

VOLUME 21 • SUMMER 2002/03

parklands

THE MAGAZINE OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS



CENTENNIAL
parklands

centennial park
moore park
queens park

Directions



Peter Duncan
Director,
Centennial Parklands

Welcome to the summer issue of *Parklands*.

As this issue goes to print, and with little prospect of rain, we can see the impact these last few months have had on the Parklands. With no significant rainfall since February 2002, we have implemented a series of strategies to maintain the Parklands within responsible constraints. However strolling through the Parklands, the effects of the drought become evident from every vantage point. This issue of *Parklands* explains some of the measures we have put in place to manage this serious problem.

Let's hope the rains come quickly, not only for the Parklands, but also for the people and environment throughout Australia.

On a more positive note, the last few months have been very busy ones in the Parklands. Our first

Open Day was held on 13 October and proved a great success. The day provided the community with the opportunity to join Parklands staff and learn more about the projects being undertaken. It also served as an opportunity to launch the draft Conservation Management Plan. We continue our commitment to work together with the community to ensure the Parkland's cultural and social heritage is protected in addition to planning for the future of its flora and fauna.

Our commitment to leadership and partnership innovation and benchmarking was recognised in September 2002 when the national Parks and Leisure Australia industry association awarded Centennial Parklands the prestigious Organisation of the Year award.

Centennial Parklands also won an award from the Australian Institute

of Landscape Architects in the Conservation Planning category for its *Tree Master Plan*. This plan serves as a guide to the future management of the Parkland's aging tree population and sets out directions for future tree plantings.

The Parklands is also committed to raising community awareness of the importance of the horticultural value of plants and trees. In September this year, we were proud to sponsor the Australian Institute of Horticulture inaugural award for Horticulturist of the Year. This award was established to promote excellence in horticulture and based on, amongst other criteria, the value of horticulture to the Australian community.

I hope you enjoy reading more about the proposed summer activities in this issue. ■

Contents

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Coloured etching of Grand Drive, Centennial Park by Austin Platt. This is one of many works featured in the *imprints* exhibition being held at the Superintendent's Residence, Centennial Park from December 2002 to October 2003.

3 Parkbench

4 Inaugural Open Day

The Superintendent's Residence

5 imprints: reading the landscape



6 Twitchers corner

Person in the Park

7 Drought in the Parklands

8 Walk to Cure Diabetes

9 Community Awards



10 Events

12 Friends of the Parklands

Recipe

14 Calendar

16 User's Guide





Parkbench

NEW BROCHURE FOR SPORTS USERS

A new brochure has been produced to provide information about the sporting fields and facilities that are available for hire within the Parklands. These facilities can be hired on both a seasonal or casual basis, seven days a week, sunrise to sunset, all year round.



With Centennial Park, Moore Park and Queens Park, the Parklands maintains and manages over 50 quality sports fields and facilities that cater to a wide variety of sporting interests. Many sports are catered for including soccer, rugby, touch football, AFL, netball, softball, tennis, baseball, cricket, otago, roller hockey and athletics.

The brochure outlines the facilities provided by the Parklands, what

you need to supply as the hirer, the various locations of the summer and winter fields, how to make a booking and the services each location offers.

If you're interested in getting more involved in a sport, you will find a full list of sporting groups in your area at the Department of Sport and Recreation website at www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

To find out more information, pick up a brochure from the Centennial Parklands Administration Office or phone 9339 6699.

CAR FREE DAY

The Parklands will be conducting a survey seeking peoples' response to changing the car free days from the first Sunday of every month to the last Sunday. This is in response to community suggestions that the day be moved as it currently coincides with popular Fathers Day picnics.

NEW PLAYGROUND NOW OPEN

The new café playground in Centennial Parklands is now open and in full swing. Located behind the restaurant and next to the large fig tree, the new area has proved very popular, with the majority of patrons being regular return visitors. The state-of-the-art playground includes a spinning wheel, wave net, sandpit, slides and a swings feature. Comfortable seating and a grassed area provide parents and carers with a convenient position for overseeing the children.

The equipment from the old playground area will be relocated to the learner's cycleway playground.

The installation of shade cloth due later this month and finalisation on the toilet upgrade will complete the reconstruction.

OPEN DAY THANK YOU

Thank you to all the people who turned up to make the first Open Day in Centennial Parklands such a success. After a welcome from La Perouse elder, Mrs Beryl Timbery-Beller, Centennial Parklands' Director, Peter Duncan thanked the community for attending the first of these annual events and launched the consultation period for the draft Conservation Management Plan. Free activities and a sausage sizzle were enjoyed by all.

APOLOGY

The spring issue of the *Parklands* magazine carried an article on page 5 titled *Waste*. It incorrectly quoted the annual quantity of rubbish removed from the Parklands as 2000 tonnes. In fact, the figure is 200 tonnes and Centennial Parklands apologises for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused. ■





Indigenous dancers performing at Open Day

The sounds of merriment, the didgeridoo and clapping sticks, the buzz of people talking and laughing, and the characteristic Aussie outdoor smells of a barbecue drew visitors and locals to the recent Centennial Parklands Open Day.

Open Day was a relaxed affair, with an opportunity to ask about and discuss the current state of the Parklands and its future. Mrs Beryl Timbery-Beller, a La Perouse elder, gave a moving Welcome to Country to the special guests and Parklands visitors. She spoke about the importance of the area of the Parklands to Sydney's Indigenous communities

in keeping alive traditional and contemporary links between the people and the land.

The Welcome to Country concluded with a welcome dance and spirit rock dance performed by The Dharawal Dancers, who later performed a hunting dance and gew dance, or "shake a leg" dance, at the water's edge at Duck Pond.

The Director of Centennial Parklands, Peter Duncan, also welcomed the community to the first of these annual events. Apart from a great day out, with free activities and demonstrations including flower arranging and stonemasonry, the day provided the community with access

Inaugural Open Day

to information about the other projects being undertaken by Centennial Parklands. The displays contained information about Transport Access Plan Moore Park South Master Plan and the continuing Ponds Restoration program and staff were on hand to answer any questions.

Peter Duncan also took the opportunity to launch the draft Conservation Management Plan. In doing so, he acknowledged the traditional custodians of the area and the role they played in the development of a draft Indigenous program as part of the draft Plan. Cultural heritage covers aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual attributes associated with the Parklands. Exceptional examples include the Commonwealth Stone marking the place of Australia's Federation, and the convict construction of Busby's Bore.

"Collating information and producing a direction for heritage conservation management of a place as complex as the Parklands was a massive task and one which is relatively new for heritage parks around the world," Mr Duncan said. The draft plan outlines the natural, Indigenous and cultural history of the area, and describes how it is today.

Once public comments have been considered, the draft Plan will be considered for adoption by the Trust, submitted for endorsement by the Heritage Council and will then become a supporting document to the Centennial Parklands Plan of Management. It is proposed that the implementation of the Plan will be monitored by a Heritage Reference Panel. ■

The Superintendent's Residence

Centennial Parklands Open Day was held at the Superintendent's Residence at Paddington Gates, an 1892 Victorian-style building with a sweeping view down Parkes Drive.

The residence is one of colonial architect James Barnet's rare domestic buildings. Barnet is better known for constructing buildings on a scale such as the original Sydney General Post Office in Martin Place.

Conservation and restoration work began on the house last year to uncover and protect its heritage value which, along with the Parklands, is recognised by the NSW Heritage Council as being of significance to the people of NSW. Former Superintendent Ron Salkeld, who held the position from 1965 to 1990, began the restoration by stripping back accumulated layers of paint and polishing the

doorframes. Since then architect Mark Bullen and a restoration team has discovered a host of treasures.

The restoration has been undertaken in two stages. The first and major stage involved the main rooms of the Residence and uncovered its beautiful floorboards, which have now been sanded and polished back to their original colour. The removal of the many layers of paint and wallpaper have revealed the original colour scheme and the boarded up chimneys now proudly display their beautiful marble fireplaces. Work was also undertaken on the exterior of the Residence and paint scrapings indicate the original colour scheme was cream and sand. This stage was completed in September 2001.

The second stage involves the restoration of two further rooms, with the continued removal of

paint and sanding of floors. In the hallway and entrance room, two sections of wall have been exposed to show the original colours of those rooms. The excitement and splendour of the Federation era are echoed in these schemes - gold leaf dado, turquoise, apricot, maroon and sienna - which suggest the residence may have been an important building for formal occasions and celebrations.

The residence is a stylish setting for the current exhibition, **imprints** which begins on Wednesday 4 December. ■

Peter Duncan, Director of Centennial Parklands, welcomes members of the community to Open Day



imprints: reading the landscape

imprint: a stamp or mark that impresses an idea in the mind or memory; become recognised as a thing or place of attachment; impression

The etching is intricate in detail, with fine delicate line work expressing the small nuances of light and leaf. The sweeping panorama captures exactly the expanse and space of Centennial Park. It is evident the artist was familiar with its grounds, knew its sights and smells and wished to capture their 'imprint'. The warmth of the hand-coloured etching invokes afternoon light, horses trotting by, walkers meandering around the track and runners working off steam.

The new exhibition, **imprints**, opening in the Superintendent's Residence in December, is a perfect introduction to the complex history of Centennial Parklands. **imprints** is the idea of curator Leonie Oakes, who describes it as, "an exhibition illustrating the influence of Centennial Parklands on the people and the people on the lands".

The aim of the exhibition is to encourage people to read the landscape of Centennial Parklands and to familiarise themselves with the history of the area. The title was drawn from the idea of mapping **imprints**, lines and layers and the exhibition itself is structured in a similar conceptual format. Ms Oakes has focused on some of the key historical periods in

the Parklands and divided the exhibition into



Model yacht on display at the **imprints** exhibition

several corresponding layers: the works of local artist Austin Platt; Indigenous culture and heritage; moments of historical significance, such as the 1901 Federation celebrations; objects used in pleasure activities and sports and stories from some families who lived in the Residence.

The Superintendent's Residence has been home to many families, each bringing with them a diversity of histories and backgrounds, but the memories of their time at the Residence are remarkably similar. The life of the Park had a compelling influence on the activities of the families - how they socialised, how they played, what the Park gave to them and how they gave back. The great expanse of open space made the children highly sought after as friends. When the gates closed at night, it became their own playground.

They would hunt for eels or ride billy carts down the hills while their parents entertained family and friends singing songs in the sitting room around the pianola. Many had vivid images of the pride their family took in being custodians of the residence and the beautiful vegetable and flower gardens that thrived under their care.

Without a car, Austin Platt would cycle around the park recording his own impressions of the Park. He would photograph various features of the landscape including the grand entrances and architecture and work primarily in etchings in his home studio in Bondi.

Centennial Parklands has more than 70 artworks by Austin Platt, many of them on display for the first time in **imprints**.

After a successful career as a commercial artist, Platt retired and turned his art making to developing a body of work based on Centennial Parklands.

The etchings in the exhibition are intimate treasures depicting the changing moods and landscape of the park and there are many detailed works of flora, fauna and landscape. Mr Platt would often consult with the rangers as to the botanical accuracy of his works and was eager for their feedback, also talking endlessly with his family about his Centennial Park collection. Some of his much-loved studio tools and equipment are among the items and artworks on display, on loan from the Platt family.



Coloured etching of Grand Drive, Centennial Park by Austin Platt featured in the **imprints** exhibition

Austin Platt's works can be loosely divided into park landscapes and wildlife with studies of the built environment within the Parklands, and the body of work is an invaluable contribution to its cultural heritage.

The traditional custodians of the area now known as Centennial Parklands are the Gadigal people, its natural resources providing them with water, food and shelter for thousands of years. On display will be a painting depicting the spiritual connection of the Gadigal to the area and an example of one of the objects which were woven from local materials. The painting was done by Mary Jane Page, a descendant of a local elder of the Gadigal.

As part of the **imprints** exhibition, Darug women Liz and Heidi Locke are running workshops teaching children the indigenous craft of basket weaving. They will be using sedges and grasses found in Centennial Park to weave a basket or animal shape.

The shortage of large open public spaces in the late 19th century saw Centennial Parklands playing host to a variety of important historic events, sports and activities. Director Charles Moore and overseer James Jones attempted to establish formal gardens of English trees and northern hemisphere exotics.

After many of these plants fail to thrive, successors Joseph Maiden and William Forsyth experimented with native and exotic plantings, influencing many of Sydney's public landscaping and private gardens.

Recreational activities such as cycling, horse riding and model yacht racing were very popular in the park. The Centennial Park Model Yacht Club was founded in the 1880s and the local club the races became very competitive, resulting in the introduction of specific rules regarding sail type and boat length. Participants built their boats from leftover material from building sites and tram yards and, until the ponds silted up in the 1950s, the pastime was immensely popular. ■

The Japanese Snipe

The long warm days of summer signal a welcome back to the Parklands for one of the many summer migrants. The Japanese Snipe has spent Sydney's winter months breeding mainly in Japan. They arrive in North Eastern Queensland during July and August and their numbers peak in Sydney during December and January. The birds spend the summer months in the Parklands before leaving around March when the weather turns cooler.

Japanese Snipe, also known as Latham's Snipe, like to spend their time well hidden in freshwater



The timid Japanese Snipe

wetlands. Their intricately marked plumage of rufous, black and buff, with bold brown stripes and cream streaks helps them remain almost invisible. They feed on marshy ground by forcing their long straight bill vertically into the mud with a rapid sewing machine like action. The sensitive tips of their bills can locate and grab worms and other invertebrates hidden deep in the mud. Their relatively long legs help keep them dry in the wet environment. Large dark eyes set high on the head help with locating danger during the day and feeding at night. If they are disturbed during the day they will freeze. To escape they will burst up and fly a fast zigzag course then drop to cover again.

When they are disturbed like this they give a short rasping 'chak' or 'zak' as they burst from their cover. Their favoured habitat is

Bird Enthusiast – Trevor Waller

soft wet ground with tussocks and other green or dead growth. A good area in the Parklands to see Japanese Snipe is the Kensington Ponds, although any suitable habitat could prove fruitful. The birds like to keep out of sight, and although this makes them difficult to find, it also makes discovering them even more rewarding. ■

Salvia 'Indigo Spires'

Planted in the Rose Garden is the delightful Salvia 'Indigo Spires'. This summer flowering perennial bears its striking indigo blue flowers on 20cm long spikes. Growing to 1.2m, this fast growing shrub responds well to a hard pruning in late winter to encourage new growth in spring/summer. Salvias enjoy full sun positions with well drained light textured soils, however they do require adequate watering in Summer.

Commonly referred to as Sage, this family of plants is often grown for culinary or medicinal purposes. The name Salvia refers to the Roman term 'Salvus', meaning safe or well 'The long, blue flower spikes are a great attraction. They are also fairly forgiving with pruning provided it is done after the threat of frost has passed.' ■

Person in the Park Peter Sweeney

Peter Sweeney is a runner who is a long way from home. In his native Ireland, he used to run in Phoenix Park in Limerick, which is said to be the largest walled park in a European city. Phoenix Park is a nature park which is home to a native deer population but today Peter contents himself with sightings of the smaller inhabitants of Centennial Parklands such as birds, bats and lizards.

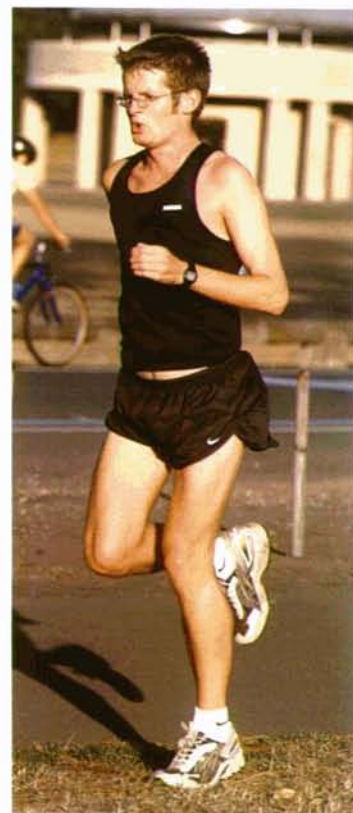
Peter has been in Australia and a neighbour of Centennial Parklands for nearly a year. He runs six to seven days a week with Athletics Easts. His training sees him covering much of the Parklands including the ES Marks Athletics Stadium and Centennial Park. His favourite place to run is around the outer perimeter of Centennial Park.

Peter says, 'The park is a huge attraction for me and has been since I arrived here. I run approximately 120 kms a week which would be physically impossible for me without the grass of the Parklands'.

In summer, Peter trains for the 800 and 1500 metre track events and in winter he runs a half marathon which is a distance of 21 kms. He loves the wildlife in the park and is especially fascinated by the bats. He said, 'The bats are incredible. We have nothing like them at home. In Ireland, they are the size of small mice – here they are huge'.

Peter doesn't only use the Parklands for training. He says he and his friends love nothing more than to visit for a barbecue on a warm summer's evening when the days are drawn out.

Being a regular visitor to the Parklands, Peter has been sad to watch the effects of the drought. He has seen the grass drying out and watched the pond levels drop. He says 'Running in the Parklands nearly every day has really brought home how severe the drought has been'. ■



Peter Sweeney enjoys a run in the Park

Drought in the Parklands

Walking across the playing fields of Centennial Park now is like walking through a parched country landscape. The grass is bleached and hard underfoot, with the earth baked and its surface cracking.

The park, still beautiful, is in distress. Its plants droop and birds flock to the smallest pools and puddles. The glare is blinding. Children swelter on the oval and it is not only the visitors and staff of the park who want to see rain; the birds and other wildlife of the Park need water in order to nest, breed and lay eggs. They, too, wait.

What we normally think of as rural issues - drought, water supply and growth - have arrived again in Centennial Park. The last drought was nine years ago, the first since the horror drought of 1965 when the park first had to deal with these common rural problems.

Concerns about rain, plant growth and water restrictions are affecting the park now and, with all water levels down, Manager Operations Andrew Ferris says Centennial Parklands has had to implement a range of coping measures.

Irrigation of the 360-hectare parklands is mainly from bore and pond water. After the drought and subsequent water restrictions imposed in 1993, Centennial Parklands made the switch from town water to bore and stormwater. Turf facilities and sports grounds are irrigated by these sources and this is becoming increasingly difficult while rain still eludes Sydney.

Pond levels are also down with the equivalent of 30 Olympic pools being lost. Blue-green algae blooms are on the rise, with the beaches of the ponds widening and water quality declining. Healthy water quality is essential for the breeding of aquatic insects and the native silver perch and bass fish, and as it deteriorates the entire food chain is affected.

Sports organisations have become concerned with the appearance and quality of the turf areas. The Parklands scheme of using



Before the drought – the Parklands ponds in better times



The ponds in drought

bore water to irrigate these fields is an excellent drought-coping strategy but currently all water levels are affected.

Young tree saplings that would normally be self-sufficient at this stage are requiring extra watering and the planting of the annual summer display has been delayed. With no significant rainfall since February and only 8mm in October, the over-mature trees are beginning to feel the strain.

"Many of the well established trees planted from 1890-1910 are in distress and the evidence of this is an increase in dropping limbs. It is a reaction to water stress," Andrew Ferris says.

While it is hard to predict trees dropping limbs, Parkland managers have instigated a hazard assessment of the trees. As well as the over-mature trees, the

problem of limbs dropping applies to coral and poplar trees as well as native eucalyptus and figs.

Andrew Ferris also points out, "There have been new revisions to our cleaning practices and plumbers are currently auditing the taps to make sure that no water is wasted. Most irrigation is programmed during night hours."

Mowing frequency has been cut back as the grass is simply not growing. When drought conditions subside, different techniques will be employed to renovate the fields.

Park rangers Colin Cheshire and Jonathan Cartmill told of their observations of wildlife in the park. The Pee-wee, or Magpie-lark, constructs its nest from mud bound with grass, and Colin says he has seen many of them flocking to the smallest puddle or dribble, desperate to build their nests.

The turtles, including the Sydney Basin Turtle and Snake-Necked Turtle are laying eggs in these warm months, however this is difficult for them in drought, as they need moist earth to dig their nests. A month ago, an overcast day and drop in air pressure led to many turtles emerging from the ponds, perhaps anticipating rain and therefore an opportunity to lay.

The drought, combined with low humidity and dry winds, is having a huge impact on Centennial Parklands. While bird life has increased, with large numbers of pelicans, egrets and black cockatoos drawn to the ponds for water, the other animals and people wait for rain. ■



Walk to Cure Diabetes

Camaraderie and commitment were at the heart of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's national annual Walk to Cure Diabetes on Sunday, 20 October. This event is the Foundation's largest fundraiser with an estimated 12,000 people involved in Sydney alone. The growing number of participants each year has seen the event move from Parramatta Park to Homebush Bay and on to Centennial Parklands. The Parklands was chosen for the day because of its ability to hold the increased numbers and its beautiful and central location.

In preparation for the day, the Foundation commences its yearly fundraising campaign in March with a series of information and education sessions designed to involve businesses, corporations and the community. During August, the Foundation launched the Walk to Cure Diabetes which begins the fundraising efforts for all those who register.

Participants in the Walk spend many weeks prior to the event asking their friends, family and work colleagues to support them by making a donation. Their combined efforts have ensured that this year's national target of \$2.2 million was exceeded with

funds continuing to arrive. More than \$0.5million of this amount came from the day in Centennial Parklands.

The walk is the culmination of all manner of fundraising activities which include jelly-baby guessing competitions, *A Big Fat Greek Wedding* film premier, uniform free days and music trivia nights.

More than 100,000 people in Australia suffer from insulin dependent juvenile diabetes. Many of these are children and teenagers who will have the disease for life. They face the possibility of complications including kidney failure, blindness, nerve damage, amputation, heart attack and stroke.

Helen Montgomery, mother of Nicholas, 2 years old said, 'The brightly coloured snake of humanity stretching out in front and behind me made me teary. It looked like it went on forever,' describing her first fundraising walk since her son was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes on Valentine's Day this year.

'It was so overwhelming to see so many people who cared enough to come out for the day,' says Nicholas' mum of the 12,000 people who signed up sponsors and joined in the 5km walk.

After a poignant minute's silence to remember the victims of the Bali bombing, a bright string of people with sun hats and strollers wound along the ponds and over the grassy hills past the perimeter fence and back to the Brazilian Fields near the centre of the park.

Among the walkers were Nicholas' four year old sister, Georgia, and

But the excitement of the occasion took the focus away from the day to day grind of finger pricks and insulin injections, and left a feeling of overwhelming support, said his mother.

In a wide circle of marquees, sportive clowns teased children and mocked parents while face-painters turned babies into

"A sense of others ahead and behind you is very encouraging on a journey with a child with juvenile diabetes," says Helen Montgomery.

his grandparents, who came from Forbes for the occasion. Family friends joined them from all over town. "You also felt like you were friends with everyone there, bound by a common passion and with everyone feeling good about doing something positive," said Helen Montgomery.

Nicholas Montgomery is one of the many children who suffer from juvenile diabetes. He has a luminescent head of gold curls and epitomises 'cherubic' so it's hard to believe his family has had to struggle not only with the diagnosis of juvenile diabetes, but also with his asthma, oral hypersensitivity and surgery for a cleft lip and palate repair.

butterflies and tots into fairies. Elsewhere corporate representatives burned their hands in a tug-of-war both fun and fiercely fought.

But even before the first dollar is counted, one family has been buoyed by the care and support which came from a very happy day walking, talking, dancing and connecting in Centennial Park in spring.

"A sense of others ahead and behind you is very encouraging on a journey with a child with juvenile diabetes," says Helen Montgomery. The camaraderie of the day will sustain her and her family for a long time to come. ■

Community Awards

PARK AND LEISURE AUSTRALIA AWARD

A deep-rooted relationship between Centennial Parklands and the community began at Federation, which was signed at Centennial Park on 1 January, 1901. The Parklands endeavours to continue this tradition of unity through a commitment to engaging with the community that supports it.

This commitment to the community became especially evident in September 2002, when the national industry association Parks and Leisure Australia awarded Centennial Parklands Organisation of the Year. "It was an endorsement of Centennial Parklands commitment to the parks and leisure industry," said Peter Duncan, Director of Centennial Parklands.

Centennial Parklands is one of 800 agencies that manage over 52,000 parks and gardens Australia-wide, many of which were represented on the judging panel.

"It's a sign of the Parklands' progressing status in the eyes of the Government, industry, and the community," he said.

The Parklands based its submission to the awards on several criteria, including commitment to benchmarking and best practice, innovation, leadership and partnership, and customer service in the parks and leisure industry.

In addressing these criteria, the Parklands' drew on its status as an icon in the parks and leisure industry and in the eyes of the wider community, a reputation buoyed by a series of initiatives and partnerships undertaken by the Parklands since early 2001, commencing with the Centenary of Federation in January.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AWARD

Centennial Parklands is home to over 9,100 trees, many of which were planted at the turn of the century. Due to a number of factors including their urban

location, exposure to insects and city pollution, the trees – mainly Port Jackson Figs, Norfolk Island Pines and Holm Oaks – have a shortened life expectancy in urban areas and are coming to the end of their arboreal lives.

Centennial Parklands this year won an award in the category of Conservation Planning from Australian Institute of Landscape Architects for their Tree Masterplan.

Peter Nowland, landscape architect and Coordinator of Landscape Services at Centennial Parklands said, "The award is an acknowledgment that we have recognised the problem, and that this is really the first time that anyone has tried to do a Masterplan like this on an old heritage parkland. We've taken on the hard issues, and promoted block removal as the way forward for the industry," he said.

Peter Nowland is the project manager of the team that developed a Tree Masterplan that will serve as a guide for determining how to best manage the Parklands' aging trees, and to set out future directions for tree planting in Centennial Parklands.

"Our trees are getting towards the end of their life. The Tree Masterplan has recognised that and has provided some prognosis about what the future holds for us. We've now got some plans which show us what the park would look like 40 years from now if we don't do anything, and they show that the park would be bare – there would be nothing left in the park. All our trees have at best another 40 years to live. The incentive now is to be proactive and to get out there and start replanting," he said.

The new Tree Masterplan includes a database identifying the quality of the existing tree population, recognition of culturally important elements of the park including the avenues and spaces, recognition of the importance of the Victorian character of the Parklands, and establishes a framework for the conservation of and changes to the tree population. The plan promotes minimal change.



Linda and Ron May; Steve Corbett, President of the AIH; Rosanne Paskin; Centennial Parklands Director, Peter Duncan and Ian Rufus

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE AWARD

Raising awareness of the horticultural value of the trees and plants of the Centennial Parklands is also a way of encouraging community involvement in any proposed park management plans. With this in mind, Centennial Parklands sponsored the Australian Institute of Horticulture (AIH) inaugural Horticulturist of the Year award in September this year.

The national award was established in order to promote excellence in horticulture, and was awarded based upon the criteria of originality, innovation and quality, potential use, and value to the horticulture industry and Australian community.

Rosanne Paskin, of Rose Deco Planning & Design P/L in Lithgow NSW, was awarded first prize for her Model Environmental Management Plan for Landscaping Works and Site Guide: Environmental Planning for Landscaping Works. The plans were designed to act as guidelines for projects as small as backyard makeovers to huge parkland projects in addressing issues of environmental responsibility.

"The guide alerts landscape contractors to be aware of problems that they may inherit on site, and how to get involved in these problems earlier," said Rosanne Paskin.

Previously there was little information available for

landscapers that pulled together guidelines on ecological sustainability and environmental management. The guide is available on the Environmental Protection Agency website at (www.epa.nsw.gov.au/small_business/landscaping/modelemp.htm and www.epa.nsw.gov.au/small_business/landscaping/siteguide.htm)

Runner-up was awarded to Ron May from St Vincent's Hospital, Toowoomba, Queensland, for his work and booklet on "Integrated Pest and Disease Management."

He has been managing the gardens at St Vincent's chemical-free for over 10 years by using naturally occurring beneficial insects such as ladybirds to manage pests.

He says the garden is thriving better without chemicals. "It's no good using chemical pesticides in the garden because people come here to the hospital to get better, not to be poisoned by insecticides. That was a catalyst for me." He hopes that the award will encourage people to reduce the use of chemicals in their home gardens and remarks on the increase of birds, skinks, spiders and ladybirds since the gardens have become chemical free.

Steve Corbett, President of the AIH hopes it will also serve to raise awareness of horticulture in the wider community.

"This award is a great reflection of industry mentoring," he said. ■



Events

imprints

Baieme, believed to be the spirit of the Gadi people, has long protected the land we know now as Centennial Parklands. The traditional custodians would have met in these lands as it supplied a rich source of water, plants and animals and provided a place for cultural expression.

Today, these lands still provide a haven for plants, birds and animals as well as a place of peace, recreation and cultural expression.

imprints depicts the changes which have taken place in Centennial Parklands over the years and the impact of the landscape on the communities which have used it.

The exhibition will be on display at the Superintendent's Residence from 4 December 2002 to the end of October 2003. The Victorian-style Residence was designed by James Barnett and built in 1891. It was restored in 2001, and is now open to the public on Wednesdays and weekends from 10am to 3pm.

Born in 1912, Austin Platt's work records the cultural and social heritage of Centennial Parklands. This series of his works depicts the natural heritage of the Parklands capturing the beauty of sweeping panoramas, trees, ponds and wetlands. His particular attraction to the Parklands' architecture is shown in his early studies of the grand entrances to the park.

People from all walks of life have flocked to the Parklands to enjoy its splendour since the 1880s.

The Parklands continue to entice photographers, painters, filmmakers and writers to record their impressions of this important part of our heritage. Famous local resident Patrick White once described the Parklands as a 'living, living room'.

Works from other artists are also displayed in this exhibition.

Open December 2002 to October 2003 Wednesdays and weekends, 10am to 3pm Superintendent's Residence. ■

Moonlight Sounds

After a successful first year in Centennial Square, the Moonlight Sounds festival event returns to the Parklands. The event will take place at Kippax Lakes and will be the first event of its kind to be held there. Headlining the event will be Chicago's Derrick Carter and New York's Miguel Migs, of Naked Music fame.

Derrick Carter previously graced the park with his presence at Parklife in 2001 and has been the most impressive international DJ to play the Parklands.

Miguel Migs' most recent Australian sojourn saw him tour with the Vibes On A Summer's Day festival. Together, the globally acclaimed DJs will bring their deep, funky house sounds to the park for one unique show. Log onto www.fuzzy.com.au or www.moonlight.com.au for more information or phone (02) 9267 5510.

Kippax Lakes
Sunday 23 Feb 2003,
2.00pm to 9.30pm ■



Moonlight Cinema

Roll on the grass, count the stars and watch a movie. Moccona Moonlight Cinema is here again at Centennial Park Amphitheatre!

We know that summer has arrived when Moccona Moonlight Cinema opens their season again.

What better way to bask in the warm, sultry evenings than to roll on the grass and count the stars at Centennial Park amphitheatre and enjoy the best in current and classic movies at Australia's premier outdoor cinema.

This season Moonlight has planned a stella opening with the English football favourite 'Bend it like Beckham' and follows with great new releases including: Y Tu Mama Tambien, My Big Fat Greek Wedding and About a Boy. For lovers of the classics Moonlight delights with Breakfast at Tiffany's (to be screened on Valentine's Day), Grease, Monty Python's Meaning of Life and Casablanca to name but a few.

Moonlight will also continue their strong support of the Australian film industry featuring a large line-up of Australian films for the 2002/03 season.

With the introduction of beanbag hire to ensure maximum comfort, Moonlight has set the scene for a great night's entertainment.

5 December to 22 February
Centennial Park amphitheatre

Enter via Woollahra Gates,
Oxford Street, Woollahra. Films
start at sundown.

Adults \$14.00 Concession
\$11.00 Child/Pensioner \$9.50

Book of 8 Tickets \$95.20
(through Ticketek only - service
fees apply). Tickets available
at the gate from 7pm or Ticketek
9266 4800 (charges apply).

For screening details visit
www.moonlight.com.au
or check the daily papers.
visit www.moonlight.com.au ■

Busby's Bore Walk



In the 1880s, mineral surveyor and civil engineer, John Busby, selected Lachlan Swamp in Centennial Park as the source for a

much needed centralised town water supply. Convicts began constructing a tunnel from Hyde Park to a point in the swamp

adjacent to the present Robertson Rd entrance.

You will follow the route of Busby's Bore, the underground supply of early Sydney's drinking water, with Sydney Water historian Jon Breen. Share in Jon's wealth of knowledge about the history of Sydney's past and present water supply and usage. Learn about the role the ponds played when the early Tank Stream failed on this first ever tour of this kind.

Visit the source of the bore at Busby's Pond and the memorial cairn in Centennial Park then view the shaft into Busby's Bore not open to the public within Fox Studios. For adults.

Bookings essential.
Call 9339 6699. ■



Ponds Restoration Work Commences

As reported in earlier issues of Parklands, the Ponds Restoration Program is the largest ponds project being undertaken by the Parklands. The next stages of the work are about to commence in mid January 2003 on Busby's and Randwick ponds and will see some changes in the Park.

A number of temporary procedures will be put in place to facilitate the work. Dedicated access for trucks entering the park will be through Randwick Gates. A temporary road to the Randwick Pond edge will pass through the equestrian ground, a small portion of which will be fenced off. For environmental and safety issues, the perimeter of the construction site will be fenced with a 1.8 metre high chain wire fence. Work will be carried out Monday to Friday and will last for approximately six months. Mission Field, which will be the construction compound throughout the job, will undergo full restoration on completion of the project which is expected to be in June 2003.

Access to grand Drive will not be affected but there will be temporary and partial road control points during the construction period. Full details will be posted on the site once tendering for the project is complete. ■



Circus Oz

CIRCUS OZ is set to amaze Sydney audiences with its fanatical, high flying antics. Once again this group of stunt jumping crazies will pitch their Big Top in Moore Park and crank out another non-stop barrage of energy. Last year CIRCUS OZ came to Sydney with their own brand new, custom built big top. In 2003 they'll be bringing the house down with their new show.

After spending the first half of 2002 touring Australia and Brazil, CIRCUS OZ used the next four months as an opportunity to train new acts and generally encourage each other to try ever-stranger and more unexpected tricks. The results are amazing.

As always CIRCUS OZ will have new skills to show off and there will also be a number of new faces. No stranger to world

touring, Sosina Wogayehu, spent five years with Circus Ethiopia before studying in Australia, and has brought to CIRCUS OZ jaw dropping contortion and an amazing seven ball juggle act.

With the larrikin energy of a grand final, the physical artistry of a ballet and the thumping sound of a rock concert, CIRCUS OZ is bound to get your pulse racing and the adrenalin pumping.

Wednesday, Jan 1 - Sunday, Feb 2, 2003

Price/s: Adults \$47, Concession \$37, (Students, Seniors & Unemployed), Children \$25, (4-16 years old), Family \$119, (2 adults & 2 children), Groups 10+ \$37

Bookings: Ticketmaster7
Ph: 136 100

www.ticketmaster7.com ■

Music in Centennial Park

Music legend Carlos Santana and his band will tour Australia next year with performances scheduled in five major cities. The setting for his Sydney performance on Thursday 27 March is Centennial Parklands Parade Grounds.

Santana's music career spans five decades and has outlasted countless musical trends, sold more than fifty million albums and played live to upwards of thirty million fans and collected countless honours and awards.

It will prove to be a memorable evening for those fortunate enough to attend.

Tickets will be available from Ticketek. ■

ALL SUMMER

imprints

Don't miss this free exhibition of famous artist Austin Platt and others on display at the Superintendent's Residence.

The exhibition imprints depicts the changes that have taken place in Centennial Parklands over the years and the impact of the landscape on the people who have used it.

Superintendent's Residence from 4 December 2002 to the end of October 2003 on Wednesdays and weekends from 10am to 3pm.

DECEMBER 2002

1 Sunday

CAR FREE DAY

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the first Sunday of summer in the beautiful and vibrant surroundings of Centennial Park. Accessible entry from 9am to 5pm via Musgrave Ave Gates (adjacent to barbecues, picnic facilities and toilets).

2 Monday

HORSE TALK INFORMATION EVENING

Try a new and exciting sport or brush up on your equestrian skills. Evening Park Rides from 6.30pm. \$50.00. Eastside Riding Academy. Bookings (02) 9360 7521.

5 Thursday

MOONLIGHT CINEMA

Grab your picnic basket and rug and head to Centennial Park this summer for a great season of Moonlight Cinema. For the most up to date news visit www.moonlight.com.au. Tickets at the gate from 7.30pm or Ticketek on (02) 9266 4800 (service fees apply). Licensed bar and gourmet catering is available.

6 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

A chance to see the wild nightlife of Centennial Park. Join Rangers spotlighting possums, flying foxes and lots of other night creatures. All ages. Bring torch. 8.30pm-9.30pm. \$8.50 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

10 Tuesday

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

For a great riding experience, jump into the saddle and join the exciting adventure at Centennial Stables. \$270 per camp (which includes lunch and morning and afternoon tea). 9.30am-3.30pm. Bookings (02) 9360 5650

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Children can put their feet in the stirrups and enjoy three days or horsing around. Informative and great fun. Individual and group lessons also available. \$270 per camp (lunch included). 9.00am-3.00pm. Papillon Riding Stables. Bookings 0407 224 938

16 Monday

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Saddle up for some holiday fun. Children five years and older will enjoy park rides, lessons, decorating ponies and mounted games. 10.00am-3.00pm. \$180.00 per camp (including morning tea and lunch). Book early as the Stables will close on 21 December 2002 and will reopen on 13 January 2003. Moore Park Stables. Bookings (02) 9360 8747.

17 Tuesday

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Papillon Riding Stables. 9am-3pm. See 10 December.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Centennial Stables. 9.30am-3pm. See 10 December.

18 Wednesday

MY LITTLE PONIES

A special children's tour of the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre. Find out where the horses live, what they eat and how to care for them. Includes a short pony ride. Wear covered shoes. 10am-11am. \$9 per child (2-5 years), adults free. Meet Equestrian Centre Gates, corner Lang and Cook Roads. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Moore Park Stables. See 16 December.

21 Saturday

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Moore Park Stables. 10am-3pm. See 16 December.

23 Monday

STAR SPORTS CAMP

Multi sports camps for boys and girls from 5 to 15 years. One Day \$43 per child. Sibling discounts apply. Star Sports Camps Bookings (02) 9982 5945. For more information visit www.starsportscamps

TWO-DAY TENNIS CAMP

Learning tennis is fun. Coordination and playing skills, games and tournaments. Sausage sizzle on last day and presentations. 9am-3pm. Supervision available 8.30am-4pm. \$60 per child. Parklands Sports Bookings (02) 9662 7033

24 Tuesday

STAR SPORTS CAMP

See 23 December

JANUARY 2003

3 Friday

CIRCUS OZ

Circus Oz is set to amaze Sydney audiences with their fanatical, high flying antics. Once again this group of stunt jumping crazies will pitch their Big Top in Moore Park and crank out another non-stop barrage of energy. Bookings: Ticketmaster7 Ph: 136 100 www.ticketmaster7.com

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

6 Monday

FIVE-DAY TENNIS CAMP

Learning tennis is fun. Coordination and playing skills, games and tournaments. Sausage sizzle on last day and presentations. 9am-3pm. \$130 per child. Parklands Sports. Bookings (02) 9662 7033.

7 Tuesday

MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP

Build a simple model yacht in this unique workshop and learn the age-old techniques of sailing models in One More Shot Pond. All materials included. 2pm-4pm. \$12 per child (Over 6 years). Meet Musgrave Ave gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

9am-3pm. Papillon Riding Stables. See 10 December.

8 Wednesday

MINI RANGERS

Dress up in your Ranger's outfit to learn how Rangers have taken care of our Parklands in years gone by. Make your own Ranger badge and ID card, go on a Park patrol, and hear the story of old 'Lawman' - the Ranger's horse. 10am-11am. \$8 per child. Meet Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

SECRET STATUES

Search for griffins, sculptures, cannons and monuments that are scattered throughout the Parklands. Construct a statue from plaster and visit the hidden stockpile of secret statues. 2pm-3.30pm. \$9 per child (6-10 years). Meet Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

5 Saturday

MINI RANGERS

10am-11am. See 8 January.

SECRET STATUES

2pm-3.30pm. See 8 January.

10 Friday

INDIGENOUS BASKET CRAFT

This two hour workshop will teach children the indigenous craft of basket weaving. Use sedges and grasses found in Centennial Park to weave a basket or animal shape of your choice. 2pm-4pm. \$12 per child (over 5 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

13 Monday

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Free school holiday activities daily at Fox Studios. For more information, visit www.foxstudios.com.au or phone (02) 9383 4333

14 Tuesday

MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP

2pm-4pm. See 7 January.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Centennial Stables. 9.30am-3.30pm. See 10 December.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

9am-3pm. Papillon Riding Stables. See 10 December.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

15 Wednesday

MINI RANGERS

10am-11am. See 8 January

SECRET STATUES

2pm-3.30pm. See 8 January

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

16 Thursday

MINI RANGERS

10am-11am. See 8 January.

SECRET STATUES

2pm-3.30pm. See 8 January

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Moore Park Stables. 10am-3pm. See 16 December.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January

17 Friday

INDIGENOUS BASKET CRAFT

2pm-4pm. See 10 January.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

18 Saturday

PONY RIDES

The only place where kids can jump into the saddle so close to the city! Hand-led, 10 minute rides for children. 10am-3pm. \$8.50 per ride. Tickets at Mobile Ranger Station, Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings not required.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January

19 Sunday

PONY RIDES

10am-3pm. See 18 January.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

20 Monday

STAR SPORTS CAMP

Multi sports camps for boys and girls from 5 to 15 years. One Day \$43 or weekly rate \$35 per day per child. Sibling discounts apply. Star Sports Camps Bookings (02) 9982 5945. For more information visit www.starsportscamps

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

21 Tuesday

MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP

2pm-4pm. See 7 January.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Moore Park Stables. 10am-3pm. See 16 December.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Centennial Stables. 9.30am-3.30pm. See 10 December.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

22 Wednesday

MINI RANGERS

10am-11am. See 8 January

SECRET STATUES

2pm-3.30pm. See 8 January.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Moore Park Stables. 10am-3pm. See 16 December.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

STAR SPORTS CAMP

See 20 January.

23 Thursday

MINI RANGERS

10am-11am. See 8 January.

SECRET STATUES

2pm-3.30pm. See 8 January.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

STAR SPORTS CAMP

See 20 January.

24 Friday

INDIGENOUS BASKET CRAFT

2pm-4pm. See 10 January.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.45pm-9.45pm. See 6 December.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

See 13 January.

STAR SPORTS CAMP

See 20 January.

25 Saturday

PONY RIDES

10am-3pm. See 18 January.

26 Sunday

PONY RIDES

10am-3pm. See 18 January

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP

Moore Park Stables. 10am-3pm. See 16 December.

FEBRUARY 2003

1 Friday

EASTSIDE RIDING ACADEMY

From 6.30pm. See 2 December.

7 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

8.30pm-9.30pm. See 6 December.

14 Friday

MY LITTLE PONIES

10am-11am. See 18 December.

16 Sunday

BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST

Join this early morning guided tour to spot some of the Parklands' migratory and resident land and water birds. For adults. Bring binoculars. Includes light breakfast. 7.30am-9.30am. \$12 per person. Meet Musgrave Avenue Gates. Finishes at Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

17 Monday

BUSBY'S BORE WALK

Walk the route of Busby's Bore, the underground supply of early Sydney's drinking water, with Sydney Water historian Jon Breen. Visit the source of the bore at Busby's Pond and the memorial cairn in Centennial Park, then see an exclusive viewing of the shaft into Busby's Bore within Fox Studios. For adults. 10am-Noon. \$12 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Finishes at Fox Studios. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

23 Sunday

MOONLIGHT SOUNDS

After a successful first year in Centennial Square, the Moonlight Sounds festival event returns to the park. The event will be the first event of its kind to take place at Kippax Lake. Headlining the event will be Chicago's Derrick Carter and New York's Miguel Migs, of Naked Music fame. Log onto www.fuzzy.com.au or www.moonlight.com.au for breaking news.

Bookings

Bookings and advance payment are required for all Escape and Explore activities. Numbers are strictly limited and places will not be held without payment.

Bookings can be made by phoning (02) 9339 6699 or at the Administration Building during normal business hours.

Cancellations made less than 48 hours prior to the activity may not receive a full refund.

In case of rain, please call to confirm the activity is proceeding.

A full refund will be given if an activity is cancelled due to wet weather.

☺ Indicates discount for *Friends of Centennial Parklands*. Please present your *Friends* keyring or membership card to secure a discount. Discount is 10% unless otherwise stated.

Centennial Parklands *User's Guide*

QUICK GUIDE

First Aid and Emergency

24 hour Ranger service, 7 days.

☎(02)9746 2164 or (02)9746 0444

Administration

8.30am-5pm Monday-Friday. Located behind Centennial Parklands Café.

☎(02)9339 6699 Fax: (02)9332 2148

Superintendent's Residence

Located at Paddington Gates, Oxford Street. Open Wednesdays and weekends (10am-3pm)

How to Get Here

- **By Bus:** easily accessible by bus. Route 339 from City stations and 355 from Bondi Junction run regular services to Moore Park. Route 378 from Central and 380 from Circular Quay run services to Centennial Park. Phone 131 500 for timetable details.
- **Car:** main gates to Centennial Park open sunrise to sunset. Car Free Days are held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December. A 30km speed limit applies on all roads in Centennial Park.

Friends of Centennial Parklands

More than a group of park lovers, the Friends are an important association of like-minded people committed to preserving the Parklands' history and culture.

☎(02)9339 6699

Community Consultative Committee

Meets approximately every six weeks. Committee members can be contacted via Centennial Parklands administration. ☎(02)9339 6699 email: ccc@cp.nsw.gov.au web: www.cp.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/community

Park Information

Information, maps and brochures are available from the Administration Building (behind the Café) or the Superintendent's Residence near Paddington Gates, Wednesdays and weekends (10am-3pm)

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Modern Australian à la carte restaurant offering a full wine list. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. 8.30am-3pm. Open for dinner 6pm-9pm Friday and Saturday. Also available for weddings and function hire.

☎(02)9360 3355

Centennial Parklands Café

Specialising in light meals and snacks, the Café offers open air eating in our award-winning forecourt. Open 7 days, 8am-5pm. ☎(02)9380 6922

Centennial Parklands Kiosk

Located next to the Duck Pond, the Kiosk serves sandwiches, light meals, coffee, cold drinks and ice cream. Open Weekends and Public Holidays, 8am-sunset.

Centennial Parklands Children's Centre

Long day care centre for babies to pre-schoolers. ☎(02)9663 1200

Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre

Formerly the historic Sydney Showgrounds stables, now a world-class Equestrian Centre offering 270 stables, a lunging yard, arenas, veterinarian, agistment providers and riding schools.

☎(02)9332 2809

Moore Park Golf Club

Public 18 hole golf course in the heart of the Eastern Suburbs. Includes Golf Pro Shop and one of the largest driving ranges in Australia.

☎(02)9663 3791

Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

Tennis, basketball and netball courts available for casual or regular use.

☎(02)9662 7033

THINGS TO DO

Cycling & Roller Blading

A 4km cycling and roller blading track follows the perimeter of Grand Drive. A Learner's Cycleway for children is also available (cycling only). Cyclists are not permitted to ride in packs of more than 15. Hire available from:

- Centennial Park Cycles: ☎(02)9398 5027 (bikes & blades)
- Woollys Wheels: ☎(02)9331 2671 (bikes)
- Bondi Boards & Blades: ☎(02)9369 2212 (blades)
- Total Skate: ☎(02)9380 6356 (blades)

Dog Walking

Dogs can be exercised off leash, but under control in Centennial Park outside Grand Drive, and in Moore and Queens Parks. Dogs must be on a lead inside the Grand Drive circles. For safety reasons dogs are not allowed on the horse or cycle track, roads, equestrian grounds, children's playgrounds, Learner's Cycleway, in ponds, wildlife areas or on sporting fields when in use. Dogs must be kept 10 metres from BBQs, the Café and Restaurant and the Federation Pavilion.

Jogging & Walking

A 3.6km jogging track is available around Grand Drive. Self-guided walking trails are located at Lachlan Swamp and the Duck Pond. Guided walks held regularly each season. Guided walks bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Horse Riding

Centennial Park is one of the few remaining parks in the world offering inner-city horse riding, with a 3.6km circular horse track and some 2 hectares of fenced equestrian grounds. Horse hire available from:

- Budapest Riding School ☎0419 231 391
- Centennial Stables ☎(02)9360 5650
- Eastside Riding Academy ☎(02)9360 7521
- Moore Park Training ☎(02)9360 8747
- Papillon Riding Stables ☎(02)8356 9866

Picnics & BBQs

The Parklands offer unlimited picnic spots, with views of ponds, fields and gardens. Also five BBQ locations in Centennial Park and one in Queens Park. Access to picnic areas and BBQs operates on a first-in basis. Bookings required for groups of 50 or over. Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Children's Activities

Ranger-led birthday parties, toddler activities, holiday activities and school excursions are available as part of the Parklands' *Escape and Explore Program*. ☎(02)9339 6699

BOOK A SPACE FOR PLAYING OR ENTERTAINING

Playing Fields

Playing fields in Centennial, Moore and Queens Parks are available for team sports, including cricket, soccer, hockey, rugby and touch-football. Also available is ES Marks Athletics Field featuring an international standard 400 metre recatan running track, shot put, discus, javelin, long high & triple jump facilities. Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Centennial Square

Surrounded by trees and designed for marquees, this site caters for 50 to 1200 people. Located next to one of Centennial Park's historic ponds on the eastern side of the Park. Perfect for weddings, launches and events. Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Available for weddings and function hire. 8.30am-3pm. Bookings: ☎(02)9360 3355

Events

Submissions from the public are welcome for activities and events that support the Parklands' cultural policy. Enquiries: ☎(02)9339 6699

Filming & Photography

Centennial Parklands offers a versatile range of locations for commercial filming and photography at competitive rates. Enquiries: ☎(02)9339 6699


CENTENNIAL parklands
centennial park moore park queens park

Locked Bag 15
PADDINGTON NSW 2021
Tel: (02) 9339 6699 Fax: (02) 9332 2148
www.cp.nsw.gov.au
email: info@cp.nsw.gov.au