MOUNTED UNIT
TO PERFORM FOR THE QUEEN

A recent memorial event for Police Horse Star included a special announcement that will add extra sparkle to our 150th Anniversary year.

The Mounted Unit was honoured with an invitation to perform at the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Pageant in May at Windsor Castle. It will feature 500 horses from across the world, representing countries Her Majesty has visited on more than 250 state visits.

Over three evenings, the event will involve more than 800 riders, dancers and musicians from 16 countries, including Canada, India, Russia, Chile and Australia.

Commissioner Andrew Scipione said our Mounted Unit is well-deserving of international recognition.

“NSW mounted police have been protecting the people of NSW for 186 years. Their assistance in high visibility policing operations as well as ceremonial engagements and public events is why they are held in such high esteem by the community,” Commissioner Scipione said.

“I am extremely proud to see our Mounted Unit take centre stage at The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, especially during our 150th Anniversary year.”

Jubilee director and producer, Simon Brooks and Brigadier Melville Jameson, were in Sydney last November to watch the Mounted Unit perform their musical ride at Equitana in Homebush.

The Mounted Unit will present a spectacular Australiana ride for the jubilee, choreographed with six traditional Aboriginal dancers and demonstrations by Maori and Cook Island dancers to the music of the New Zealand Defence Force Band.

Remembering a bright Star

The Mounted Unit’s invite to attend the Diamond Jubilee was announced at a commemorative ceremony for Police Horse Star, who died on duty eight years ago.

In February 2004 Star slipped and fell, catching his rear leg in the grate of a drain. The leg broke and Star was put down at the scene.

Insp McFadden said the death of Star was a tragic loss for police and the community. The plaque was unveiled as a monument for the Woolloomooloo community and as a lasting tribute.

“Star gave us nearly eight years of wonderful service and his loss had a big impact. He was a calm and gentle horse who quite literally was a star,” Insp McFadden said.

Watch out for details on the NSW Mounted Police Open Day on Saturday 21 July.

RIGHT Retired Commissioner Ken Moroney A0, APM; Commissioner Andrew Scipione APM; and Commander of the Mounted Unit, Insp Kirsten McFadden

FAR RIGHT The plaque commemorating the service of Police Horse Star

Images by Stuart Marshall