MEDIA RELEASE / STATEMENT

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Join the Harmony

Wednesday 21 March is Harmony Day, the day on which Australians celebrate our cultural diversity and recognise International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, Ms Robin Banks, today said, ‘Australia is a culturally diverse country, that diversity enriches all our lives in ways that are both obvious and ways that are often hidden. I invite Tasmanians will join in tomorrow’s celebration of Harmony Day. There are events being held across Tasmania, from Wynyard, Burnie and Devonport in the north west, to Beaconsfield, Prospect and Launceston in the north, St Mary’s, St Helen’s and Triabunna on the east coast, and across the south of the state.’

Since 1945, seven million people have migrated to Australia. We identify with more than 270 ancestries and today, around 45% of Australians are either born overseas or have a parent who was.

This year, the theme is ‘Play, engage, inspire’. Because we’re an active sporting nation, many new Australians make their first friends through sport. Consistent with this theme, the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner has partnered with the Multicultural Council of Tasmania, Sport and Recreation Tasmania, Soroptimists International and the International Wall of Friendship to host:

Harmony Day Morning Tea

10:00 am, Wednesday, 21 March 2012, at the

International Wall of Friendship, 188 Collins Street

‘The Harmony Day Morning Tea is a public event, and we welcome everyone to attend. There will be representatives from Surf Life Saving Tasmania, players from the Hobart Chargers (with roster cards and free tickets to give away), and representatives of Football Federation Tasmania and AFL Tasmania. This will be a chance to meet sporting heroes and find out more about how sport can play a role in creating a more inclusive community.