



VISIT THE TOWER FREE ON FOUNDATION DAY

In recognition of Foundation Day and the Swan Bells link to Britain, the Tower will host an Open Day on Monday 6 June, 2011.

In 1828, the British settled at the Swan River then in 1829, Captain Charles Fremantle raised the flag. A month later, the 'Parmelia' commanded by Captain James Stirling arrived and in August, sailed up the river and disembarked at what is now Barrack Square.

On 12 August 1829, Helen Dance the wife of Commander of the ship 'Sulphur' cut down a tree to mark the official foundation of Perth. It is believed that one of the reasons Stirling chose 1 June as the date for the annual celebration of the event, was because it was also the date of a significant 1794 British naval victory.

Barrack Square and the Towers links with England are permanently entwined. In 1988, twelve of the 240 year old bells from St Martin-in-the Fields Church in London were gifted to the people of Western Australia, the University of Western Australia and the City of Perth to commemorate Australia's bicentenary. It is the only peal of Royal bells known to have left England.

Monday 6 June is the Foundation Day weekend holiday and in acknowledgement of this important date in our state's history, The Bell Tower will throw open its doors to the people of Western Australian. Entry will be FREE all day. If you have not visited the Tower yet, or have not been there for a while, this is an opportunity to experience bell-ringing, see the historic bells and exhibitions and enjoy the spectacular view from the Tower's magnificent observation deck.

WHAT: THE BELL TOWER FREE OPEN HOUSE

WHERE: Barrack Square, Riverside Drive, Perth

WHEN: Monday 6 June, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Don't miss this opportunity to visit this award-winning icon of Perth –
The Bell Tower, Home of the Swan Bells.

For more information visit www.thebelltower.com.au
Media enquires, interviews & photo opportunities please contact:
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