

SUNDAY 22 AUGUST 2004

For immediate release

FAMILIES ENJOY AUSTRALIAN CENTRAL TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

Hundreds of Darwin families and their teddy bears enjoyed the Darwin Festival's Australian Central Teddy Bears Picnic in the Botanic Gardens today.

It is estimated that around 4500 people attended the free community event throughout the morning, which is double last years' attendance.

Des Zobel, Australian Central Credit Union NT State Manager said that Australian Central are proud to support such a wonderful family event.

"Today was a fantastic day. It is great to see so many young children and their families here enjoying themselves."

"We are very pleased to see such a successful turnout, and we look forward to supporting this event in the future."

Kids had a great time with craft activities, story-telling, face-painting, as well as singing and dancing with favourites Chantal the Fairy and the Amazing Miss Deb.

Red the Clown entertained the crowds with magic tricks, while others enjoyed the free sausage sizzle provided by the Casuarina Kiwanis. Other entertainment was provided by the Darwin City Council Fun Bus, the Toy Library, Girl Guides, stilt walkers and bubble-blowing.

Big Ted was a highlight of the day, as children of all ages scrambled to have their photo taken with him.

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