



Press Release

24 June 2003

For Immediate Release (Local media only)

Film Broken Hill Focuses Luhrmann on Local Locations

Legendary Hollywood Producer Dino De Laurentiis (*Conan the Destroyer*, *War and Peace*), Director Baz Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Strictly Ballroom*) and key members of their production team will be in Broken Hill tomorrow.

The team will be scouting locations for the epic film *Alexander the Great* to be shot next year. The visit is a culmination of a series of surveys in New South Wales, South Australia and the Northern Territory. Baz Luhrmann and location manager Phillip Roope visited the region in March.

The one-day tour will commence after a meeting with local representatives and will take in potential sites in and around Broken Hill including the Pinnacles and Mundi Mundi.

“This is a significant milestone for Film Broken Hill” commented Project Coordinator Andrew Plumer “The office was opened late last year and has been quietly working away ever since. Not many people realise that we are responding to inquiries on a daily basis, however, many producers ask us to keep information about their projects confidential.”

“It was very difficult,” commented Film Officer Kathy Kennewell. “ We were so excited to have the opportunity to show Baz Luhrmann what the Far West has to offer however at the time we couldn’t tell anybody about it”

“We are not there yet,” commented Plumer. “There is significant national and international competition looking to secure this project and there is still a long way to go.”

“This is a very big film and should Broken Hill manage to secure all, or part of it, the whole community will need to work together to ensure the shoot is a positive experience for all concerned”.

“The benefits could be enormous. This film has already attracted international attention and if we manage to get it here that attention will also be focussed on Broken Hill”.

“If we get it right Broken Hill could soon be internationally recognised as Australia’s Outback – Back lot”.