

Free

# parklands

[www.centennialparklands.com.au](http://www.centennialparklands.com.au)

Golden Oldies World  
Rugby Festival

Investing in Moore Park

A Midsummer Night's  
Dream returns

Spring 2010



*Healthy Parks  
Healthy People*

  
CENTENNIAL  
parklands  
*is living Sydney*





### Welcome to the spring edition of *Parklands* magazine.

Parks are more than grass and trees! Parks like Centennial Parklands can provide an extraordinary range of sporting, recreation, education, cultural and leisure experiences in response to the contemporary needs

and expectations of its community. Our Parks are also important places for people to connect with others and their surroundings, and have a positive influence on their wellbeing.

When Sir Henry Parkes first opened Centennial Park in 1888 he dubbed it the "People's Park". Recent support for this Park, and of Queens Park and Moore Park has shown that nothing has changed in the intervening 122 years.

The Trust, in conjunction with the Centennial Parklands Foundation, has been actively building practical support in the Parklands through volunteer environmental and educational programs, which resulted in more than 4,000 hours of volunteer work achieved in 2009-10. The equally invaluable funding support by donors has also made a major contribution to our new education facilities (see page 3) and comprehensive tree replacement program (see page 11).

These Parklands are a significant community asset and the Trust will continue to encourage your support. Speaking of support, the Foundation is holding the annual Evergreen Dinner on 21 October 2010. Tickets are now on sale and we would be delighted to see you at this special event (see page 11).

Finally, I would like to thank photographer Peter Solness for his wonderful exhibition as part of the Head On Festival. Peter donated 20 per cent of sales to the Foundation. Thank you, Peter!

Steve Corbett  
Director and Chief Executive  
Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust

## Healthy Parks Healthy People

### Why Parks matter

The third global World Parks Day will be celebrated on 18 September 2010. A nice sounding concept, however there is a deeper meaning and focus on this day for communities around the world.

Population is the current issue in Australia. Whether population policy, sustainable population, or a population target is the topic, what is often lost in this debate is the "liveability" of our cities and communities.

One key aspect of liveability within an urban context is the proximity to, and accessibility of, public open space. Public space has diminished rapidly over the past 40 years and with population increases and greater urbanisation and development on the horizon we need to think more about how we look after and retain what public space we have left.

Our parks are a vital part of making a community liveable. They are spaces to live and breathe, spaces to play sport, picnic, exercise or enjoy the company of family and friends. They are vital spaces that can rarely be reclaimed once they are lost.

World Parks Day celebrates this and we should all celebrate as a community. So get out into your nearest park this World Parks Day and reacquire yourself with why parks matter.



Artist's impression

### The Comrie Memorial Fountain

The Comrie Memorial Fountain was originally located on the western side of St James Road opposite Hyde Park, Sydney, partly on the road and partly on the footpath. It was built as a drinking fountain to satisfy the thirst of "man and beast" and opened by Lord Mayor, Alderman Samuel E Lees, on 27 July 1904.

In 1934, it was relocated to Driver Avenue, Moore Park due to concerns about increasing traffic in the immediate vicinity and remained on this site until 1995 when it was dismantled as part of the Eastern Distributor works. For many years prior to its dismantling it had not been functioning as a water fountain.

Since then, the Fountain has been stored in pieces in the Centennial Parklands depot. Over the intervening years, the Trust has developed a relocation strategy and has now approved the funds to undertake the work. The selected location is Federation Way, near the entrance to the Robertson Road Gates. This location is highly suitable due to its urban heritage character and its proximity to the Equestrian Centre. The Trust is hoping the Fountain can once again safely provide water to man, dog and horse.

### Celebrate World Parks Day in Centennial Parklands

World Parks Day will be celebrated on Saturday 18 September 2010. World Parks Day highlights the importance and the role of parks and public open space in the everyday lives of the community.

So come to Centennial Parklands to experience and enjoy all that this wonderful space has to offer. Centennial Parklands will be hosting a range of fun family activities and exhibitions where you can talk to our staff. Free pony rides, Ranger programs, dog training exhibitions, carp fishing activities and a whole lot more.

**Saturday 18 September 2010.**  
**Adjacent to the Centennial Parklands Restaurant in Centennial Park.**



Farrier Clive Ogilvy

### Appointment of two new licensees

Following a recent public tender, the Trust announced that Pet Wash 2000 - a pet grooming business operated by Brett Featon - has been awarded a three-year licence to provide pet grooming services in Centennial Park. Brett had been involved in a trial over the last 12 months and proved a popular addition to the Parklands and its dog-owning community.

In a separate process, Clive Ogilvy has been re-appointed to operate the Farrier business at the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre for a further three years. Clive has been the main Farrier for clients at the Equestrian Centre for the last 10 years and the Trust is delighted to have the continuity of his professional services.

### Education Precinct celebrates its first year of operation

This spring marks the first 12 months of operation for the Education Precinct, successfully providing a much needed headquarters from which to focus education, visitor and volunteer programs. Since it opened in September 2009, the Precinct has been the venue for about 90 school excursions and is the main meeting point for the Ranger-led school holiday programs. It has also been used by a variety of other groups including local councils, private birthday parties, Parklands volunteers and community groups.

The most recent addition to the Precinct is the development of resources to assist in composting and sustainability education programs. Six new "eco boxes" representing different ecological communities ranging from rainforest to arid zones have been completed. With detailed information panels and glass doors displaying root growth, this is an exciting new installation to support a range of hands-on school excursions that come to the Parklands.

Four new composting bays and worm farms have also been established for education purposes. The City of Sydney recently used these facilities to run a composting workshop. Michael Neville, Waste Education Coordinator for the City

of Sydney, said: 'The Precinct was a great venue. It suited us really well and was an excellent space for our purposes having indoor and outdoor spaces.'

The Precinct's Learning Centre is available for hire to community and private users. **For enquiries please phone (02) 9339 6699.**



### Have your say on Car Free Day

Car Free Days are a long standing and popular event held on the last Sunday of each season. The Trust conducted an on-site survey at our last Car Free Day. We are interested in your views and feedback and we invite you to complete a short online survey at **www.centennialparklands.com.au**. Each respondent will have a chance to win a great prize of four Moonlight Cinema tickets to the value of \$100.

### Visitor Information

#### Car Free Days

Last Sunday of every season (February, May, August and November).  
Next day: Sunday 28 November 2010

#### 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

**f** www.facebook.com/centennial.park.sydney

**t** www.twitter.com/cent\_parklands





## Investing in Centennial Parklands: Moore Park

As part of its ongoing investment into the Parklands, the focus on Moore Park has seen the Trust complete two major projects and has much more planned for the future.

The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, in its Centennial Parklands Plan of Management 2006-2016, has a vision for the consolidation of Moore Park as a vibrant, contemporary leisure and entertainment precinct within Centennial Parklands by integrating sport, recreation, event and entertainment facilities for people of all ages, abilities and interests.

Mr John Walker, Chairman of the Trust, believes this last line is the most important.

'For all ages, abilities and interests – that is key. Our charter as Trustees of Centennial Parklands is to encourage public use and enjoyment of the Parklands for the whole community,' said Mr Walker.

'Assertion of public ownership, respect for its recreation and sporting history, and appreciation of its environmental and social values are core to the Plan, however the important overarching theme is public access and usage.'

The projects outlined below represent those that the Trust has already delivered as part of the ongoing Centennial Parklands Capital Investment Program 2009-2019 – a \$17.4 million joint funding initiative between the Trust and the NSW Government.

### ✓ Cleveland Street shared cycleway

The final section of a four kilometre cycleway linking the city to the eastern suburbs through Centennial Parklands was officially opened in July 2010. The new 3.5 metre wide cycleway, which is shared with pedestrians, significantly enhances the safety and capacity of the previous path. It runs from South Dowling Street to Anzac Parade on the southern side of Cleveland Street.

The cycleway links in with existing cycling networks in both the eastern suburbs and City of Sydney and also complements the aims of the recently released NSW Government's *NSW BikePlan* – a plan that will support future improvements and enhancements across the Parklands and the State of NSW.



Cleveland Street shared cycleway



New car park at Moore Park Golf

### ✓ Moore Park Golf car park

More than 55,000 rounds a year are played at Moore Park Golf, making it one of the busiest golf courses in Australia. Upgrading its busy car park was a high priority to repair damaged pavement, protect the heritage trees, improve access, parking and safety for the many thousands of people who use the golf course each year.

Completed in July 2010, the project involved resurfacing and reconfiguring the existing 200 space car park for improved visitor access. Works also included installing large tree protection kerbing for the Moreton Bay figs dotting the car park, and will also see the introduction of a new boom gate to regulate traffic flow in this busy precinct.

'These works have resulted in improved traffic management, an increase number of parking spaces, including accessible car spaces, and heritage tree protection, while reducing the amount of pavement by around 300 square metres,' said Steve Corbett, Director and Chief Executive of the Trust.

### ✓ Moore Park Golf improvements

Moore Park Golf has also benefited from recent course upgrades completed in June 2010. These works included redeveloping the practice putting green and bunker redesign to improve drainage and minimise the amount of time that bunkers are out of play after wet weather.



New bunkers at Moore Park Golf

### Further investment announced

The Trust has also welcomed the announcement earlier this year of further government funding for projects including the upcoming refurbishment of the 4.5 hectare Area 2 – a section of Moore Park adjacent to the Hordern Pavilion.



Moore Park Golf House

This investment by the Government acknowledges the management and record of delivery that the Trust has developed over the last decade. This work will improve the accessibility, functional use and green space of this part of the Parklands.

This work is part of a \$6.5 million package announced in the 2010-11 NSW State Budget, and represents another significant investment in the Parklands through a joint funding arrangement with the NSW Government.

## A Midsummer Night's Dream returns

Night Sky Productions brings this classic Shakespeare play to life in the beautiful ambience of the Belvedere Amphitheatre in Centennial Park.

The Trust is delighted to welcome back Night Sky Productions' 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' to Centennial Parklands for its 2010 season. Last seen here in 2007, the play returns to the Belvedere Amphitheatre where it will be brought to life by the natural surrounds of Centennial Park and a marvellous ensemble of actors and musicians directed by Anthony Harkin.

It's hard to imagine a more appropriate setting than Centennial Park for the magical scenes with Oberon, the King of the Fairies, Queen Titania, and the mischievous and irresponsible fairy Puck.

Says Producer Barry Watterson: 'This event is aimed at all ages, young and old, and we really encourage families to come along. We invite children to come in their fairy and elf dress-ups as there is lots of engagement with the audience - it really will be lots of fun!'

The season will run on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights from Friday 29 October to Sunday 21 November. The performance runs from 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm. The event is not licensed however audience members are welcome to bring their own picnic rug and picnic.



From the 2007 production of A Midsummer Night's Dream

Tickets are only \$25 plus booking fee (adult) and children under 12 are free. For more information visit [www.thedream.net.au](http://www.thedream.net.au) and advance bookings can be made via [www.moshtix.com.au](http://www.moshtix.com.au). On the day of each performance tickets can be purchased at the venue's box office from 6.00 pm, subject to availability.

## Trust hosts Regional Sports Demand Workshop

In May 2010 the Trust hosted a Regional Sports Demand Management Workshop to discuss the ongoing issues of managing the increasing demand for sporting facilities within the eastern suburbs.

The workshop was well represented with sport and recreation professionals from the City of Sydney, Woollahra, Waverley, Randwick and City of Botany Bay Councils along with the University of New South Wales in attendance.

Paul Tracey, Manager Visitor Programs for Centennial Parklands said: 'The aim of the workshop was to determine whether key sports demand issues experienced by the Parklands is common throughout the entire eastern suburbs. As we suspected this is indeed the case.'

'Demand for Parklands sports fields has increased substantially over recent years and while we endeavour to accommodate all requests there were more than 800 bookings clashes in the last year that could not be accommodated,' he said.

Across the board, the workshop participants noted common issues. Demand for Centennial Parklands soccer fields has surged as



Demand for sports fields is growing each year

participation in this sport increased by 26% in the last financial year. The nature of this sport results in the greatest wear and tear to playing surfaces which is a maintenance issue for park managers. It was also noted that there is increased demand for extended season and pre-season access for sports. The issue of wet weather field closures and its impact on hirers and park managers was also discussed.

Workshop participants all agreed that sports demand management was a key issue within their own open space operations and have agreed to form a Regional Sports Demand Management Forum. Says Paul: 'With meetings to be held regularly and chaired by an independent facilitator, we hope the Forum can provide ongoing dialogue with a view to developing consistent policy in meeting the needs of our sporting community within a regional context.'



# Fun, Friendship and Fraternity

The Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival is coming to Centennial Parklands.



From 26 September to 3 October 2010, Sydney – one of the world's great cities and heartland of Australian Rugby Union – will host the 18th Air New Zealand Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival. Last held here in 1983, the world's biggest rugby Festival returns to Sydney for the second time.



Golden Oldies enjoying the camaraderie of the World Rugby Festival

From the Alaska Old Oosiks, the Ignation Crustaceans and the Mount Isa Ugly Mongrels, to the Old Bangkok Bangers, the Woeful Wallopers and the Wrinkled Rats, up to 5,000 participants from 17 countries will form approximately 175 teams gathering for a week-long Festival that will be based at Centennial Park.

More than 20 rugby fields will be established for the Festival's three playing days with a welcoming hospitality marquee forming the hub of activities, supplying food, drinks and entertainment to participants and supporters.

With nearly half of Australia's registered rugby players residing in New South Wales, this Festival should attract an enthusiastic crowd to cheer on their fellow competitors, support their teams and enjoy the atmosphere.

The Festival kicks off with a parade through the streets of Sydney from Town Hall to Darling Harbour. Then it's down to serious fun when matches commence on Monday 27 September – the first of three playing days at Centennial Park. Play continues on Wednesday 29 September and concludes on Friday 1 October.

Festival Director Allan Forno has been busy behind the scenes gathering teams from around the world to put together this international Festival and to assemble the quintessential Australian team - The Classic Gentlemen of Sydney.

Captained by Festival Ambassador and one of Australia's all time greats Mark Ella, the Classic Gentlemen of Sydney team includes rugby stars such as Simon Poidevin as Co-President, David Campese, Russell Fairfax, Jason Little, Tim Horan, Nick Farr-Jones and Glen Ella. Add to that line-up Federal Opposition Leader



Tony Abbott, Shadow Treasurer Joe Hockey, Wallabies coach Robbie Deans and CEO of Australian Rugby John O'Neill and that's a pretty impressive team by any standard!

Mark Ella is looking forward to welcoming interstate and international teams to Sydney and can't wait for the games to begin. Mark said: 'I've been involved with Golden Oldies Rugby for 10 years. I love the camaraderie and it's a great opportunity for old guys like me to play a friendly game and to catch up with old friends.'

Simon Poidevin, a 59-test veteran and former Wallabies Captain agrees but says his primary role on the field is to protect Mark Ella from getting injured! He said: 'I'm basically Mark's bodyguard – I just need to make sure he doesn't have to make a tackle and to keep him out of harm's way!'

Simon recalls the last time Golden Oldies played in Sydney. He said: 'It was such a great event. I'll never forget sitting in the crowd watching an 80-year-old Japanese gentleman in purple shorts out on the field just loving every minute of the game.' Wearers of purple shorts cannot be tackled under the rules of Golden Oldies Rugby (see box, opposite page).

## Support Centennial Parklands

Simon Poidevin has a strong connection to Centennial Parklands. A keen cyclist and *Friend of Centennial Parklands*, Simon recently extended his commitment to the Parklands by planting a tree with his family on Family Tree Day on Sunday 1 August.

Simon believes we can all contribute to the future of the Parklands environment by supporting the Centennial Parklands Foundation, a charitable organisation established by the Trust to fund environmental and education programs.

If you would like to find out more about how you can help the Foundation, visit [www.yourparklands.org.au](http://www.yourparklands.org.au).

## The Golden Oldies Movement

The Golden Oldies Movement has been thriving for nearly three decades. It first began in the late 1970s when Tom Johnson, one of New Zealand's foremost rugby players of the 1960s, introduced the idea to Air New Zealand. The rest is history.

Fifteen rugby teams took part in that first Festival held in a muddy

field in Auckland in 1979: 13 from New Zealand, one from Canada and one from the United States of America. The inaugural hockey and soccer Festivals followed in 1983, then cricket and netball Festivals were added in 1984. World Festivals now take place every two years for each sport around the world and have been held in places such as Long Beach, London, Auckland, Toronto, Perth, Dublin, Christchurch, Vancouver, Cape Town, Adelaide, Toulouse, Brisbane, San Diego, Wellington, Edinburgh and of course, Sydney.

Focussing on participation rather than winning, today the movement continues to provide enjoyment for the over 35s of all levels of fitness and ability. But it's not only about the game – some novel playing gear, spontaneous performances and unforgettable characters will ensure this Festival provides lots of enjoyment. And, as unique as rugby is, you can be sure this will be a memorable event.

Stuart Dutton, Acting Director Visitor Experience for Centennial Parklands travelled to Edinburgh, Scotland for the 2008 Golden Oldies to review and understand the logistics of the event to help prepare Centennial Parklands for its role as host in 2010. He came away with an appreciation of the lasting and positive influence sport can have on each generation. Stuart said: 'Apart from the sheer fun of the event, this is a chance for players of all ages and abilities to mix with each other, share their experiences, keep in touch with old friends and make new ones. It's great that the love of a sport from an early age can form such a great part of these players' lives and still, years later, see them all joining in with such passion and enthusiasm.'

During World Rugby Festival week Park users should be aware that there will be an increased number of visitors in and around the Parklands in addition to restricted or changed parking and traffic conditions (see box this page).

There will also be changes to the availability of sports fields within Centennial Park. Due to the number of playing fields in use for the Festival, sports fields hire will be limited to Queens Park and Moore Park. School holiday programs will also run in these locations on Festival playing days. Sports fields in Centennial Park will re-open as scheduled on 18 October for the commencement of the summer sports season.

For the most up-to-date information please visit [www.centennialparklands.com.au](http://www.centennialparklands.com.au).

## Park visitor access information






While Centennial Parklands will remain open for park visitors throughout this event, there will be limited access and necessary changes to traffic and parking conditions for the safety, access and movement of event participants on the three playing days.

For the latest information on these changes, please refer to the Centennial Parklands website at [www.centennialparklands.com.au](http://www.centennialparklands.com.au) or phone the Parklands Office on (02) 9339 6699.



## Golden Oldies: Short Laws

Players wearing club shorts can be tackled, however if they elect to wear coloured shorts they have special allowances:

-  Red Shorts (up to 59 years): Players wearing red shorts in this category do not want to be tackled to the ground or pushed off their feet.
-  Red Shorts (60-64 years): Can be claimed, not tackled.
-  Gold shorts (65-69 years): Not to be tackled.
-  Purple shorts (70-79 years): Not to be tackled or touched.
-  Special Committee Shorts (85+ years): Not to be tackled or touched.



## Twitchers Corner

The White-throated Needletail by Trevor Waller

The **White-throated Needletail** is a summer migrant to Sydney and a member of my favourite bird family. They breed in Asia and then fly to Australia arriving in October and returning north in April.

The Needletail is a small dark bird with a white throat and undertail. The brown on the back fades to white and the tail is short and square with stiff "needles" extending beyond the tail tip. Being one of the world's fastest birds it has long pointed wings that curve back towards the tail. This gives the bird its distinctive sickle shaped wings as it soars overhead. They can fly very high and have been recorded at altitudes above 2,000 metres as they feed on flying insects. Most of this bird's life is spent flying and it even drinks and rests whilst in flight.

Needletails can be found flying over any habitat in search of swarming insects. Sometimes they are so high they cannot be seen, and at other times they can be very low, skimming over the tops of trees as they feed. They feed on swarming beetles, ants, termites and native bees. The nutrient rich insect abdomens are nipped off and the rest of the body is dropped. Flying low, their high pitched twittering can be heard.

This bird is my favourite because their lifestyle is so amazing. Things we must do on solid ground, they do almost exclusively in the air. In spring and summer I always scan the sky in hope of seeing a flock of these amazing birds dipping and soaring over me. They are my sign that spring is here. If you keep your eye on the sky you might also be rewarded by their flight.



The distinctive sickle shape of a soaring Needletail

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, and conducts the Parklands Birdwatcher's Breakfasts each season. There will be two Birdwatcher's Breakfast this spring: Sunday 10 October and 31 October. Please visit [www.centennialparklands.com.au/whatson](http://www.centennialparklands.com.au/whatson) for details.

## Tree of the Season

Lace Bark tree

The **Lace Bark tree** (*Brachychiton discolor*) is a small to medium sized tree native to tropical areas of the east coast of Australia. This tree is a member of the *Sterculiaceae* plant family and is related to the Illawarra Flame tree (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) and the Queensland Bottle tree (*Brachychiton rupestris*). All of these trees are prominently used in landscaping, with their ability to survive dry periods, and their often spectacular flowering.



Newly planted Lace Bark tree on Loch Avenue  
Inset: The spectacular flowers of the  
Lace Bark tree.

The Lace Bark tree features large, glossy green leaves that are usually shed towards the end of winter, leaving way for the tree to flower with masses of deep pink to red blooms that are shown from late spring through summer. This is followed by seed pods that contain numerous seeds which germinate readily.

The tree can typically get to a height of around 10 metres and features a straight, slender trunk with smooth, grey bark. The Lace Bark can tolerate a wide range of soils and situations, and can tolerate light frost once established. They also benefit from fertilising and organic material like mulch. This tree is suited to large gardens or as a specimen tree in parks or native areas.

### Where can it be found in the Parklands?

The Lace Bark tree has been recently introduced to Centennial Parklands as an avenue planting along both sides of Loch Avenue south in Centennial Park. Thirty five advanced trees were planted with the aim of replacing ageing Coral trees in this area with semi-deciduous red-flowering trees.

**Followers of Frank Hemmings' column, "Native Watch", can now read it online at [www.centennialparklands.com.au](http://www.centennialparklands.com.au)**

## The Enchanted Forest

We all know that Centennial Parklands is a special place. But what you probably didn't know is that our Rangers have some secret helpers that work hard to keep the Parklands beautiful.

Tiny fairies and elves live in the Enchanted Forest (a place known to us mere mortals as Lachlan Swamp). They make sure the trees grow tall and the animals are healthy. They are the guardians of the freshwater spring that bubbles up from the earth, protecting it from pollution so that the plants and animals have plenty of clean water to drink. In the middle of the swamp there is a big, old paperbark tree that some believe is home to the fairies and elves, where they keep their magic spells.



Spring time is when the fairies and elves are at their busiest, so next time you are walking through the Enchanted Forest, look out for evidence they have been there.

Our Rangers will be leading two **Springtime Fairies** holiday programs through the magical environment of Lachlan Swamp on **Thursday 30 September** and **Friday 8 October**. Or you can book a Ranger to lead our popular **Enchanted Forest Party** for your child's next birthday. Make sure you come along dressed as your favourite fairy, elf or goblin!

Bookings are essential, call (02) 9339 6699 or visit [www.centennialparklands.com.au](http://www.centennialparklands.com.au)

## Cast a Spell Competition

This spring we will be giving away some fairy-tastic prizes! We have three double passes to the Springtime Fairies holiday program on Friday 8 October to give away. In addition, every child that enters will receive a thank you note from the Enchanted Forest fairies.

To enter, in 25 words or less, send us your own Enchanted Forest spell like the ones you can see on this page. It needs to be a spell that the fairies and elves could use to help look after Centennial Park.

Entries must be received by Friday 1 October 2010. All entrants must be between 2 and 7 years of age, one entry per person. Winners will be contacted on Monday 4 October 2010. Entries received after closing date will still get a fairy reply!

Entries can be sent to [info@centennialparklands.com.au](mailto:info@centennialparklands.com.au), or drop it into the Visitor Information Counter next to the café (open 7 days a week). Be sure to include your name, date of birth, address and phone number with your entry. All entries need to be submitted with a return postal address to receive a fairy reply.

Spell for possums: Abracadabra, 1, 2, 3;  
See a possum in the tree. Possum why do you sleep all day?  
Brushtail possum come out and play!

## Craft: Create a home for a fairy!

Grown-ups always seem so busy they tend to forget that the fairies, elves and goblins need some space too! So help out a fairy in need and create a special fairy garden - a tiny little home for fairies to live in.

### You will need:

- A terracotta pot plant feeder
- A handful of sand
- A handful of soil
- Pebbles
- Succulent cuttings
- Shells
- Trinkets

### Method:

- Put the sand and the soil into the terracotta plant feeder and mix together
- Put the pebbles on top of the sand/soil mix
- Plant the little succulent cuttings
- Place the trinkets in the little garden. Look for shiny things around the house. We used a marble, a broken earring, a shell and an old wedding favour!



## Ask a Ranger

Help...I found a baby bird on the ground!

First rule: Stop! Don't touch it and watch for a few minutes!

If the bird on the ground is fully feathered it is probably a fledgling. Its parents are most likely close by - watch and you will see them swooping down to feed it. It's best to leave it alone and keep pets away from the area, because even though this is a dangerous time for the fledgling it is a natural step where they learn to find food, to avoid predators, and how to fly.

If the baby bird is without feathers then try to carefully get it back in the nest. It is not true that parents will abandon their returned baby if they smell human scent; in fact most birds have a very poor sense of smell. Always stay safe and don't climb a tree if the nest is high. You can call a Ranger for assistance on 0412 718 611.





## GET INVOLVED

### The seven most beautiful leaves in Centennial Parklands



1. Leave a donation



2. Leave a tree



3. Leave as a *Friend*



4. Leave as a sponsor



5. Leave a bench



6. Leave as a volunteer



7. Leave a bequest

## Centennial Parklands Foundation

### Evergreen Dinner 2010



Head Chef Darren Foots

In 2010 the proceeds will go to the Foundation's environmental and educational sustainability projects that will ensure future generations will be able to enjoy the Parklands as we do today.

Darren Foots, Head Chef at Centennial Parklands Dining, will take the culinary spotlight at this dinner. Guests can expect innovative cuisine that celebrates the diversity of nature, as Darren showcases his talents and creates a spectacular dining experience.

Tickets are now on sale. Only \$200 per person or \$1,600 for a table of eight. For more details on this event, and to book your table, please visit: [www.yourparklands.org.au/evergreen](http://www.yourparklands.org.au/evergreen)

### Tree plantings across the Parklands

This winter you may have noticed much tree planting across the Parklands. Places like Loch Avenue, Belvedere Amphitheatre and Mount Steel in Moore Park have all been enhanced

by our busy arborists.



Ted Hoare, Senior Arborist, explains: 'The Parklands is a dynamic system and we are presently in a strong planting phase in line with our tree management plan. The weather conditions have

been good, and we have capitalised on strong donor support to get nearly 200 trees in the ground in the last four months.'

The Parklands' Tree Replacement Program aims to replace 60% of the Parklands' 15,000 trees over the next 40 years.

On Sunday 1 August the Foundation hosted a community tree planting event, **Family Tree Day**, near the Belvedere Amphitheatre on a perfect winter's day. New Spotted Gums, Swamp Mahoganies and Water Gums now enhance this wonderful site, overlooking Federation Pavilion.

Former Trust Chair Lynn Ralph has supported the event since 2006 and now has five dedicated native trees growing in Centennial Park. Thanks to Lynn and everyone who supported this event.

The Foundation also funded a **National Tree Day for Schools** event on Friday 30 July. One hundred students from Sydney Girls High, Paddington Primary School and Bondi Montessori joined regular volunteers from the Windgap Foundation to transform the Mount Steel area.

*If you are interested in learning more about our trees, please join Ted Hoare on Sunday 24 October for his highly regarded Tree Tour.*

### New Benefactors

Roughley and Malone Families  
Helen Hayden and Family  
The Petersen Family  
Bob and Lisa Davidson  
Rania Jreige and Family  
Geoffrey and Alex Legge  
Maria, Michael, Hamish and Fergus Boyd

Martin Stern  
Margaret Brown  
The Boothby Family  
Scott and Priscilla Henderson  
The Driscoll Family  
The Banfield Family  
Anne DeSalis



### \$100,000 for Centennial Parklands pond

The Foundation has secured funding of \$100,000 from the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority and the Australian Government as part of the Botany Bay Water Quality Improvement Program for the installation of a Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) at Model Yacht Pond in Centennial Park.

Centennial Parklands ponds are fed by stormwater runoff from the surrounding suburbs that contains pollutants such as solid litter, silt and environmentally harmful nutrients. Model Yacht Pond, located near the headwaters of the catchment area, collects run-off from the heavily urbanised Bondi Junction area. Given the critical location of this pond, installation of a GPT will make a significant contribution towards improving the water quality of the Botany Bay Catchment by preventing pollutants from moving through the ponds into the catchment system.



## Friends of Centennial Parklands

Over the past few months there has been an intense spotlight on Centennial Parklands and community concern about its future. What has come through loud and clear during this period is how important Centennial Parklands is in the everyday lives of many people across Sydney.

The Foundation was delighted with the energy and commitment shown and now calls on those supporters to formalise their commitment and help the Parklands in a direct way by becoming a *Friend of Centennial Parklands*.

A *Friends* membership provides real and direct benefits to you, while helping to sustain and improve the Parklands you love. For more information, visit [www.friends.net.au](http://www.friends.net.au) or phone (02) 9339 6699 today.



## Volunteers

### Congratulations to our dedicated volunteers

The Centennial Parklands Foundation would like to congratulate and thank our dedicated volunteers who contributed over 4,000 hours of work in the 2009-10 financial year.

Our hard working volunteers had some tremendous achievements over that time, including:

- More than 80 surveys conducted by the **Bird Survey Group**. This data will contribute to the upcoming Australian Bird Atlas.
- Transformation of two previously derelict sites into recognised Best Practice Bush Regeneration Sites by the **Bush Regeneration Group**.
- Removal of over 1,300 kilograms of carp from our ponds by the **Ponds Group Grass Roots** – an outstanding success.
- Propagation of more than 1,500 plants in our new nursery by the **Growing Group**.

In addition we had another great Clean Up Australia Day and have just completed another productive National Tree Day for Schools planting in Moore Park and Family Tree Day planting in Centennial Park.

If you are not yet a volunteer, and have a few hours a week, month or year that you could contribute towards the Parklands then contact us today and we'll find a volunteer opportunity for you!

Opportunities are available regardless of your age, skills or availability. **For more information on our volunteer program, please visit [www.yourparklands.org.au/volunteers](http://www.yourparklands.org.au/volunteers).**



National Tree Day for Schools



# foundation and friends

[www.yourparklands.org.au](http://www.yourparklands.org.au)

[www.friends.net.au](http://www.friends.net.au)

Evergreen Dinner 2010

\$100,000 for Model  
Yacht Pond

Tree plantings across the  
Parklands

Spring 2010



**FRIENDS OF  
CENTENNIAL  
PARKLANDS**

Love your park



**CENTENNIAL  
PARKLANDS  
FOUNDATION**