that you're at home  
Let's join our hands and be as one.

#### Chorus

G'day, G'day, Welcome to Australia  
G'day, G'day, That's the Australian way.  
G'day, G'day, Welcome to Australia  
G'day, G'day, That's the Australian way.

#### Bridge

Not just to win the silver, bronze and gold  
But to try with all our heart and soul  
Our glory comes in striving for the best.  
It's time to come together, all the people of the world  
To race as one, united, to share a common goal.

### Chorus

(first verse sung under)

G'day, G'day, You are the heroes of the world  
G'day mate!

G'day, G'day, We welcome you with open arms  
G'day, G'day, We hope you feel that you're at home  
G'day, G'day, Let's join our hands and be as one.

G'day, G'day, You are the heroes of the world  
G'day, G'day, We welcome you with open arms  
G'day, G'day, We hope you feel that you're at home  
G'day, G'day, Let's join our hands and be as one.

G'day mate!

\*Song written by Briar and Claire Sutton and Lloyd Bond.  
Song that the school students of Australia sing at each and every  
Team Welcome Ceremony.