



THE HON. WARREN SNOWDON MP
Minister for Defence Science and Personnel
&
MR DAMIAN HALE MP
Federal Member for Solomon

Saturday, 14 June 2008

072/2008

CELEBRATE – OPENING OF THE NEW DARWIN SUBURB OF LYONS

The new suburb of Lyons, Darwin, was officially opened this week by the Member for Solomon, Damian Hale MP.

Representatives of the local Larrakia people performed a 'welcome to country' ceremony to commemorate the launch of the new suburb, which was followed by an open-air concert featuring local performance group 'Jabiru', local schools, and Jessica Mauboy.

"The opening of Lyons marks far more than a collection of Defence houses; with the neighbourhood centre and park spaces, it is a new Darwin community," said Mr Hale.

Lyons will hold more than 700 new homes, with 300 of these homes being for Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and their families, while the remainder of the homes will be available to the public.

Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, the Hon. Warren Snowdon MP, said the development reflects the consultation between Defence Housing Australia (DHA), the Canberra Investment Corporation (CIC), the Larrakia people, members of the Darwin council and the general community.

"Darwin plays an extremely important role in the operations of Defence and the scale of the Lyons development reflects this," said Mr Snowdon.

DHA Managing Director Michael Del Gigante said currently 33 houses have been completed and ADF families have moved in. A further 28 houses are under construction, and another 75 houses are to be constructed during 2008-09. It is expected that the suburb will be completed by 2010-11.

"This is a very exciting milestone for DHA in particular as we celebrate 20 years of operation. The suburb of Lyons and the comfortable living standards it offers is an excellent example of DHA's achievements since then."

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