

MEDIA RELEASE

WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2016

Circular Quay's sensational 60th

Circular Quay Station today celebrated its 60th anniversary with a historical poster display, an online photo gallery and a new Instagram account detailing the iconic station's development.

Sydney Trains Director of Customer Service George Stojkovski said the station's opening on 20 January 1956 by Premier Joe Cahill also completed the City Circle.

"Circular Quay not only helped connect rail services with ferries, but meant trains were able to run in a loop between Circular Quay, St James, Museum, Central, Town Hall and Wynyard," Mr Stojkovski said.

"The City Circle transformed public transport in Sydney, bringing together the CBD's key stations seamlessly for the first time.

"Like the Sydney Harbour Bridge, Circular Quay Station and the City Circle were the vision of pioneering engineer John Bradfield.

"Bradfield advocated for their construction in his 1915 proposal to the NSW Government, 'Report on the Proposed Electric Railways for the City of Sydney'."

Work was due to start on Circular Quay in the late 1930s, but was delayed by World War II. The project stalled until 1946 and was completed ten years later.

Circular Quay's design reflects a combination of the simple functionalist architectural styles of the 1950s with more decorative 1930s style Art Deco finishings, including ornamental grilles and bronze aquatic animal motifs sculpted above stairways.

The station's unique architectural design led to it being listed on the NSW State Heritage Register.

Mr Stojkovski said station refresh work conducted by the NSW Government in 2013 modernised the station for today's customers, while respecting its heritage values.

"In 2013 the original tiling and decorative bronze motifs were restored by Sydney Trains," he said.

"The refresh also saw new tiles installed on the concourse and stairs, new information screens and signage, extra ticket gates and improved lighting.

"In 2014 two new lifts were installed to make the station more accessible for customers."

Visit www.sydneytrains.info to see historical photos of the building of Circular Quay and its opening or see them on Transport's new Instagram account www.instagram.com/transportnsw

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