

## QUEANBEYAN AGE COLUMN 4 JULY 2008

**Brace yourselves – the Kanga Cup is coming!** – The region is about to be invaded by large numbers of teams competing in this year's McDonalds Kanga Cup – described as the biggest youth football tournament in the southern hemisphere.

Whilst the games are played in Canberra, we can expect large numbers of team members, parents and officials in our city during the period 6 to 11 July.

There will be 220 teams in all competing for the Kanga Cup, including teams from our Region, interstate and even six from overseas. I know we will make all who chose to stay in or visit Queanbeyan very welcome.

Queanbeyan FC is playing in B11 Pool, Queanbeyan City in B18, whilst the Monaro Panthers are represented in most boys and girls age groups.

**Some news from NSW Tourism** - The following items taken from the 27 June issue of NSW Tourism's 'Insights' publication may be of interest to tourism operators and event managers:

- **Regional Flagship Event funding** - Applications are now open for funding under the Tourism NSW Regional Flagship Events Program. Tourism event organisers in regional NSW are encouraged to apply for funding under next year's program. Funding is available for established tourism events that have the capacity to attract large numbers of visitors and reflect the character and culture of their region.

Annual, one-off grants of \$10,000 and triennial grants of \$20,000 each year for three years are available to assist organisers with marketing and promotion of their event. Regional events starting between 1 January and 31 December 2009 are eligible for the grants.

Information about the Regional Flagship Events Program and a copy of the expression of interest form is available at <http://corporate.tourism.nsw.gov.au/> Event organisers have until Friday, 25 July 2008 to lodge an expression of interest,

- **Get Connected** - In the past year Tourism NSW has generated more than 360,000 leads for NSW tourism operators via its websites – visitnsw.com and sydney.com. Tourism operators can get their details included on these websites by joining the Get Connected program, which is free of charge. It gives tourism businesses exposure to more than 222,000 potential customers a month.

As a Get Connected member your tourism business is included in the Australian Tourism data Warehouse (ATDW). The ATDW is a centralised national database of tourism product and destinations and

supplies information to over 50 websites including Google Maps, Total travel, Please take Me To and Tourism Australia.

You can register to be a Get Connected member at <http://corporate.tourism.nsw.gov.au/> or contact Sandra at the Queanbeyan Visitor Information Centre on 6299 7307.