## fact sheet



## **Light Horse Interchange**

Australia's largest interchange is located at the intersection of Westlink M7 and M4 Western Motorway. This is named the Light Horse Interchange to honour the famous Australian mounted military units that had a training camp at Wallgrove Road.

The Interchange allows access to the M7 from the M4 in all directions. There are three levels of on/off ramps for safe and easy travel between the motorways.

- 18 bridges make up the interchange, and the 2 main ones are M7 northbound bridge at 431m long and the M7 southbound bridge at 397m long.
- 8 ramps connect the M7 to the M4.
- 802 bridge segments were used in the interchange.
  Each segment weighs between 40-100 tonnes.
- 2 million cubic metres of earth were placed at the interchange.
- 5,000 square metres of retaining walls were built.
- There is a separate Shared Path bridge for the safety of cyclists and pedestrians.
- The interchange is 23m above the M4 at its highest point and 16m above the Wallgrove Road Bridge.



## Sir Roden Cutler VC Interchange

This interchange is located at the junction of the M5, M7 and Remembrance Drive, and named after Sir Roden Cutler, a former NSW Governor. Cutler was the only Australian artilleryman awarded the Victoria Cross for exceptional courage in Merdjayoun in June 1941.

The 25m high pyramid is the landmark structure of the interchange. At night the red tip of the pyramid is lit with a blue LED light to mark the southern end of the M7. The 45 timber poles standing at the edge of the interchange evoke the memory of the critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland, the endemic vegetation of the area.



## Light Horse Sculpture Parade

The parade is dedicated to the heroic troops who served in the Australian Light Horse Brigade and their horses that could never return. There is a central mast and four sets of radiating markers (pictured below) representing the Light Horse on parade. The 55m high mast with its reflective crown sits at the centre. The lit mast and crown symbolize a torch in the dark.

Red is the colour of the Flanders Poppy and poppies blooming in Palestine, and symbolises the blood of sacrifice. The abstract plumage on each marker represents the emu plumes on the Horsemen's hats. The white band refers to the departing soldiers' innocence of war.

Australian quarantine regulations prevented the return of any horse that survived the battles. Old and sick horses were shot, and the remainder handed to British units. To remember ever Light Horseman's loss there is no physical representation of the horse in the sculpture.



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