



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Wednesday 26 February 2014

### **NEW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE FOR MOORE PARK SPORTS PRECINCT**

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Roads Minister Duncan Gay today announced a new pedestrian and cycling bridge paying tribute to Australia's Anzac and cricketing history will be constructed at the Moore Park sporting precinct.

Mr O'Farrell said the bridge would span Anzac Parade and be known as the Albert (Tibby) Cotter Walkway – named after the former Australian Test cricketer who was killed in action during World War One.

“This is an important project to improve safety for the hundreds of thousands of spectators and visitors to our major sporting venues every year,” Mr O'Farrell said.

“Moore Park is one of Sydney's key cultural precincts with the Sydney Cricket Ground, Allianz Stadium and The Entertainment Quarter attracting almost 1.5 million spectators and event patrons and up to 350,000 pedestrian and cyclists annually.

“I am delighted the bridge will pay tribute to our Anzac history and the ultimate sacrifice made by so many young Australian sportsmen like Tibby Cotter in World War One – I thank the RSL for their role in supporting this project.”

Mr Gay said the \$25 million project is expected to be open in time for the 2015 Cricket World Cup.

“This will be a great moment in Australian sport and the opening of the Albert (Tibby) Cotter Walkway at that time will share the Anzac story with the thousands of overseas visitors travelling to the SCG,” Minister Gay said.

“It's not often a roads project symbolises two hallmarks of the Australian psyche, the Anzac spirit and the nation's love of cricket.

“The new shared path bridge will improve safety and access for local residents and for spectators walking to and from major events in the precinct.

“Extensive work is under way to ensure the detailed design will sensitively integrate the bridge into the landscape and minimise impact to the boulevard of Moreton Bay Fig trees along Anzac Parade.”

Albert (Tibby) Cotter was a fast bowler who played 21 Tests for between 1904 and 1912, as well as 113 first class matches for NSW . He was killed in action in 1917 at Beersheba in Turkey whilst serving as a stretcher-bearer in the 4<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Brigade of the Australian Imperial Force.

The proposed location of the bridge adjacent to Gregory Avenue also takes into account the future light rail tunnel under Moore Park and Anzac Parade.

Consultation has been carried out with stakeholders including event operators, local trusts, businesses, City of Sydney, Veterans Affairs and Transport for NSW.

The bridge proposal will be displayed from 21 March to 13 April as part of the Review of Environmental Factors.

Roads and Maritime Services submitted a Heritage Application to the Office of Environment and Heritage to be displayed from 26 February to 19 March to ensure items of heritage significance including parkland, trees and sporting grounds are appropriately considered and preserved.

Consultation is underway with the local community and stakeholders to ensure disruption is minimised during building work.

For more information about the project or to join the stakeholder mailing list for updates visit [ww.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects](http://ww.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects) or email [moorepark\\_access\\_bridge@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:moorepark_access_bridge@rms.nsw.gov.au).