

Free

parklands

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Historic Charles Dickens
statue unveiled

New Kids Zone page

Area 2 upgrades

Autumn 2011



Healthy Parks
Healthy People


CENTENNIAL
parklands
is living Sydney



Welcome to the autumn edition of *Parklands* magazine.

In February I was appointed as the new Director and Chief Executive of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. This is a position that comes with great responsibility, both to the community surrounding the Parklands and to the millions of people who use these wonderful resources. I will be working to ensure we achieve the balance of access, revenue generation and preservation that is essential to the future of these scarce public assets.

Centennial Parklands is a place of national significance, an outstanding public space that

is loved locally and admired internationally. The Parklands balance a rich history with a contemporary outlook – a space that reflects the community we live in.

Last month I was on hand to celebrate the unveiling of the restored Charles Dickens statue, and then within days I saw 27,000 patrons attend the Good Vibrations music festival. At both events I was impressed with the professionalism and dedication of our Parklands team. It is this tradition that I intend to build on over the coming years – a respect for the past, while ensuring these Parklands remain relevant and reflect the needs of the community. I will continue to look for new sources of revenue to support the maintenance and operation of the Parklands and I will work with Sarah Whyte and her team to ensure that the valuable contribution made by the Centennial Parklands Foundation is supported.

One of our immediate challenges will be the sporting and entertainment precinct at Moore Park East. We now have an opportunity and the political support to make a change for the better.

In November the Premier announced that \$5.3 million would be invested in traffic and transport improvements in Moore Park East to improve access, reduce congestion and ensure pedestrian safety during major events. Whilst we have commenced design, the funding is subject to agreement

to a Moore Park East integrated ticketing proposal. The Trust supports the proposal and I will work with government and precinct partners to implement the plan.

February also saw the commencement of the Area 2 refurbishment project in Moore Park East. These 4.5 hectares opposite the Hordern Pavilion are used for events and event parking, and the grass has badly worn over time. We will provide new turf, irrigation, and improved drainage, making it a more attractive site for both events and daily Park users. These works will cost the Trust over \$1.4 million to complete.

Autumn is one of the best times of year in our Parks – the changing of the leaves, the cooler days, and the chance to wear a scarf again. My thanks to Marianna Preston for so capably looking after the Trust over the summer months prior to my appointment and I look forward to seeing you out there.

Kim Ellis
Director and Chief Executive
Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust

Visitor Information

Car Free Days

Last Sunday of every season (February, May, August and November).
Next day: Sunday 29 May 2011

Centennial Park Gate Times

Centennial Park is accessible to vehicles between sunrise and sunset.
Musgrave Ave Gates are closed permanently to cars.

Contact Us

i Visitor Information Counter

Located adjacent to the Kiosk, off Banksia Way. Opening hours:
Monday to Friday: 9.00 am–4.00 pm
Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays: 10.00 am–3.00 pm.

i Parklands Office

Located at the end of Banksia Way behind the playground.
Opening hours Monday to Friday. 8.30 am–5.00 pm.

Information boards containing maps and brochures are conveniently placed at most entry gates and main thoroughfares throughout the Parklands.

T: (02) 9339 6699 | **F:** (02) 9332 2148 |

After hours emergency: 0412 718 611

E: info@centennialparklands.com.au

www.centennialparklands.com.au

Locked Bag 15, Paddington NSW 2021

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Trustees:

John Walker (Chair)	Lindley Edwards
Yvette Pietsch (Deputy)	Anne Keating
Justice Annabelle Bennett AO	Fran Meagher

The Trust acknowledges the Cadigal as the traditional custodians of the land that is now known as Centennial Parklands.

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Contributors: Trevor Waller

Photography: Chris Gleisner

Cover: The restored Charles Dickens statue returns to Centennial Parklands

Reverse Cover: Family Tree Day in Centennial Park

Do The Right Thing Use The Right Bin

The Trust has received funding from the Packaging Stewardship Forum (PSF) of the Australian Food and Grocery Council to install new public recycling systems across the Parklands. In March 2011, 360 new bins and new waste and recycling metal signs were installed, carrying the well known call to action to 'Do The Right Thing Use The Right Bin'.

The PSF works with government and industry partners across Australia to deliver recycling, litter reduction and education programs on behalf of its members, Australia's major beverage companies and their packaging suppliers. The Trust is grateful to the PSF for its support. It is hoped that the new bins and refreshed signage will improve recycling rates and lower the contamination in bins across the Parklands. Visit www.afgc.org.au/psf to find out more about the PSF.



One photo a week

Announcing a new photographic project for 2011...and there will be prizes! By the end of the year we want the Centennial Parklands website homepage to feature 52 user-generated photos. That's one photo for every week this year! Amateur photographers are encouraged to get involved. Show us the Parklands you see through your lens.

Photos must be taken in Centennial Parklands during 2011. You can submit them by posting on our Facebook wall: www.facebook.com/centennial.park.sydney or email to: online@centennialparklands.com.au



Off Road Cycling is off limits

Centennial Park has a proud history of cycling. Its dedicated track around Grand Drive is one of the most popular cycling circuits in Sydney. However off-road cycling is against Trust regulations (Regulation 21.2.d) for environmental and safety reasons.

The major problem associated with off-road cycling is rapid soil erosion. The soil in the Parklands is very sandy and the plants that grow on it are very delicate. Combined with heavy rain, soil erosion has a serious effect on the Parklands environment including damage to our ponds, the creation of hazardous surfaces and blocked drains with the potential for flooding. Serious erosion from off-road cycling has been observed across the Parklands, in particular between the Paddington and Robertson Road Gates, where improvised tracks carved out by mountain bike wheels have destroyed the grass covering.

Off-road cycling also causes conflicts between other Park visitors using the grass areas for passive recreation, dog walking and relaxing. So if you are cycling in Centennial Park, please keep to the marked left lane on Grand Drive and leave the grass areas to regrow naturally.

\$5.3 million for Moore Park

The Trust is a member of the Project Group established to oversee a \$5.3 million improvement package for Moore Park East. The package includes a range of capital works to improve access, reduce congestion and ensure pedestrian safety during major events. Some of these initiatives include new fencing, signs and lighting across the Precinct as well as changes to road layouts and other traffic management measures. The design for a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over Anzac Parade is also included in the package.

The package is contingent on the implementation of an integrated ticketing program for events at the Precinct, including Sydney Cricket Ground, Sydney Football Stadium and Centennial Parklands. The Trust looks forward to working with the Project Group to facilitate this project for the benefit of the 1.4 million people that attend events in the Precinct each year.



Boom gate at Moore Park Golf



A boom gate is now operating at the entrance to Moore Park Golf car park. Parking will remain free of charge for Moore Park Golf facility patrons who are playing a round of golf, using the driving range facilities, attending a golf lesson, attending a function at the Golf House, or spending \$30 or more at the Pro Shop or Golf House. Other car park users will be charged \$25 if parked for more than one hour. Please see www.mooreparkgolf.com.au for more details.

Golf patrons will also notice the Pro Shop has recently had a \$75K makeover, including new carpet and painting. The shop has also been cleverly remodelled to provide more space for merchandise, more space in the dressing room and more space on the counter!

Head On Photo Festival returns to Centennial Park

From 5 May to 11 June engage yourself in outdoor (and indoor) photography exhibitions in the beautiful surrounds of Centennial Park as part of the 2011 Head On Photo Festival.

Head On Photo Festival is Sydney's major innovative showcase for Australian and international photography. In 2010, Centennial Parklands was a central component in this successful initiative that featured over 80 events and shows in nearly 70 venues.

In 2011 Centennial Parklands will again participate in the Festival's vibrant, diverse cross-section of new and traditional photographic practices covering all genres.

The 2011 Festival will include many of the popular elements of 2010, with indoor (at the Superintendents Residence) and outdoor exhibitions, workshops and artists' talks.

Art and nature were integrated in some of the 2010 photography, with the Parklands' subtle beauty highlighted in creative and visually stunning ways by the photographers. The Festival attracted many people to Centennial Park to view the exciting initiative.



From the 2010 outdoor exhibition in Centennial Park

Head On has a strong community-oriented approach, as it aims to present good photography regardless of the celebrity of either the subject or the photographer. As well as exhibitions in the Parklands, the Festival involves galleries, restaurants and cafés around Sydney.

What a display!

Each year, the Parklands Horticulture team creates a seasonal plan for each of the formal garden areas and works hard to ensure these gardens beds are looking their best all year round!

The formal gardens in Centennial Park, such as the Column Garden and the Rose Garden, are managed by our dedicated team of horticulturists whose role is the creation and maintenance of these displays.

The Column Garden is a highly visited area, popular for weddings and picnics, and its annual bedding displays are eagerly anticipated. Each season horticulturists source out and plan a bedding display that will complement the surrounding trees and shrubs.

Autumn is when the Column Garden is at its best and this year keep an eye out for upcoming displays featuring Zinnia, Celosia, and Dianthus. These plants were chosen as they are highly tolerant of dry conditions, requiring less water and maintenance, as well as providing a wide range of colours to tie in with their surrounds. You can find out more about Zinnia flowers featured on page 8 as our Plant of the Season.

The Rose Garden is another important display within Centennial Park. Each year in winter the roses will be pruned to encourage new growth and allow for a brilliant display in spring. As roses can be challenging to grow in Sydney due to climate and pest factors, our horticulturists will have a frequent program of pest and disease control throughout 2011 to allow for best results.

Other horticultural displays within the Parklands include displays at various Park entry gates, at Frog Hollow and the numerous Canna display beds located near the Henry Parkes statue on Parkes Drive. These particular beds are subject to a yearly maintenance

procedure that often invokes concern from Park visitors! In autumn each year, these beds are pruned down to ground level. This pruning, whilst looking severe, is actually beneficial to the plants as it allows them to regenerate from underground and makes for a better flowering display.

These ongoing maintenance tasks ensure a beautiful, scenic Parklands at all times of the year. If you are inspired to take a picture of our beautiful formal garden beds, why not upload it to our website as part of our 2011 Photography Project.

Visit www.centennialparklands.com.au for more details.



Horticulturalist at work in the Column Garden

Area 2 Refurbishment Project

A \$1.5 million park improvement project is underway



Area 2 indicated in red

The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust is undertaking a \$1.5 million refurbishment project to upgrade and enhance the section of Moore Park known as "Area 2". Area 2 is a 4.5 hectare site bounded by Lang Road, Driver Avenue, Moore Park Busway and the east-west pathway south of Bus Loop Road.

With the support of the NSW Government, the Trust is improving this degraded site, providing a multi-purpose green space for broad community sporting, recreational and event use, enhancing its aesthetics and further minimising the environmental impacts on the site as a result of event parking.

More specifically, the work will result in the:

- refurbishment of the existing soil and returfing;
- installation of a new irrigation system and drainage improvements;
- installation of new car barriers and tree protection works; and
- formalisation of gravel aisles to improve vehicle movements during major event day parking.

To minimise impacts of the works and to ensure optimal turf growing conditions, the works will be delivered in two stages. The

first stage has already commenced and is due for completion in late May 2011, weather permitting. The second stage of works will commence in September and be completed by the end of December 2011.

Area 2 has been used for a wide range of transport and development used since the late 1860s—including being part of the Sydney tram network, used as a car park by the Royal Agricultural Society during the Royal Easter Show each year, and as a support work depot during the construction of the Eastern Distributor. As a result, there are isolated areas of contaminated soil. During the refurbishment works, safety fencing, dust suppression and monitoring will be employed throughout.

The land was transferred to the management of the Trust in 1992 and today is predominantly used as a mixture of informal, non-official sporting competition and recreation activities, as well as major event day parking.

For more information on the project, the concept plan and history of the site please visit www.centennialparklands.com.au/area2 or phone the Parklands Office on (02) 9339 6699.

Come and discover...

The Education Precinct has received new structures and amenities making it an even more valuable resource for the community to use and enjoy.

In 2010 the Centennial Parklands Foundation was awarded a grant by the NSW Government as part its Community Partnership Program.

The Precinct now includes a new accessible fishing platform which gives wheelchair users extended space to fish comfortably and safely. There is also a new BBQ zone available to the public and community groups to hire in conjunction with the Precinct. The remainder of the grant was spent on building additional storage (to free up valuable space inside the Learning Centre) and to

deliver Phase One—a new pathway and teaching circle—in the planned discovery trail and outdoor learning area.

For those who have never visited the Education Precinct there is a fully equipped Learning Centre, a Discovery Garden and a Community Nursery with two wormeries and a plant propagation area.



New BBQ facility



New outdoor breakout space

Since its opening in 2009 it has been visited by thousands of people of all ages and interests through its popular weekend and holiday programs, volunteer events, curriculum-based school sessions, birthday parties, corporate days and as a community meeting place. The success of the Precinct has been helped by a team of dedicated and enthusiastic Education Rangers and Foundation Volunteers.

With these new additions, the Precinct is developing and responding to the needs of the community. For information on all that is happening at the Education Precinct or for information on hiring the Learning Centre or the new BBQ zone please contact the Parklands Office on (02) 9339 6699.

Dickens returns

A statue of acclaimed English novelist Charles Dickens that once stood in Centennial Park has been rediscovered, restored, partially reconstructed and returned to its former home.

When Gaenor Vallack, a volunteer at the NSW Library and member of the NSW Dickens Society, was flicking through Edwin Wilson's book *The Wishing Tree* a picture of a Charles Dickens' statue caught her eye. 'Where is that beautiful statue?' she asked and her simple question prompted the Society's then President, Sandra Faulkner, on a trail of discovery and intrigue.

The statue of Charles Dickens, along with 10 other statues, was acquired by Centennial Park in 1889 by stonemason Job Hanson. It was placed in Centennial Park around 1889 and was removed in 1972 due to vandalism.



Members of the NSW Dickens Society

In November 2006, Sandra wrote to the Sydney Morning Herald's Column 8 asking if anyone had any idea if the statue still existed and if so, where was it? The request was republished in February 2007 as the initial letter did not elicit a single response. 'We must find Mr. Dickens', the Column 8 editor wrote.

However this was not the first investigation into the missing statue. The Melbourne Branch of the Dickens Fellowship had also tried to locate the statue and the late Cedric Dickens, great grandson of the novelist, had initiated the interest by writing to the Sydney Morning Herald in March 1986. It was the Melbourne Fellowship which established that in 1988 the statue had been put into dry storage in the basement of T A Taylor and Sons in Rozelle, NSW, who were at the time working on a number of conservation projects for the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust and the Botanic Gardens Trust.



Above: Stonemasons used old photographs of Dickens to reconstruct his head
Right: The original statue in Centennial Park

Later in February 2007, Column 8 jubilantly published correspondence from Geoff Hearn, advising that the statue was 'placed into protective custody by the Royal Botanic Gardens some time ago... necessary due to the damage inflicted by vandals (he lost his head)'. The statue was found!

In 2008, the Botanic Gardens Trust offered to return the statue to Centennial Park. In partnership with the Centenary Stoneworks Program of the Department of Services, Technology and Administration (DSTA), Centennial Parklands began preparation for the return of the Dickens statue.

The reconstruction process

Stonemasons from the DSTA were engaged to reconstruct Dickens's head and other missing parts of the statue, including his right hand's baby finger, scroll and quill.

The reconstruction required a single quality block of Bianco P marble, a high quality grade of white marble from Carrara in Italy. Sourcing the marble proved extremely difficult and it took three attempts over 12 months to find a perfect match.

Once the marble was procured, the intricate and detailed process of reconstructing Dickens's missing elements began. The carvers use old photographs, portraits and live models in an effort to understand the form and character. Various models were then constructed for approval, following which the casters took a silicon mould to create a plaster mould from which they took the Dickens profile. Only then did the carving begin!

'An excellent site'

After much research, it was decided to site the Dickens statue on the junction of Dickens Drive and Loch Avenue. This was the location where it stood for 74 years from 1897 until 1971. It was moved from its original location on the corner of Parkes and Hamilton Drives to make way for a statue of the late Sir Henry Parkes.

This relocation was recorded in the 1898 Report of Botanic Gardens & Domains: 'An excellent site was chosen for the removal of that of Charles Dickens to a scarcely inferior site in the park, near the centre, at the junction of what are known as flat roads. The spot is much frequented by the public and there is very little statuary within a considerable distance.'

A 1935 site plan of Centennial Park shows that Loch Avenue was then known as Dickens Road which indicated that the statue was in the vicinity and the road subsequently named after it.



The headless Dickens in storage



The Hon. Kevin Green, MP (right) with Trust Chair John Walker

A 199th birthday gift to the community

On the anniversary of Charles Dickens's birthday, 7 February 2011, the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust was delighted to unveil the statue. Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales, delighted guests with her memories of regularly visiting the statue as a young girl and of her fondness for Dickens as an author. The Governor said that Dickens deserved a statue as he advocated for the poor and oppressed. She said: 'I also believe that, as I do with Shakespeare, they were the original psychiatrists. They could see beyond the obvious, they could see what motivated people—either for harm or for good.'

The statue was unveiled by the Governor in the presence of the Hon. Kevin Green MP, Minister for Sport and Recreation; John Walker, Chair of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust; Sandra Faulkner; the team of stonemasons from NSW Public Works; representatives from the Botanic Gardens Trust; and our own dedicated staff.

Also present in great number were members of the NSW Dickens Society, delighted to finally see the statue in all its glory, providing a

beautiful backdrop for future readings, picnics and indeed be a focal point dedicated to their literary hero.

The Dickens statue is one of only two known life-size representations of Charles Dickens in the world and the only one which shows Dickens standing by himself. The other is a c1891 bronze statue in Clark Park, Philadelphia, USA, depicting a seated Dickens with his character Little Nell from *The Old Curiosity Shop*.

The rarity of Dickens statuary is due to an injunction in his Will requesting that no public memorials be erected in his honour: 'I conjure my friends on no account to make me the subject of any monument or testimonial whatever' said his Will. 'Perhaps nobody told the Americans or the Australians,' mused Sandra Faulkner.

In his words: 'It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to, than I have ever known.' - Charles Dickens.

Recognitions:

- Our thanks to Laila Ellmoos former Historian at the Government Architect's Office, Department of Commerce, who wrote the Charles Dickens Statue Research Report (2009) from which much of this article is taken.
- This project would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of members of the NSW Dickens Society, as well as the Botanic Gardens Trust for enabling the return of the statue. For more information on this fascinating statue visit www.centennialparklands.com.au



Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO unveils the statue

Twitchers Corner

Pied Currawong by Trevor Waller

The **Pied Currawong** is a large black bird with a robust black bill and a prominent yellow eye. There are large white windows in the wings that are visible in flight. The tail has a white tip and white feathers at the base of the tail. The undertail and rump are also white.

In flight the Currawong is very distinctive with slow lapping wing beats reminiscent of a swimmer doing butterfly with short periods when the wings are held closed. This flight pattern is a good way to identify this bird as it flies overhead. The juvenile birds are grey brown and the eyes are dark. They have a varied repertoire of calls and they take their name from their most common call. Other calls include a drawn out "wolf whistle".

Currawongs are omnivorous and will feed on the eggs and chicks of other birds, as well as reptiles, mammals, carrion, fruits and seeds. When feeding they forage on the ground as well as throughout all parts of trees. They can be found in alpine forests, rainforests, woodlands, farmlands, picnic grounds and parks.

They breed in single pairs from September to January in higher altitude forests then move into lower areas to form larger flocks in autumn. The nest is a shallow stick nest built in the leafy canopy of tall trees in mountain forests lined with grass, bark and roots.

The female lays 2 to 4 eggs and incubates them for about 21 days. The male feeds the female during nest building and while she sits on the eggs. After the chicks hatch they are fed by both adults until they leave the nest and for months after leaving the nest. You can find these birds throughout the Parklands and as they fly over.



Pied Currawong

Trevor Waller is a bird enthusiast with more than 15 years behind the binoculars. He is a member of various bird watching clubs in Sydney, including Birds Australia. This Autumn Trevor will conduct a free Seniors Week Birdwatching tour on Sunday 27 March. Please register by calling (02) 9339 6699 or for more information visit www.centennialparklands.com.au/whatson for details.

Plant of the Season

Zinnia Magellan

The dwarf Zinnia (*Zinnia Magellan*) is a small annual plant native mostly to Mexico. It is a member of the plant family Asteraceae which features many popular annual display plants. Zinnia is a genus that features around 20 species ranging from annuals through to small shrubs. The dwarf Zinnia usually grows up to a height of



Zinnia Magellan

30 centimetres forming a clump of about 30 centimetres. Most Zinnia feature dark green, leathery foliage and in some cases small spines can be present.

Zinnias are relatively easy to grow and maintain. They tolerate dry conditions and prefer a typical, well drained soil with full sun. They are not frost tolerant so planting is best left until late spring or early summer.

Zinnias usually flower from late summer well into autumn. There are numerous colours available in reds, yellows and oranges. For best flowering results, removing the dead flower heads will produce new flowers. Propagation is best carried out by collecting the seeds from the dead flowers and sowing these seeds in spring. Zinnias are commonly used as a bedding or container plant as they are available in a wide range of colours.

Where can it be found in the Parklands?

The dwarf Zinnia is one of the plants chosen for the annual bedding display in the Column Garden. It was chosen due to its ability to tolerate hot, dry weather that is known to Sydney in the summer. The colours chosen this year are a mixture of ivory, salmon, cherry and yellow. This display should be at its best in the autumn months.

Nature Club launch day

Be a part of history with the launch of **The Centennial Park Bush Rangers** – Sydney's first and only nature and wildlife club coming to Centennial Park this autumn. This energetic and engaging event will provide an alternative outdoor experience away from the modern distractions of our digital world.



During this Easter holidays there will be two sessions on offer on **Wednesday 20 April**. In the morning there will be a shorter session for under five's and their families as well as a whole day experience for children aged five and above.

In the morning families will have an opportunity to learn together and experience nature as never before. Our experienced Education Rangers will be leading the way with games, stories, nature-based art and a hands-on wilderness awareness activity such as animal tracking.

The older children will have a whole day to explore the wilds of Centennial Parklands and there will be plenty of wild play and nature-based activities to keep them entertained, including bushcraft, outdoor survival skills and wilderness awareness activities.

For more information and bookings please phone (02) 9339 6699 or visit www.centennialparklands.com.au

The great CP egg hunt!



We have been told, on good authority, that a certain bunny plans to visit his favourite place in Centennial Park over Easter and hide his best eggs! The Rangers have been trying to find out where, but the Bunny just isn't talking. So come to the Park on Easter Saturday and Sunday to help find them before Ranger Sam does (she loves chocolate!).

The fun starts at the Visitor Information Counter on Banksia Way (behind the Kiosk) from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 April. Get yourself a trail map

and follow the clues to the furry and feathery animal characters who will help lead you to all the eggs. Each trail map costs \$5 and includes one Easter egg per map.



Colour me in!

Feeding the birds

The ducks and water birds that live in Centennial Parklands usually eat seeds and plants foraged from the water and the surrounding grassy areas.

Eating bread fed to them by visitors is a tempting meal, a bit like hot chips, tasty but very unhealthy. Sometimes they get used to eating bread as lots of people like to feed them but it can make them fat and very sick.

Centennial Parkland's Ranger Quack.

By Sam Crosby



The seven most beautiful leaves in Centennial Parklands



Broad-leafed Paperbark

1. Leave a donation



Norfolk Island Pine

2. Leave a tree



Eucalyptus

3. Leave as a *Friend*



Hidden Oak

4. Leave as a sponsor



Moreton Bay Fig

5. Leave a bench



Cluster Pine

6. Leave as a volunteer



Port Jackson Fig

7. Leave a bequest

Contact the Foundation

To find out more about any of these stories, or to make a donation:

Ph: (02) 9339 6633
Email: foundation@centennialparklands.com.au
Web: www.yourparklands.org.au

Centennial Parklands Foundation

Join us on Family Tree Day



Family Tree Day is a special day where the greater community can contribute by planting new trees *en masse* and in doing so raising much needed funds for the Foundation. This year's event will be held on Sunday 31 July 2011 and the location will be Sandstone Ridge, Centennial Park. Says Ted Hoare, Parklands Senior Arborist: 'This area has been the site for previous Family Tree Day plantings and has really benefitted from it. Over the years the young trees have grown and the vista is now quite magnificent.'

A tax-deductible donation of \$1,000 will secure you a tree on this special planting day and there are plenty of Australian native trees to choose from. You will also receive a dedication certificate, photograph and location map of your tree.

Family Tree Day is your special day and we invite you to make your own celebration of the event. Gather with family and friends,

roll up your sleeves, don your hats, put on your boots and, with the help of our arborists, start planting your special family tree!

The Foundation will also hold a National Tree Day for Schools event on Friday 29 July 2011. On this day school groups will have the opportunity of planting selected trees on Mount Steel in Moore Park. If you would like your school to participate in this program, simply ask them to register with us.

In the words of British author Mirabel Osler: 'To be able to walk under the branches of a tree that you have planted is really to feel you have arrived with your garden. So far we are on the way: we can now stand beside ours.'

If you would like to stand beside your tree in Centennial Parklands, register to participate in Family Tree Day now. Please contact the Foundation on (02) 9339 6699 to register for Family Tree Day or National Tree Day for Schools.

Stories of Dedication

Dedicating a tree in Centennial Parklands is a wonderful way to commemorate or celebrate a loved one, and each tree has its own special story. Here two of the Foundation's generous benefactors share the story behind their tree dedication.



The Logi family and their lifelong friends recently dedicated a Broad Leaf Paperbark (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) on the edge of Duck Pond in loving memory of Ilaria Logi. Husband Angelo returned from a trip to

Italy to attend the dedication and his son Lorenzo also returned from Shanghai to join the extended Logi family and their friends in a celebration of Ilaria's life. The Duck Pond was a special location for the Logi family who have many happy family memories of this place.

Busby's Pond was the chosen location for a group of ladies who used the money from their Melbourne Cup winnings to dedicate a tree in memory of a friend who used to walk with them in Centennial Park. They chose to adopt a 70 year old Moreton Bay Fig which has been growing on the spot where they all meet near Busbys Pond.

Whether you plant a new tree, or adopt an existing tree, by dedicating a tree, the tree can become a focal point for family gatherings, or a personal place for contemplation and quiet enjoyment. For more information on tree dedications please contact the Foundation on (02) 9339 6699.

New Benefactors

Alan Hyland
The Bentley Family
The Murphy Family
Andrew Veron and Family

The Logi Family and Friends
John Pearce
Chefs' Warehouse
Peter Tzannes



The Logi family and friends

Welcome Peter Hadfield



The Centennial Parklands Foundation has appointed Peter Hadfield as its new Executive Officer. Peter has a proven record of successful fundraising and event management in the not-for-profit sector, as well as over 20 years managerial experience, particularly in the areas of marketing and communications

He has had a strong association with not-for-profit organisations over the years including Sylvanvale, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the Humpty Dumpty Foundation, the

Prostate Cancer Institute and the Australian Children's Music Foundation. He also has an interest in the environment as a Bushcare Volunteer and Green Web member with the Sutherland Shire Council.

However Peter is more readily associated with sport rather than the environment or philanthropy. He captained the Australian Track and Field team and represented at two Olympic Games and two Commonwealth Games and for ten consecutive years, Peter was Australia's champion in the highly demanding Decathlon.

Peter was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in the Australia Day Honours in 2006 for his services to sport and the community through his support of charities.

'I would like to think that those people who use and enjoy the Parklands feel as though they are a part of the Centennial Parklands' community and as such would like to look at how they can assist in maintaining and improving the environment and services within the Parklands', said Peter.

'There is a significant range of activities where individuals, groups and corporations can assist the Foundation, through dedicating trees and benches in the Parklands, volunteering and through general donations and bequests.

'We have also created a Corporate Team Building Program in the Park which allows companies to attain their corporate training and staff engagement goals. Centennial Parklands is so close to the Sydney CBD and we can provide a series of sports-related activities like golf, tennis, fishing, horse riding, cycling and running as well as some other targeted events. There is even the opportunity for some team-building through manual labour to help the Park!

'I would be delighted to speak to anyone who may have enquiries on how they can participate in the Foundation's programs'.

Volunteers

Post Graduate Research

This autumn we welcome a post-graduate student research program into the Centennial Park flying fox colony. The grey headed flying foxes arrived in Centennial Park in March 2010 and are a threatened species listed as "vulnerable to extinction".

Students will investigate diet, foraging behaviour, level of stress, numbers and fly-out behaviour. They may also examine age of the animals present and their condition, species and the overall similarity and differences that the Park's population might exhibit compared to other Sydney camps.

Carp Eradication

In a joint application with the Australian National Sportfishing Association the Trust is pleased to have received a ministerial grant of \$9,000 to deliver fishing workshops for disability groups. People with physical and intellectual disabilities will be able to come and safely fish for carp in Centennial Park ponds.

The Flycasting Pond viewing platforms have been modified to allow wheelchair access for fishing. The program will enable users to participate in an alternative method of physical therapy whilst experiencing the beauty and atmosphere of Centennial Park.

For more information on our volunteer programs, please visit www.yourparklands.org.au/volunteers



National Volunteer Week

From 9-15 May, volunteers across Australia will celebrate National Volunteer Week. For our volunteers this traditionally involves a social gathering with good food, conversation and an awards ceremony recognizing achievement and commitment.

We invite all Centennial Parklands volunteers to join us on Saturday 14 May 2011 for a fun and informal lunch with peers and volunteers from across all Centennial Parklands volunteer programs.

foundation and friends

www.yourparklands.org.au

www.friends.net.au

Welcome Peter Hadfield

Family Tree Day

Stories of dedication

Autumn 2011



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