

Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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EXPERIENCE OLD GREAT NORTH ROAD HISTORY WITH NEW APP

An exciting new phone app that provides guided walking tours of the World Heritagelisted Old Great North Road in Dharug National Park was launched today by Environment and Heritage Minister Robyn Parker.

Ms Parker was joined by Gosford MP Chris Holstein for the launch of the Old Great North Road iPhone app, which offers visitors a unique and interpretive walking experience of the Old Great North Road, near Wiseman's Ferry.

"The Old Great North Road is one of four historic sites that form the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Property in NSW - including Old Government House and Domain in Parramatta, Cockatoo Island and Hyde Park Barracks.

"Visitors can choose either an 'historic tour' and hear stories from convicts and surveyors of the day who worked and built the road or a 'modern tour' delivered by a national parks ranger, an archaeologist, or an Aboriginal Elder, who provide detailed information about the road and its construction."

"These sections of the Old Great North Road are considered the most spectacular and this app provides a fantastic way for visitors to experience the road and immerse themselves in the history of the area."

Mr Holstein said that the app contains tour information and maps with points where visitors can stop and hear stories via their phone – each location is identified along the road by a small plaque.

"The NSW Government is committed to increasing visitor access, enjoyment of parks and a boost to local economies through tourism and visitation," Mr Holstein said.

"These digital and online initiatives offer exciting new ways for our visitors to easily plan, book and discover the wonderful natural and cultural experiences that can be found in NSW's national parks," he said.

Download the free Old Great North Road iPhone app at <u>nationalparks.nsw.gov.au</u>.

The app has been developed and funded by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and a Your Community Heritage grant from the Federal Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities.