## **Cathy Freeman**

## BIOGRAPHY

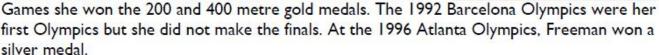
Cathy Freeman was born in Mackay, Queensland in 1973. From the time Freeman was a child she dreamed of winning an Olympic gold medal.

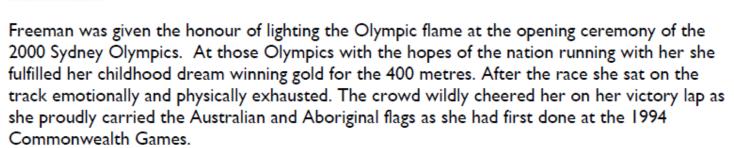
She raced for the first time when she was eight years old. She ran the 80 metre sprint at her primary school and won easily.

Freeman has achieved much more than her dream of Olympic Gold. She won a scholarship to two Queensland schools, Fairholme College and Kooralbyn International School. At Kooralbyn in 1989 she was professionally coached for the first time.

In 1990 Freeman competed in her first Commonwealth games where she won gold as a member of the  $4 \times 100$  metres relay team.

She became the first Aboriginal sprinter to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games. At the 1994 Commonwealth





Freeman has now retired from professional running and devotes much of her time and energy to important causes, particularly Aboriginal issues.

