

Come and view

Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre

Saturday 17 March 2007

2.00pm to 4.00pm



Images: April 2006 (left), Ian Thorpe (centre), March 2007 (right).

INVITATION

Come and view work on the Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre.

Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre
Harris Street, Ultimo

Please wear sturdy closed shoes to the Centre as it is still a construction site.



The \$40 million Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre is nearing completion and I invite you to attend a special viewing on Saturday, 17 March 2007.

Council is responding to the many community requests to see this facility. From 2.00pm to 4.00pm on 17 March, there will be an opportunity to view the aquatic centre. This will include the empty 50m pool, leisure pool, program pool as well as the fitness centre. The self-guided tour of the building will take approximately 15 minutes and information about the project will be provided by project managers and architects.

The distinctive wave-form building has taken shape in the heart of Ultimo over the past 18 months and is architect Harry Seidler's last public building. The building's roof forms a wave shape, with the highest point over the 50m pool. Extensive glazing on the eastern side opens out onto a terrace and will provide views of the city skyline.

The Centre is a fitting venue for athletes and casual swimmers. It honours retired champion Ian Thorpe, who has made an outstanding contribution to the Australian community, both in and out of the pool.

I encourage you to attend this one-off viewing before the Centre is finished and officially opened later in 2007. I hope to see you on Saturday, 17 March. Don't forget to wear closed shoes as the Centre is still a construction site.



**Clover Moore MP
Lord Mayor**



Sydney's Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre in March 2007.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre is a \$40 million dollar project commissioned by the City. It is a regional facility that will provide international class swimming and recreation for all Sydney residents.
- Wheelchair access is provided for all facilities within the Centre which is close to the CBD and easily accessible by public transport.
- To construct the Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre, materials used include approximately 4,000 cubic metres of concrete, 160 tonnes of steel, 200,000 tiles and 650 square metres of single glazed glass on the north and south walls.
- Green initiatives at The Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre include hydraulically operated roof vents for natural ventilation, rainwater harvesting for internal toilets and sprinkler systems, and the use of natural light to reduce electricity use.
- The use of natural daylight from large 52 metre span trusses and continuous glazing beneath each truss provides an open and light atmosphere to the centre.
- The Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre covers two levels and a basement car park. On the first level there is a fitness centre and multi-purpose area, level two consists of a 50 metre pool, leisure pool, program pool, sauna and steam rooms, café and large terrace areas. There are change rooms on both floors.

PROJECT TIMELINE

- Harry Seidler & Associates selected as architectural firm by a competition process - 2001
- Belmadar Constructions (now FRH Group) awarded the construction contract - late 2004
- Construction commenced - early 2005
- Ian Thorpe attends site with children from Ultimo Primary School - November 2005
- Ian Thorpe lends a hand (in concrete!) during a site visit with Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP - December 2006

Centre works completed - mid 2007

ACCESS TO CONSTRUCTION SITE

The Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre is still a construction site and access will be restricted to those wearing sturdy closed shoes. Wheelchair access to one level of the building will be available on the day. If you have questions regarding the level of access, please contact the City on 9265 9333.



Ian Thorpe helps with the construction, signing a tile to be laid in the centre.

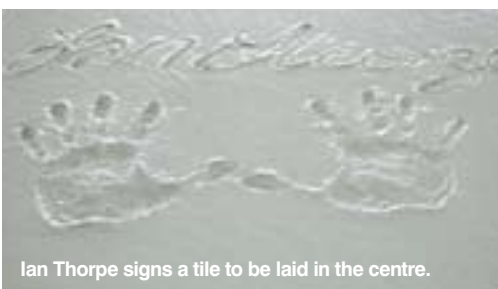
SITE TOUR

Saturday, 17 March 2007
2.00pm to 4.00pm
Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre
Harris Street, Ultimo

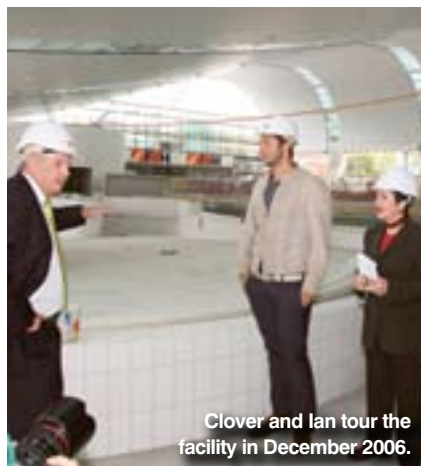
MORE INFORMATION

More information is available at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au or contact:

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Ian Thorpe signs a tile to be laid in the centre.



Clover and Ian tour the facility in December 2006.