



News Release

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9 April 2014

2014 TULIP TIME AMBASSADOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Charity partner **Guide Dogs NSW/ACT** and the **Wingecarribee Council** are pleased to today announce local Highlands resident **Anthony Ackroyd** as the Ambassador for the 2014 Tulip Time Festival. The festival will celebrate its 54th Anniversary as one of Australia's leading flora events, and one of the only remaining Charity Based flora festivals in NSW.

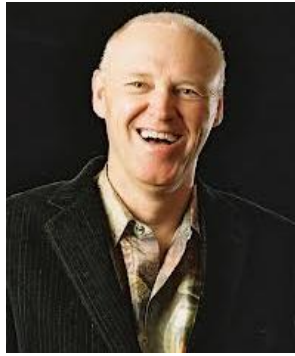
Anthony Ackroyd applies his unique talents to entertain and inspire people from all walks of life. Through his workshops (Stress Less Laugh More!) and performances he shows people how to consciously create and enjoy the benefits of more humour, laughter, play, and positive energy across business and everyday life.

Anthony will be working closely with the Tulip Time organisers and charity partner Guide Dogs NSW/ACT to ensure that this year's festival delivers to its theme of '**A Colourful Life**'.

Steve Rosa, Wingecarribee Council Group Manager Tourism, Economic Development, & Events said "We are delighted to have Anthony on board; as a local resident he's fully across what the Tulip Time Festival means to the community and tourism in the Southern Highlands. Anthony has a unique ability to entertain, excite and inspire audiences, and it's with this gusto that I feel he'll be able to make a significant contribution to Tulip Time."

With demand for guide dogs growing due to increasing numbers of people experiencing vision loss, with Anthony's support, Guide Dogs NSW/ACT is hoping to raise \$30,000 through its partnership with the Tulip Time Festival, which is what it costs to raise and train one working guide dog. "I'm very excited to be supporting Guide Dogs NSW/ACT and Tulip Time," says Anthony. "The charity relies on the public's support to provide its services free of charge so I'm very eager to reach that \$30,000 target if not more, to help train more guide dogs."

ENDS



**Photo & Interview Opportunity with Mayor Clr Juliet Arkwright
together with Anthony Ackroyd and Tulip Time representatives**

Additionally available for interviews on behalf of Guide Dogs NSW/ACT is Rhonda and her guide dog Emilee (spokesperson living in the Wingecarribee Shire with vision impairment and a guide dog user)

**Official Launch and Bulb Planting 10.00am Tuesday 29th April 2014
Corbett Gardens, Bowral**