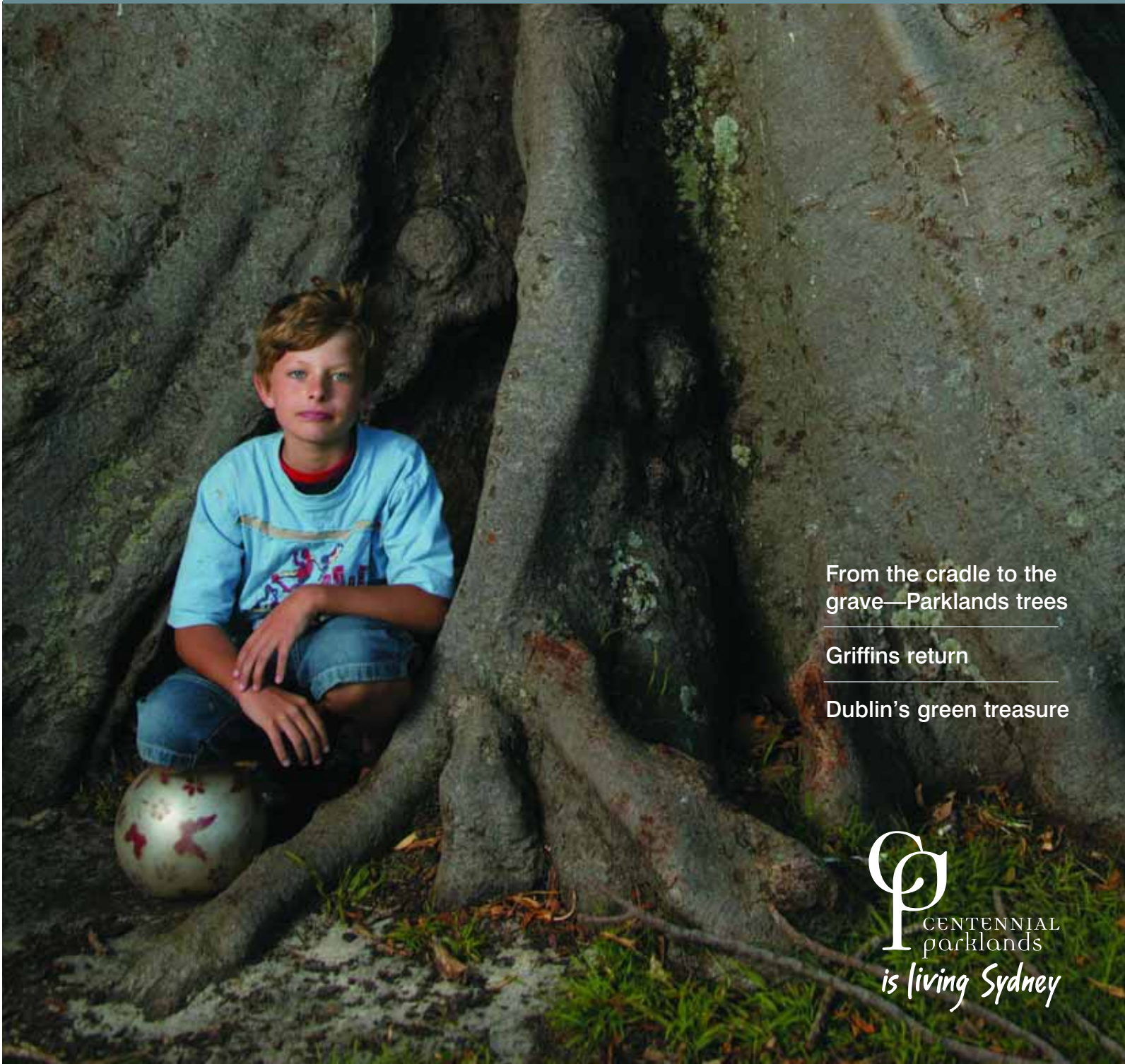


VOLUME 31 • WINTER 2005

parklands

THE MAGAZINE OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS



From the cradle to the grave—Parklands trees

Griffins return

Dublin's green treasure


CENTENNIAL
parklands
is living Sydney

Directions



In this, the winter edition of Parklands, we celebrate the environment—part of our acknowledgement of World Environment Day in June and National Tree Day in July.

The sustainability of the Parklands environment is our enduring concern given the wide and increasing variety of pressures and demands.

Take, for example, Moore Park. This dynamic area incorporates some of Sydney's most popular sporting and entertainment venues set within Australia's most urbanised area. The precinct attracted a 55% increase in events over the last three years and several million visits a year. As adjacent venues are either not owned or managed day-to-day by Centennial Parklands, cooperation and co-ordination between the Sydney Cricket Ground and Sports Ground Trust, Horden Pavilion, Fox Studios venues, the Parklands and the Police, Roads and Traffic Authority, State Transit Authority is essential to ensure

the best outcomes for patrons. Centennial Parklands appreciates the ongoing support of these organisations.

Traffic and parking is a social, economic and environmental challenge for the precinct and surrounding suburbs, already busy with general traffic. The current preference for car travel and a widespread expectation of convenient access to the venues exacerbates the overall traffic problem.

Patron support for the use of public transport to precinct events has generally reduced by more than 10% over the last two years. Coordinating agencies continue to encourage patrons to use public transport, though other ways to improve public transport are being explored.

The preparation of a master plan by Centennial Parklands for the northern and eastern precincts of Moore Park by late this year, will provide strategic future direction to resolve issues critical to the long-term sustainability of Moore Park and its context within the wider Centennial Parklands open space network including the impacts of surrounding traffic and

parking within the precinct.

The master plan will also provide a long term enhancement and management framework for Moore Park whilst protecting the key values of the Park. It will look at strengthening the Victorian era (mid-1800s) tree planting and landscape left by the then Botanic Gardens Director Charles Moore, as well as include management strategies to address the diverse leisure and recreational needs of visitors. This is an important project for the Parklands and the community will be consulted during the preparation of the plan.

We hope you will visit the Parklands over winter, celebrate your special environment and enjoy one of the many visitor program activities on offer.



Steve Corbett
Director and Chief Executive
Centennial Parklands



Parkbench

Moore Park Master Plan

As mentioned by Director and Chief Executive Steve Corbett on page two, Centennial Parklands is developing a master plan which will provide the framework for the renewal, enhancement and management of Moore Park whilst protecting the key values of the site. There will be a period of consultation with stakeholders and the broader community later in the year, with public exhibitions on display.

Jervois Gates repairs complete



Jervois Gates under repair

Repair works to the Jervois Gates were recently carried out as part of the Stone Maintenance Program. The works included replacement of the sandstone bullnose on either side of the gates, repainting of the fence surrounding the gates, new asphalt, repairs to the southern main pier and removal of the gates for sandblasting and painting. The NSW Department of Commerce kindly co-funded this project and the gates re-opened in time for the Easter break.

Golf Driving Range renovations continue

Renovation work has commenced on the driving range at Moore Park Golf Course. The small section of synthetic turf trialled in early February 2005 has proven a success. It will now be installed over a larger area of the driving range.

The works involve the installation of about 4500 square metres of synthetic turf and 4000 square metres of new grass turf. There will also be turf rejuvenation of about 12,500 square metres including fertilising and aeration. Four synthetic target greens will also be introduced. The upgrade is expected to be completed by mid-June 2005.

Henry's Café update

After a short trial period, Henry's Café has closed. The outdoor café, situated in the grounds of the Visitor Centre at the Superintendent's Residence, attracted insufficient patronage and the trial was discontinued. Centennial Parklands will continue to explore opportunities to provide food and beverage outlets in other areas of the Parklands.

Making it easier to find your way

Centennial Parklands has completed a comprehensive Signage Master Plan as part of the Park Improvement Plan to improve the visitor experience for all Parklands users. The new coordinated range of signs is specifically designed for use within Centennial Parklands and is sympathetic to the Parkland environment. The signs are robust, yet transparent, allowing the Parklands to be seen through the sign panels. Many of the signs are fully accessible and all users will find significant improvements in identification of places, finding their way around and obtaining required information.

Manufacturing will commence in July, with the first of the new signs to be seen around Paddington Gates and the café area by about August 2005. Street signage will follow soon after.

Poetry competition winner

Thank you to everyone who entered the Poetry competition. Entries were received from a diverse range of budding scribes aged between 84 and 6 years old. The winners were Stanley Drewe, Glenn Giese and Laurel Benjamin who all wrote passionately about the Parklands.

SMH Readers Poll

Thank you to all those who voted Centennial Parklands 'Best Park' in the Sydney Morning Herald Readers' Poll conducted earlier this year. Not only was Centennial Parklands voted number one in the 'Best Park' category it was also in the top five for 'Best Walk' and 'Best Picnic Spot'. The Horden Pavilion, located in Moore Park, was in the top five for 'Best Live Music Venue'.

'Centennial Parklands Open'

Moore Park Golf will hold an individual 'stableford' competition every Tuesday morning open to all male and female players holding an AGU or WGA handicap. Only \$45 per person (or \$30 for seniors and juniors). This includes prizes, practice balls on the driving range and a pizza or pasta lunch at the Club Restaurant. Participating in the Centennial Parklands Open is a great way to improve your handicap and meet fellow golfers. For bookings, please phone the pro-shop on (02) 9663 1064 (extension 1).



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Cover: A quiet place to catch your breath—in the roots of a Moreton Bay Fig.

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Car Free Day in Centennial Park

Car Free Day – Sunday 28 August

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the last Sunday of winter in the peaceful surroundings of a car free Centennial Park. Accessible entry for park users and booked restaurant patrons is via Jervois Gates (off Lang Rd) from 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Please note that accessible entry via Musgrave Avenue Gates will no longer be available.

Plan of Management update

Centennial Parklands is currently updating its 1998 Plan of Management. This Plan is required under the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust Act and provides the overall framework by which the Parklands manages its lands and activities.

Since the original plan was prepared the Parklands' landholdings have been expanded to include the York Road bushland remnant and the former Moore Park Showground with its mixture of commercial and entertainment

uses. The Plan will be updated to include this, and also to acknowledge the many principles and initiatives that have been adopted in the intervening years.

The updated Plan will provide guidance for managing the leisure, recreation, and open space trends and issues that may arise over the next 10 years and beyond. The Plan will ensure that the Parklands are managed in a manner that retains their social, environmental, and heritage values, whilst ensuring they

continue to meet diverse recreation and leisure demands into the future.

The Draft Plan of Management will go on public exhibition for 28 days during July/August and during this time you are invited to view the Plan and make a written submission. Visit www.cp.nsw.gov.au/pom for information on this important project. You can also email pom@cp.nsw.gov.au or phone (02) 9339 6651 for details.



Members of the Foundation Board

Eleven strong foundation stones

The Board of the Centennial Parklands Foundation held its first meeting of the year in March and welcomed five new Governors. The Foundation is now fortunate to have a Board of eleven distinguished Governors, all highly respected leaders in their fields and whose experience and wisdom will help guide the work of the Foundation.

The meeting focused on developing strategies that will guide the Foundation over the next three years.

A major outcome was the establishment of a *Friends Reference Group* to support the goals of the Foundation. The group will be convened by Phillip Black and includes Jack Cowin, Andrew Mitchell and Sandy Pratten – all *Friends of Centennial Parklands* members.

The board is chaired by Sarah Whyte who is a member of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. Ms Whyte is also Patron of the Burma Star Association of NSW and a member of the Australiana Fund. The other Governors are:

- **The Honourable Justice Annabelle Bennett AO**, a Judge of the Federal Court and Pro-Chancellor of the Australian University. Justice Bennett is a Director of the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation and a member of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust;
- **Crystal Condous OAM**, Principal of Crystal Condous Consulting Services and previously Registrar and Deputy Principal of the University of NSW;
- **Jack Cowin**, Founder and Executive Chairman of Competitive Foods Australia Pty Ltd. Mr Cowin is a Director of Network Ten, a Director of BridgeClimb, and a member of the Sydney Olympic Park Authority Board;
- **Peter Duncan**, Chief Executive Officer of Forests NSW and formerly the Director of Centennial Parklands;
- **Richard Cobden**, a Barrister at Nigel Bowen Chambers and a former member of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. He has also been Director and President of Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, and former Trustee of the AIDS Trust of Australia;
- **Professor John Niland AC**, Chairman of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. He is a former Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of New South Wales and Chairman of the Environmental Protection Authority; and
- **Geoffrey Cohen**, a Partner with Minter Ellison Lawyers with over 30 years experience advising participants in the property, tourism and leisure industries;
- **Margaret Varady AO**, Principal of Sydney Girls High School. Mrs Varady is a member of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, and on the Senate of the University of Sydney.

The Foundation and *Friends of Centennial Parklands* now have a dedicated page in Parklands magazine (page 11). This issue contains a fascinating article by *Friends* member Andrew Mitchell on his visit to Dublin's Phoenix Park.

Griffins return

On Thursday 7 April March 2005, two griffin sculptures were returned to Centennial Park after an absence of 30 years.

The sculptures were originally installed on Parkes Drive in the 1890s, at the junction of Hamilton Drive near the statue of Sir Henry Parkes. They guarded each side of the main entry road leading down from Paddington Gates. They were originally crafted in ceramic by Villeroy and Boch.

NSW Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation The Hon Sandra Nori MP said the return of the two statues marked a great day in the history of Centennial Parklands. "To see the return of these lovingly-restored creatures gives a sense of the Parklands as they looked many years ago," Ms Nori said. "These two magnificent creatures will once again guard the statue of Sir Henry Parkes as diligently as they guarded their gold in ancient mythology."

By 1946 the griffins were in poor condition due to their age and vandalism. Each sculpture was missing vital detail on the head, wings and feet. The surface coating of the sculptures and the mouldings on the top coping stones of the plinths had eroded. In 1971 the griffins were removed for safekeeping to the Centennial Parklands Depot.

The sculptures were removed from Centennial Park for reconstruction in December 2004. The work was carried out by experts from the Department of Commerce (who also generously co-funded the works as part of the Centenary



Carefully installing the griffins

Stonework and Public Buildings Programs), Government Architects Office, Heritage Services, Maxim Consulting and Millennium Art Services.

The modelling of the missing portions of the griffins was carried out on the existing griffins—allowing for complete accuracy. The modelling was guided by the catalogue supplied by Villeroy and Boch in Germany. Once completed, the mould making process began.

The missing elements were modelled in clay then coated with silicon rubber between 6-8mm thick. Once the rubber was cured, castings were made of a micro-ceramic composite material. 16mm stainless steel rods were set into the wings and head for reinforcement.

They now stand on sandstone plinths in their original positions on Parkes Drive. Please take time to visit the mythical creatures when next in the Park.



The Hon. Sandra Nori MP welcomes the griffins home

Although referred to as griffins, winged lions, such as the ones seen in Centennial Parklands, are not true griffins but a hybrid known as a 'gryphonic'. True griffins have the face, beak, talons and wings of an eagle and the body of a lion. In symbolism, the griffin combines the symbolic qualities of both the lion and the eagle. It is the king of birds and lord of the air united with the king of beasts and lord of the earth.

The eagle parts of the griffin represented the saints with their thoughts, aspirations and souls lifted towards God. Its lion half stood for their courage in the continuing struggle against sin, evil, and the Devil. Because of the griffin's strength and powers of sight, it was believed to guard hidden treasures.

Grand Drive upgrades move forward

Centennial Parklands is committed to upgrading Grand Drive to enhance its heritage significance and improve access, parking and safety.

Centennial Parklands has responded to feedback from park users following a recent trial of new treatments, materials and surfaces by modifying, removing or changing certain aspects of the proposal. Surveys undertaken after the trial revealed that 83% of park users liked the new look of Grand Drive and 70% felt that the new surfaces aided their activities.

The new proposal aims to deliver maximum benefits to Park users within the constraints of a reduced capital allocation. The first stage of the upgrade includes:

- Replacement of the irrigation ring main
- Installation of a new potable water line for more bubblers.
- Installation of electrical conduits for future communications needs.
- Excavation and restoration of existing heritage sandstone curbing, located on the inside ring of the footpath. Currently the curb is in place for about half of Grand Drive.
- Rebuilding the asphalt footpath to improve drainage.
- Installation of contemporary sandstone curbing on the outside ring of the footpath to replace the existing steel bollards. The sandstone blocks will act as both a curb and a wheel stop.
- Planting of a new line of trees inside the white fence. Planting will incorporate a mix of Australian and exotic species, and all will have a direct connection with Charles Moore or Joseph Maiden.

The first three of these works will be implemented from May to July. The footpath works will be carried out from June to November. The tree planting will occur at the end of summer next year.

No works are proposed for the informal grassed jogging track. Works to the car parking and tree pit areas will be reviewed for a future works program.

In acknowledgement of World Environment Day in June and National Tree Day in July, this feature is devoted to trees. It will look at the difficult conditions in which trees must survive in Centennial Parklands and the possible effects of those conditions on individual trees' life expectancies. The history of tree planting in the Parklands—a fascinating one of trial and experimentation—is also explored.

From the cradle to the grave – Parklands trees

A History of Tree Planting

1880: A world wide boom in Park creation. This influenced Charles Moore's plantings and layout.

1897 – 1896: Trees associated with Charles Moore and James Jones (overseer) include:

- Moreton Bay fig
- Port Jackson fig
- Norfolk Island pine
- Cook pine
- Hoop pine
- Silky oak

1889: First planting of Grand Drive with a range of species including figs, elms, poplars and pines.

1896 – 1924: Trees associated with the more experimental plantings of Joseph Maiden and William Forsyth (overseer) include:

- Cootamundra wattle
- Coral tree
- Port Jackson fig
- Five-veined paperbark
- Canary Islands date palm
- Mexican cotton palm

1897: Grand Drive re-planted by Forsyth. This involved removing the elms, poplars and pines and replanting with the current planting sequence of two figs, an oak, a fig, a Norfolk Island pine and finally an oak.

1908: Parkes Drive was planted with rows of Canary Island palms. The perceived success of this heralded the widespread planting of palms across the Parklands.

1930s: Planting slowed significantly, perhaps due to the change of Parklands administration from the Royal Botanic Gardens to the Department of Agriculture. The Depression also contributed to reduced budgets.

1960: From the 1960s to the 1970s there was a renewed interest in planting, with the emphasis on native species.

1999: The Tree Master Plan was developed. In the same year, Maiden's Row, a commemorative belt of 70 paperbarks, planted in Centennial Park behind Kensington Ponds.

2001: Replanting of the failed palms on Parkes Drive (now known as Avenue of Nations) with Kauri pines.

Most people believe great trees can grow for well over 500 years, but this is perhaps a European association. After all, a 200-year-old oak tree growing in England may well have hundreds of years left. Yet in Australia's harsher conditions, and particularly in an urban environment, this is almost inevitably an unreasonable hope. Indeed, in certain environments in Australia a 150-year-old fig tree might only have 10 years left to live.

The Centennial Parklands Tree Master Plan recognises that estimating a tree's life expectancy is quite difficult. Typical lifespans vary with different species as well as between individuals within a species. There are a number of factors that contribute to any estimation process.

Analysis of tree life expectancy must begin with a close look at the age and condition of the existing tree population. Before any prognosis about a tree's lifespan can be made, consideration needs to be given to its growth rate and performance over time, taking into account the particular conditions in which the tree finds itself growing.

The environment is a major factor to be considered in this regard. In Centennial Parklands, trees have to contend with a range of problematic environmental factors, including fast draining sandy soil, low in nutrients, and a degree of coastal-zone exposure.

Look at some of the geological and topographical reasons why trees find it hard to grow here (see box, below). It's hard to imagine how any of our many magnificent trees survived at all!

Taking into account growth criteria and environmental measures, Centennial Parklands arborists are reluctantly forced to acknowledge that their most venerable tree assets are in gradual but inevitable decline.

"One thing is a given. Trees are living organisms that have definite lifespans" says Centennial Parklands new Director Park Assets, Ian Innes, who, in his previous role as Managing Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, had the unenviable task of administering the last rites to trees recently scheduled for removal from those gardens.

Ian says: "Trees all eventually reach a senescent phase where they are likely to have more health and disease problems. These may become likely safety concerns requiring increasingly intensive management. Good management can prolong the life of old trees but we must also plan for the future by getting new plantings underway now."

The Centennial Parklands Tree Master Plan promotes a proactive planting and replacement program for its aging tree population. But, as Ian notes, the majority of the Parklands' trees were planted between the 1880s and 1920s. "This means that as the designed landscape comes to maturity, as it is now, it has a beautiful coherent appearance. But as trees reach an age requiring replacement, you will need to replace a lot of individuals simultaneously."

Staged succession in Park planting is the ideal. This means not waiting for a tree to die, but rather to

Why do some trees find it hard to grow here?

Geology: Centennial Parklands is located in the geological area known as the Botany Sands, the northern edge of the Botany Basin. These sandy soils have poor water holding capacity and low nutrient levels.

Topography: Despite being altered by Charles Moore at its inception, sand dunes and sandstone still dominate the topography of the Parklands. Often the shallow depth from the sand to the sandstone base makes tree planting problematic as there is insufficient depth for good root growth.

Climate: Early plantings did not consider the prevailing southerly and westerly winds. The later

planting of windbreaks, establishing more sheltered microclimates, has enabled better growth and long term performance of trees.

Drainage and landform: Natural seepage occurs throughout most of the Parklands into the ponds system. Although sandy soil means trees have good drainage, the sandstone layers underneath can often lead to 'puddling'. Many tree species are sensitive to 'wet feet' becoming prone to soil-borne fungal diseases.

Soils: Natural soils include sandstone, Aeolian sand dunes, inter-bedded clays and peat. Soil compaction and erosion have become a problem in some areas.



Grand Drive planting, from the book 'Through the Gates' by Simon Rintel

take active and early steps to plan for its succession. However, this is often not as simple as it sounds, as Ted Hoare, Senior Arborist at Centennial Parklands explains. "In many cases you can't establish new trees until the old ones are taken out," he says. "The growth habits of existing trees, and their dense proximity, would make it virtually impossible for new trees to grow and thrive."

Grand Drive is a good example of where 'block replacement' will ultimately be required. With Port Jackson figs, Holm oaks and Norfolk Island pines growing together in such close proximity, competition for roots, sunlight and water is fierce. "It would be extremely hard for the new trees to become established under these conditions", says Ted.

The Tree Master Plan's uncompromising objective, however, is to retain the identity and character of the Parklands. This means conserving the design elements that its great early visionaries Charles Moore and Joseph Maiden, and their overseers (see box) created.

They translated an English 'Public Park' design idiom into the Sydney landscape through the use of Australian species, such as Moreton Bay figs, to provide a similar visual effect. They took a very visual image of the English 'Public Park' and remade it in an Australian setting with Australian species.

The Parklands has a mix of Australian natives and exotic species. Most people think of eucalypts and acacias when they think of Australian natives. But in the Parklands there is a more quirky mix, including trees from rainforest habitats much admired in the nineteenth century but now less widely used.

A fascinating aspect of the history of tree planting in the Parklands (see timeline, page 6) is the way it reflects a philosophy of trialling and experimentation that still underpins Parklands planting practice. It was a paramount philosophy at the time of Moore and Maiden neither of whom could predict what would work and what wouldn't.

It is nevertheless salutary to reflect that some 90% of the 10,000+ trees in the Parklands are represented by only about 7 species – predominantly the Moreton Bay fig, Port Jackson fig, broadleaf paperbark, Monterey pine, Holm oak, hoop pine and Norfolk Island pine.

Having greater diversity in tree species will give greater protection to the Parklands in the long run. This was graphically demonstrated by the devastating impact of the Fusarium wilt (fungus) on the Canary Island date palms on the Avenue of Nations (Parkes Drive). Ian says: "If we can get greater diversity in trees, we will be building protection in depth from potentially catastrophic events that may affect all individuals within a species."

The Tree Master Plan identifies a range of trees already planted in the Parklands which may be worthy of wider use, including crow's ash, deciduous fig, green fig, cork oak, live oak, lilly pilly and swamp cypress. The plan also recommends a range of trees that may be worthy of introduction to the Parklands, including Queensland black bean, silver quandong, dawn redwood, African tulip tree and Wollemi pine.

Tree management practices are continually developing and evolving in response to greater understanding of the environment and ongoing

The Overseer: less-known, but very influential

Overseers played an important functional role in the development of the Parklands. Two of Centennial Parkland's earliest overseers, James Jones and William Forsyth, while not well known today, made a significant contribution to tree selection and planting.

Overseer James Jones assisted Charles Moore from 1887 but was dismissed in 1889 following a dispute with management. Jones is thought to have arrived in Australia in 1887 although he was not appointed Head Gardener at the Botanic Gardens until 1884. He had previously worked in Paris on the landscaping of the new Parc des Buttes Chaumont and the redevelopment of the Bois de Boulogne under the French landscape architect Adolph Alphand, as well as at the grand private estate Saumarez Park in England.

William Forsyth (1864-1910) was overseer from 1892 and primarily assisted the progressive Director Joseph Maiden. Forsyth introduced new plantings, specifically drought and storm resistant ones, and advocated the protection of remnant indigenous vegetation and experimentation.

monitoring of tree performance. Trees are managed using the 'Streets Ahead' database, which is widely recognised as a positive approach to tree management. The Parklands is a leader in documentation and prioritised management of trees.

The implementation of the Tree Master Plan will be incremental and over decades. Sometimes it can be daunting to imagine trees being cut down in such a beautiful landscape. But a far more frightening vision would be to do nothing.

A recipe for diversity

A problematic tree

Ficus macrophylla

The Moreton Bay fig has a particular problem with the psyllid insect that causes great damage to the tree's leaves. This leads to the defoliation of the tree, making it susceptible to other insects or fungus as well as stress from sunburn and reduced ability to photosynthesize. Cultivated trees in parks and streets appear to be more susceptible to psyllid attack than trees growing in the wild.

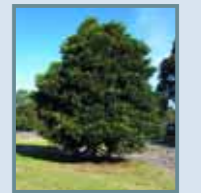


A young Moreton Bay fig, planted in 2003

Possible replacement tree

Ficus watkinsiana

Known as the Strangler fig, it looks very similar to the Moreton Bay Fig—in fact most could not tell them apart. Trials with this species in the Parklands show it to be resistant to the psyllid.



A small specimen planted in 1997

Twitcher's Corner



New Holland Honeyeater

By Trevor Waller

Of the many birds that make good use of the environment, and in particular the trees of the Parklands, the New Holland Honeyeater is our focus this season. It is a medium-sized Honeyeater with a boldly streaked black and white body. The back is dark and there are bold yellow wing panels, as well as yellow in the base of the outer tail feathers and a white tip in the outer tail.

On the black head there are white eyebrows, white whisker tufts and white ear tufts. The head pattern is significant for identifying the bird with the white eye the most important field mark to look for. They use their longish black bill to probe deep into flowers where their brush-tipped tongue can extract nectar from the blooms. To supplement their diet they also eat fruit and insects, which they often take in flight.

They are a bold species and will protect nectar trees with a noisy display of strength in numbers. This is usually accompanied by shrill harsh chattering, while their usual call is an abrupt metallic "tjik". New Holland Honeyeaters are found in coastal heath, woodlands with scrubby undergrowth, mallee, parks and gardens.

Breeding season is mostly between July and December and again between March and May but breeding can occur in any month nectar plants are flowering. In good seasons they may raise several broods. The substantial nest made of grass and bark is built in dense foliage in a shrub or bushy tree, and is lined with plant down or other soft materials. The female lays two to three eggs that are incubated for about 15 days. The best place to look for these Honeyeaters in the Parklands is in the Column Garden or the Rose Garden.

Trevor Waller is a bird enthusiast with over ten years behind the binoculars. He is a member of various bird watching clubs in Sydney, including Birds Australia, and conducts the Parklands' Birdwatcher's Breakfasts each season (see pages 14-15 for details).

A Walk in the Park with Peter Garrett

Peter Garrett is widely known as a passionate advocate and campaigner for the environment. He is a former president of the Australian Conservation Foundation, former frontman of Australian band Midnight Oil and is now the Labor Member for Kingsford Smith. Peter grew up in Sydney and has been visiting Centennial Parklands for many years.



Favourite nook in Centennial Parklands?

The wooded ridges dotted with Moreton Bay Figs overlooking the Federation Pavilion.

Funniest memory of the Parklands?

Starting the Ride for Life bike race for cancer research in 2004 twice after the competitors were so keen to get going they bolted without waiting for the start flag the first time—all captured on television.

How does being in the Parklands make you feel?

An oasis of calm in a crowded city. I admire the truly diverse range of activities that go on there—picnics, bike rides, walkers of all speeds and sizes—all taking time to recharge, which is a very necessary activity for busy Sydneysiders.

One word that best describes the Parklands?

Terrific.

Who would you most like to take for a walk in a park?

My wife, as it would give us a chance to chat surrounded by nature.

Formal gardens or rugged landscape?

Rugged landscape is the best part of the Parklands.

Best part of winter?

Clear skies.

Favourite other park?

Too many to mention but Jervis Bay National Park is a beauty, close to Sydney, with an outstanding marine environment.

Favourite tree?

Angophora – its canopy reminds me of the shape of Sydney.

The environment?

Climate change is upon us and with global warming underway we need to urgently rein in our greenhouse gas emissions. The Federal government needs to ratify Kyoto and support renewable and efficient energy in Australia.

Flower of the Season

Clivia nobilis

Commonly known as the Kaffir Lily some refer to *Clivia nobilis* as the 'Drooping Clivia' due to the large cluster of red tube-like flowers that hang from the stem. They were originally named after Lady Charlotte Florentina Clive, Duchess of Northumberland and granddaughter of Robert Clive, better known as Clive of India. She was famous in the world of gardening as the first to cultivate the flower of a *Clivia nobilis* in her greenhouse.



Clivias are wonderful, hardy plants that do well in almost all garden situations. Native to Natal in South Africa, they add a tropical lushness to any garden with their glossy dark green strap-like leaves and bright orange-to-red flowers. They tolerate a wide range of environmental conditions, although they do not like extremely cold regions where they are often grown in pots allowing them to be brought indoors in winter.

Clivia flowers brighten up any garden in winter as their flowering season starts around mid-to-late winter and continues into the summer months. They can grow in dense shade but prefer filtered light, which makes them ideal for growing under the shade of trees, along the dark

south sides of houses or for filling in gaps in the garden. Clivias perform well in soil that is free draining and mulched, although this is not essential.

They are very drought tolerant, requiring some watering in the spring and summer, with practically no watering over the cooler months of winter. Use a complete fertiliser in spring, preferably a slow release product. The dead flowers do not have to be removed as another spectacular feature of the Clivias is the red berries they produce. These set seeds and can produce new plants, although they will take about five years to produce any flowers.

Due to the popularity and durability of Clivias they have become quite expensive. Dividing your existing clump is the most productive and cost-effective way to expand your display. Division can take place anytime after flowering, although spring time is the best. Simply lift the plant from the soil and separate into smaller sections by cutting and breaking up the clump. Then replant the smaller pieces.

Clivia nobilis can be seen in Centennial Parklands amongst the other *Clivia miniata* planted *en masse* adjacent to Randwick Gates on Grand Drive, and also near the Café under the fig tree near the women's amenities block.

Recipe

Soups are synonymous with winter and this one will warm you through to your toes. This recipe, courtesy of Centennial Parklands Restaurant, is very easy to make and is perfect for lunches, or a simple dinner with salad and bread. Bon Appetit.

Roasted Sweet Potato and Ginger Soup

Ingredients:

- 2 litres vegetable stock (salt reduced)
- 1.5 kg sweet potatoes brushed with vegetable oil
- 2 medium Spanish onions, diced
- 2 large knobs of ginger, roughly chopped
- 2 medium chillies, seeded and sliced
- 1 teaspoon each of toasted cumin and coriander seeds, ground in a mortar and pestle
- 2 tablespoons of crunchy peanut butter
- 4 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- 1 lime, zest and juice
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 250 ml tub of light sour cream



Method:

1. Roast sweet potatoes, with their skins on, at 180°C degrees for two hours or until soft and caramelised. Allow to cool then carefully peel and discard skins. Set aside.
2. Sauté Spanish onion, chilli and ginger until soft then add sweet potato and vegetable stock. Mix well and bring to the boil. Cook for 5–10 minutes.
3. Add spices and peanut butter then, using a food processor, blend until smooth. Pass through a fine sieve then add lime juice and season if needed.
4. Top with sour cream that has been mixed with lime zest, and then serve.

Centennial Parklands Restaurant is open for breakfast and lunch. So soak up the winter sun, enjoy the view and choose from an assortment of seasonal dishes.

Healthy Parks

An urban oasis for our wildlife

Centennial Parklands is home to a large variety of bird, mammal and reptiles species. There are over 150 species of birds alone, making this site a popular bird watching destination for ornithologists.

The Parklands provide a unique oasis for animals in an otherwise harsh urban environment, and many rely on it for food, nesting and shelter.

Sadly, however, many animals in the Park are struck by cars. To our Rangers falls the task of removing—and sometimes happily, rescuing—the birds, turtles and possums that fall victim each year.

Wildlife can be slow to cross roads, particularly water birds due to their small size and feet that are not designed for hard surfaces. It is a common sight to see one of the Park's majestic black swan's slowly waddling across Parkes Drive in search of fresh grass to nibble on.

The 30km/hr speed limit for vehicles in Centennial Park is imposed in part to minimise the impact of vehicles on our wildlife. Rangers take the issue of speeding very seriously, and they will be conducting a campaign over the winter months to educate speeding drivers of the danger they pose to animals and humans alike. Offenders can receive a \$175 fine.

Please next time you drive through the gates of Centennial Park, leave behind the fast-paced, hustle and bustle of city life, and enjoy the tranquility the Park affords. Your assistance in helping us create a safe environment will be appreciated by both our two-legged and four-legged friends.



Cycling is fun for the family

Art in the Park

Healthy Parks Healthy People

Healthy Parks Healthy People presents Art in the Park in July 2005. In a week of arts-related activities at participating parks, Art in the Park will explore the relationship between art and nature by showcasing public art, architecture and other cultural aspects of Sydney's beautiful urban parks and gardens.

Activities will include special guided walks on the history of sculptures and pavilion architecture and exhibitions related to park landscapes and park users. There will also be school holiday activities and workshops for special-interest groups.

Healthy Parks Healthy People is an initiative that promotes the mental and physical benefits of spending time in parks. For more information, including a list of participating parks, visit www.healthyparkshealthypeople.com

Healthy People

Pedalling to good health

August will be a major fund raising month for cancer care and research. The Cancer Council's annual Daffodil Day takes place on August 19 and, in Centennial Parklands, the Ride For Life Challenge will be held on Saturday 13 August. The event will see cancer survivors, member of the general public, past Olympic champions, corporate groups and professional cyclists take up a cycling challenge to raise money for the Oncology Department at Prince of Wales Hospital.

The cycle event will be a fun day for everyone and it is open to all ages. Whether you come to compete, cheer on cyclists, provide support for your corporate team, join in a fun race or just enjoy the atmosphere, it's a day to mark in your calendar. There will also be a special program of activities for children including straight line racing, skills riding, safety pit stops and treasure hunts.

The Cancer Council Australia highlights the link between increased activity and reduced cancer incidence. Research has indicated that cycling reduces the risk of serious conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure, obesity and the most common form of diabetes. All types of regular exercise are beneficial, but cycling is particularly good because it fits into our busy lifestyles, being both a mode of transport and a good work-out.

Cycling at Centennial Parklands

Centennial Parklands offers a 3.8 kilometre recreational cycle lane. It is open to all levels of proficiency, even those who have not ridden a bike for a while. Take advantage of Car Free Days held on the last Sunday of every season when you can ride to your heart's content in a totally car free environment. The next Car Free Day will be held on 28 August (see page 3 for details).

Bikes are available for hire within Centennial Park. A hand cycle can also be reserved for hire. This style of bicycle allows amputees, people with spinal injuries and those recovering from certain conditions such as stroke to enjoy cycling for exercise or recreation.

Details of how to hire a bike are available at www.cp.nsw.gov.au or by calling (02) 9339 6699. For all enquires regarding the Ride For Life event, please visit www.rideforlife.org.au or contact (02) 9382 2589.

Information on regular cycling groups within the area is available through www.bikeeast.org.au

Cycling is the perfect activity to promote the health of individuals, the community and the planet.

Don't forget, you must wear a cycle helmet in Centennial Parklands.

Dublin's green treasure

Friends of Centennial Parklands member Andrew Mitchell recently visited Dublin and writes about its emerald treasure.

Phoenix Park is Dublin's equivalent of Centennial Parklands. Just west of the city centre, Phoenix Park is Dublin's largest park (over 700ha, compared with Centennial Parklands' 361 ha) and Europe's largest enclosed park with a circumference of 11 km. It is reputed to be the largest urban park in the world, though the Bois de Boulogne in Paris is 845ha, and the Prater in Vienna comes close at 614ha.



Signposts in both Irish and English are a common feature

A political legacy like Centennial Parklands, Phoenix Park was created in 1671 by the Duke of Ormonde, and opened to the public by Lord Chesterfield in 1745. It was named after a natural spring found in the Park, from the Irish Fionn Uisce meaning 'clear water', much like Lachlan Swamp in Centennial Parklands.

Again like Centennial Parklands, Phoenix Park provides an extraordinary site for a wide range of sports, jogging, walking, picnics, or just enjoying the fresh air and wide open green spaces. As well as its magnificent boulevards, vistas, open spaces and sports fields, the Park contains the People's Garden (1864), a cultivated flower garden, and the Dublin Zoo (1830, the third oldest in the world after London and Paris). Similarly, Moore Park was once the site of Sydney's first zoo that included a bear pit and elephant house.

Monuments include the Phoenix Column, the Wellington Monument and the Papal Cross, a 27 metre steel cross that commemorates the late Pope John Paul II's mass to over one million people in 1979.

Eighteenth century buildings in the Park include Deerfield, home of the US ambassador, and the Irish President's official residence, Áras an Uachtaráin (which I still can't get my tongue around). Next to the visitor centre is medieval Ashtown Castle, a seventeenth century towerhouse, with an historical interpretation of the Park going back 3500 years.

Trees include oak, beech, pine, chestnut and lime, and an illuminated tree for Christmas. There has been a major tree replanting program over the past 10 years. Parks are probably one of the best places in Ireland to see trees, because unfortunately there are very few left in the heavily cultivated rural areas. Like Scotland, the once heavily forested countryside was cut down to literally fuel industrial development.



Part of the central vista of Phoenix Park looking along the 4km Chesterfield Avenue lit by gas lamps

Among the wildlife in Phoenix Park is a herd of fallow deer, introduced by the Duke of



Ashtown Castle, a 17th century towerhouse next to the visitor centre

Ormonde, though I didn't actually see them. While attractive in Dublin's urban setting, the feral deer in Sydney's Royal National Park are proving particularly destructive to the native environment.

Just like Centennial Parklands, not everything in Phoenix Park's history has been tranquil and placid. While here the destruction of Sir Henry Parkes' statue was spectacular, political events at Phoenix Park have been more significant and gruesome. In 1882 the British Chief Secretary for Ireland (on his very first evening in the post) and his Under-Secretary were stabbed to death by extremists outside Áras an Uachtaráin.

Although a spectacular and massive landscape, I couldn't find any of the excellent interpretive material that is a feature of so many Australian parks and gardens. Educational facilities such as Centennial Parkland's excellent Wetlands Interpretive Maze and Lachlan Swamp Nature Trail were missing from Phoenix Park.

As always when visiting overseas parks and gardens, it is salutary to reflect on how very lucky we are in Australia to be able to enjoy our numerous parks, gardens and open spaces, including the many bush environments within the city.

Links for more information:

<http://www.heritageireland.ie/en/>

http://www.irish-architecture.com/buildings_ireland/dublin/northcity/phoenix_park/

Jack Johnson



The heavy skies cleared as Jack Johnson took to the stage for his Centennial Park concert on Friday 18 March. 20,000 fans began to sing and sway as Johnson opened his concert with Better Together, a song from his new album In Between Dreams. A professional

board rider turned film-maker, Johnson has attracted a loyal following since his first album was released. This concert, the first in a series of Max Sessions, also featured Katalyst, G. Love, Donovan Frankenreiter and Xavier Rudd.

The beautiful open air setting of the Mission Fields in Sydney's green heart was enjoyed by fans and musicians alike as the jazz folk sounds of the band wafted gently across the Park.

Moonlight Cinema

Heralding cooler weather, the ever popular open air Moonlight Cinema season ended on 28 March.

Commencing in December 2004, this year's audiences were treated to some great new movies such as The Motorcycle Diaries, Garden State and Collateral as well as some old favourites such as Ferris Bueller's Day Off, Breakfast at Tiffany's and Grease.

Crowds brought their picnic rugs and pillows or hired bean bags to enjoy a movie under the stars. Watch out for its season return later this year.

Stuart Tinney Clinic



Helen Gunn riding her Eventing horse The Freestyler at the Stuart Tinney Clinic

The Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre's Members Club held an Eventing clinic with Eventing Olympic gold medallist Stuart Tinney on 26-27 February. The intensive clinic taught all three phases of Eventing: dressage, showjumping and cross-country. Attendees found the experience of working with an Olympic gold

medallist exhilarating and invaluable. This special opportunity was taken up by both local and country riders and their horses. The newly renovated Equestrian Grounds in Centennial Park provided an excellent city venue for the clinic.

Nick takes over Sydney

On Sunday 24 April, Nickelodeon hosted a free outdoor fun event at Loch Avenue South in Centennial Park. Catering for children aged 5 to 12, the event featured live entertainment and appearances by much-loved SpongeBob SquarePants, Patrick Star and Dora the Explorer with her pet monkey Boots.

Kids bounced on the new giant inflatable SpongeBob Bouncy Bottom, dove through the Elastic Jungle and slid through the Bobstacle. It was a fun-packed day for kids, giving them an opportunity to see some of their favourite characters up close.



Good Vibrations

On Saturday 19 February, patrons of Good Vibrations found inventive ways to shelter from the heavy downpours that arrived in the afternoon of this popular music festival. 20,000 fans came to Moore Park enjoy five stages packed with music and dancing.

The festival, which began at 12 noon and finished at 10.00 pm, was a great success despite the weather and will be eagerly awaited next year.



The Dasher Double

At 5.00 pm on Wednesday 20 April, Daryl Allen, a regular Centennial Park cyclist, began his Dasher Double 48-hour Challenge around Centennial Park to raise funds for Youth Insearch. This organisation provides young people with the opportunity to take control of their lives by establishing new positive goals and directions.

Accompanied by a small team of Centennial Park cyclists, Daryl faced the gruelling ride with his usual good humour. Forty eight hours later an exhausted but happy Daryl had completed his challenge and raised around \$100,000 for this worthy cause.

BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST

Healthy Parks
Healthy People



Join this early morning guided tour to spot some of the Parklands' migratory and

resident land and water birds. A new meeting point and route will allow the chance to visit some different birdwatching locations. For adults. Bring binoculars.

7.30 am – 9.30 am. Includes breakfast. \$18.50 per person. Meet Musgrave Avenue Gates, corner Darley and York Roads. Finishes at Shelter Pavilion.

Bookings essential
(02) 9339 6699.

Sunday, 19 June
Sunday, 7 August

MODEL GLIDERS

Healthy Parks
Healthy People



Enter the world of aviation and build your own model glider to take

home with you. Learn the history and flying techniques of model aeroplanes in Centennial Park. All materials are included. Bring hat. 1.00 pm – 2.30 pm. \$12.50 per child (6-12 years). Meet Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Cafe.

Bookings essential
(02) 9339 6699.

Monday, 4 July

ART IN THE PARK

Healthy Parks
Healthy People



ART in the PARK will explore the relationship between art and nature by

showcasing public art, architecture and other cultural aspects of Sydney's beautiful urban parks and gardens.

Activities will include special guided walks on the history of sculptures and pavilion architecture and exhibitions related to park landscapes and park users. Also on the program are workshops for special-interest groups and kids' school holiday activities.

Participating parks in the Healthy Parks Healthy People initiative include: Centennial Parklands; Botanic Gardens; Parramatta Park; Sydney Olympic Park and sites managed by the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust and NSW National Parks.

Monday, 11 July to
Sunday, 17 July

RUGBY LEAGUE CLINIC

Healthy Parks
Healthy People



Learn rugby league skills in this full day clinic under the guidance of ARL

development officers. Work on your passing, catching and tackling skills. Each child receives an ARL football, backpack and drink bottle. Bring hat, lunch and appropriate sports wear. 9.00 am – 3.00 pm. \$45 per child (6-12 years). Meet at Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Café.

Bookings essential
(02) 9339 6699.

Wednesday, 13 July

we need you.

The Centennial Parklands Foundation provides funds for environmental and educational projects. By supporting the Foundation you will be helping ensure future generations can experience the natural, indigenous and cultural heritage that is Centennial Parklands.

You can donate to the Foundation directly or by joining the Friends of Centennial Parklands. A donation/membership form is inserted in the magazine. For more information on the Foundation, including donations, bequests and sponsorships, please contact us on (02) 9339 6699.



all season

DOG

Visit DOG, the exhibition on display at the Visitor Centre, Superintendent's Residence at Paddington Gates in Centennial Park until October 2005.

This entertaining exhibition includes stunning images and fascinating objects – all providing a unique insight into the life of a dog. Discover the remarkable diversity of dogs, explore the many unique relationships that dogs and humans share and find out about the benefits of dog ownership. A special selection of DOG gifts can also be purchased for your 'best friend'. Open Wednesdays and weekends 10.00 am – 3.00 pm.

june

1 Wednesday ART COMPETITION

Celebrate the Horse's Birthday on 1 August by participating in Centennial Parklands Art Competition. Entry is open to anyone under 18 years of age. Simply design a poster-style artwork up to A3 in size. Posters must include a picture of a horse and a slogan about horses in Centennial Park. Please write your name, age, title of artwork and contact phone number on the back of your poster. All posters are to be completed by children under the age of 18. Address your entry to Centennial Parklands Art Competition, Locked Bag 15, PADDINGTON NSW 2021, or deliver to the Administration Building, behind Centennial Parklands Café. Competition closes 5.00 pm Monday, 18 July. Posters will be displayed from Friday, 22 July and judged on Sunday, 31 July at 2.00 pm at A Pavilion, Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre. Enquiries (02) 9339 6699.

5 Sunday 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. 11.00 am – 3.00 pm. Free of charge. Shelter Pavilion, Parkes Drive.

14 Tuesday 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. \$10.50 per child (2-5 years), adults free. Meet Equestrian Centre Gates, corner Lang and Cook Roads. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

15 Wednesday FREE HERITAGE WALK

See 15 June. Programs for Adults section

19 Sunday BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST

Healthy Parks Healthy People

See highlights

DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

See 19 June. Programs for Adults section.

23 Thursday MY LITTLE PONIES

See 14 June

24 Friday SPOTLIGHT PROWL

A chance to see the wild nightlife of Centennial Park. Join Rangers spotlighting possums, flying foxes and other night creatures. All ages. Bring torch. 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm. \$9.50 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

28 Tuesday MY LITTLE PONIES

See 14 June

july

2 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 – 3.00 pm or until sold out. \$9.50 per ride. Tickets at Mobile Ranger Station, Centennial Parklands Café. Weather permitting. Bookings not required.

3 Sunday PONY RIDES

See 2 July

4 Monday CIRCUS SKILLS

Have you ever wanted to join the circus? Learn juggling, throwing, spinning and balancing using clubs, rings and diablos with expert Michael Richards. Bring hat. 10.30 am – 12.00 pm. \$12.50 per child (strictly 10 years and over). Meet Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Cafe. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

19 Sunday DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

Learn professional techniques to photograph your dog and capture its personality on film. In this 2 hour workshop local photographer Marco Bok will inspire you with his life-long experience in photographing dogs in Centennial Parklands. Visit the new DOG exhibition for your inspiration. Bring dog, leash, dog waste bags, camera and 2-3 rolls of film (or sufficient memory cards for digital cameras). For adults. 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. \$40 per person. Meet Visitor Centre, Paddington Gates, corner Oxford Street and Lang Road. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

july

24 Sunday DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

See 19 June. Programs for Adults section

5 Tuesday MINI RANGERS

Dress up in your Rangers outfit to learn how Rangers take care of Centennial Parklands. Make your own Ranger badge and join the Rangers to survey for wildlife, and help on a litter patrol. 10.00 am – 11.00 am. \$9 per child (2-5 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion, Parkes Drive. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

MODEL GLIDERS

See highlights

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

5.30 pm - 6.30 pm. See 24 June

6 Wednesday JUNIOR RANGERS

Who designs our parks? Who decides what they include and how they are arranged? Search for griffins, sculptures, cannons and monuments that are significant to Centennial Park. Design and build your own mini park, complete with toilets, roads, ponds, dog areas and wildlife reserves. 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. \$12.50 per child (6-12 years). Meet Visitor Centre, Paddington Gates, corner Oxford Street and Lang Road. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

7 Thursday NETBALL CLINIC

Learn netball skills in this fun three-hour netball clinic under the guidance of qualified netball coaches Robin Rowland-Wild and Karen Howell. Work on your passing and catching, footwork, attacking and defence skills and play a game. Bring hat, drink, and appropriate sports wear. 9.30 am – 12.30 pm. \$15.00 per child (6-12 years). Centennial Parklands Sports Centre, Netball courts, Lang Road, Moore Park. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

BUBBLES AND BOATMEN

Dipnet for boatmen, wrigglers and nymphs and discover how they use bubbles to breathe underwater. Create your own bubble-art boatman to take home with you! 10.00 am – 11.00 am. \$9 per child (2-5 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion, Parkes Drive. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

8 Friday BUBBLES AND BOATMEN

See 7 July

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

5.30 pm - 6.30 pm. See 24 June

9 Saturday PONY RIDES

See 2 July

10 Sunday PONY RIDES

See 2 July

11 Monday NETBALL CLINIC

See 7 July

MINI RANGERS

See 5 July

ART IN THE PARK

See highlights

12 Tuesday BUBBLES AND BOATMEN

See 7 July

SKETCHING CLASS –ART IN THE PARK

Learn to sketch the diverse wildlife of Centennial Parklands in this unique class run for both children and adults. Ranger and artist Paul Solomon will teach a variety of sketching techniques using media such as charcoal, pencil, ink and graphite.

Materials included. Bring hat. 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. \$20.00 per person (7 years to adult). Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

KRAZY KITES

Come along to this kite-flying workshop to fly kites of all shapes and sizes. Construct and

decorate your very own kite to take home, and practise flying your kite under the guidance of kite expert Michael Richards. All materials included. Bring hat. 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm. \$12.50 per child (7 – 12 years). Meet Administration Building, behind the Centennial Parklands Cafe. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

3 Wednesday RUGBY LEAGUE CLINIC

See highlights

DOG EXHIBITION – ART IN THE PARK

10.00 am - 3.00 pm. Free of charge. Visitor Centre, Paddington Gates, corner Oxford Street and Lang Road. See All Season.

MINI RANGERS

See 5 July

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

5.30pm – 6.30pm. See 24 June

14 Thursday SOFTBALL CLINIC

Learn softball skills in this fun three-hour softball clinic under the guidance of NSW Softball development officers. Work on your catching and throwing, pitching and batting, and play a game. Bring hat, drink and appropriate sports wear. 9.30 am – 12.30 pm. \$15.00 per child (6-12 years). Meet Centennial Parklands Sports Centre, softball fields, Lang Road, Moore Park. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

JUNIOR RANGERS

See 6 July

MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP

Craft 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.

15 Friday CIRCUS SKILLS

See 4 July

SPOTLIGHT PROWL

5.30 pm – 6.30 pm

16 Saturday PONY RIDES

See 2 July

17 Sunday PONY RIDES

See 2 July

19 Tuesday MY LITTLE PONIES

See 14 June

21 Thursday MY LITTLE PONIES

See 14 June

24 Sunday DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

See 19 June. Programs for Adults section

31 Sunday TED'S TREE TOUR – NATIONAL TREE DAY

Healthy Parks Healthy People

See highlights

august

2 Tuesday MY LITTLE PONIES

See 14 June

4 Thursday MY LITTLE PONIES

See 14 June

5 Friday SPOTLIGHT PROWL

5.45 pm – 6.45 pm.

See 24 June

7 Sunday BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST

Healthy Parks Healthy People

See highlights

14 Sunday BUSBY'S BORE WALK

See 14 August.

Programs for Adults section

29 Sunday CAR FREE DAY

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the last Sunday of winter in the peaceful surroundings of

Centennial Park. Please note accessible entry has changed and is now via Jervois Gates. 9.00 am – 5.00 pm.

☞ = 10% discount for Friends of Centennial Parklands. Please present your Friends membership card to secure a discount. Discount is 10% unless otherwise stated.

For various horse riding lessons and school holiday pony camps, contact one of the following stables at Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre:

Budapest Riding School:
0419 231 931

Centennial Stables:
(02) 9360 5650

Eastside Riding Academy:
(02) 9360 7521

Moore Park Stables:
(02) 9360 8747

Papillon Riding Stables:
0407 224 938

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

june

15 Wednesday FREE HERITAGE WALK

Join Centennial Parklands Ranger Brian Page for a stroll through one of Australia's oldest parks. This walking tour will showcase historical sites and significant natural and built features. Bring good walking shoes, hat and drink. For adults. 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. Free of charge. Meet Visitor Centre, Paddington Gates, corner Oxford Street and Lang Road. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

19 Sunday BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST

Healthy Parks Healthy People

See highlights

31 Sunday TED'S TREE TOUR – NATIONAL TREE DAY

Healthy Parks Healthy People

See highlights

14 Sunday BUSBY'S BORE WALK

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 noon. \$13 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Finishes at Fox Studios. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

august

7 Sunday BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST

Healthy Parks Healthy People

See highlights

winter

2005 CALENDAR

Centennial Parklands User's Guide

QUICK GUIDE

First Aid and Emergency

24 hour Ranger service, 7 days.

0412 718 611

Administration

8.30 am-5 pm Monday—Friday. Located behind Centennial Parklands Café. **(02) 9339 6699**

Fax: (02) 9332 2148 email: info@cp.nsw.gov.au

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.

BY CAR: Main gates to Centennial Park open sunrise to sunset. Car Free Days are held on the last Sunday in every season: February, May, August and November. A 30 km 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, environment 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

Park Information

Information, maps and brochures are available from the Administration Building (behind the café) or the Superintendent's Residence, Wednesdays and weekends 10 am–3 pm.

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Modern Australian à la carte restaurant offering a full wine list. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Also available for weddings and function hire. Open 7 days, 8.30 am—3 pm. **(02) 9360 3355**

Centennial Parklands Café

Specialising in light meals and snacks, the Café offers open-air eating in its award-winning forecourt. Open 7 days, 8 am—4.30 pm. **(02) 9380 6922**

Centennial Parklands Kiosk

Located next to Duck Pond, the Kiosk serves sandwiches, light meals, coffee, cold drinks and ice cream. Open weekends and public holidays, 8 am—sunset.

Centennial Parklands Children's Centre

Day care centre for babies to pre-schoolers. **(02) 9663 1200**

Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

Tennis, basketball and netball courts available for casual or regular use. **(02) 9662 7033**



Moore Park Golf Course

Public 18-hole golf course, available to members and non-members, in the heart of the Eastern Suburbs. Includes Golf Pro Shop and one Australia's largest driving ranges. **(02) 9663 3791**

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: **(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. Perfect for weddings, lunches, events. Bookings: **(02) 9339 6699**

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Available for weddings and function hire. Bookings: **(02) 9282 0500**

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**

THINGS TO DO

Cycling & Roller Blading

A four kilometre 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 16. Hire available from:

- Centennial Parklands Cycle Hire, in Centennial Park (bikes only): **0409 855 592**
- Centennial Park Cycles, Randwick (bikes & blades): **(02) 9398 5027**
- Woollys Wheels, Paddington (bikes only): **(02) 9380 6356**
- Total Skate, Woollahra (blades only): **(02) 9380 6356**

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 off-leash dog walking is permitted, please refer to our dog brochure. For copies please phone **(02) 9339 6699** or visit www.cp.nsw.gov.au

Jogging & Walking

A 3.6 kilometre jogging track is located around Grand Drive. Self-guided walking trails are located at Lachlan Swamp and 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 3.6 kilometre circular horse track and some two hectares of fenced equestrian grounds. Horse hire:

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

For stabling and other enquiries, please phone the Centre Manager: **(02) 9332 2809**

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: **(02) 9339 6699**

Education and Public Programs

School excursions, holiday activities, guided tours and workshops, children's birthday parties. Enquiries: **(02) 9339 6699**

Moore Park Precinct



The Moore Park Precinct offers a variety of sport and leisure experiences. Venues

in the Precinct include Fox Studios, Hordern Pavilion, Royal Hall of Industries, Sydney Cricket Ground and Aussie Stadium. For more information on events and activities visit www.mooreparkprecinct.com.au



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