

CENTENARY OF FEDERATION MONUMENT



It was on 1 January 1901 that six colonies came together in a Federation of Australia thus embarking on its journey of nationhood. In the 100 years since that time, Australia has emerged as a sovereign and independent country and has forged its own identity in the world of nations.

During the course of 2001, events were held throughout Australia to celebrate the Centenary of Federation. In Cooma, a local committee planned, fundraised and developed this monument to mark this important occasion. Financial and construction assistance was provided to the committee by individuals, Cooma Service Clubs, companies and Cooma-Monaro Shire Council.

The monument invites participation in a centenary walk through the eras which illustrate this historic journey; from indigenous Australians through the periods of European discovery and settlement, to Australia's Unity in Federation and the celebration of Monaro's role in multiculturalism. These eras are brought together in the form of an Arch of Unity at the highest point of the walk.

From the vantage point of the arch, we can look down the Memorial Park, its avenue and monuments that themselves celebrate our shared past.



Progression of Plaques:

Kadju	Welcome to Country Ngarigo People;
1823	Currie, Ovens and Wild Discover Manaroo Earliest Settlers Brooks, Pendergast;
1834	John Lhostsky Scientist Explorer First Map of Region;
1849	Cooma Village Gazetted John Lambie Crown Lands Commissioner;
1860	First Bank, Lord Raglan Inn, Lambie Street;
1859-1861	Kiandra Gold Rush, New Settlers;
1861	Robertson Land Act, Selectors Rights;
1863-1887	Cooma Public School Established 1863 Brigidine Convent & School Established 1887;
1871	First Court House Constructed James Barnett Colonial Architect, Now Cooma Police Station;
1873	Cooma Gaol Completed, Local Gneiss Granite James Barnett Colonial Architect;
1875	Cooma Pastoral & Agricultural Association First Show Held;
1879	Cooma Post Office Completed;
1880	Cooma Municipal Council Proclaimed Charles Solomon Mayor;
1886	Cooma Court House Completed, James Barnett Architect;
1888	Centennial Park in Cooma Proclaimed 100 Years of Colonial Settlement;
1889	Railway Reached Cooma;
1898-1901	Boer War, Monaro Participants;
1901	Federation of the Six Colonies. Commonwealth of Australia Andrew Barton First Prime Minister Death of Queen Victoria After a Reign of 64 Years;
1905-1928/1954	Monaro Grammar School 1905-1928 Monaro High School Established 1954;
1906	Monaro Shire Council Proclaimed William Cosgrove President;
1912	Cooma Water Supply Constructed;
1914-1918	World War I Many Monaro Participants;

1917	Cooma Volunteer Fire Brigade Established;
1922	Cooma Electricity Supply Commenced Operation;
1939-1945	World War II Many Monaro Participants;
1949	Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Authority Sir William Hudson First Commissioner. Snowy Mountains Scheme a World Famous Engineering Feat;
1949-1974	100,000 Workers From Australia and Some 30 Other Countries Unite to Construct the Snowy Mountains Scheme Cooma Became a Multicultural Community;
1949-2001	Development of Modern Electricity Industry 1949 Monaro County Council 1995 Great Southern Energy 2001 Country Energy;
1957-1959	First Festival of the Snows to Commemorate Date of Commencement of Snowy Mountains Scheme 1957 International Avenue of Flags Unveiled During Third Festival 1959;
1967	Referendum of Voting Rights Step to Reconciliation;
1970	Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation Established;
1974	Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Scheme Completed;
1981	Cooma-Monaro Shire Council Incorporated V T (Tom) Judd President;
1989	Last Train to Cooma;
1999	50 th Anniversary of Snowy Mountains Scheme Thousands Return;
1999	Cooma 150 Years Celebrations;
2001	Eastern Gas Pipeline Commissioned Natural Gas to Cooma;
2001	Centenary of Federation.

Memorial Park Walk

