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NEW CANBERRANS GET TRACKSIDE AT BLACK OPAL STAKES

About 200 new Canberrans will be trackside this Sunday to enjoy the action, colour and excitement of the Black Opal Stakes.

The latest in a series of welcome events for new Canberrans, organised as part of the *Live in Canberra* program, the exclusive trackside marquee will show yet another face of Canberra to some of the city's most recent arrivals.

"Some of the guests have only lived in Canberra for two weeks," Mr Stanhope said. "What better way to introduce them to their new, cosmopolitan city, it's people, fashions and local produce?"

Live in Canberra's welcome events showcase aspects of life in Canberra and introduce new Canberrans to one another, encouraging them to share information on markets, schools or restaurants and develop friendships. The welcome events are attended by families and young professionals who have accepted work transfers, along with retirees and those who have simply opted for a lifestyle 'tree change'.

"The *Live in Canberra* welcome events program has been developed to ensure new arrivals to Canberra have every opportunity to experience what our nation's capital has to offer," Mr Stanhope said. "Black Opal Stakes Day is a great event on the city's calendar."

The *Live in Canberra* team host two events each month. Some upcoming events are an Easter Egg hunt for children at Cockington Green, a gourmet Southern Cross Cruise on Lake Burley Griffin, and a day out at the Collector Pumpkin Festival.

For more information on the *Live in Canberra* events, contact the *Live in Canberra* team on 6205 2814.

Statement Ends

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