

## **The Flag(s) on Pyrmont Bridge**

We thank a long-standing operator of the bridge – and Wikipedia – for this information.

1. Four flags are held. One is kept for special occasions (eg Australia Day, Anzac Day) and the others are rotated every 3-4 months. A flag lasts 6 months at the outside - all depends on the weather.
2. Costs: "You could buy a car for the cost of one flag".
3. Fabric: A very heavy-duty pure cotton bunting. ('Bunting' describes the fabric type.) It takes two people to lift a rolled-up flag. At one time, nylon and polyester flags were tried but found to be unsatisfactory.
4. Maintenance: The flags are washed at the commercial laundry service operating at Silverwater Corrective Facility. This is the only company in Sydney with a large enough washing machine to do the job. Running repairs are also undertaken.
5. At the end of their useful life, the flags are recycled. Each flag yields 90-100 kg of material.
6. The flag flies from the Bicentennial Flagpole at the western entrance to Darling Harbour. A plaque on the adjacent handrail provides further detail.