



Media release

The Hon Dr Denis Naphthine MP

Minister for Ports
Minister for Regional Cities
Minister for Racing
Minister for Major Projects

Tuesday 17 January 2012

Kyneton Racecourse to go green and gold on Australia Day

A bumper crowd is expected to go all Green and Gold at Kyneton Racecourse on Australia Day thanks to support of \$12,000 from the Victorian Coalition Government.

Minister for Racing Denis Naphthine said the Kyneton Racecourse will this year host the Hanging Rock Cup on Australia Day after the popular race had to be transferred due to track damage occurring at Hanging Rock's New Year's Day race meeting.

"The Hanging Rock Cup on Australia Day is one of the most celebrated events on the country racing calendar. It is hugely popular, attracting large crowds from the city and all around country Victoria," Dr Naphthine said.

"This year, not only will admission be by way of a gold coin donation in support of the Jane McGrath Breast Cancer Foundation and the National Jockeys Trust, but all racegoers wearing green or gold will receive a free race book," Dr Naphthine said.

"In addition, the Coalition Government's support through the *Raceday Attraction Program* will see two bands serve up some wonderful live entertainment on the lawns along with the appearance of the fabulous Creswick RSL Light Horse Troop.

"There will also be other giveaways and entertainment for adults and children alike. It is truly a race day for everyone," Dr Naphthine said.

Kyneton and Hanging Rock Racing Club Manager Mark Graham said the Club is appreciative of the support provided by the Coalition Government towards the Australia Day Race Meeting following the unfortunate damage to the Hanging Rock track.

"This Coalition Government's support will allow the Club to increase the level of entertainment provided to patrons on the day," Mr Graham said

"With entry being only by a gold coin donation to support the two charities, a crowd of several thousand is expected, with already strong bookings for marquee and dining packages.

"The funding support will be used to provide a free Race Book on entry to any adult who wears green or gold on the day along with entertainment featuring the Light Horse display and live music including local performer Taylor Sheridan singing the National Anthem."

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Dr Napthine said Kyneton is one of the most beautiful racetracks in Australia and the perfect setting for this year's Australia Day races.

"I encourage everyone to don the green and gold and experience it for themselves," Dr Napthine said.

"We are pleased to support the Kyneton and Hanging Rock Racing Club through the *Raceday Attraction Program*, part of the Victorian Racing Industry Fund that will return \$79.5 million in unclaimed winnings and on-course wagering taxes back to the racing industry."

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