

# parklands



VOLUME 13

the magazine of the centennial park & moore park trust

SUMMER 2000

Special Centenary  
of Federation Issue



# summer contents

4 What a Games!



6 Moore Park tees off



8 Federation feature:  
A celebration of  
nationhood

10 Federation's Father

12 A grand vision



14 Portrait of a Park

16 Friends of the Parklands



17 Call for volunteers

18 Summer events



20 Centennial Parklands  
user's guide

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## Directions



The Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games were declared the 'best ever', and it would be fair to say Centennial Parklands played a role in their resounding success.

Not only did the road cycling and marathon events run without a hitch through the free

parkland venue, but the thousands of spectators who lined the route enjoyed the mostly fine weather which heightened the natural beauty of the 'people's park'.

The well-attended Hemispheres world music festival, a highlight on the Olympic Arts Festival calendar, also ran smoothly. Festival-goers enjoyed a superb range of local and international

acts over a sunny September weekend.

On behalf of the Trust I'm pleased to report the integrity of the Parklands was protected during the staging of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The temporary structures erected were speedily dismantled, and swift restoration of areas affected by the Games was undertaken.

The next major event to be held in Centennial Park is the Centenary of Federation celebrations on January 1, 2001. It is fitting the park should be the site of commemorative festivities for it was here, on 1 January 1901, that the first government of Australia was sworn in before a jubilant crowd of tens of thousands of people. The occasion featured performances of massed bands and choirs, prayers for the nation and grand pageantry.

To mark the inauguration of the Commonwealth in 1901 and to celebrate our first century of nationhood, the Park will host a Commemorative Ceremony in Federation Valley at 1pm. Members of the official party, which includes the Prime Minister, Governor-General, and state Premiers, Governors and Chief Ministers, will sign a Centennial Guest Book and present a plaque from their states and territories.

At 4pm a giant street parade entitled 'Journey of a Nation - The Federation Parade' will begin to wind its way through city streets, concluding at Centennial Park at 7.30pm. At 8pm, the Centennial Ceremony, combining performance, speeches and the latest in event technology, will take place at the Parade Ground, directly in front of Pine Grove.

Up to 100,000 people are expected to enjoy the free Federation Day celebrations in Centennial Park. The parade and the Centennial Ceremony will also be broadcast across the nation so all Australians have the chance to be part of this historic occasion.

For more information on festivities please turn to the Federation Feature in this issue of *Parklands*. Stories include an historical account of Federation Day, 1901 and celebrations planned for January 1, 2001; a profile of the 'Father of Federation', Sir Henry Parkes, and information about capital works and cultural projects as well as displays and exhibitions.

The Trust is working closely with the NSW Centenary of Federation Committee on the staging of events and looks forward to visitors joining with us to commemorate this great moment in Australia's, and the Parklands', history.

We hope you enjoy the Parklands during the festivities, over the Christmas and New Year holidays and throughout 2001.

Peter Duncan

Director, Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust



# Parkbench

## Cirque Du Soleil Returns

Critically-acclaimed performing arts company Cirque du Soleil is returning to Centennial Parklands. Eighteen months after astounding Sydney with *Saltillo*, Cirque du Soleil will present *Alegria* under the big top at Moore Park starting 1 June.

A Spanish word expressing elation, joy and jubilation, *Alegria* whisks the audience away to a royal court with an eclectic array of characters, clowns and artists.

Already viewed by five million people across four continents, *Alegria* features an international cast of 56 performers and musicians from 13 countries. The two-and-a-half hour spectacular has been acclaimed worldwide for its daring aerial manoeuvres, outstanding synchronised choreography and tumbling.

We are pleased to announce that special group discounts will be available on selected mid-week dates for *Friends of Centennial Parklands* – see page 16 for details. For regular tickets contact Ticketek on (02) 9266 4886.

## New information

Centennial Parklands has released a new range of brochures, making it easier for people to plan their visit to Sydney's premier parklands and get information on their unique features.

The new publications include a handy map guide, with an easy-to-read map and useful information on the wide range of recreational pursuits in the Parklands.

We have also reformatted our calendar of events, providing a comprehensive guide to seasonal activities and events.

Fact sheets have been produced on nine different

topics including: Federation, historic features; birds; history; ponds; trees; formal gardens; fauna; and Parklands regulations.

To assist our non-English speaking users, a general fact sheet and map has been printed in 15 different languages including French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Arabic, Vietnamese and Greek.

Plus we have updated our web site, providing 24 hour access to information on park features, facilities and events by simply logging onto [www.cp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cp.nsw.gov.au).

Publications are available from the Trust office, or phone (02) 9339 6699.

## Consultation update

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our recent community consultations on the Centennial Parklands Dog Policy and proposals for a new pedestrian entrance at Moore Park North.

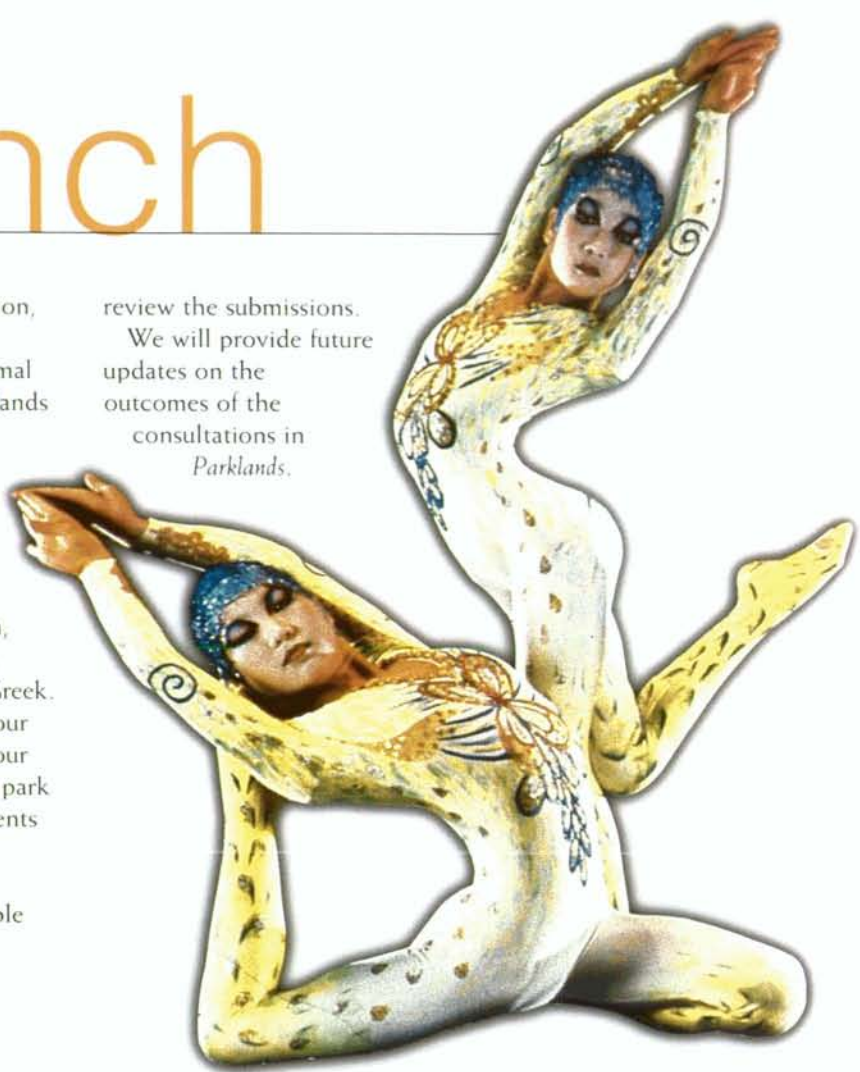
The Dog Policy Review attracted considerable interest. We received more than 300 responses from a wide cross section of the community, including park users, local residents, and government and community organisations.

To assess the response, a Dog Policy Assessment Committee was set up, including representatives from a local Dog Training Club, Waverley Council and the Centennial Parklands Community Consultative Committee. Recommendations will be considered by the Trust before the end of the year.

The Moore Park entrance plans attracted 61 submissions, which will be reviewed by an independent advisory group. An independent advisory group has been established to

review the submissions.

We will provide future updates on the outcomes of the consultations in *Parklands*.



## Arrivals and departures at the Equestrian Centre

Peter Taylor is sadly departing the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre after three years as Stable Manager.

Peter joined the Centre in 1997, following extensive experience in the equestrian industry including a role as road manager and assistant coach for the Canadian Team at the World Equestrian Games.

Peter has been instrumental in the transition of the old showground stables into the world class facility it is today. His infectious optimism, personable nature and irreverent spirit will be missed by all.

In the spirit of Christmas, Equestrian Centre recently welcomed its first foal since its refurbishment. The foal, Nelson, was a surprise arrival after his 18-year-old mother Jilly came to the Centre to be treated by the resident vet. Their stay at the Centre will be brief, with the pair heading for an open paddock soon.

## Kick off summer at Moore Park!

With the restoration of Moore Park following the Eastern Distributor completed, we will welcome the community back on Sunday 3 December 2000 with a fun-filled day of celebrations.

Called "Summer Kicks off at Moore Park", the event includes a coaching clinic with the Sydney Swans and appearances by St George Illawarra Rugby League Stars. Other highlights include kite making workshops and displays, hoola hoop classes, face painting, historical walking tours, a great Aussie Sausage Sizzle and much more.

There will also be a range of free entertainment, including street theatre, comedians and musicians catering for kids and adults alike.

*Summer Kicks Off at Moore Park* will start at 10.30am and finish at 4.00pm. Log onto [www.cp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cp.nsw.gov.au) for a full program or call (02) 9339 6699.



# What a Games!

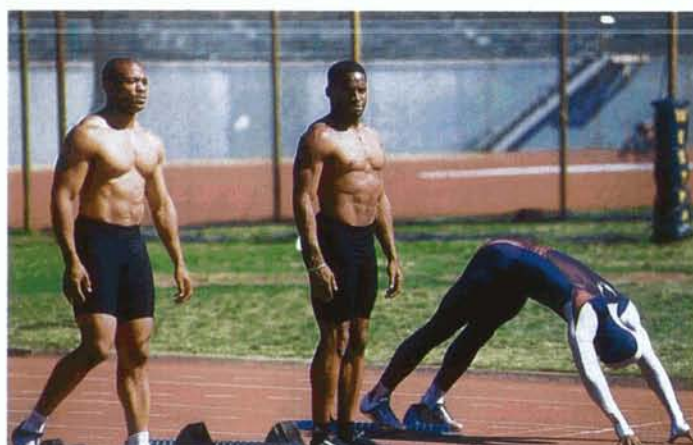
During September and October Centennial Parklands pulsated with the collective energy of the world's top athletes who raced through the Parklands competing in Olympic and Paralympic road cycling and marathon events. Diana Prichard reports.

The 'best ever' Games are well and truly over but memories and trappings remain. In Centennial Park visitors can literally 'follow in the footsteps' of the marathon runners as the long blue line which marks the race route still winds its way along Grand Drive.

It was appropriate that a place long-associated with sporting activities should be chosen as a venue for the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The following images capture the excitement and activity in the Parklands during these momentous events.



Athletes training hard...for the world's press! Leading sports management team HSI, invited the press to photograph some of their athletes, including American sprinter Maurice Greene and Trinidad & Tobago's Ato Boldon, at a training session held at ES Marks Athletics Field on Tuesday 19 September. After the Games HSI added Cathy Freeman to their elite stable of athletes.



America's Maurice Greene (left) prepares to race good friend Ato Boldon from Trinidad & Tobago (centre) and Jon Drummond (right) at the HSI training session. In the Sydney 2000 Olympic 100 metre final Greene won the gold while Boldon took out the silver. After the sprint Greene hurled his gold-soled shoe, said to be now worth \$100,000, into the crowd! Imagine that landing in your lap!



Members of the media interview Sports Attorney Emanuel Hudson from HSI sports management at the athletes training session at ES Marks Athletics Field. The photo opportunity was sponsored by the 2001 Goodwill Games Brisbane, and brought national and international attention to Centennial Parklands.



Paralympians and a member of the US Track Team provide a photo opportunity for the world press at the HSI training session at ES Marks. Paralympians and Olympians trained side-by-side at ES Marks in the lead up to their events. More than 40 athletes, including sporting legends Carl Lewis and Australia's Louise Sauvage, took advantage of the facility.





Spectators in Centennial Parklands broke into wild applause when the Women's Olympic Marathon runners appeared, racing through the Park en route to Homebush. It was Sunday 24 September, and the winner was Japan's Naoko Takahashi who ran into the Olympic Stadium in an Olympic record-breaking time of 2 hours, 23 minutes and 14 seconds.



The striking 'True Blue' horticultural display, in full flower during the Games, was inspired by a true Aussie icon, the beach! Thousands of yellow, blue and white petunias and pansies were artistically arranged in 12 beds in the Column Garden to represent the movement of water and waves crashing onto the sandy beach.



The birds chirped, the sun shone and a swarm of helicopters buzzed overhead as up to 5000 spectators lined the Women's Olympic Marathon route in Centennial Park. It was fitting that the 'people's park' should be a free venue, making the events accessible to all.



Australia dominated the Sydney 2000 Paralympic road cycling events, winning five of the 12 gold medals decided at Centennial Park. Australians Lyn Lehone and Lynette Nixon won the Women's Tandem 54.6km Road Race in a time of 1 hour, 31 minutes and 23 seconds. And Spaniards, Manuel Diaz and Oscar De La Cruz, won the 118.3km Men's Tandem Road Race in 2 hours, 46 minutes and 6 seconds.



The cyclists in the Men's Olympic Road Race event on Wednesday, 27 September, whizzed through Centennial Park at breakneck speed in their bid to win a medal. Initially riding in a tight bunch, soon the field spread out. The gruelling race, a distance of 239km through Centennial Parklands and Bronte, was eventually won by world champion and Tour de France winner, German Jan Ullrich.



Centennial Parklands wasn't overshadowed by grandstands during the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games, but remained as it was, a parkland setting. In this relaxed and casual venue it was only a temporary barricade which separated spectators from the action. You could feel the heat, the intense focus, the rippling muscles of the elite athletes as they raced by. And what an occasion to rouse a bit of national pride! "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie..." can still be heard reverberating through the Parklands...





Golf Course Superintendent, Mal Durkin.

# Golf course tees off

Recent improvements to the Moore Park Golf Course have made it better than ever for players, but the improvements don't stop there. Melaine Surplice reports.

Moore Park Golf Course has been getting its share of the limelight recently. Judged the "best located and most complete golfing facility in any major capital city in the world" in the Spring issue of golfing magazine *Hacker*, the course is winning accolades from critics and golfers alike.

The reason for the excitement is a major upgrade and redevelopment of the course, resulting in a totally new layout and better amenities for golfers.

"Moore Park is the birthplace of municipal golf in New South Wales," says Andrew Ferris, Trust Operations Manager. "Ever since the facility came under our control in the early 1990s we have been looking for ways to provide a course equal to its significance."

This began with a staged redevelopment of the entire course in 1992. "It was a major redesign that provided a more interesting and challenging game of golf and addressed a number of safety concerns on the course," Andrew says.

"The improvements included larger greens, bunkers, irrigation systems, and a new bridge across Dacey Avenue, connecting the two sides of the Golf Course. We also added a modern maintenance facility and workshop."

Further improvements were to follow. A levy, introduced in 1998, has funded \$230,000 of enhancements to pathways, drainage and signage. "We're really getting to the point where the golf course – with its other facilities

like the driving range and the chipping green – is one of the best Group One courses around," Andrew says.

The course attracts over 60,000 visitors a year, and is the busiest Group One course in Sydney, if not the whole of New South Wales. "Because of its locality and the quality of the course we're really attracting a lot of people. And it's a public course, not a private course. So it's very accessible."

Quality daily maintenance of the course also helps to set it apart. "The upkeep and presentation of the course are better than ever, and all credit

should go to course Superintendent Mal Durkin and his team of green-keeping professionals."

Mal, who has worked there for 10 years, says it's a constant challenge to keep the greens looking good. "People think it's just a piece of grass and that we can look after it like a piece of lawn. But it can actually die overnight. Whether it's a disease or an insect attack, people still want to play golf."

The Golf Course is just one element of a wider precinct that will be considered as part of a new master plan for the southern section of Moore Park



The master plan will look at ways of opening up the historic 1860s Toll House for public use.





Above: Moore Park Golf Course, 1931. The Course was devoid of vegetation until the late 1940s when the city council resumed work delayed by World War II.

Below: The clubhouse in 1926. Photos courtesy City of Sydney Council.

bounded by Cleveland Street, South Dowling Street and Anzac Parade.

The area also includes the ES Marks Athletics Field, childcare centre and former Toll House.

"While we have been maintaining the Golf Course to a much higher standard, this is the first strategic review of the overall precinct in more than 10 years," says Judith Peters, Manager Corporate Strategy and Policy.

One of the aims is to keep the Golf Course as a high quality facility, while opening the area up to a broader range of uses. "We want to be able to maximise opportunities for people to enjoy this area. A key goal will be to ensure that it is responding to the needs of the growing residential population nearby" Judith says.

The community will be involved from the outset in the drafting of the Master Plan.

A widespread consultation process has been developed, spanning local residents, sport and recreation users, Government, Councils, local schools, and major transport groups.

"Most important of all, we're doing a couple of community Open Days," says Judith. "The first Open Day was on 25 November. There will be a second one in late February.

"We hope that by doing this, everyone will feel that they have had an

opportunity to have a say. That's really key to us. What we want is something that's very real and very grounded in what the community needs."

Judith also hopes the process will

raise community awareness.

"Connecting the Parklands and making people understand that the three parks are part of a broader, integrated set of Parklands is another thing that we would like to achieve.

"You could envisage a time where somebody could get on their bike at Green Square and cycle virtually the whole way through parkland to Bondi Junction. It's pretty fantastic," she says.

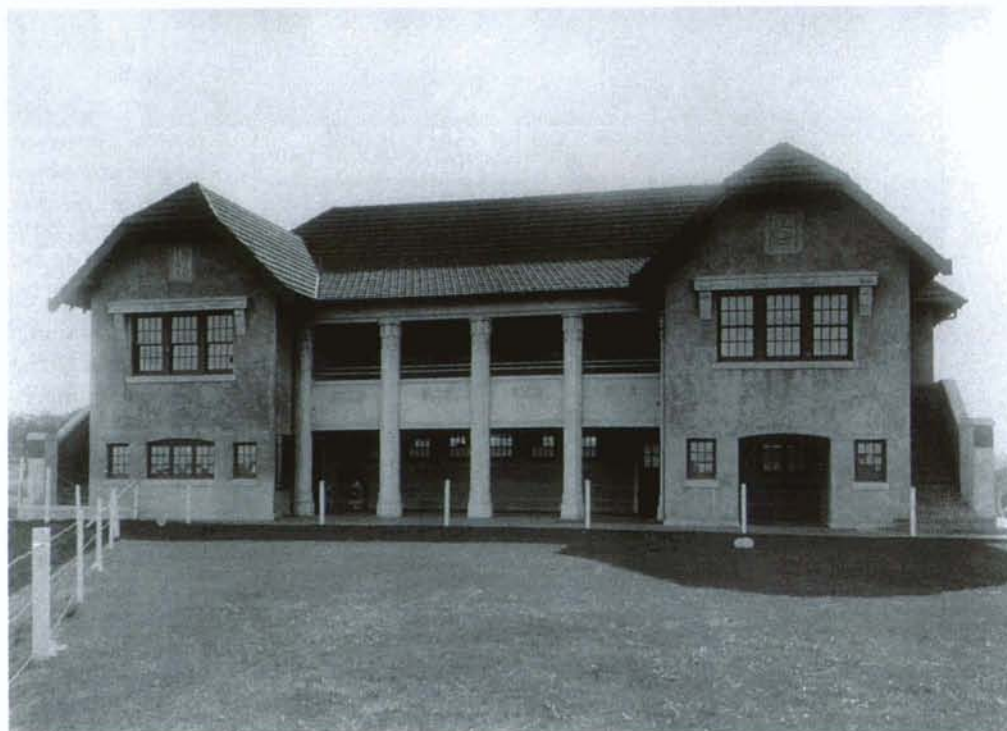
The theme of opening up Moore Park carries through to the former Toll House, a heritage-listed cottage built in 1860.

"It's a beautiful old sandstone building and you can't actually see it, because it's hidden away behind trees," explains Judith. "The building is currently used for storage and we really want to open it up for public use."

Judith is confident that the outcomes of the Plan will make the precinct a more dynamic area, while satisfying the edict of the Privy Council in 1894 that "Moore Park is to go for ever for the common or public enjoyment."

The Trust plans to exhibit the completed Master Plan in mid-2001. People can call (02) 9339 6699 for more information, or to register for the February workshop.

"We want to be able to maximise opportunities for people to enjoy this area..."





# A nation celebrates



On 1 January 2001 Centennial Park will be the focal point

for festivities celebrating Australia's coming together as a nation, as we play host to the official Centennial Ceremony. The

ceremony will recall 100 years earlier when thousands of people flocked to the Park for the signing of the original Federation document.

To celebrate our role in the commemoration of Australia's Federation, this special *Parklands* feature recalls Federation Day in 1901 and outlines the festivities planned for 2001. It also updates readers on several grand projects to honour Federation, funded by the Commonwealth Government Federation Fund. Plus we take a look at the 'Father of Federation' Sir Henry Parkes and review a new exhibition at the Museum of Sydney exploring the contemporary identity of Centennial Park and its magical history.

We hope you are able to share some of the special moments planned in Centennial Parklands to celebrate this important milestone.

New South Wales  
Centenary of Federation



WHEN TENS OF THOUSANDS of people gathered in Centennial Park at 1pm on 1 January 1901 to witness the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia, one wonders if any of them imagined the magnitude of the celebrations planned to commemorate the occasion 100 years later!

Onlookers and participants alike would have been caught up in the excitement of the event unfolding before them. After hymns and prayers the clerk, E.G. Blackmore, read the Queen's Proclamation, declaring the people from Australia's six separate colonies united in a Federal Commonwealth of Australia.

Guns boomed and the band played the National Anthem – the last strains of which roused "the spirit of the crowd to fever pitch," according to Manning Clark in *A History of Australia*. "(It was) the greatest day in their history," he wrote. "The roars, the shouts, and the cooees rolled away over the grassy parkland towards the very vast sea on which their ancestors had ridden to glory or damnation on their way to plant British civilisation in an inhospitable environment."

To further gleeful whooping, Lord Hopetoun, fabulously-attired in black-and-gold full court dress, was sworn in as the first Governor-General of Australia, and the interim cabinet, led by Edmund Barton as Prime Minister, took their oaths of office.

Many of the jubilant crowd had already applauded the Great Inaugural Procession which, preceding the inauguration ceremony, had wound its way through the streets of Sydney towards the especially-erected pavilion in the later-renamed Federation Valley in Centennial Park.

Clark described the day as "a people's festival", possessing a strong flavour of the Empire combined with a taste of what it was to be a new citizen of Australia. "Triumphal arches stretched across the streets along which the representatives of the trades marched... The crowds cheered wildly for the Eight Hours Banner, for the men of the Shearers' Union, the Australian Workers' Union, for the noble bushmen from the backblocks... The crowd clapped classically draped ladies, wearing helmets and in all other ways suitably costumed to represent what the day was all about – Britannia and Australia".

However it was the imperial troops who received the highest honour, providing the euphoric crowds with a fine spectacle. "(They)... presented a magnificent appearance, fine upstanding men, straight-backed, astride their well-groomed horses," writes Clark.

And now, 100 years later, equally memorable festivities have been planned to not only commemorate the birth of the nation but also to reflect on the successes and mistakes of the

past, and to share visions for the future.

On 1 January 2001, these celebrations include a dawn event at Uluru; a parade in Sydney billed as Australia's most spectacular street parade, and a ceremony in Centennial Park which will combine breathtaking pageantry and speeches by our nation's leaders with state-of-the-art event technology.

There will also be a Commemorative event in Centennial Park's Federation Valley at 1pm; a flypast over Sydney at 3.45pm; and a simultaneous ringing of bells across Australia at 3.55pm symbolising our unity as a nation.

The Commemorative event, taking 45 to 60 minutes, will be attended by an official party including the Prime Minister, Governor-General, state Premiers, Governors and Territory Chief Ministers. The program includes speeches, a signing of the Centennial Guest Book and plaque presentation from members of the official party.

A couple of hours later, at 4pm, the giant street parade entitled "Journey of a Nation – The Federation Parade" begins at

moment we will re-dedicate ourselves to the ideals of a united, free, tolerant and open society," she said.

Hosted by New South Wales on behalf of all the citizens of Australia, the Ceremony will feature choral and orchestral performances, new music compositions, speeches from leaders of our nation and sophisticated theatre and event technologies. A unique staging concept will bring the ceremony to life with a massive projection screen used as the roof of the main stage.

Centennial Parklands are working in partnership with the NSW Centenary of Federation Committee to ensure that the Parklands are protected during the events and to minimise inconvenience to regular park users.

Both the Parade and the Centennial Ceremony will be broadcast live across the nation, making Centennial Park the focus of attention on this historically-significant day.

All events are open to the public and free-of-charge.

Diana Prichard



Macquarie Street, at the corner of Bent Street. Travelling along Prince Albert Street, College Street, Oxford Street, Flinders Street, Anzac Parade, it concludes at Moore Park at 7.30pm.

The range of parade themes, colourfully and imaginatively interpreted by some of Australia's top designers, celebrate indigenous culture and recognise community organisations, cultural diversity, inventions, discoveries, sports, food, fashion, popular culture, arts and the future.

Following the parade, up to 100,000 people are expected to gather in Centennial Park to experience the celebration of nationhood – the Centennial Ceremony, a free event that will start at 8pm in the Parade Grounds (in front of the Pine Grove).

NSW Centenary of Federation committee member and Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust trustee, Jill Hickson, said the Centenary of Federation would be "splendid" for both Australia and Centennial Park. "People will gather here again on 1 January, as they did in 1901, and in a great national



## Important information

Centennial Park will be car-free on 1 January 2001, and train will be the easiest way to get to the Park, as the Federation Parade will disrupt some bus routes.

Spectators are advised to travel light and take a torch. Be sure to bring your picnic blanket and arrive early – the Parade will be broadcast on giant screens in the Parade Grounds from 4pm.

The installation of the temporary stage in Centennial Park will begin on 4 December 2000, and rehearsals will occur in the Park between Christmas and New Year, limiting access to some areas.

For more information contact the NSW Centenary of Federation Committee on (02) 9258 0044 or visit [www.cofc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cofc.nsw.gov.au).



## Federation's Father

He came to Australia a penniless English immigrant. He was a farm labourer, bone and ivory turner, journalist, newspaper proprietor, and a failed businessman. But Sir Henry Parkes was also a man with an urge towards self-betterment. A politician extraordinaire, he rose to become Premier of New South Wales five times and was the man responsible for bringing forward the bill of Parliament that created Centennial Park.

**M**ORE THAN 100 YEARS after his death, Sir Henry Parkes is still an enigmatic and complex figure. Born into poverty in 1815, Parkes lived a transient life from the age of eight, moving from place to place as his father looked for work. At twelve he was apprenticed to a bone and ivory turner, who he worked with for eight years.

"My master gave me a trifle, weekly, above my wages," Parkes remembered in an 1844 letter to Lord Leigh, "out of which, when I grew to the age of 17 or 18 years, as it increased as I became more useful, I was enabled to purchase tickets to the Mechanics' Institution; and resume something like an educational training, which had been totally neglected from the time I was a child of seven or eight years."

Poverty aside, Parkes enjoyed a rewarding childhood. "His parents were very good farmers," says great grand-daughter Jane Gray. "They lived on the land, they had good food, fresh

air, and they were intelligent people. He was brought up in a very healthy situation – well fed, well looked after and much loved. Even though he'd been through the bottom depths of despair with his family, he had somehow managed to weather through and this gave him determination to succeed in life."

Parkes came to New South Wales in 1839 aged 24, with wife Clarinda and a daughter born at sea two days before they arrived. According to Manning Clark in *A History of Australia*, their first year was spent living roughly. "But by 1841 Henry's heart was filled with confidence. He had found steady work in Sydney and was reading widely." Clark remarks that in Australia Parkes found purpose: "He predicted that he and his fellow exiles would liberate Australia from the convicts' clanking chains and allow freedom's voice to be heard across her ransomed plains."

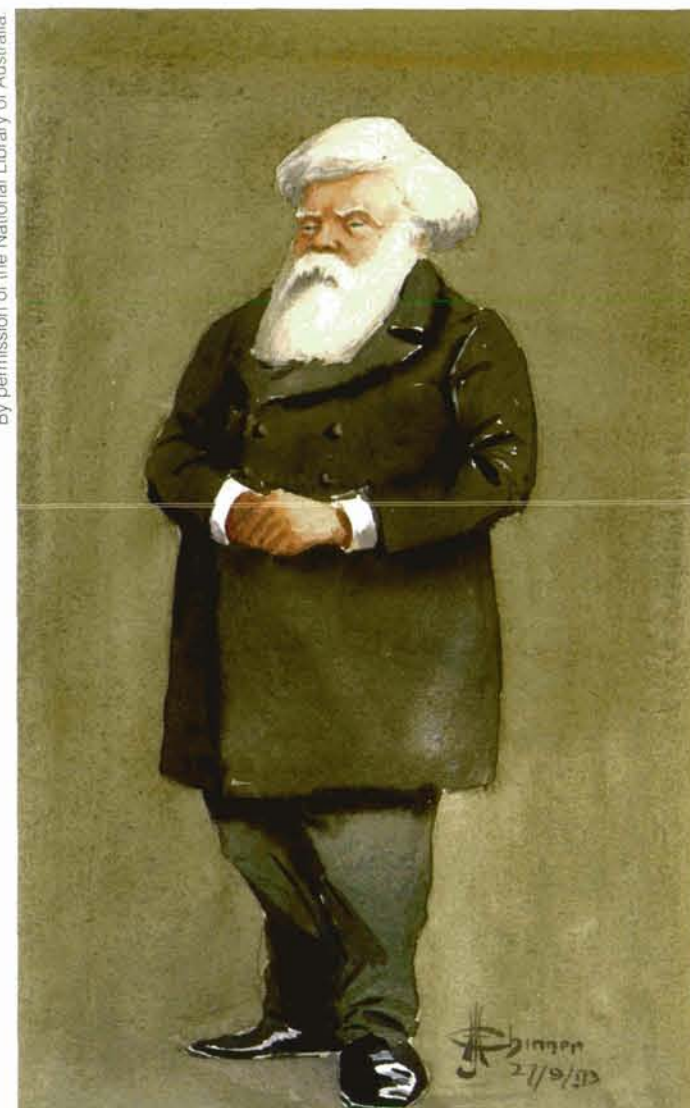
Parkes' life became the life of politics. In the 1840s, he honed his writing talents as the Sydney correspondent for the *Launceston Examiner* and a contributor to other publications. A decade later as editor and proprietor of the *Empire* newspaper, he declared he would use the publication as "an independent power to vivify, elevate and direct the political life of the country."

In 1854 Parkes was elected to the New South Wales Parliament, the start of half a century of almost unbroken – and predominantly unpaid – parliamentary membership. Financial ruin was never far from Parkes' doorstep, and he sometimes lost his seat due to bankruptcy.

Nevertheless, Parkes implemented a wide range of social reforms, and presided over the major achievement of his era: the introduction of a public education system. From the late 1860s he began talking about the States joining together to become a single nation.

On 5 June 1877 Parkes learned he had been created a Knight of the Order of St Michael and St George. He had

By permission of the National Library of Australia



Sir Henry Parkes as depicted in watercolour by John Henry Chinner (1865-1933).

become an imposing figure whose political victory was unparalleled, as illustrated by this 1873 limerick:

There once was an ogre called Parkes  
Very fond of political larks  
Who dined off his chums  
Making soup of the crumbs  
And threw their old bones to the sharks.

In 1887, having won office yet again at the age of 71, Parkes turned his mind to creating Centennial Park. With the Centenary of the founding of the colony just a year away, he was keen to find an appropriate proposal to celebrate the occasion. Parkes had been a long-time advocate of the need for open space for recreation, and seized upon the idea of creating a park to fulfil two needs: a people's park and a grand setting for a State House to celebrate the Centenary.

His plans were nothing if not ambitious. They would

provide relief work for the vast pool of unemployed men who were victims of depressed working conditions. They would be funded by the sale of portions of land along the boundaries of the park. They would convert "that particular portion of the surroundings of Sydney into the most coveted, the most fashionable and the most healthy suburb of Sydney".

The State House was central to Parkes' plans for Centennial Park. The Act of Parliament that created the Park on 13 July 1887 is notable for its lack of detail on the creating the Park, in contrast to the vivid description of the State House's many features. It was to include a gallery, public mausoleum, great hall, and museum for: "all books, documents, printed or written matter and reliques as may be illustrative of the historical material and industrial stages of the colony's progress and of the various aboriginal races of Australia their

"He predicted that he and his fellow exiles would liberate Australia from the convicts' clanking chains and allow freedom's voice to be heard across her ransomed plains."

customs, languages and ethnological characteristics."

As grandiose and exciting as it seemed, the State House was never built, and according to the *Sydney Morning Herald* in 1888 met with such strenuous opposition in Parliament and from the public that the plans were shelved and eventually abandoned by Parkes.

Parkes was not so easily dissuaded when it came to his dreams of a united Australia. Jane Gray recalls that Parkes was the first politician to use the word 'commonwealth' in relation to Australia. "It is such a generous word to use, and already back then, it was so timely."

On 24 October 1889, in a speech in his seat of Tenterfield, Parkes issued his clarion call: "The great question... is whether the time has not now arisen for the creation of this Australian continent of an Australian Government and an Australian Parliament. I believe the time has come."

Persuading his fellow Australians to combine the six existing colonies into one commonwealth, he argued: "Surely what the Americans did by war, Australians can bring about in peace."

More than ten years passed before his vision was fulfilled. Parkes died in 1896, a month after auctioning his library of books and chinaware due to "financial difficulty". It was four years before Federation came about in his beloved Centennial Park.

Manning Clark writes how the crowd "murmured" their approval for a car in the 1901 Federation procession containing a bust of the late Sir Henry Parkes, the father of "what it was all about".

"Its banner proudly bore one of the many slogans on which he had conferred a measure of immortality: 'One People, One Destiny'."

Catriona Burgess and Katerina Krosiakova



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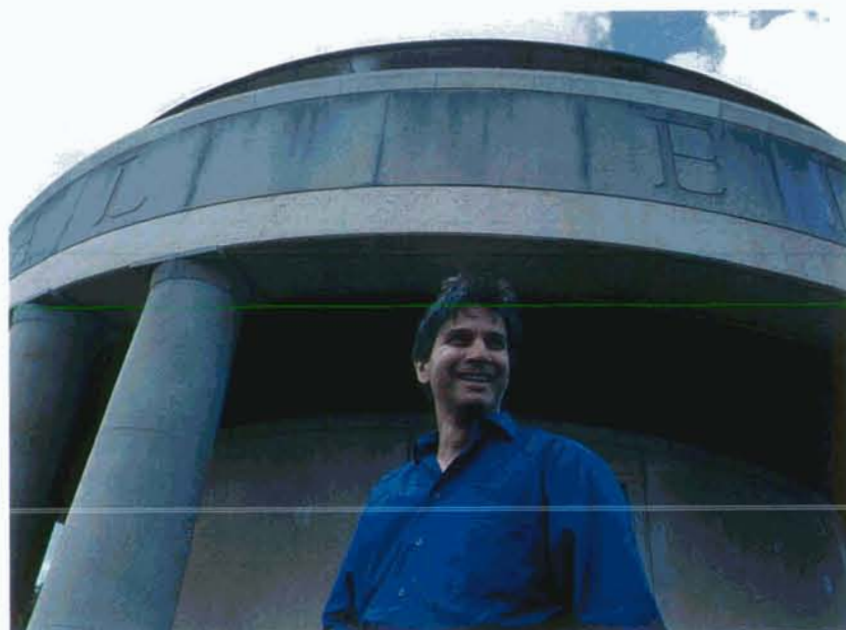


Above: The Parkes cabinet. Right: Parkes unveils his plans for a unified nation. *Federated Australia*, pen and ink drawing, Herbert Cotton (1872-1931).



## A grand vision

The moment of Australia's Federation was commemorated at the time with a stone obelisk, created to symbolise the coming together of the states and territories, housed within a temporary pavilion. Later, to coincide with the 1988 Bicentennial celebrations, a domed pavilion was erected to house the stone memorial.



Architect Alexander Tzannes, designer of the 1988 Federation Pavilion, has been selected to create 'Federation Drive', a new ceremonial entrance to the Parklands.

**THIS VISION** for the continued celebration of Australian history continues apace.

With only months to go before the Parklands' tribute to Federation, work has begun on several grand projects funded by a \$10 million grant from the Commonwealth Government Federation Fund.

A key Federation project is the ambitious \$7.9 million dream to build a principal western entrance into the Park. When Centennial Park was originally conceived in the 1880s, a western gateway was envisaged but lack of funds halted construction.

"The land up to what is now Anzac Parade led to a region that was considered wild, wild country in those days," says Peter Nowland, Landscape Services Co-ordinator.

For many years, the gates at the top of Oxford Street, Paddington formed the popular main entrance; however, today, as Peter points out, the Oxford Street gates have been progressively cut off by roads and there is no particular grand 'main' entrance.

To be known as 'Federation Drive', the vision is to create a ceremonial and symbolic entrance to the Parklands.

Several leading Australian architectural firms were asked to present their ideas for this ceremonial gateway making use of the original western approach.

Architect Alexander Tzannes's vision was given the stamp of approval. A modern interpretation of the 'old grand drive' makes use of the existing boulevard of figs, oaks and pines and incorporates landscaping ideas to integrate Moore Park with Centennial Park. The plans for the new drive will be released early in 2001.

"It's going to mark our address to passing drivers. People driving along Anzac Parade frequently aren't aware that they're actually passing through Centennial Parklands, so this gateway is going to be a symbolic entrance to the Park," Peter says.

Another Federation project is the restoration of Parkes Drive,

where the avenue of palms has been blighted by the fungus, *Fusarium oxysporum*.

The avenue is to be replanted and dedicated collectively to the many nations that make up Australia's thriving multicultural community. Planting will take place in autumn 2001.

"It is, in a sense, the Park's commitment to something unique. The new plantings will ensure that the avenue retains its majesty until such time as the date palms can be returned," Peter says.

Finally, the Commonwealth Government grant is also ensuring Federation Valley – the original site of the Federation ceremony – is maintained, refurbished and enhanced in time for the Federation commemoration.

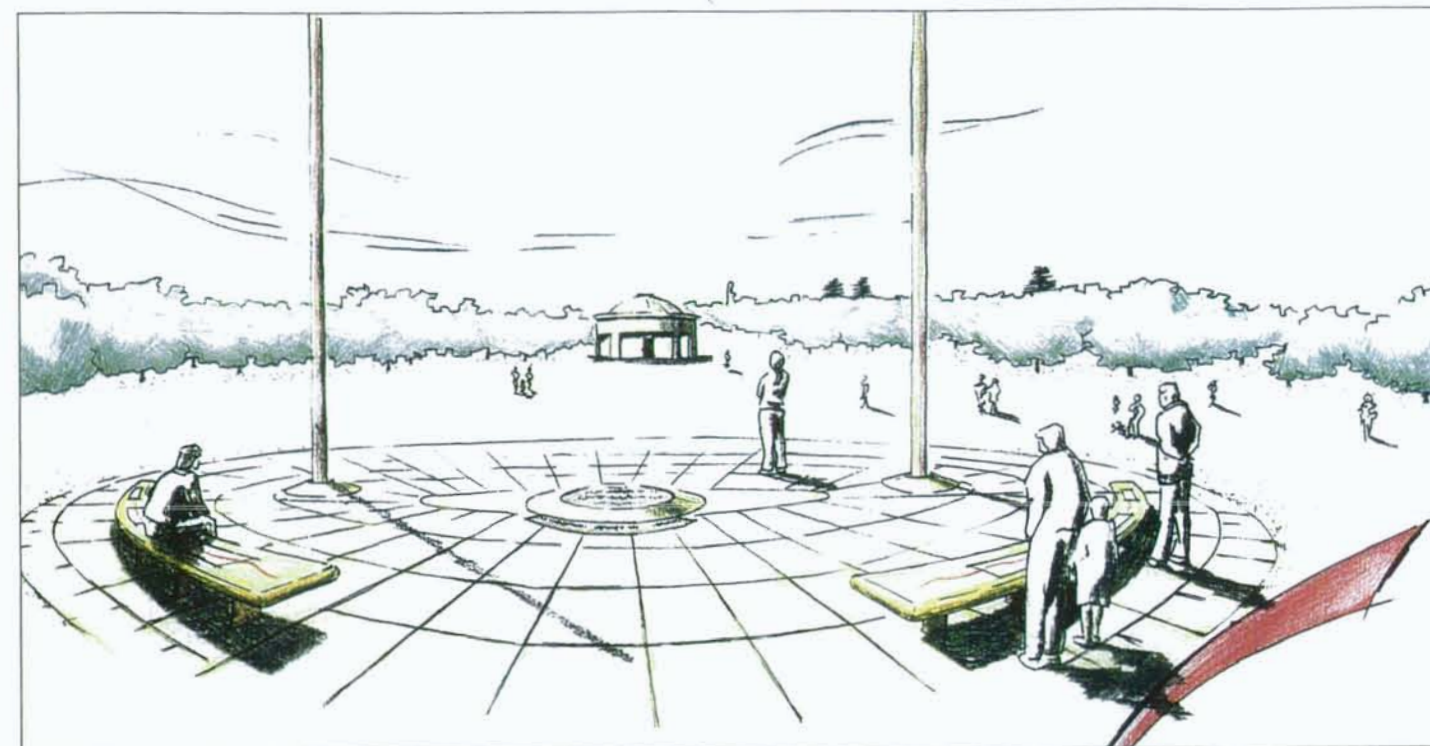
The 1988 Federation Pavilion and its surrounding landscape, also designed by Alexander Tzannes following a state-wide competition, have been the focus of the restoration project.

"The Pavilion sits in a landscape that was substantially altered in 1988 to create a delicate symmetry," Peter says. "However a number of original design elements were not completed, including the creation of concentric rings of grass varieties around the Monument and landscaping to define the visual axis from the Belvedere viewing area above the Valley."

"A significant part of the Federation Valley budget has been used to complete these missing elements, and to install a sophisticated underground irrigation system and stormwater drainage system to improve land conditions."

The artwork inside the Pavilion has also required attention. A work comprising 1400 tiles by artist Imants Tillers, the use of backed enamel on steel for the interior roof was an innovation for its time, and has proved problematic due to rust. All of the tiles have been removed and replaced by new tiles meticulously copied by hand in a special long-life paint on aluminium plates.

Recently in Sydney to inspect progress on the restoration, Imants Tillers remarked that the affected tiles had actually "done him a favour".



Above: A new seat with images from the Federation era will allow people to sit in Federation Valley and contemplate its past.

Left: Picnics were a popular way of celebrating Federation in 1901, and could form part of festivities in Centennial Park in 2001.



"In a way I'm pleased it's being replaced, because it's as though the work wasn't really complete in 1988, and it's taken 12 years for the work to be ready at the appropriate time," Imants says.

Part of the budget is also being used to create something that will capture the history of the site and simultaneously capture the imagination of the Parklands' visitors.

"The new interpretive elements needed to work within the existing landscape without adding clutter," says Trust Landscape Architect Gillian Smart. "So we chose to put in a simple sandstone seat, which will provide a window into the Federation era and the events in the Park."

A combination of text and images, including the invitation to the swearing-in ceremony, a postcard from a witness to the celebrations, and images of the ceremony, will allow people to sit in the Valley and consider its past. A stunning panoramic photograph of the 1901 Federation celebrations will also be positioned in the Valley at the

approximate location where it was taken.

The interpretive seat is one element of a cultural program that will take place in Centennial Parklands next year, funded by the Commonwealth grant.

"Research makes it very clear that the Park is considered a focal point for cultural exploration," says the Sarah Dinning, the Trust's Marketing and Community Relations Manager.

"We are planning to sustain interest in the Centenary year by staging a number of events in 2001, including the return of 'Artful Park', an event fondly remembered by many Park users."

The Artful Park exhibition will use temporary exhibits to engage the community's creativity in commemorating the significance of Federation in Centennial Park. The exhibition is planned for Spring 2001.

At the same time there will be a public event to celebrate the dedication of Parkes Drive to multicultural Australia, and to unveil an interpretive piece to formally signpost the dedication.

"While the theme will be celebrating the inclusive society that Australia has become over the past 100 years, we are still considering the shape and form of this event," Sarah says.

"Suggestions include staging Australia's largest picnic, which would fit nicely with the fact that picnicking is one of the most popular activities at the Park, and that picnics were held throughout Australia in 1901 to celebrate Federation."

"All we can be certain of is that, come the Federation celebrations, the Parklands will be more glorious than ever."



# Portrait of a Park

Centennial Park is to be the focus of a new exhibition at the Museum of Sydney. Curator Inara Waldren previews this exciting exhibition, which is part of a broader program of exhibitions at the Museum for the Centenary of Federation.

**PHOTOGRAPHERS** Wendy McDougall and Brendan Read have spent more than three years documenting the life of Centennial Park and capturing the many moods of its people and places. Their striking series of black-and-white photographs highlight the cultural diversity of park users, their many and varied pastimes, and the diverse environments that exist across the Parklands.

While the photographs were conceived as the basis of a book, their work is culminating in an exhibition, *Portrait of a Park*, opening on 9 December at the Museum of Sydney. Developed with the support of Centennial Parklands, the exhibition will explore the history and contemporary identity of this Sydney landmark.

Wendy and Brendan are passionate about Centennial Park, and this commitment comes through in their beautiful

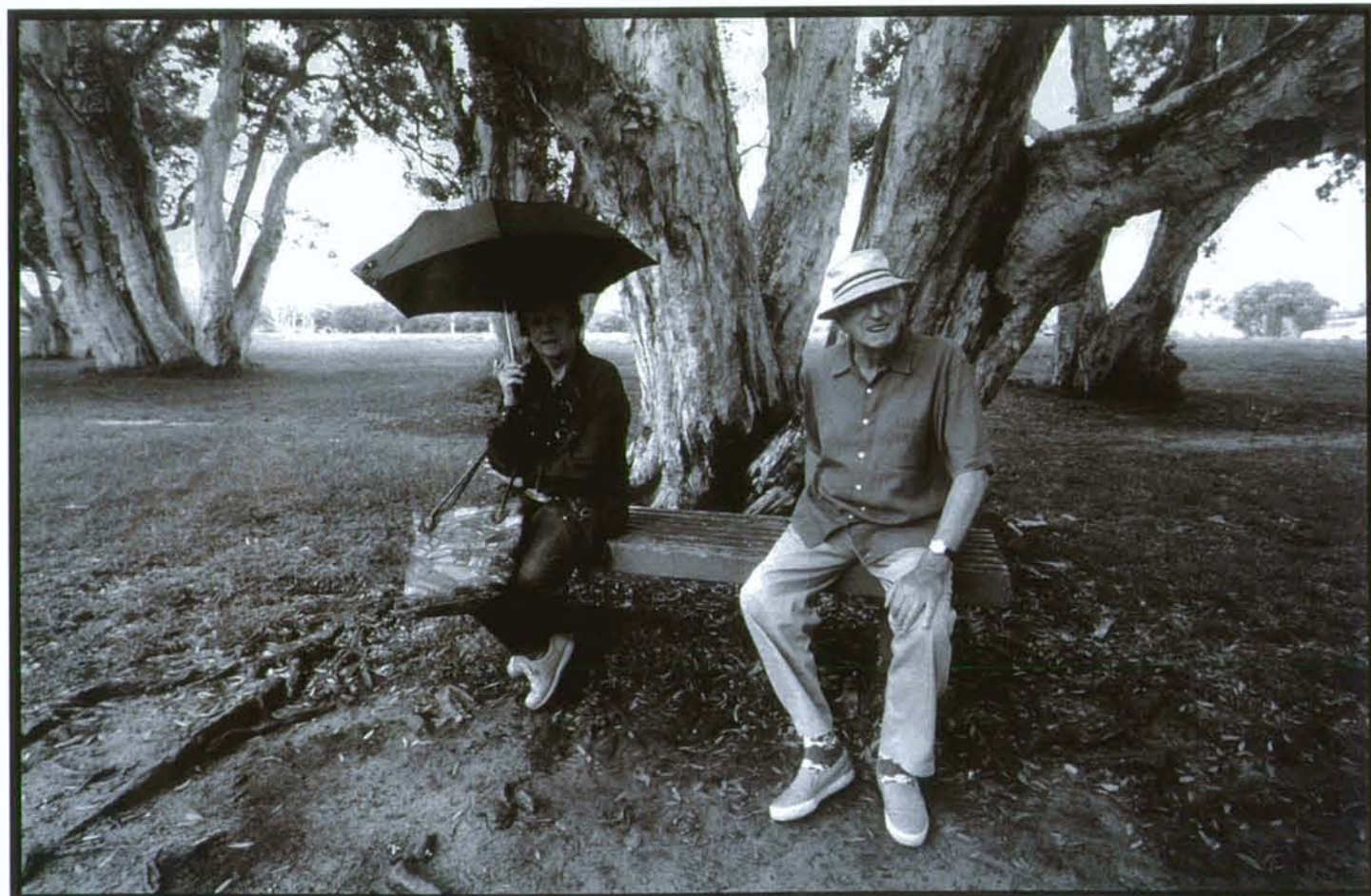
depictions of park life: a mother and daughter from Coogee enjoy their weekly morning tea; a rider hits Horse Track at dawn; an elderly couple rest in the shade of a majestic paperbark; a group of runners stretch and warm up beside the grand sandstone pillars of the Paddington Gates; and Buddhist monks enjoy a peaceful Christmas Day in the Park.

"Centennial Park is such an icon of Sydney culture – then and now. This exhibition is a celebration of the significance of the Parklands for all Sydneysiders. We hope to bring of the magic of the Park into the heartland of the city," says Wendy.

Alongside the contemporary photographic portraits of the Park, the exhibition will also explore its fascinating history – the importance of the site to Aboriginal people, its significance to Sydney's water supply and the actual carving out of the Park's current design from a rocky and swampy landscape.

The exhibition uses some important original material to illustrate its history. The diary of head gardener James Jones covering the period 1887 to 1888 includes a list of native plants found in the area and graphic descriptions of the pre-existing environment and the dynamiting of sandstone in an attempt to create a gardenesque English-style park.

A hand-drawn parish map of Alexandria plots the Lachlan Swamp "reserved for the supply of water to the town of Sydney" in the 1820s, and the outlet of Busby's Bore at Hyde Park is depicted in an early water-coloured sketch. Original native plant specimens collected from Centennial Park last



Opposite: An elderly couple rest in the shade of a paperbark near the Duck Pond. Photo: Wendy McDougall

Above: Rider on horse track. Photo: Brendan Read

Left: Joggers stretch their legs beside the grand sandstone pillars of the Paddington Gates. Photo: Wendy McDougall.

century will be on display, plus there is an original sketch by the daughter of the Park's Director Joseph Maiden.

In the 1880s unemployed men provided much of the labour required to carve the Park out of an environment that was, to European eyes, inhospitable. The dynamite that was used to blast away tonnes of sandstone is likely to have also destroyed remnant Aboriginal rock carvings – a legacy that would almost certainly have existed after thousands of years of Aboriginal life in this resource-rich area. Displayed in the exhibition are specimens of some of the hundreds of native plants from the Lachlan Swamp area which provided food, medicines and tools for Aboriginal clans.

Centennial Park has survived as public parkland despite many development proposals that could have built it out –

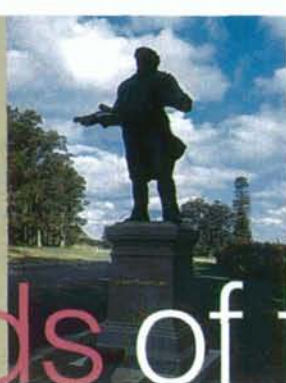
from the 1887 plans of Henry Parkes for an elaborate 'State House' encompassing library, museum and mausoleum, to a 1970s multi-sports complex proposal, part of a previous bid for Sydney to host the Olympics. *Portrait of a Park* will showcase the plans and drawings for these proposals which thankfully never eventuated.

*Portrait of a Park* is part of a program of exhibitions inspired by the Centenary of Federation at the Museum of Sydney. Another highlight is *Sydney at Federation*, an exciting exhibition of film, photography, multi-media and models, which immerses you in the streetscapes of Victorian Sydney in stark contrast to the city of today. The exhibition features a modern day Triumphal Arch, created for the Museum by artist Gary Carsley. And during January 2001 floats and costumes from the Centenary of Federation parade will be on display.

Friends of Centennial Parklands will receive two-for-one entry to *Portrait of a Park* at the Museum of Sydney until 17 June 2001, by showing their membership keyring.

The Museum of Sydney is on the corner of Phillip and Bridge Streets, Sydney, and is open daily 9.30am to 5pm. Entry is \$7 General, \$3 Concession/Child, and \$17 Family.





"take as much interest in it as if by your own hands you had planted the flowers...and if you thus rise to the full appreciation of this great beauty and your great privileges, the park will be one of the grandest adornments of this beautiful country." Sir Henry Parkes, 1888

# Friends of the Parklands

## Friends – Application Form

Become a *Friend of Centennial Parklands* and enjoy these benefits:

- membership key ring
- *Parklands Magazine* posted 4 times a year
- 10% discount at Centennial Parklands Restaurant and Café
- Ranger guided walks and other *Friends'* activities
- quality membership certificate
- discounts on selected Parklands events

Plus you will be helping to support the future of Sydney's grandest 19th century public park, dedicated to the people by Sir Henry Parkes in 1888.

### Membership category

- ☐ Single (1 year).....\$55 (inc. GST)  
☐ Family (1 year).....\$99 (inc. GST)

Name: Mrs/Ms/Miss/Mr/Dr \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: home \_\_\_\_\_

business \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (cheques payable to Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust) OR Please charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my ☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Card no \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Centennial Parklands Friends  
 Locked Bay 15  
 PADDINGTON NSW 2021  
 Phone: (02) 9339 6699  
 Fax: (02) 9332 2148

## SUMMER DISCOUNTS

*Friends of Centennial Parklands* can enjoy discount tickets at Moonlight Cinema all this summer.

Enjoy the latest releases and movie favourites under the stars in Centennial Park amphitheatre. This season's movies include *American Beauty*, *Looking For Ali Brandi*, *Life is Beautiful* and *Roman Holiday*. For full screening details visit [www.moonlight.com.au](http://www.moonlight.com.au).

Simply present your *Friends of Centennial Parklands* keyring upon payment at the Moonlight Cinema box office in Centennial Park to receive a concession-rate ticket.

*Friends* are also eligible for two-for-one entry at the new exhibition on Centennial Park – *Portrait of a Park* – at the Museum of Sydney. Show your *Friends* keyring at the entry desk, and gain one free admission with each paid admission.

Discounted tickets will also be available in mid-2001 for Cirque du Soleil's new production, *Algeria*. *Friends* will be eligible for a group discount on selected mid-week dates. Call (02) 9339 6652 to register your interest.



## HELLUVA HALLOWEEN

Over 150 ghoulish characters converged on Centennial Parklands Restaurant on 31 October for the *Friends Halloween Dinner*. Those in attendance included witches, ghosts, vampires, warlocks, fairies, a man with his head on backwards (or was it is his body?), Batman, and TV character Buffy the Vampire Slayer, complete with a pint-sized stake.

Fabulously freaky food was consumed by all. "Worms with gut sauce" (pasta with tomato sauce) was an overwhelming favourite with the little monsters. Restaurant staff looked particularly scary with blood covering their faces and hands – suspiciously, Chef David Noonan was unable to be found when it was time to judge the best-dressed awards.

After dinner Centennial Parklands Rangers fearlessly led a hunt through Centennial Park. Participants navigated their way around the rose garden, through Lachlan Swamp and into the Pine Forest – following clues about the Park's sometimes scary inhabitants. Fortunately, a bout of heavy rain held off until after all the spirits had alighted on their broomsticks.



Best-dressed child was won by a little vampire. Best-dressed table was almost impossible to judge with two tables sharing the prize of a package of lifelike toy bugs and insects. Congratulations to Mary Forbes who won the *Friends Draw* a complimentary Spotlight Prowl for two adults and two children.

This was the final *Friends* dinner for the year 2000. Special thanks to the Centennial Parklands Restaurant and Landmark for their support of the *Friends of Centennial Parklands* program throughout the year.



#### END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

After an epic year, its time to celebrate simple pleasures once again! As the year 2000 draws to a close, please join us for a special *Friends* celebration on Thursday 7 December.

This year *Friends* are invited to gather by the Duck Pond in Centennial Park for drinks and nibbles. For the younger guests (or those young at heart) Park Rangers will conduct a treasure hunt through Centennial Park, with special prizes!

The evening is being hosted by *Friends* patron, Lady Susie Martin, and will be held from 6 to 8pm.

We hope to see you there. Call (02) 9339 6699 for more details.

#### GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Looking for the perfect gift this Christmas? Give someone you love the living gift of friendship.

*Friends of Centennial Parklands* gift memberships are now available all year – making them a perfect gift for any occasion including birthdays, christenings and Christmas.

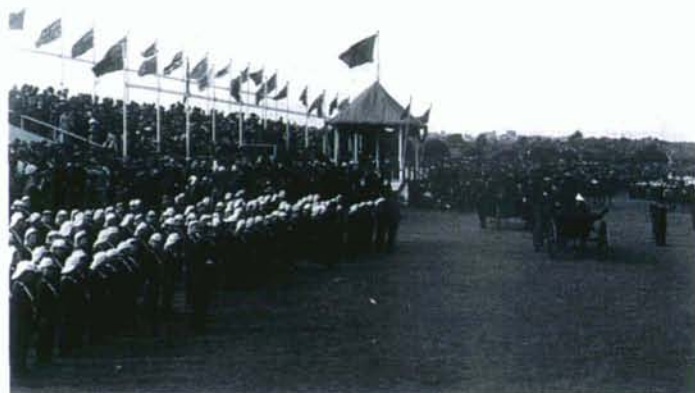
Gift memberships come specially-wrapped and can be sent to the address of your choice. Each membership helps to support the future of Sydney's favourite parklands. Call (02) 9339 6699 to arrange your gift.

#### NEW FRIENDS

As an acknowledgment of their tremendous support, we welcome the following new *Friends of Centennial Parklands*:

The Alder Family  
G.A. Casey  
Ken Chapman  
Sarah Dinning  
The Duchen Family  
R.B. Duncan  
Greg Edward  
The Ferris Family  
Shayne Gabrielle Green

Alan Hyland  
Wendy Klinner  
The Melick Family  
The Richards Family  
The Shields Family  
Jenny Siddall  
Max Swadling  
The Tesoriero Family



#### Call for Volunteers

## Centenary of Federation needs your help

**B**E A PART OF HISTORY by becoming a volunteer for the Centenary of Federation celebrations in Centennial Park.

The New South Wales Centenary of Federation Committee needs volunteers with knowledge of Centennial Park for the Centennial Ceremony being held on the Park's Parade Grounds.

As with the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, volunteers will play a pivot role in the success of the event.

The 90-minute ceremony will begin at twilight in Centennial Park and will feature a diverse line up of well-known Australian performers. Volunteers will perform a variety of roles including looking after VIPs, acting as guides, dispensing information, working backstage, and monitoring crowds.

With over 100,000 people expected, volunteers are also needed to act as "environmental marshals" protecting the Park's unique natural and built heritage on what is predicted to be one of the biggest days in Centennial Parklands' history.

Individuals and groups are welcome. All who volunteer will receive a certificate plus a t-shirt that will serve as a uniform and a souvenir.

To volunteer, please fill out the form below and mail it the NSW Centenary of Federation Committee at the address provided. For further information regarding volunteering phone Kristy Lewis at the New South Wales Centenary of Federation Committee on (02) 9258 0044.

Please send me more information on how I can volunteer for the Centennial Celebration in Centennial Park on 1 January 2001

Name: Mrs/Ms/Miss/Mr/Dr \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone home: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone business: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Send to:  
Kristy Lewis  
Centennial Ceremony  
NSW Centenary of Federation Committee  
PO Box R1193 Royal Exchange  
Sydney NSW 1225



# summer calendar

■ Bookings and enquiries (02) 9339 6699 (unless otherwise stated).  
■ In case of rain, please call to confirm event is proceeding.

## ALL SUMMER

December – 17 February  
(except Mondays and selected dates)

### MOONLIGHT CINEMA ☺

Enjoy some of the latest Australian and overseas films Centennial Park's Amphitheatre including *American Beauty*, *Chopper* and *Looking for Ali Brandi*. Full screening details [www.moonlight.com.au](http://www.moonlight.com.au).

Bookings Ticketek on 9266 4800. Friends of Centennial Parklands should present Friends' keyring upon payment at the Moonlight Cinema box office in Centennial Park to receive the concession rate.

### 9 December–17 June PORTRAIT OF A PARK ☺

Centennial Park is the focus of a new exhibition at the Museum of Sydney. *Portrait of a Park* explores the history and contemporary identity of Centennial Park. Admission: \$7 adult, \$3 concession, \$17 family. Museum of Sydney corner Bridge & Phillip Streets. Enquiries (02) 9251 5988. Friends can show Friends keyring at the admission desk for two-for-one entry.

## DECEMBER

### 1 Friday SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

A chance to see the wild nightlife of Centennial Park. Join Rangers spotlighting possums, flying foxes and lots of other night creatures. Bring a torch. 8.15–9.15pm. \$8.50 per person. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699

### 3 Sunday SUMMER KICKS OFF AT MOORE PARK

A fun-filled day of free entertainment for the whole family, welcoming back Moore Park after its first restoration in

130 years. Activities include a coaching clinic with the Sydney Swans, a great Aussie Sausage Sizzle and much more. 10.30am–4pm. Full program [www.cp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cp.nsw.gov.au) or call (02) 9339 6699.

### CAR FREE DAY

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the first Sunday of summer in Centennial Park. Disabled access via Musgrave Ave Gates. 9am–5pm

### 6 Wednesday MY LITTLE PONIES ☺

A special children's tour of the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre. Find out where the horses live, what they eat and how to care for them. Includes a short pony ride. 10–11am. \$7.50 per child (2–5 years), adults free. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699

### 12 Tuesday TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

A two-day horse riding camp for children aged five years and over, teaching the fundamentals of riding. \$160 per two-day camp (includes morning tea and lunch). 10am–3pm. Bookings (02) 9360 8747

### 14 Thursday TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP

See 12 December

### 18 Monday CHILDREN'S GOLF CLINIC

Children can learn to play or improve their golf game at the Moore Park Golf Club in a series of specialised one-day and one-week clinics. Qualified PGA teachers provide professional tuition for children aged seven to thirteen years. Beginners one-week clinic 2–3pm. Intermediate/Advanced one-week clinic 4–5pm. Bookings (02) 9663 4966.



### CHILDREN'S TENNIS CAMP

This five-day camp teaches children five years and over the basics of tennis through coaching and competition. \$121 per camp. 9am–3pm. Bookings (02) 9662 7033

### TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

See 12 December

### 20 Wednesday TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

See 12 December

## JANUARY

### 1 Monday CENTENARY OF FEDERATION CELEBRATIONS

Join thousands of Australians in the celebration of 100 years of Federation. Centennial Park is the venue for two important events – the Commemoration Ceremony at 1pm and the Centennial Ceremony at 8pm. Both events are open to the public and free of charge. Contact NSW Centenary of Federation Committee on (02) 9258 0044 or visit [www.cofc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cofc.nsw.gov.au)

### 3 Wednesday ESCAPE AND EXPLORE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

**PARTY TIME ☺**  
The Rangers are planning a party in Centennial Park. What are they celebrating? Come along to find out and join them playing games and decorating flags. 10–11am. \$7.50 per child (2–5 years), adults free. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699

### STATUES AND SCULPTURES ☺

Where are the statues in Centennial Park? Search for Sir Henry Parkes and use your skills to uncover evidence of other sculptures in the Parklands. Carve a soapstone statue of your own to take home with you. 2.30–4.30pm. \$15 per child (8–12 years). Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699

### SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

8.45–9.45pm. See 1 December

### 4 Thursday OLD-FASHIONED FUN ☺

Imagine what Centennial Park was like in times gone by. How did the Rangers get around the Park? Were the trees always this tall? Discover some old-fashioned park features and make a frame for historic park pictures. 10–11am. \$7.50 per child (2–5 years), adults free. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699





**FEDERATION FESTIVITIES ☺**  
Join the festivities in Centennial Park celebrating 100 years since Federation. Find out how people used the Park, play old-fashioned games and discover the secret of the Federation Pavilion. 2–3.30pm. \$8.50 per child (6–8 years). *Bookings essential* (02) 9339 6699

**CHILDREN'S GOLF CLINIC**  
Intermediate/Advanced Putting and Chipping Clinic. 2–3.30pm. See 18 December

**5 Friday**  
**CHILDREN'S GOLF CLINIC**  
Intermediate/Advanced Bunker Clinic. 9.30–11am. See 18 December

**SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺**  
8.45–9.45pm. See 1 December

**7 Sunday**  
**PONY RIDES ☺**  
The only place where kids can jump into the saddle so close to the city! Hand-led, 10 minute rides for children. 10am–5pm. Meet Centennial Parklands Café.

**FOOTSTEPS TO FEDERATION ☺**  
The Federation of Australia was declared in Centennial Park a century ago. Follow in the footsteps of this historic occasion with a Ranger-guided tour and slide show. See images of the ceremony that unified our nation and visit the historic Federation Pavilion. 3–5pm. \$8.50 per person. *Bookings essential* (02) 9339 6699

**8 Monday**  
**MULTI-SPORTS CAMP**  
Get fit and have fun at this week-long multi-sport holiday camp. Coaching and competition will be provided for Tennis, Rollerblading, Rollerhockey, Basketball and Grass Hockey – all at the same venue! Children five years and over. 9am–3pm. Supervision available from 8.30am–4pm. \$176 per camp. *Bookings* (02) 9662 7033

**9 Tuesday**  
**JUNIOR RANGERS ☺**  
How has Centennial Park changed since it opened in 1888? Junior Rangers can step back in time to identify heritage trees, find hidden horse jumps and tunnels, conduct a Park patrol and make a frame for your own historical Park picture. 10am–3pm. \$33 per child (8–12 years). *Bookings essential* (02) 9339 6699

**10 Wednesday**  
**PARTY TIME ☺**  
See 3 January

**STATUES AND SCULPTURES ☺**  
See 3 January



**SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺**  
8.45–9.45pm.  
See 1 December

**11 Thursday**  
**OLD-FASHIONED FUN ☺**  
See 4 January

**FEDERATION FESTIVITIES ☺**  
See 4 January

**12 Friday**  
**SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺**  
8.45–9.45pm.  
See 1 December

**14 Sunday**  
**PONY RIDES ☺**  
See 7 January

**15 Monday**  
**CHILDREN'S GOLF CLINIC**  
Intermediate/Advanced One-week Clinic. 8–9am. Beginner's One-week Clinic. 10–11am. See 18 December



**MULTI-SPORTS CAMP**  
See 8 January

**21 Sunday**  
**PONY RIDES ☺**  
See 7 January

**FOOTSTEPS TO FEDERATION ☺**  
See 7 January

**22 Monday**  
**CHILDREN'S GOLF CLINIC**  
Intermediate/Advanced Bunker Clinic. 9.30–11am. See 18 December

**CHILDREN'S TENNIS CAMP**  
See 18 December

**23 Tuesday**  
**JUNIOR RANGERS ☺**  
See 9 January

**CHILDREN'S GOLF CLINIC**  
Intermediate/Advanced Putting and Chipping Clinic. 2–3.30pm. See 18 December

**24 Wednesday**  
**PARTY TIME ☺**  
See 3 January

**STATUES AND SCULPTURES ☺**  
See 3 January

**SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺**  
8.45–9.45pm.  
See 1 December

**25 Thursday**  
**OLD-FASHIONED FUN ☺**  
See 4 January

**FEDERATION FESTIVITIES ☺**  
See 4 January

**26 Friday**  
**SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺**  
8.45–9.45pm.  
See 1 December

**28 Sunday**  
**PONY RIDES ☺**  
See 7 January

## FEBRUARY

**2 Friday**  
**SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺**  
8.45–9.45pm.  
See 1 December

**4 Sunday**  
**FOOTSTEPS TO FEDERATION ☺**  
See 7 January

**14 Wednesday**  
**MY LITTLE PONIES ☺**  
See 6 December

**18 Sunday**  
**STATUES AND SCULPTURES ☺**  
9.30–11.30am.  
See 3 January



**22 Thursday**  
**PARTY TIME ☺**  
10am–11am.  
See 3 January

**24 Saturday**  
**CELEBRATION OF THE FEMALE VOICE**  
After a triumphant debut last year, this all-female concert returns to Centennial Park. Enquiries (02) 9557 4332 or visit [www.mardigras.com.au](http://www.mardigras.com.au).

**25 Sunday**  
**FOOTSTEPS TO FEDERATION ☺**  
See 7 January

☺ Discounts for *Friends of Centennial Parklands* apply. Please present your *Friends* keyring on payment to secure a discount. Discount is 10% unless otherwise stated.



# Centennial Parklands – User's Guide

## PARKLAND OPERATIONS

### 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 Café.  
Phone 9339 6699, fax 9332 2148

### 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

## DINING & REFRESHMENTS

### 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, 8.30am-3pm. 9360 3355

### Centennial Parklands Café

Specialising in light meals and snacks, the Café offers open air eating in our award-winning forecourt. Open 7 Days, 8am-5pm.

### 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.

## SPORT AND RELAXATION

### Cycling & Roller Blading

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

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

### Horse Riding

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

- Moore Park Stables: 9360 8747
- Centennial Stables: 9360 5650
- Eastside Riding Academy: 9360 7521

### Picnics & BBQs

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

### Jogging & Walks

A 3.6 km 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

### Dog Walking

Dogs can be exercised off leash, but under control in Centennial Park outside Grand Drive, and in Moore and Queens Park. Dogs must be on a lead inside the Grand Drive circle and Federation Valley. For safety reasons dogs are not allowed on the horse or cycle track, roads, equestrian

grounds, children's playgrounds, Learner's Cycleway, in ponds or on sporting fields when in use. Dogs must be kept 10 metres from BBQs.

### Children's Activities

Ranger-led Birthday Parties, toddler activities, Holiday activities and School Excursions are available as part of the Parkland's *Escape and Explore Program*.  
9339 6641 or 9339 6645

## FACILITIES

### 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

### ES Marks Athletics Field

International standard 400 metre recatan running track, shot put, discus, javelin, long, high & triple jump facilities available. Quality change rooms, first aid rooms and a meeting room also available. 9339 6620

### Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

Tennis, basketball and netball courts available for casual or regular use.  
9662 7033

### Playing Fields

Playing fields in Centennial, Moore and Queens Parks are available for team sports, including cricket, soccer, hockey, rugby and touch-football.  
Bookings: 9339 6620

### Centennial Parklands Children's Centre

Long day care centre for babies to pre-schoolers. 9663 1200

## FUNCTIONS & EVENTS

### 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 6613

### C Pavilion

Originally built as home for the Carlton Clydesdale Team, C Pavilion captures the spirit of a historic stables with function and exhibition space facilities. Holds up to 500 people. Bookings: 9339 6613

### 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

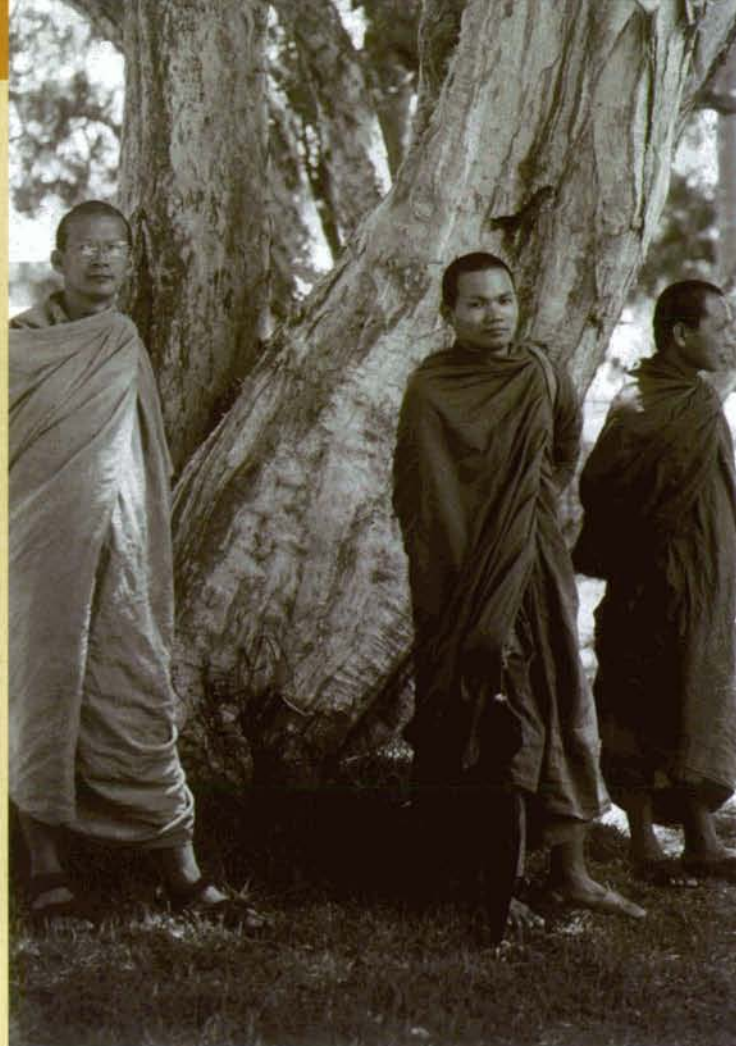
Centennial Parklands offers a versatile range of locations for commercial filming and photography at competitive rates.  
Bookings: 9339 6621

## TRANSPORT

**Public Transport** – easily accessible by bus. Route 339 from City stations and 355 from Bondi Junction run regular services to Moore Park. Route 378 from Central and 380 from Circular Quay run services to Centennial Park.  
Phone 131 500 for timetable details.

**Car** – main gates to Centennial Park open sunrise to sunset.

Car Free Days are held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December. A 30km speed limit applies on all roads in Centennial Park.



### Front cover

Federation Pavilion, Centennial Park. Opened in 1988 to celebrate the Australian Bicentenary, the Pavilion marks the location where the Federation of Australia was declared. The inscription on the Pavilion reads "Mammon or Millennial Eden", a paraphrase of questions posed in the poem "Australia" by Bernard O'Dowd in 1901. O'Dowd was reflecting on the future of Australia at the time of Federation, and whether it would be tied to wealth or higher ideals. The inscription was suggested by Professor Manning Clark.

### Back cover

Buddhist monks near Lily Pond, enjoying a peaceful Christmas Day in Centennial Park. From the exhibition *Portrait of a Park*, see page 14 for more details.  
Photo: Wendy McDougall



CENTENNIAL  
parklands

centennial park  
moore park  
queens park

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