

Ballarat Star (Vic. : 1865 - 1924), Friday 24 May 1889, page 2

To-day will be celebrated the 70th anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Victoria In Ballarat the day will be observed as a public holiday, and there are numerous attractions for the amusement loving portion of the community. First in importance of these is the unveiling of the statue of Sir William Wallace, at the botanical gardens This will be performed as soon after 1 o'clock as is convenient. After an address has been delivered by the Hon. J Nimmo, there will be a banquet. In the afternoon there will be a race meeting at the Miners' course, when good contests are expected. In the morning the St Kilda and Ballarat Football Clubs will try conclusions on the Saxon paddock. During the afternoon the Carlton and South Ballarat clubs will meet on the Eastern Oval. These gatherings, with others of a semi private nature, make up a plentiful supply of amusements. In the evening the Harry Rickards Company will open a short season at the Academy of Music.

The ceremony of unveiling the statue of Sir William Wallace will be performed this afternoon by Mr Dugald Macpherson, president of the Caledonian Society of Melbourne. A large number of members of that society are expected to arrive by special tram from Melbourne, at about half past 12 o'clock They will be met at the station by Mr Thos Stoddart, and will at once proceed by tramcar to the gardens. Other visitors from country districts will be met at the City Hall by his worship the mayor (Mr McDonald) and Mr H. A. Nevett, who will be in attendance at 12 o'clock. At 12 30 the mayor and Mr Nevett and other gentlemen will proceed by cab to the gardens. Cabs will leave the town Hall during the hour from 12 to 1 at the usual sixpenny fare, and the tramcars will run as usual. The visitors and all persons holding tickets for the enclosed space will pass through the gate leading to Mr Longley's house on the south side of the fernery, and will pass by the statuary house through the gate leading into the public garden. Here the enclosed space will be. The walk leading to it will be kept by the Militia,

and the police will keep the enclosure for the visitors and for those who have tickets. After the unveiling of the statue the band will play "Scots wha hae," and this will be followed by an address by the Hon J. Nimmo, Minister of Public Works. If the company is kept waiting for the beginning the band will enliven them a little by playing a preliminary tune or two; and during the proceedings, if the day is fine, the inspiring strains of the pipes will be heard on the outskirts of the crowd horn pipers attached to the Melbourne Caledonian Society. The ceremony of handing over the statuary to the City Council concluded, a dinner will be partaken of at the City Hall, commencing at half past 2 o'clock.