



Tuesday 11 December 2012

## Huge Centenary summer at the Gardens

Getting ready to kick off Canberra's centenary year in style, the Australian National Botanic Gardens today announced an exciting program of summer events.

The Gardens and the Friends of the Gardens will start the centenary year with the month-long *2013 Summer Sounds Centenary Concert Series*, featuring some of the best band and dance talent in the nation's capital.

"We've got a terrific entertainment line-up this January with everything from jazz, swing, big band, Latin American, country, rockabilly, popular and even hip hop - all sure to get everyone on their feet and dancing," the Gardens' Executive Director, Dr Judy West said.

"We're extending the concert times so people can enjoy the music, dancing and our beautiful garden surrounds even longer. The concerts will start at 5.30 pm and conclude at 7.30 pm every Saturday and Sunday night throughout January."

Following *Summer Sounds*, Australian award winning band *The Whitlams* will perform at the Gardens on 2 February as part of *Optus Flix in the Stix*. Visitors will enjoy an intimate evening of quality short films and live music on the relaxing Eucalypt Lawn.

"We love the outdoor cinema concept so much, we're hosting a special centenary *Sunset Cinema*, a six -week outdoor film program beginning on Thursday 7 February," Judy said.

"Each Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening until 16 March, visitors will be able to enjoy the latest releases, classic and arthouse films while relaxing with a picnic, a pre-ordered evening meal - or just like a real cinema - hot buttery popcorn available on site.

"We'll continue to bring the Rainforest Gully to life at night with our popular *afterDARK* series. On Friday 4 January and Friday 1 February, our special adults only summer theme is *Delicious! afterDARK* - a sensual feast of summer night Gardens tours, live string music and gourmet tasting of local food and wine.

"And this centenary summer, we'll be catering for all ages and tastes with *Bush Magic Storytime*, the *Snakes Alive!* reptile exhibition and *Friends and Family in the Gardens - A Capital Experience* photographic exhibition."

For further information on the Gardens' summer events visit:

[www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/whatson/index.html](http://www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/whatson/index.html)

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