

MEDIA RELEASE

December 18, 2009

www.nsm.org.au



National Sports Museum open late on New Year's Eve

As the City of Melbourne's New Year Eve Family Festival and 9.15pm fireworks move to Yarra Park, the National Sports Museum at the MCG will keep its doors open on December 31 until 8.00pm.

Visitors to 2009's New Year Eve Family Festival at Yarra Park, surrounding the MCG will have the opportunity to visit Australia's first ever sporting museum before the main event.

From 5.00pm onwards, all children (5- 15 years) will be admitted free with a fee paying adult.

Families can arrive early, put the picnic rug down, and then spend a few hours marvelling at Australia's many great achievements in sport. Currently showing is the museum's summer feature exhibition, *The Long Ride: 100 Years of Australian Surfing*, which races Australia's love affair with surfing through the evolution of the surfboard.

Plus all the usual museum attractions will be open – from Cathy Freeman's swift suit to our first ever Olympic gold medal to Don Bradman's baggy-green, the popular Shane Warne and James Hird hologram attractions and Game On – the museum's action-packed interactive area.

The museum is celebrating all summer sports during the holidays, with the holiday program **Boards, Bats and Balls**.

Daily activities include guest appearances from surfing, cricket and tennis players, a new Summer Sports Show, themed mini tours relating to cricket and the Winter Olympics, plus 'make and take' activities.

The National Sports Museum is located in the Olympic Stand, MCG (Enter at Gate 3).

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