

MR ANDREW JAMES HOY

Citation for the conferral of a Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*)

Andrew James Hoy was born in Culcairn, NSW, in 1959 and was educated at Scots School in Albury, where he completed an Agricultural Management Course.

Andrew's riding career commenced at the age of seven when he borrowed a horse from his Uncle, Phillip Webb. From these humble beginnings he progressed to the Australian Equestrian team in 1978, when at nineteen years of age he competed at the World Championships in Kentucky, USA.

Since 1978 Andrew has largely resided in the United Kingdom, and when competing in the northern hemisphere he is based at Gatcombe Park, the estate of Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne.

In a career spanning more than twenty years Andrew has represented Australia in the Equestrian World Championships in 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1990. He competed in the Alternative Olympics at Fontainbleu in France in 1980, achieving a Team Bronze Medal. Most significantly, Andrew has competed for Australia in five Olympic Games in 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2000.

At the Atlanta Olympics in 1996 Andrew was chosen by the Australian Olympic Committee to carry the Australian flag and to lead the Australian team in the Opening Ceremony of the Games.

It is especially important to note that Andrew won consecutive equestrian Olympic Games Gold Medals in the Three Day Event Team — at Barcelona in 1992, Atlanta in 1996 and at Sydney in 2000. He also won the individual Silver Medal at Sydney. In winning these three Gold Medals in successive Olympic Games Andrew equalled the feat of legendary Australian swimmer Dawn Fraser, who won the same swimming event in the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Olympic Games.

The final moments of the Sydney 2000 Games are worthy of special mention. Andrew showed his true colours when he withstood the pressure of riding last to win Gold. As he arrived in the arena he was met with the tense silence of his home crowd. He knew he had a buffer of five rails and he proceeded to clear the first seven jumps. Over the next few jumps three rails were dislodged, but the remainder were cleared, with gold achieved to the modified version of the well known Sydney 2000 chant 'Aussie, Aussie, Aussie — Hoy, Hoy, Hoy'.

Andrew was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for services to sport as a gold medallist in the equestrian three-day team event at the Barcelona Olympic Games in 1992. In 2000 he received an Australian Sports Medal for services to equestrian sports.

On the thirteenth of July 2001 Andrew married German equestrian rider Bettina Overesch, a bronze medallist at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games in the Three Day Event Team, and European Champion in 1997.

At Charles Sturt University, Andrew's time and expertise has been most appreciated in the development of the Equine Centre and its equestrian facilities.

Chancellor, I present to you Andrew James Roy, highly acclaimed international sportsman, outstanding ambassador for Australia and exceptional role model for those aspiring to the highest equestrian achievement, for conferral of the award Doctor of the University, *honoris causa*.

Dated this Fifteenth Day of November Two Thousand and Two