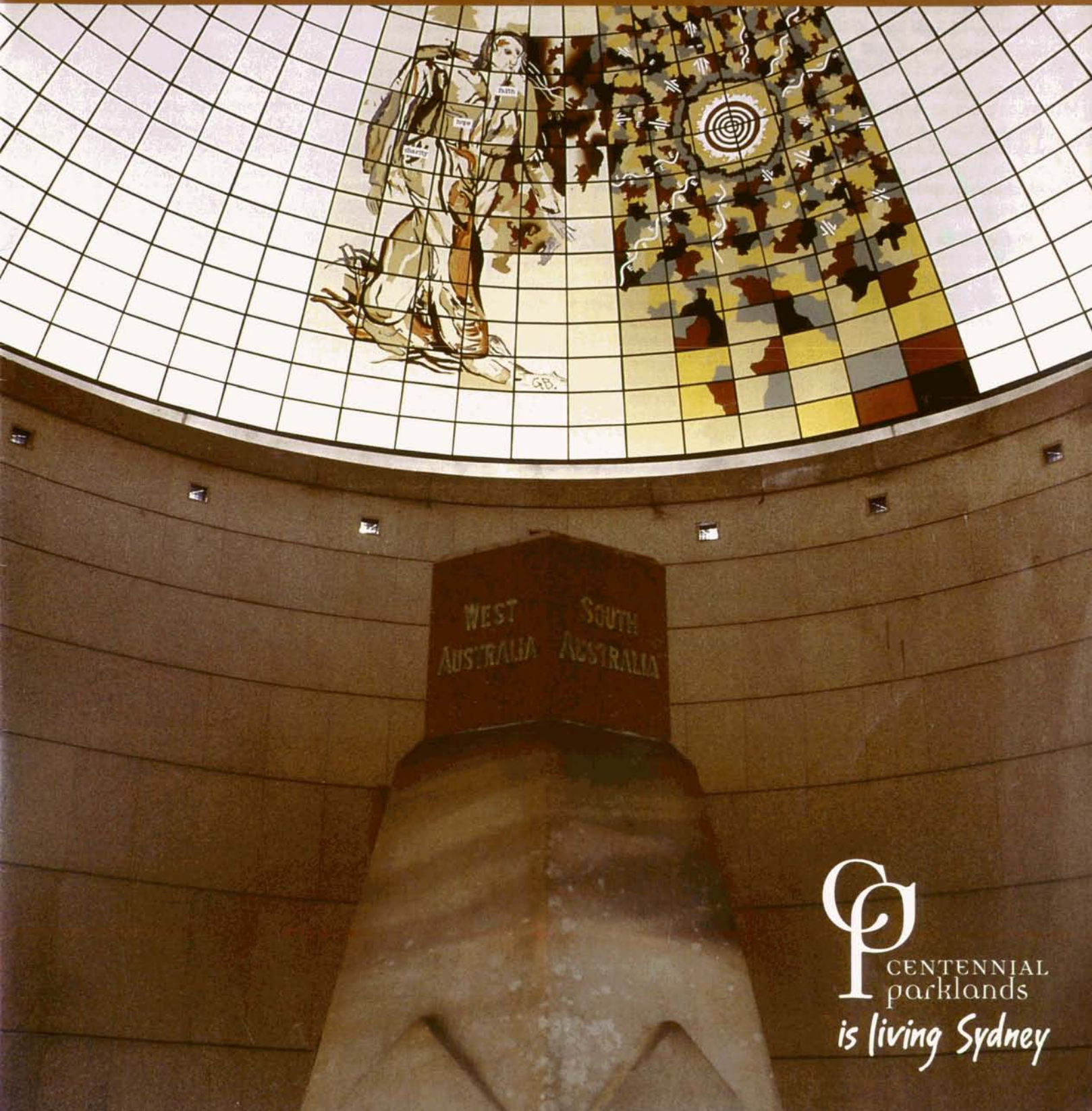



VOLUME 26 • AUTUMN 2004

parklands

THE MAGAZINE OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS




CENTENNIAL
parklands
is living Sydney

Directions

WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN ISSUE OF PARKLANDS.

The summer season was again very busy with the return of some popular events. An extremely successful addition to the summer calendar this season was the inaugural Good Vibrations Festival held on Mission Fields on Saturday, 31 January. Approximately 18,000 people turned up to enjoy the sounds of Moloko, Gangstarr and other headlining acts on a beautiful sunny afternoon. The festival received widespread praise from the public and looks set to become one of the highlights of the Sydney summer festival season.

As in past years, many regular activities in the school holiday program were sold out well in advance, highlighting the appeal of our summer calendar

of events. Some new inclusions to the program, such as the Hunters and Convicts activity, also proved to be very popular, with children entranced with the tales of Centennial Parklands in years gone by. This autumn season also sees the introduction of a variety of new education and interpretation events for both adults and children that are certain to be a hit. From the Junior Rangers activities to the Pond Walk, there's sure to be something for everyone.

The Centennial Parklands Park Improvement Plan continues with work due to commence in three more areas of the Parklands. Two new public toilet blocks will be constructed near Federation Valley and Lachlan Reserve while a comprehensive refurbishment to the rotunda in Moore Park

West will restore public access to this valuable historical building. The amenities upgrade and the rotunda facelift will both re-invigorate areas of Centennial Parklands by increasing the facilities and space available to the public while providing an improved visitor experience.

Visitors to the Parklands recently may have noticed a more obvious stage of the Centennial Parklands Park Improvement Plan. A small section of Grand Drive has been closed since mid-February, resulting in a minor detour for motorists, cyclists and horse riders and changes to direction of traffic. The work will be finished as quickly as possible and is an important part of increasing visitor safety and comfort in Centennial Parklands.

In other stories this issue, we take a look at Federation Pavilion and how the building itself reflects the history of our country. We also explain what to do with injured wildlife, report on the launch of a new fundraising initiative and take a look at what's happening with the *Friends of Centennial Parklands* program.

Autumn brings dramatic changes to Centennial Parklands. I hope you take the opportunity to visit the Parklands during this very special time of year. ■



Marlene Krasovitsy
Acting Director

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Parklands Magazine is published quarterly by the Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust. Locked Bag 15, Paddington NSW 2021.

Centennial Parklands is managed by the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust.

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Printed on recycled paper

Cover: *Inside Federation Pavilion*

ISSN: 1447-7645

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Parkbench

CENTENNIAL PARK GRAND DRIVE CLOSURES

A section of Grand Drive between Loch Avenue and Dickens Drive (see map below) will be closed for construction work from February 2004. The work will take approximately 10-12 weeks and will affect an area of approximately 75 metres.

The temporary closure is necessary to undertake a trial of various resurfacing and edge treatments to the cycle lane, roadway, parking, pedestrian walkway and horse track along a short length of Grand Drive. This work is part of Centennial Parklands' general upgrade and maintenance to improve access, parking and safety within the Parklands.

During construction, this area of Grand Drive will be closed to cars and cyclists. An alternative route will be provided down Loch Ave and Dickens Drive. The direction of traffic flow along Loch Ave will be reversed for the duration of the works to minimise disruption to cars and cycles. It will return to its usual direction on completion.

Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the works, however the path may vary to coincide with construction. Horse access will generally be retained during the works however any changes to these plans will be notified in advance on our website.

The work will involve resurfacing the cycle lane, roadway and car parking area, upgrading the pedestrian pathway, introducing defined edging around the car parking and pedestrian walkways and formalising the existing running track.

The historic plantings of Figs, Norfolk Island Pines and Holm Oaks, together with the original tree planting pattern and spacing, will be retained in this area and an inner ring of evergreen magnolias will be added to create a new contemporary layer.

THE SPACES BETWEEN

This exhibition at Centennial Parklands explores the history, diversity and benefits of our city's myriad public parks.

Sydney's parks are central to the city's life and identity. Their emergence and diversification have mirrored our society's ever-changing needs and values. Ironically, some of Sydney's most undesirable places have, over time, become our most cherished parks. From cultivated gardens, to wilderness areas and industrial heritage sites, these leftovers of urban expansion are the places in which people choose to rest, play and ponder.

These are the spaces between the city and suburb, between the workplace and home, between the past, present and future.

Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates.
Open Wednesdays and weekends 10.00 am – 3.00 pm until October 2004.
Free admission.

CAR FREE DAY

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the last Sunday of summer in the peaceful surroundings of Centennial Park. Accessible entry via Musgrave Avenue Gates (adjacent to toilets, barbecues and picnic facilities).
9.00 am – 5.00 pm.
Sunday, 30 May.

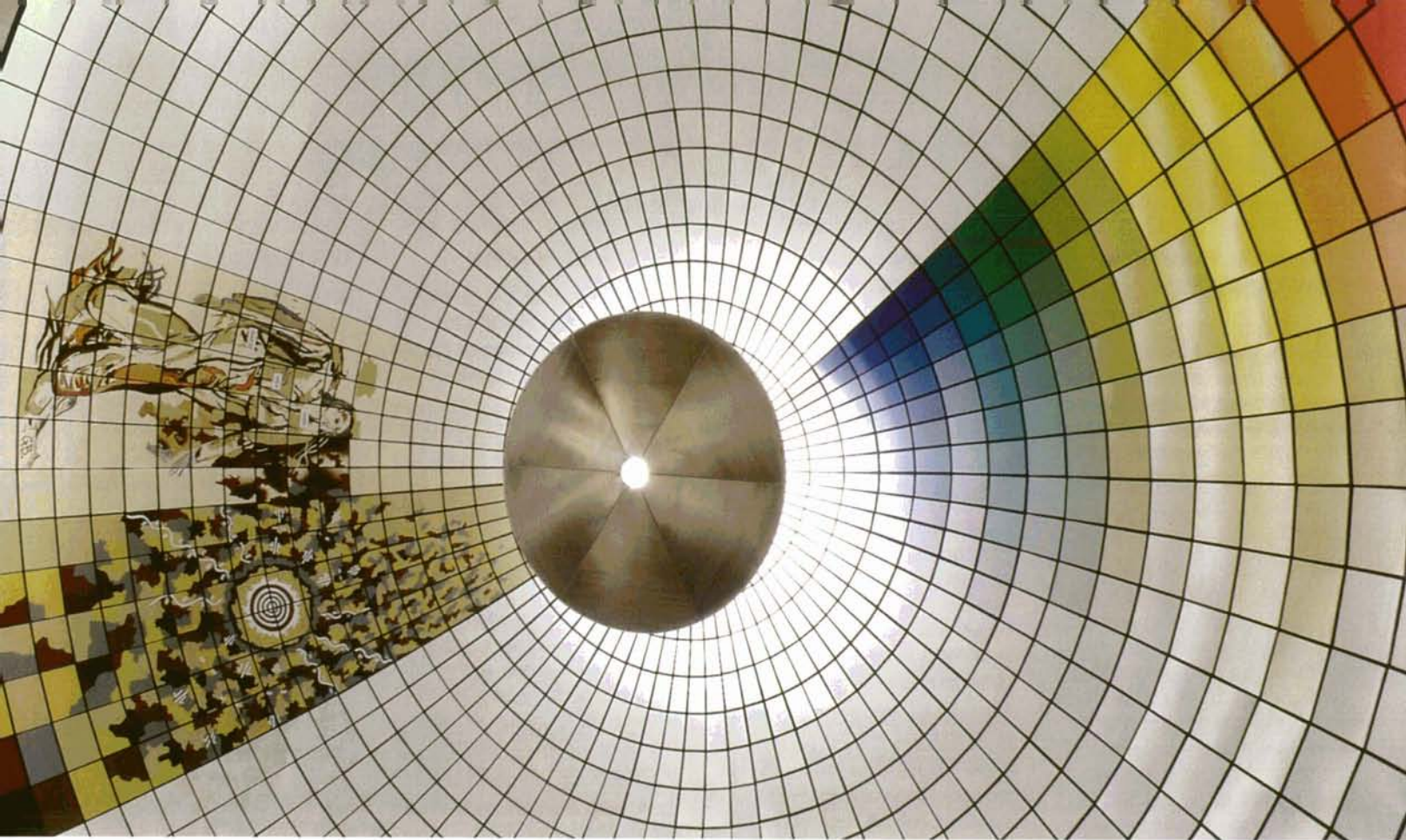
PARKS FORUM

Centennial Parklands is a member of the International Parks Strategic Partners Group (IPSP). This Group, with membership from Australia, New Zealand and the USA, was established in 1994 with the aim of improving performance in the management of parks and protected areas through sharing knowledge.

Since April 2003, a core team has worked on the establishment of a new association, Parks Forum. This exciting initiative has the support of key agencies from Australia and New Zealand at the federal, state and local levels. A conference is being held in May this year which will provide a forum for dynamic and innovative thinking to be applied to the parks industry. It will be exploring the topic of *Parks in Society* – how values are measured and applied, what is the latest thinking in values and what do we, as an industry, need to do to make ourselves more valued and by whom.

GRAND DRIVE CLOSURES





Living History – Understanding Federation Pavilion

As many who come to the Parklands may know, Federation Pavilion sits on one of the most important historical locations in Australia – the birthplace of our nation. What visitors may not know however, is that the Pavilion contains many clues to the site's glorious past that can help you understand the history behind the building.

It was early afternoon on New Years Day, 1901 and more than 60,000 people had gathered in Centennial Parklands, dressed in their Sunday best, to witness the proclamation of the Commonwealth of Australia. The Great Inaugural Procession had already made its way through the streets of Sydney and dignitaries, politicians and community leaders were taking their places for the most significant event this young country had witnessed so far.

As the hour approached for the signing of the documents, all eyes fixed on the temporary pavilion in the centre of the valley, constructed especially for the occasion. The Pavilion – a 14 metre high, octagonal, domed structure made of plaster of Paris – was richly decorated with bas-relief castings of native flora and the imperial coat of arms (the original design can be seen on the new \$5 notes). Inside the structure sat a stone obelisk – the 'Federation Stone' – created to symbolise the coming together of the states and territories.

And so, as history informs us, at 1pm, 1 January 1901, the Queen's Proclamation was read, the Governor-General and Federal Ministers were sworn in and a 21-gun salute declared the people from Australia's six separate colonies united in a Federal Commonwealth of Australia.

After its auspicious beginnings, the site of the original pavilion fell into a state of decline as the plaster of Paris quickly degraded, until in 1903 it was removed altogether. The Federation Stone which had been housed within the pavilion was later placed on a sandstone pedestal and surrounded by an iron picket fence in 1904. It remained there until the new Federation Pavilion was opened in 1988 as part of the Bicentennial Celebrations.

The new Pavilion was designed by Sydney architect Alexander Tzannes as a Bicentennial refurbishment after he won a competition to design a permanent monument to Federation in Centennial Parklands.

The design of the building incorporated the entire landscape of Federation Valley and was based on a circle – the symbol of unity – to reflect the significance of the site.

"I wanted to make an intriguing or slightly mysterious object," Tzannes says. "What I wanted the viewer to do was to engage in the concept of history and time, and I tried to make it relevant to that moment in history."

Inside the building, the symmetrically designed, marble laid interior provides a solemn and serene setting for the original Federation Stone. It now features a marble hexagon stone cap on the original sandstone obelisk and each side is engraved with a state and the date of its founding.

The artwork which lines the underside of the dome of the Pavilion is a montage of 1,440 vitreous enamelled steel panels by artist Imants Tillers. Light is reflected onto the work from both the central overhead oculus and from water in the stainless steel trough concealed behind the inscribed sandstone frieze. The focal point of the mural occupies only a small portion of the dome, the remainder being left white to depict the vast emptiness of the Australian inland.

The main artwork has a mix of European and Aboriginal elements. The dominant figure suggests many ideas in the one image – convict origins, heroic rural settler clearing the land, and many others. It is taken from the work of German painter George Baselitz, hence the initials 'GB' at the base of the figure.

Beside the figure is a contrasting image taken from the mural designed for the forecourt of Parliament House by Aboriginal artist Michael Tjakamarra. The colours reflect those of the Australian outback and the symbols are commonly used in Aboriginal art. The target-like circular patterns represents a shield, 'dE' represents animals, the 'E' people and the wavy lines represent the movement of people and places from one place to another. Tjakamarra's design is repeated beside the dominant artwork but is very faint and merges into the adjoining white panels.

The inscription on the sandstone frieze of the Pavilion, just below the dome, 'Mammon or Millennial Eden', may perhaps seem a little perplexing to first-time visitors.

The words are a paraphrase of questions posed in the poem *Australia* by Bernard O'Dowd, written in 1901 (see box).

A new demesne for Mammon to infest?

Or lurks millennial Eden 'neath your face?

The paraphrase was suggested by Professor Manning Clark who believed that the poem reflected the principal obsession of the intellectual community at the time – will Australia become a country of corrupt, 'ill-gotten' wealth or will we create a paradise that will last for 1000 years?

Tzannes says the words add significantly to understanding the history behind the building.

"Using the poem on the building forces you to rove through time and to understand what really was the feeling at the time," he says.

Indeed, the intention behind the design of the building was to carry the observer through various perspectives of time.

"It is very much a building which tells a story," Tzannes says. "The exterior ... conveys the history of the place and the history of the moment. It gives a sense of that past and is static in composition. But the interior of the building is dynamic in composition and so in a sense it is indicative of the future and the present."

Staring up at the imposing sandstone columns, it's not hard to imagine that this was



The original pavilion at the Federation ceremony in 1901



Federation Pavilion as it stands now

the site of one of the most significant events in Australia's history. As the engraved words on the sandstone frieze echo down through the ages, we can only hope that Eden continues to stay beneath our feet. ■

AUSTRALIA

BY BERNARD O'DOWD

*Last sea-thing dredged by sailor Time from Space,
Are you a drift Sargasso, where the West
In halcyon calm rebuilds her fatal nest?
Or Delos of a coming Sun-God's race?
Are you for Light, and trimmed, with oil in place,
Or but a Will o' Wisp on marshy quest?
A new demesne for Mammon to infest?
Or lurks millennial Eden 'neath your face?*

*The cenotaphs of species dead elsewhere
That in your limits leap and swim and fly,
Or trial uncanny harp-strings from your trees,
Mix omens with the auguries that dare
To plant the Cross upon your forehead sky,
A virgin helpmate Ocean at your knees.*

Demesne – possession of real property or territory or estate

Mammon – ill-gotten wealth or wealth regarded as a source of evil

Millennial – 1000 years.

• Bernard O'Dowd's poem is published in *An Austral Garden: An Anthology Verse 1926*

CAPTURING THE MOMENT

Another feature of Federation Valley that may not be apparent to visitors also seeks to capture a particular point in time for generations to come. Beneath a plaque close to Federation Pavilion lies a time capsule placed in 1988 as part of the Bicentennial Celebrations. The commemorative inscription in the capsule is signed by all the members of Parklands staff at the time and contains various objects and documents. But don't hold your breath for a glimpse of its contents – the capsule is not due to be opened for another 100 years.

Twitcher's Corner –

THE NOISY MINER BY TREVOR WALLER



One of the most common birds in Centennial Parklands is the Noisy Miner – a native honeyeater that spends most of the time foraging through flowers and blossoms in trees and bushes for nectar. To ensure a balanced diet, the 'Miner' also eats the sugary excretions of sap-sucking insects which provide an essential source of protein.

The Miner is a mostly grey bird with a whitish forehead, black crown and cheeks and a yellow bill. There is an area of bare yellow skin behind the eye and a wash of pale yellow on the wing. The underparts are grey with darker scallops on the breast and the dark tail has a whitish tip.

The Miner is a colonial species and is very aggressive towards other birds in their territory. Even much larger birds are not safe around them and can expect to be mobbed by a flock of angry Miners. A few loud calls let all the other Miners in the area know that there is an intruder and in no time there is a noisy gang moving through the trees, all calling to each other and diving at the unlucky intruder.

Noisy Miners also have a very useful alarm call which is sounded when there is a bird of prey overhead. They emit a loud strident 'pee pee pee' which alerts other Miners to take cover. This is useful because it can make the alert

bird watcher aware of the presence of a bird of prey.

The Miner breeding season starts in July and ends around December. They build a bowl of twigs, bark, leaves and cobwebs, lining it with softer material. While the nest is generally very well hidden in a tree or bush, I'm sure you will have no trouble finding a Noisy Miner in the Parklands. In fact they might find you first.

Trevor Waller is an avid birdwatcher and member of the Cumberland Bird Observers Club (phone 02 9639 8549) and Birding NSW (phone 02 9439 1981). ■

Person in the Park – Deb Lenis

Deb Lenis is a local Indigenous woman who has been providing interpretive tours of both the Guriwal Bush Tucker Trail and Lachlan Swamp Nature Trail for more than four years, sharing her extensive knowledge of local Indigenous history and culture with visitors of all ages and nationalities.

Deb began working with the Parklands in 2000 when she helped with the design and construction of the Guriwal Bush Tucker Trail between Ash Paddock and the Learner's Cycleway (see map on page 10). Developed in conjunction with the Guriwal Aboriginal Corporation, the Trail features local native plant species and engraved information signs that describe the bush tucker plants and animals in the Parklands. Deb also personally designed most of the artwork and signage throughout the walk so the Trail has a special place in her heart.

Children in particular can learn a lot from the information and stories on the tours, according to Deb.

"Not many of the children I get down here have ever learnt about bush foods and I don't think many of them have heard a lot of Indigenous stories before," she says. "The tour gives them an opportunity to sample something different. While they still eat their processed food when we walk back out, they still get to do something that they've never tried before."

The tours last for about an hour and are followed by a kangaroo barbeque and light refreshments. Night walks are also available and Deb runs special tours for adults and non-English speaking visitors.

When she's not working, Deb still comes to the Parklands at least once a day to walk around and breathe in the atmosphere.

"I used to live in Randwick and now I live in Coogee," she says. "But I still come down and do my 40 minutes walk each day with my girlfriends. It's my exercise routine for the day."

One of the biggest changes she's noticed over the years is the amount of people coming to the park.

"There's a lot more people coming now," she says. "We also have a lot more visitors who are interested in knowing what can be done in and around the Parklands. Whether it be the school groups that the Education and Interpretation Rangers hold or whether it's just finding out what's happening on the weekend in the Park."

Overall Deb says she loves "absolutely everything" about the Parklands and finds it a wonderful place to come and relax.



"You've got 361 hectares and you can't see any city building, I love it!"

For more information about the tours, contact the Education and Interpretation Rangers on (02) 9339 6645 or (02) 9339 6699. ■

Handle with Care

Depending on the time of day, visitors to Centennial Parklands can expect to see a wide variety of animals throughout the various environments. Although the Parklands attract more than five million visits each year, generally the wildlife remains relatively undisturbed and continues to use the grounds as a valuable sanctuary and breeding area.

However, there are times when animals in the Parklands may need our help and knowing the correct procedure for handling injured animals may be the difference between a successful rehabilitation and an unfortunate casualty.

"If you can pick it up, it needs help," says Kay Brookes, Sydney Office Co-ordinator for the Wildlife Information and Rescue Service (WIRES). Kay is also a member of WIRES Eastern Suburbs who have worked closely with Centennial Parklands rangers for many years.

However, she warns that not all injured animals should be approached by humans. Apart from the obvious dangers of trying to handle snakes, Kay says that handling injured bats is also not recommended.

"In these sorts of cases, it's best to get the rangers and not touch the animal at all," she says.

Injured reptiles, such as blue tongue lizards, are fine to pick up, and ducks, birds and small mammals can also be handled.

"When dealing with hurt animals, location is the key," says Centennial Parklands ranger Colin Cheshire. "More often than not, injured animals tend to be quite young and in many cases, still reside in the nest with their mothers. It is therefore crucial that we know exactly where the injured animal was found so that we can return the infant back to the nest once it has healed."

This means finding out the exact tree or shrub that the animal was closest to as well as noting any other unusual details in the area such as broken branches or fallen nests.

"This information is vital in the successful rehabilitation of the animal, and will greatly assist in the animal's welfare," says Colin.

Kay says that while dogs, foxes and cars cause a large majority of the injuries to wildlife in the Parklands, another major factor is rubbish.

"Plastic bags are deadly to birds and we have a major campaign against rubbish," she says. "Recently we had an endangered species, a musk duck, which had become entangled in a plastic bag and was suffocating. With all the rubbish bins around the Parklands, there's just no excuse for that kind of thing to happen."

Ms Brookes says in cases like these, prevention is the key and visitors to the Park can certainly play their part.

"Plastic is the big killer," she says. "By picking up any plastic materials, particularly around the ponds or water courses, you can definitely reduce the number of injuries to animals."

However she says that the do-it-yourself approach is not appropriate for all situations.

"Be careful when trying to remove obstacles from animals, you can actually make it worse," she warns. "If it doesn't seem life threatening, leave it to the experts."

When it comes to handling injured fauna, a few simple precautions will ensure that your intervention is a help not a hindrance to the health of wildlife in the Parklands.



DO'S AND DON'T'S

DON'T

- Don't feed animals bread. While visitors may enjoy feeding bread to the ducks and other wildlife, they may not realise they are actually causing harm. White bread has limited nutrients but birds and other animals will continue to feast on this easy meal, ignoring their native food sources and causing an imbalance in the ecological food chain. The bread can also contribute to water pollution, endangering the rich, native aquatic life of the many ponds in the Parklands.
- Don't feed the pigeons. Pigeon populations, particularly near Duck Pond, are on the rise and are a very real pest, spreading disease among humans and animals and causing chemical deterioration to the Parklands buildings and infrastructure with their droppings.

DO

- Do clean up any rubbish you see, particularly plastic products. Every plastic bag is capable of killing a whole range of native wildlife and its removal will certainly reduce injuries to animals.
- Do note the exact details of the location of any injured animals, right down to the specific tree or scrub. Remember to leave your name and phone number with the rangers in case any further information is required.

By wrapping the whole animal in soft material and placing it in a carton or container, any damaged limbs are immobilised and are therefore protected from further injury. Towels are the most appropriate material, but any sort of cloth will do. Remember to cover the head as well because in most cases this will calm and relax the animal. Finally, make sure the carton or container is soft and won't damage the animal and be careful not to bump the box when transporting the 'patient' to the rangers or local WIRES branch.

By following these simple guidelines, we can all play an important role in protecting and preserving the animals of Centennial Parklands.

If you are interested in learning more about wildlife in Sydney, why not join our Caring for Urban Wildlife workshop on Sunday, 14 March. For more information, see Events Highlights on page 10. ■

Centennial Parklands Hosts Sports Program Launch

Centennial Parklands played host during January for the launch of a new initiative by Cricket NSW and the NSW State Government designed to encourage young Aboriginal people to take up sports like cricket in a bid to boost their health and well-being and address obesity.

While rain forced a relocation of the event from Moore Park to the indoor cricket centre next to Aussie Stadium, the wet weather did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the participants – some of whom had travelled all the way from the south coast to attend the event.

The program is part of a broader strategy to boost Aboriginal participation in sport and also includes the promotion of surf life-saving, softball, swimming, tennis, golf,

hockey, touch football, netball, soccer, basketball, athletics, rugby union, AFL and rugby league in Indigenous communities throughout NSW.

"This is an important initiative because we know that sport strengthens communities with skills developed on the sporting field transferring to life outside sport – such as self-esteem, goal setting, problem solving and the ability to perform under pressure," says NSW Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation Sandra Nori. "Participation in sport and physical activity also helps address the growing problems of obesity and ill-health which affect the Aboriginal population at rates higher than the general community."

Centennial Parklands is proud to be associated with the launch of such an important program and as part of our



ongoing *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* initiative, the Parklands offers a wide range of sporting facilities and activities for use by the public. For more

information, visit our website www.cp.nsw.gov.au or browse through the users guide on the back page of this magazine. ■

FILLY FINDS FRIENDS AS MIGHT AND POWER DROPS IN

In January, the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre welcomed the birth of Kirrawau-Kristie (pictured) as she made a patriotic entrance to the world at 5am on Australia Day. Affectionately known around the Centre as Bumble Bee, daughter of Honey Bee, the foal has already won the hearts of many visitors to the grounds. Proud human parents Sinikka Pollari and Bryan Riley will continue to keep a close eye on Bumble Bee as she gets past the toddler wobbles but neither are expecting any problems with her development.

Meanwhile, celebrity thoroughbred Might and Power (pictured) called the Equestrian Centre home for four nights in January as he continued his run of charity events and horse shows around the country. The 11-year old champion gelding won 15 races and more than \$5 million in prize money throughout his career, including the 1997 Melbourne and Caulfield Cups. Handler Stephen Gladstone (pictured) was on hand to provide the public with some welcome viewings of this impressive horse which were well received by visitors young and old alike. ■



Sinikka Pollari and Bryan Riley take Bumble Bee and Honey Bee for a morning walk



Stephen Gladstone helping Might and Power to show his true colours

Amenities to Undergo Upgrade

Centennial Parklands amenities will undergo a dramatic upgrade over the next year with the construction of two brand new public toilet blocks. The first will be located near the corner of Dickens and Parkes Drive (see map on page 10) while the second will replace the existing amenities block near Federation Valley.

The upgrades, part of the Centennial Parklands Park Improvement Plan, will provide stylish, flexible, low-maintenance buildings that demonstrate ecologically sustainable principles while providing a unique experience for users of public toilets in the Parklands.

A rigorous planning process was undertaken to ensure the new amenities meet a variety of criteria and the buildings are



Amenities building as it stands now

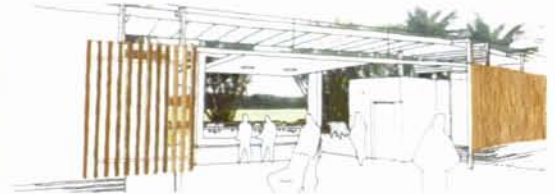
based on a generic design which can be modified and adapted for use throughout the Parklands.

The design includes two buildings for male and female amenities, linked by a roof. A unique external communal space is thus created between the two buildings for hand washing and viewing the landscape. Because of its highly visible and communal nature, the space provides an excellent sense of surveillance and security and the nature of the two linked buildings also means

it responds visually to different landscapes and environments.

For a unique experience of a different kind, clear glazed roofs in each of the cubicles allow visitors to view the sky while answering the call of nature. Translucent glazing is used to ensure privacy and a crafted vertical screen of steel and timber added for extra protection.

The design also includes a variety of features that add functionality to the buildings while maintaining ecologically sustainable practices. Solar



Architect's sketch of amenities building after upgrade

panels on the roof supply security lighting at night and each building has an abundance of natural light and ventilation, created through the extensive use of glass and louvres. Natural materials have been selected for their beauty, longevity and low-maintenance and to complement the Parklands setting.

Construction of the new amenities is due to commence in May 2004 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. ■

Rotunda to Receive Facelift

Centennial Parklands is to upgrade the existing rotunda situated in Moore Park West. The project aims to restore and realign public use of the rotunda in line with the Centennial Parklands Conservation Management Plan (CMP). The development will restore a significant heritage element to Moore Park West while re-invigorating the area by increasing public amenity and accessible public space.

The rotunda was originally erected as a bandstand by the Sydney City Council in 1909 and is a close contemporary of similar structures in other Sydney parks, including Observatory Hill, Belmore Park, Hyde Park and the Wynyard Reserve. By 1929 the building had fallen into a state of disrepair. In 1936 it was enclosed and expanded to serve functions related to the adjacent sports field added to Moore Park West. During this development



View of rotunda from the east now

much of the original building design was removed or obscured, making a thorough restoration impractical. However, the proposed alterations aim to return the rotunda to its original open air bandstand form and keep as much of its original character as possible.

Elements of the building that contribute to its historical significance, such as the original sandstone base, lined timber ceiling, and its general form, will be retained. The main objective behind the proposed work is to reinstate the character of the first bandstand and restore the original civic purpose of the building.



Architect's sketch of rotunda after upgrade

A significant part of the project involves removing the enclosing brick walls of the upper levels of the rotunda and restoring the heritage bandstand as an area for use by visitors. This space is currently locked and not open to the public. The toilet facilities attached to the rotunda will also be removed as they were a later addition to the building and are currently in poor condition. The sandstone from these walls will be restored and reused elsewhere in the project.

The lower level, which is currently a locked storage space, will be developed for potential future use as a café,

coffee cart, bike hire or similar facility. The space will include an accessible toilet and the surrounding landscape will also be appropriately upgraded, including a café forecourt area and garden surrounds.

The rotunda upgrade is part of the Centennial Parklands Park Improvement Plan and will ensure an improved visitor experience to Moore Park West. Construction is expected to begin in May and should be completed by the end of August. ■

Highlights



MILLION PAWS WALK

Don't miss this year's RSPCA Million Paws Walk on Sunday, 16 May. Join your four-legged friends in a day filled with fun and festivities. The RSPCA needs your help to continue its valuable work helping animals in need. There will be live music on the day, entertainment, dog obedience displays and much more. Remember, your dog must be vaccinated, non-aggressive, healthy and on a lead during the walk. Registration at Loch Avenue South. For more information on ticket costs and registration, call (02) 9770 7552 or visit www.millionpawswalk.com.au.

Sunday, 16 May



SYDNEY GAY AND LESBIAN MARDI GRAS PARADE – BGF RESERVED SEATING

It's extravagant, energetic, exciting, electric, eccentric and enormously entertaining! Grab a seat at the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) Reserved Seating where you can relax and watch the 26th Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade in style and comfort. All proceeds from ticket sales go to supporting people living with HIV/AIDS. Parade starts at College Street, continues up Oxford Street and finishes in Moore Park Road and Driver Avenue. Tickets are \$94 – \$100 plus booking fee and are available through Ticketmaster7 by phoning 13 61 00.

Saturday, 6 March



CARING FOR URBAN WILDLIFE

Join rangers and experienced wildlife carers from WIRES Eastern Branch in this five-hour interactive session about the care of urban wildlife. Discover the best techniques for caring for and handling injured animals, learn how to attract wildlife to your garden and find out how to prevent native species from becoming pests. The workshop will also include a habitat walk and a visit to the Frog Mobile. For adults. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$38.50 per person. Includes lunch. Meet Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

Sunday, 14 March

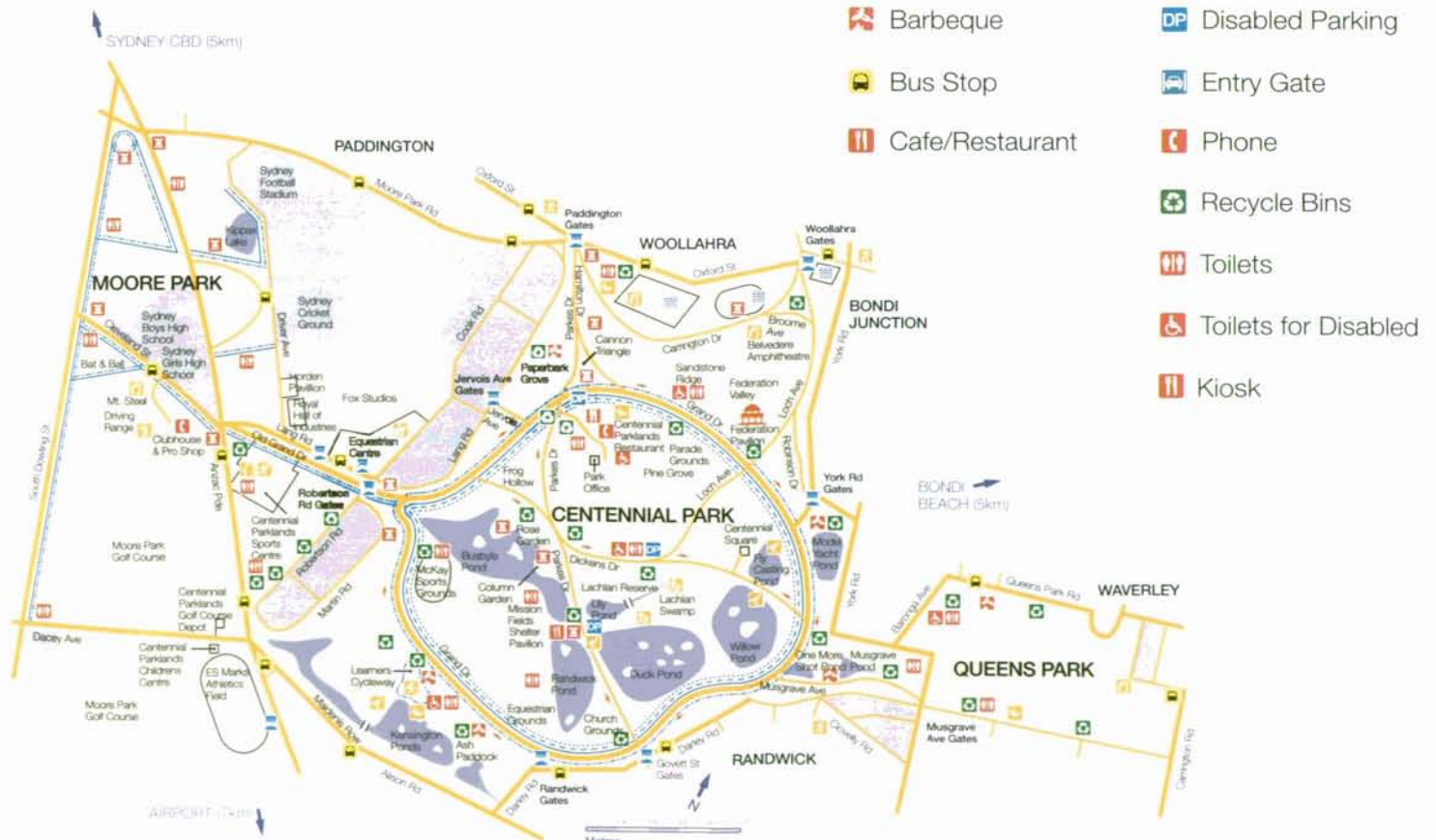


FROG POND WORKSHOP

Learn how to attract frogs to your garden with this interactive workshop lead by Lothar Voigt from the Frog and Tadpole Study Group. Construct a frog pond, see live frogs and discover ways to improve the habitats of urban frog populations. All ages. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$38.50 per person. Bring lunch. Meet Administration Building, behind Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

Sunday, 4 April

MAP OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS



Flower of the Season

BANKSIA ROBUR

Banksia *robur* is a common native evergreen shrub which thrives in the grounds of Centennial Parklands. The genus name *Banksia* commemorates the famous NSW botanist, Sir Joseph Banks, who first named the plant in 1770, while the species name *robur* refers to the Latin term for hardwood. About 75 different species of Banksia trees and shrubs have been identified.

Native to sandy and swampy areas of NSW and Queensland, *Banksia robur* grows up to 2.5 metres high and 2.5 metres wide, forming a dense broad bun shape of foliage and flowers. Its large, leathery, oval leaves feature a prominent yellow mid rib and serrated margins. Large flowers, appearing at the ends of each branch, form dense cylindrical spikes of green and blue which then age to pale yellow and finally to grey as the flowers mature into fruit.

The mature fruit, known as follicles, are surrounded by the hairy spent flowers, giving *Banksia robur* its characteristic appearance. It is also this feature of the plant that provided the inspiration behind May Gibbs' big bad Banksia Men of *Snugglypot and Cuddlepig* fame.

Banksia robur will survive western sun and be tolerant of part shade conditions but it prefers full sun positions with a constant source of moisture. This plant is not considered drought tolerant but is extremely adaptable to a variety of soil conditions ranging from sandy to clay, with periodically inundated soils.

Regular applications of native fertiliser are generally not necessary, though half-strength, low-phosphorus fertiliser is recommended in spring, autumn and summer if the plant is appearing deficient. Pruning is



generally not necessary, but cutting away uncharacteristic growth will help to form a dense habit. This species rejuvenates particularly well after pruning – a feature most Banksias need in order to survive bushfires.

Banksia robur is most suited for coastal gardens and gardens with a native theme. Its seed, nectar and fruit attract a wide variety of birds while its flowers and foliage provide an interesting contrast to most other plants in a garden environment. ■

Recipe

MUSSELS, JULIENNE OF LEEK, LINGUINI, SAFFRON AND PRAWN SAUCE

Serves four.

Ingredients

500gms prawn heads
1kg black New Zealand mussels
5 ears of saffron threads
750mls pouring cream
500gms linguini pasta
50gms butter
50mls fish stock
50mls white wine
1 leek (julienne)
1 onion (finely chopped)
1 garlic clove (crushed)
1 bay leaf
1 bunch lemon thyme
1 chilli (chopped)

Method

Place linguini in boiling water and cook until al dente. Drain and set aside.

Roast the prawn heads in an oven pre-heated to 220°C. Sweat the onion with butter, add the garlic and bay leaf then gently stir in the lemon thyme. Next, add the roasted prawn heads to the onions and de-glaze with fish stock and white wine. Add the saffron heads and reduce the liquid by three-quarters. Add cream and allow the sauce to simmer



for 10 minutes before straining the saffron sauce.

Wash and clean mussels. Steam mussels until they open, remove them from their shells and add chilli. *Make sure you discard any unopened mussels.* Add julienne of leek to pan with mussels and chilli and sauté for

two minutes with butter. Add the saffron sauce, followed by the cooked linguini.

Season, serve and enjoy! ■

Friends of the Parklands

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS

AND GET SPECIAL DISCOUNTS ON CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS EVENTS!

Become a *Friend of Centennial Parklands* and help support Centennial Park, Moore Park and Queens Park.

As a *Friend* you'll enjoy great discounts on a wide variety of events and activities. This includes 10% off our ranger-guided walks and kid's activities – excellent value for families.

Look for the ☺ symbol on the Events page for activities attracting discounts and details on how to claim the special *Friends* rate.

The benefits include:

- 10% discount at Centennial Parklands Restaurant & Café
- 10% discount on ranger-guided walks
- Discounts on selected events
- *Parklands* magazine posted quarterly
- Membership key ring and certificate
- Exclusive *Friends* events, including annual Christmas party

TO JOIN, SIMPLY COMPLETE AND MAIL OR FAX THE FORM BELOW

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please charge: ☐ \$55 1 year Single membership
or
☐ \$99 1 year Family membership

And a tax deductible donation to the Centennial Parklands Foundation of: (choose one) ☐ \$45 ☐ \$75

☐ \$100 ☐ \$ _____
(other amount)

to my ☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Card no

Expiry date

Card Holder's name _____

Card Holder's signature _____

Or payment of \$ _____ is enclosed
(cheques payable to Centennial Parklands Foundation)

☐ Please send me information about leaving a bequest in my will

Send to (no stamp required):
Friends of Centennial Parklands
Reply Paid 58
Locked Bag 15
PADDINGTON NSW 2021

Or by email at www.cp.nsw.gov.au.
For more information:
Phone: (02) 9339 6699
Email: info@cp.nsw.gov.au

FRIENDS ON HAND FOR FESTIVE GATHERING

Friends, family and dignitaries gathered on Tuesday, 2 December for a special *Friends of Centennial Parklands* festive season celebration. Patron of the *Friends*, Lady Susie Martin, was on hand to provide the key note address and took the opportunity to highlight the importance of the program and thank members for their support.

"The *Friends of Centennial Parklands* are vitally important to the Park," she said. "You are a group of people extremely passionate about the Parklands and your feedback and ongoing participation is always highly valued. Your support is integral to ensuring we can maintain and preserve the Parklands for future generations."

Lady Martin was also keen to recognise the efforts of *Friends* who volunteer their time to help out in various projects around the Park.

"The volunteers really epitomise the lifeblood of the Parklands as they give so much back to this place, the place they enjoy so very much themselves," she said. "It is clear how important each and every member's contribution is and I commend each and every volunteer for

their efforts. Your work has been appreciated enormously this year."

However, Lady Martin was quick not to let the audience rest on their laurels, issuing a challenge to each member to sign up one 'friend as a *Friend*'.

"The *Friends* program has been running for eight years now and every month we have new members joining the *Friends of Centennial Parklands*," she said. "This is great, but we can do much better. If each one of you signed up one person to the *Friends* program, we could instantly double the membership of the group. Make this your resolution for 2004 and step up to the challenge!"

The challenge was immediately met by long-time *Friend* Mrs McLachlan who convinced her friend, Mrs Johnson, to sign up on the spot. This was the start of what will no doubt be a year of strong growth for the *Friends* program.

Challenges aside, Lady Martin concluded by emphasising that the main point of the evening was to thank the members of the *Friends of Centennial Parklands* for their enormous contributions throughout the year. ■

NEW YEAR, NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the Lawson family (pictured left) – our first new members for 2004! We thank them and our other new members for their ongoing participation in the *Friends of Centennial Parklands* program and wish them the very best

Isabelle, Gabrielle and Joshua Lawson enjoying one of the children's playgrounds in Centennial Parklands.



Building a Foundation

The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust established the Centennial Parklands Foundation in 1998 for the purpose of raising funds to support projects with an environmental purpose.

The main functions of the Foundation as a charitable organisation are strictly defined and fall into three categories: environmental preservation, promotion of public use of the Parklands and recognition and appreciation of the natural and historical significance of the Parklands.

As part of the process of building awareness of the Foundation, a new program of fundraising activities will be launched in April that focuses on specific projects within the Parklands. The first of these projects, the Federation Garden Formal Lawns development, is featured in the box to the right.

Chair of the Foundation, Mrs Sarah Whyte, says the launch of the fundraising program is a significant step forward for the Parklands.

"This is a really exciting development," she says. "Not only will this program help fund much needed environmental work around the Parklands, but there will now be another avenue for the public to get involved in current and upcoming projects in the Park."

Mrs Whyte says that while many visitors to the Parklands would like to make a

contribution of some form, few are aware of the functions of the Foundation.

"The new fundraising programs aim to change that situation," says Mrs Whyte. "We will be conducting comprehensive publicity campaigns about the various projects and making sure that people who are interested have access to information about the Foundation's activities."

Sarah Dinning, Manager of Marketing and Communications at Centennial Parklands, says that the new fundraising program will allow the public to know more about how improvements are being funded.

"This is a really positive step forward for the Foundation," she says. "Contributors to the Foundation will be able to see exactly where their money is going and what impact their support is having."

You don't have to give money to get involved. For those with a more hands-on attitude, a volunteers program is being co-ordinated which will allow members of the public to lend a helping hand on selected projects. A wide range of volunteer activities are available including bush regeneration, seed collecting and weeding – all of which go towards the preservation and improvement of flora and fauna within the Parklands.

As part of the new fundraising program, all proceeds from the *Friends of Centennial Parklands*

will now be directed towards the Foundation and its projects. *Friends* will have an opportunity to be involved in a range of special activities and events throughout the year geared towards nurturing this unique green oasis.

Donations can now be made to the Centennial Parklands Foundation and amounts over \$2 are tax deductible. You can be assured that your support will be channelled only into projects that meet the charitable purposes of the Foundation as described above.

For more information about making a donation, bequest or to discuss corporate sponsorship opportunities, call Helen Jarvie on (02) 9339 6613. For information about volunteer activities, contact Rachel Ely, Coordinator of Education and Public Programs, on (02) 9339 6629. ■

THE FORMAL LAWNS PROJECT

The Formal Lawns Project aims to restore the central area of Centennial Parklands known as Frog Hollow (see map on page 10) to its former glory by creating a series of gardens unique to Sydney and Australia. Once completed, it will offer, via the rich tradition of native garden displays, a spectacular 'centrepiece' to the Parklands that will be enjoyed by visitors for generations to come.

The project features a series of four themed gardens that each reflects a certain aspect of Australian culture and history through the use of space, design and flora. Final designs will be developed and approved during 2004 with construction set to begin in early 2005. The project is expected to cost between \$3-4 million and have ongoing maintenance costs of approximately \$100,000 per year.



for 2004. Your support helps to preserve Centennial Parklands for all to enjoy – now and in the future.

The Lawson Family
Ms Danielle Tibbles
Ms Jan Evans
Ms Verity AH Thomson
Ms Dianne Corrie
Mr RM Wilson
Mrs Elizabeth Robinson
Mr Harry & Mrs Helen Jarvie

Mrs Joanna Topfer
Mrs A Fawcett
Sandra Pratten
Ms Merelyn Buzo
Mr Frank Raffaelli
Mrs Gladys Johnson
Mrs Roush Hargraves
Ms Toni Bell
Ms Rowena Danziger
Mrs Edwina Dusseldorp
Mr Simon Rintel
Mr Christopher Collins
Dr Amilee Wong

Mrs A Lucas
Mrs Sue Punch
Ms Angela Paul
Ms Diana Robinson
Ms Helen Reiner
Ms Evie Gareb
Mr Jonathan Delley
Ms Phillipa Maynard
Ms Sema Pollard
Mr Evan Kazacos
Ms Julie Canning
Mr Rowan Prosser
Ms Charlie Adlum

Mr Sebastian Morales
Ms Kerrie Murray
Ms Karen Malzard
Mr Lucas Kelly
Ms Judith Burnet
Ms Wendy Hutchings
Ms Claire Wilson
Ms Bridget Cooke
Justice and Mrs John Lockhart

AUTUMN Events

MARCH • APRIL • MAY

AVOID THE FUSS. CATCH THE BUS

ALL SEASON

THE SPACES BETWEEN

This exhibition at Centennial Parklands explores the history, diversity and benefits of our city's myriad public parks. These are the spaces between the city and suburb, between the workplace and home, between the past, present and future. Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates. Open Wednesdays and weekends 10.00 am – 3.00 pm until October 2004.

MARCH

2 Tuesday

SCRUFFS 2004

An initiative of the Animal Welfare League, Scruffs is a 'big day out for dogs'. It aims to celebrate how much owners value the true friendship of their canine companions. Fox Studios. Free.

5 Friday

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB PONY CAMP

Saddle Club Party – pony leads, mini-lessons, grooming, general handling and writing and drawing activities. Small snacks provided. Qualified and experienced coaches and staff. Qualified pre-school/early education teacher. 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. \$55 per child (aged 2 – 5). Centennial Stables. Bookings (02) 9662 5650.

6 Saturday

SYDNEY GAY AND LESBIAN MARDI GRAS PARADE

Don't miss the 26th Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade. Parade starts at College Street, follows up Oxford Street and finishes in Moore Park Road and Driver Avenue.

BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION RESERVED SEATING

Grab a seat at the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) Reserved Seating where you can relax and watch the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade in style and comfort. All proceeds from ticket sales go to supporting people living with HIV/AIDS.

Tickets are \$94 – \$100 plus booking fee and are available through Ticketmaster by phoning 13 61 00.

7 Sunday

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Grab your hat and gardening gloves and join us for this annual event in Centennial Park. 9.00 am – 1.00 pm. Registration at Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates, corner Oxford Street and Lang Road. Inquiries (02) 9339 6641.

11 Thursday

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. 10.00 am – 11.00 am. \$10 per child (2 – 5 years), adults free. Meet Equestrian Centre Gates, corner Lang and Cook Roads. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

12 Friday

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

14 Sunday

CARING FOR URBAN WILDLIFE ☺

Join rangers and experienced wildlife carers from WIRES Eastern Branch in this five-hour interactive session about the care of urban wildlife. Discover the best techniques for caring for and handling injured animals, learn how to attract wildlife to your garden and find out how to prevent native species from becoming pests. The workshop will also include a habitat walk and a visit to the Frog Mobile. For adults. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$38.50 per person. Includes lunch. Meet Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

SENIORS WEEK

Seniors who visit *The Spaces Between* exhibition will receive a free set of postcards featuring images from the exhibition. This free exhibition explores the history, diversity and benefits of our city's myriad public parks.

Sunday 14 March, Wednesday 17 March, Saturday 20 March and Sunday 21 March. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates, Corner Oxford Street and Lang Road, Centennial Park.

FROG MOBILE

For everything you have ever wanted to know about frogs, come and meet Lothar Voigt from the Frog and Tadpole Study Group and view his very special Frog Mobile. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Shelter Pavilion, Parkes Drive.

APRIL

2 Friday

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

4 Sunday

FROG POND WORKSHOP ☺

Learn how to attract frogs to your garden with this interactive workshop lead by Lothar Voigt from the Frog and Tadpole Study Group. Construct a frog pond, see live frogs and discover ways to improve the habitats of urban frog populations. All ages. Bring lunch. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$38.50 per person. Meet Administration Building, behind Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

9 Friday

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

10 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. Limited tickets. 10.00 am – 4.00 pm or until sold out. \$9 per ride. Tickets at Mobile Ranger Station, Centennial Parklands Café. Weather permitting. Bookings not required.

11 Sunday

PONY RIDES ☺

See 10 March

13 Tuesday

JUNIOR RANGERS ☺

How do the rangers look after Centennial Parklands ponds and all the animals that live there? Learn how to test the quality of the water, go dipnetting, drain stencilling and conduct a patrol. Bring hat, lunch and water bottle. 11.00 am – 2.00 pm. \$18.50 per child (6 – 12 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6.00 pm – 7.00 pm. See 26 March.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

Saddle Club Pony Camps. Suitable for the complete beginner to advance riding student. Learn theory, horse management and horse handling. Two riding lessons each day. 9.30 am – 3.30 pm, 7.30 am – 5.30 pm (times to be confirmed when booking). Starting from \$115 per day. Limited places. Centennial Stables. Bookings (02) 9360 5650.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP ☺

Basic horsemanship, lessons and Park lead for kids. 9.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$270 per child. Meet Papillon Riding Stables. Bookings 0407 070 525.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP ☺

Join a holiday camp filled with all aspects of horse care, park rides and lessons. Decorate ponies and win ribbons. 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$200 per camp. Tea and lunch included. Children five years old and over. Moore Park Stables. Bookings (02) 9360 8747.

14 Wednesday

POND CREATURES ☺

What creatures live in Centennial Park's ponds? Play games, search for creatures and find out how you can help keep their homes clean and safe. Bring hat. 10.00 am – 11.00 am. \$8.50 per child (2 – 5 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

15 Thursday

POND CREATURES ☺

See 14 April.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP ☺

See 13 April.

MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP ☺

Build a simple model yacht in this unique workshop and learn the age-old technique of sailing models on Kippax Lake. All materials included. Bring hat. 1.00 pm – 2.30 pm. \$18 per child (6 – 12 years). Meet Kippax Lake, Driver Avenue, Moore Park. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

16 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6.00 pm – 7.00 pm. See 26 March.

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

17 Saturday

PONY RIDES ☺

See 10 April.

18 Sunday

PONY RIDES ☺

See 10 April.

20 Tuesday

MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP ☺

See 15 April.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP ☺

See 13 April.

THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP ☺

See 13 April.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

21 Wednesday

JUNIOR RANGERS ☺

See 13 April.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6.00 pm – 7.00 pm. See 26 March.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

22 Thursday

POND CREATURES ☺

See 14 April.

TWO-DAY RIDING CAMP ☺

See 13 April.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

23 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6.00 pm – 7.00 pm. See 26 March.

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

HOLIDAY RIDING CAMP

See 13 April.

24 Saturday

PONY RIDES ☺

See 10 April.

25 Sunday

PONY RIDES ☺

See 10 April.

28 Wednesday

BUSBY'S BORE WALK ☺ National Trust Heritage Festival

Walk the route of Busby's Bore, the underground supply of early Sydney's drinking water, with retired Sydney Water historian Jon Breen. Visit the source of the bore at Busby's Pond and the memorial cairn in Centennial Park; and see an exclusive viewing of the shaft into Busby's Bore within Fox Studios. For adults. 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. \$12 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Finishes at Fox Studios. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

30 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.45 pm – 6.45 pm. See 26 March.

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

MAY

7 Friday

MY LITTLE PONIES ☺

See 11 March.

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

9 Sunday

BIRDWATCHERS BREAKFAST ☺

See 21 March.

14 Friday

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

16 Sunday

MILLION PAWS WALK

Join your four-legged friends in a day filled with fun and festivities. The RSPCA needs your help to continue its valuable work helping animals in need. There will be live music on the day, entertainment, dog obedience displays and much more. Remember, your dog must be vaccinated, non-aggressive, healthy and on a lead during the walk.

For more information call (02) 9770 7552 or visit www.millionpawswalk.com.au.

17 Monday

MY LITTLE PONIES ☺

See 11 March.

21 Friday

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

23 Sunday

POND WALK ☺

Discover the history of Centennial Parklands ponds and the steps taken towards environmental improvement and sustainable management. Join Peter Nowland, former Senior Landscape Architect, as he explains the design and implementation of the Ponds Restoration Program. For adults. Bring hat. 10.00 am – 12.00 pm.

\$12 per person. Meet Musgrave Avenue Gates, finishes Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

28 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.30 pm – 6.30 pm. See 26 March.

JUNIOR SADDLE CLUB

PONY CAMP

See 5 March.

CENTENNIAL STABLES

Saddle Club Birthday Parties

Qualified experienced instructor. Pony leads through the Equestrian Centre or in Centennial Park. 7 days a week. 10.00 am – 5.00 pm. Half hour \$55. One hour \$110. Bookings essential (02) 9360 5650.

Riding and Horse Management Tuition

Qualified experienced instructors to cater for all levels of riders. Beginners to advanced adults and children. 7 days a week. 7.00 am – 8.00 pm. One hour group lesson \$55. One hour private lesson \$80. Half hour private lesson \$55. Bookings essential (02) 9360 5650.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Bookings and advance payment are required for all activities unless otherwise stated. Numbers are strictly limited and places will not be held without payment. Bookings can be made by phoning (02) 9339 6699, by visiting our website at www.cp.nsw.gov.au 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.

☺ = 10% 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.
☎ 9746 2164 or 9746 0444

Administration

8.30am-5pm Monday-Friday. Located behind Centennial Parklands Cafe.
☎ 9339 6699 Fax: 9332 2148

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 37B from Central and 330 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 last Sunday in February, May, August and November. 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. ☎ 9339 6699

Community Consultative Committee

Meets approximately every six weeks. Committee members can be contacted via Centennial Parklands administration. ☎ 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 cafe) or the Superintendent's Residence, Wednesdays and weekends (10am-3pm).

FACILITIES AND AMENDMENTS

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Modern Australian a la carte restaurant offering a full wine list. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Also available for weddings and function hire. Open 7 days, 8.30am-3pm. ☎ 9360 3355

Centennial Parklands Cafe

Specialising in light meals and snacks, the Cafe offers open air eating in its award-winning forecourt. Open 7 days, 8am-5pm. ☎ 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

Day care centre for babies to pre-schoolers. ☎ 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. ☎ 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. ☎ 9663 3791

Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

Tennis, basketball and netball courts available for casual or regular use. ☎ 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 groups of more than 15. Hire available from:

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

Dog Walking

Under NSW law, dogs must be held on a leash in all public areas, unless otherwise designated, and no more than four dogs can be walked by one person. Dogs with responsible owners are welcome in Centennial Parklands and can be exercised off leash in certain areas. To find out more about areas in Centennial Parklands where dog walking is permitted, please contact us for a copy of or dog brochure or visit our website: www.cp.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/dog.htm.

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: ☎ 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 two hectares of fenced equestrian grounds. Horse hire available from:

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

Picnics & BBQs

The Parklands offer unlimited picnic spots, with views of ponds, fields and gardens. There are also five free 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: ☎ 9339 6699

Education and Public Programs

School excursions, holiday activities, guided tours and workshops, childrens birthday parties, are all on offer at Centennial Parklands. Enquiries: ☎ 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 running track, shot put, discus, javelin, long, high and triple jump facilities. Bookings: ☎ 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: ☎ 9339 6699

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Available for weddings and function hire. Bookings: ☎ 9360 3355

Events

Submissions from the public are welcome for activities and events that support the Parklands' cultural policy. Enquiries: ☎ 9339 6615 or 9339 6635.

Filming & Photography

Centennial Parklands offers a versatile range of locations for commercial filming and photography at competitive rates. Enquiries: ☎ 9339 6635


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