


parklands

VOLUME 19 • WINTER 2002

THE MAGAZINE OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS



CP
CENTENNIAL
parklands
centennial park
moore park
queens park

Directions



Peter Duncan
Director,
Centennial Parklands

Welcome to the winter edition of *Parklands*.

June 2002 represents a very poignant time in Centennial Parklands' history. It was 30 years ago on June 18, 1972, when thousands of local residents and supporters of Centennial Parklands gathered in Centennial Park and then marched to Sydney Town Hall to protest against a proposal to develop a massive sporting complex. The complex, to stretch over 40 hectares of Parklands, was to be built in a tentative bid for the Olympic Games in Sydney in 1988.

Local resident action groups were up in arms about the proposal and joined forces with the Builders Labourers Federation, led by Jack Munday, which, with the support of the rank and file of his union, imposed a 'green ban' on the Park to stop it from being developed.

If it weren't for the courageous efforts of this union and the passionate community support led by the likes of author Patrick White, former NSW Premier, Neville Wran, among other prominent supporters, we wouldn't have the Park as it is today.

In this issue we catch up with Jack Munday and Neville Wran to talk about these turbulent times and how the Green Bans helped save not just Centennial Park, but many other urban open spaces in and around Sydney from development.

Community and history also form the theme of an outstanding new photographic exhibition at the Superintendent's Residence.

It's called *Changes 1901 – 2001 South Sydney – A Retrospective* and depicts the process of change in South Sydney over the last 100 years.

The Trust is thrilled to welcome our new chair, Professor John Niland AC who took up his new role in March. He replaces Annette O'Neill who I'd like to thank for her outstanding contribution during her chairmanship.

We are also excited to have two new Trustees on board. We welcome Margaret Varady and Jill Anderson, who has also taken up the role of Chair of our Community Consultative Committee.

As the Trust's primary advisory body, the CCC continues to play a

vital role in representing the views of the community and bringing them to the attention of the Trust.

The Trust has conducted extensive community consultations in the last year which has resulted in many positive changes across a range of issues - transport and access, a new dog policy, Moore Park South and the development of our Conservation Management Plan.

The Trust is keen to continue to focus on Park improvements. In recent months, the Parklands has been working on preparing our Park Improvement Program to present to Treasury. Outcomes will be announced by Government in June with highlights featured in the Spring edition of *Parklands*.

Visitors can look forward to improvements to amenities, information and visitor services. We are also about to launch the next stage of our Ponds Restoration Program.

We hope you enjoy this edition and we look forward to seeing you in the Parklands over the winter months. ■

Contents

3 Parkbench

4 It's not easy being green

6 Premier appoints new Trust chair

Sharing my affections
Dual hats for CCC chair

7 Step back in time New playground at Café

8 People of the Park Twitcher's corner Award for bus interchange

9 A day in the life of...

10 Parks – A sustainable future Postcard from the Mountain top

11 Restoring our ponds

12 Friends

13 Flora fun in the Parklands Calling all runners A Big Arvo for Suzuki

14 Winter Calendar Special recipe

16 Users Guide

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

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

Editor: Kerry Wren

Assistant Editor: Nichola Clark

Contributor: Dee Wren

email: anne.ferguson@cp.nsw.gov.au

Design: Imagepoint Creative Solutions

Photography: Ian Lever

Printed on recycled paper

Cover: Taking in the tranquillity of winter in the Parklands.



Parkbench

NEW TRIO FOR CCC



New CCC members, from left James Harrison, Yvette Pietsch and Ryan Fahy.

Centennial Parklands is a unique and spectacular feature of Sydney and plays a large role in the day to day lives of people.

These are among the reasons Yvette Pietsch, Ryan Fahy and James Harrison have joined the Community Consultative Committee.

The enthusiastic trio, all nearby residents of the Parklands, took up their appointments in March under the leadership of newly elected chair, Jill Anderson (see page 6 for story).

Yvette, a Tax and Business Service Partner at Young Barnsdall Chartered Accountants, is honoured to take up the challenge.

"I hope my input can make the Park more enjoyable to everyone who visits it", she says. "I'd also like to help make people more environmentally aware that the Park is much more than just a playground but an important sanctuary in our city".

Ryan Fahy, a business executive specialising in strategy, is passionate about the Parklands and brings a wealth of business experience and skills to the role.

"I use the park for fitness, picnics and social gatherings, it's a large part of my life. As a strategic business planner I hope to assist the park in its long-term vision, where the Trust wants to go and what the community wants."

James Harrison, a town planner also brings some outstanding skills to the Committee.

As an avid user of the park with his family for fitness and recreation, James is excited about being able to contribute and give back.

"I see it as an opportunity to use my academic and business skills to add value to policies and procedures put in place to address issues. As a town planner (previously with South Sydney Council) I'm used to dealing with issues such as land use conflicts and have been very involved in community consultation and engaging the community in useful debate", he says.

Other CCC members include Roger Doyle, Wayne Morgan, Peter Tzannes, Janelle McIntosh, Patricia Meagher and Sarah Dinning (Trust representative).

The CCC brings matters of community concern to the Trust's attention and welcomes your views and suggestions. It meets every six weeks and can be contacted by emailing ccc@cp.nsw.gov.au. For further enquiries contact Parklands Administration on (02) 9339 6699.

PLANS IN PRINT

Following 18 months of public consultation, both the Centennial Parklands Transport, Access and Parking Plan and the Moore Park South Master Plan have been approved by the Trust.

The Transport, Access and Parking Plan has been designed to better manage the impact of vehicles on the Parklands, to improve accessibility and to enhance the Parklands sustainability. The Moore Park South Master Plan presents the broad and long-term planning for the development of the area bounded by Cleveland Street, Anzac Parade, South Dowling Street and the southern edge of the golf course. In May, the plans were submitted to the Government for approval and when adopted the various components will be prioritised and implemented over time when funding becomes available.

The key actions and initiatives of the plans will be outlined in two brochures.

Full versions of the Plans will be available for viewing at the Centennial Parklands Administration Building (behind the Restaurant), weekdays 8.30am-5.00pm, the Superintendent's Residence at

Paddington Gates, Centennial Park, open Wednesdays and weekends 10am-3pm or by visiting our website www.cp.nsw.gov.au

For more information on the Plans phone (02) 9339 6699.

DOGS IN THE PARKLANDS

It is informative, colourful as well as user-friendly and maps out where you can or can not take your pooch.

After considerable consultation with the Companion Animals Reference Group (CARG), the Centennial Parklands Dog Policy has now been updated and is outlined in the new *Dogs in the Parklands* brochure.

The Centennial Parklands Dog Policy was initially revised in 2000 to meet the requirements of the Companion Animals Act (1998). The Act introduced new standards of care for dogs and regulations aimed at promoting public health and safety. In January 2001, the Trust formed CARG to provide input into a review of the Dog Policy. CARG incorporates representatives from the community, WIRES (wildlife rescue), the RSPCA, local vets and councils, professional dog training and dog walking associations and individual owners.

The establishment of CARG has been highly successful and has proved to be both integral and invaluable to updating the Parklands Dog Policy. The resulting brochure demonstrates simple steps towards safe and enjoyable dog walking in the Parklands.

For information on dog walking in the Parklands phone (02) 9339 6699 or visit www.cp.nsw.gov.au

BUSH REGENERATION IN THE PARKLANDS

Centennial Parklands is home to some small areas of bushland containing Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS). The scrub is an endangered ecological community protected by State and Commonwealth legislation and is found from the shores of Botany Bay to the Sydney Heads on deep sandy soils.

Early photographs of the Eastern Suburbs show extensive white sand dunes covered with patches of scrub and heathlands. Less than two percent of the original extent of ESBS now remains in the Eastern Suburbs, with remnants highly fragmented and often degraded.

The Parklands recognises the significance of these areas and has convened a Bushland Management Group to provide technical expertise and stakeholder advice on the regeneration of these areas. The first site to be considered by the group is the York Road Bushland. The other key site containing this type of bushland is the Bird Sanctuary near the Centennial Parklands Restaurant.

While the Plan is being prepared, preliminary work is needed to clean up and protect the York Road Bushland. This preliminary work will start this winter, with weeding and other activities waiting until the necessary approvals have been given. Updates on this project will be available from July on the Parklands website www.cp.nsw.gov.au

For more information phone (02) 9339 6699 or write to info@cp.nsw.gov.au ■



It's not easy being green

Thirty years ago, Centennial Parklands was under threat. If it wasn't for the courageous efforts of impassioned community groups and the support of a powerful union movement, the Parklands as it is today would not exist.

Centennial Parklands celebrates a significant anniversary this month, June.

It was thirty years ago that a 'green ban' was placed on the Parklands stopping it from being developed.

A proposal had just been made to build a massive sporting complex in Moore Park as part of Sydney's tentative bid to host the 1988 Olympic Games. The proposed development, which would have taken up 40 ha, destroying more than 30 per cent of the then Parklands, enraged local residents and park lovers alike. And the murmurs of dissent soon grew into a cacophony of protest.

Among those opposing the development were the likes of author Patrick White, Neville Wran, an emerging politician who went on to become Premier of NSW,

high profile environmentalist, Vince Serventy and countless other well known identities.

They had one very powerful friend on side, union boss, Jack Munday, head of the Builders Labourers Federation. The BLF, under the leadership of Munday, had already flexed its muscles by imposing 'green bans' on other proposed developments that weren't perceived as being in keeping with environmental and social values.

The BLF, after wide community consultation, imposed a green ban on the inappropriate development of Centennial Parklands. Without this move, today the Parklands would be a mere shadow of itself.

For Munday, the BLF action was more than just being about supporting better wages and conditions for its members, but

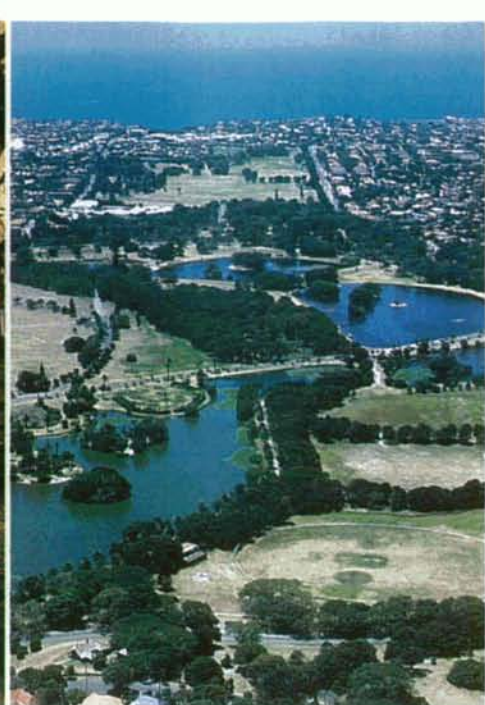
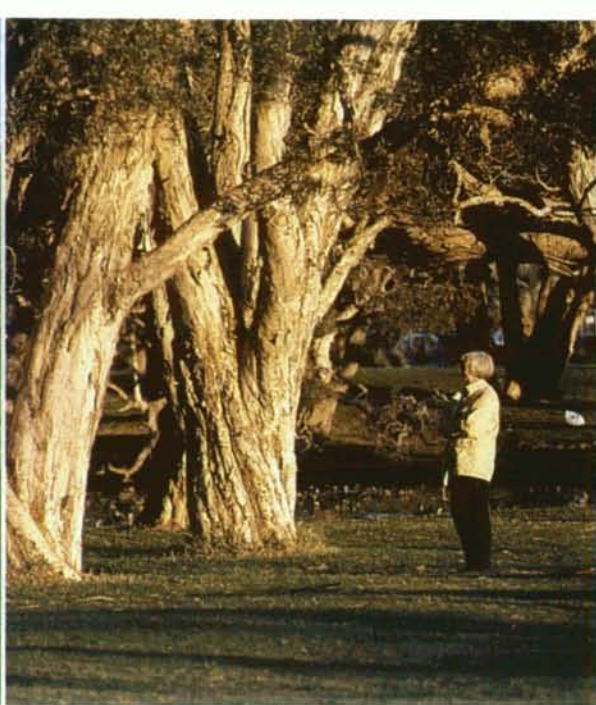
was concerned with social, ecological and other issues of the broader community.

"At the time, they were called 'black bans'. Black bans were when unions took action to jack up their wages and conditions", he told ABC Television's *Social Dimensions in Time* program who were in Centennial Parklands recently filming a documentary on the issue. "I felt that our action was different to just being concerned about wages and conditions. I felt that black wasn't an apt description and so changed it to green bans, that we were fighting for a wider vision than just black bans. And I think that was the turning point that attracted so many people to what the BLF were doing".

Munday stressed that green ban action was not political, but was

very much community driven and had to satisfy the BLF criteria that the wider public would be the real benefactors. This was first illustrated in the saving of Kelly's Bush, precious bushland on the Parramatta River. In all, within three years the BLF placed green bans on 42 developments worth \$5 billion, in the process preserving such landmarks as the historic Rocks district, the Domain, much of Victoria Street in Kings Cross as well as Woolloomooloo's waterfront.

"The chief of staff of the *Sydney Morning Herald* told me at the time that in 1972, the two issues that generated more letters than any other items that year were the green bans on Centennial Park and on three fig trees in the Domain that were under threat", Munday told *Parklands* magazine recently.



These tranquil settings are enjoyed by millions of visitors thanks to the green bans.

The proposed sporting complex was to be built in Moore Park, spilling across Lang Road into Centennial Park's south west corner.

"So I think that gives you an indication what when the readership of the *SMH* are supporting a left-wing union, it shows you that we had something on our side. I guess the most gratifying thing is despite the fact that we were vilified then, we have been well and truly vindicated with the passage of time.

"It was a great time, because it was a period when little people could come together, and if they fought hard enough, could compel governments to change their way. The green bans were the birth of urban environmentalism, just as important as nature conservation".

Neville Wran also reminisced about the 1972 campaign to save Centennial Park, in a recent interview with *Parklands* magazine.

"During this period I was in the Legislative Council but the environment was not a high priority at the political level", he said. "However, I prided myself in perceiving that the environment was a growing issue of concern and one which politicians could ignore at their peril".

In the height of the campaign in 1972, Wran spoke at a 3000-strong rally and public meeting opposing the Parklands development. Patrick White and Jack Munday were also among the keynote speakers.

"This was a real turning point for the campaign which

eventually saw the demise of the proposal", he said.

"We should all be grateful for Jack Munday and his colleagues who implemented the green bans and who lifted the consciousness to fight and preserve our heritage and environment".

The green bans played a major role in the Wran Government's environmental and heritage policies in later years.

Today, Neville Wran is still an avid user of the Parklands.

"I come here several mornings a week and walk around the outside perimeter of Centennial Park", he said. "I never cease to marvel at how wonderful it is and how fortunate we are to have such a jewel in the middle of our city.

"Centennial Park went perilously close to being destroyed. The development envisaged would have left the park a massive sporting complex rather than a place of passive recreation."

The green ban movement came to an end in 1974 due to political strife within the union. But today Munday has no regrets. He said his ideals today remain the same as they did in these volatile years of the early 1970s. He still wants urban environments that are cared for, liveable and sustainable.

"We set triggers of change to legislation. In 1977/78 the Wran Government introduced heritage

legislation. At the same time, the Labor Government acknowledged that it was the green bans that prompted this legislation.

"The fact that 30 years on, Centennial Parklands is still here along with The Rocks, Woolloomooloo and so on is testimony to the strength of the movement and that the union was incorruptible.

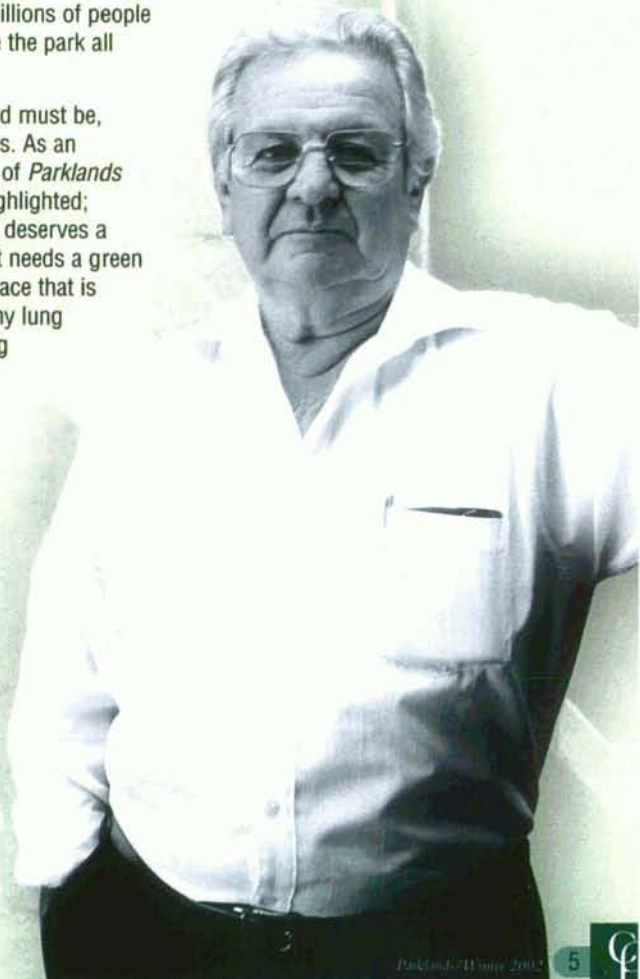
"It's enormously rewarding to know that millions of people use and love the park all the time."

Parks are and must be, people places. As an earlier issue of *Parklands* magazine highlighted; "A great city deserves a great park. It needs a green breathing space that is both a healthy lung and a pulsing heart.

The greater the city, the greater the necessity."

This is more essential in Australia, which despite its vastness, is one of the most urbanised nations in the world. ■

Jack Munday played a crucial role in saving Centennial Park from destruction in the early 1970s.



Dual hats for CCC chair



Jill Anderson is the new chair of the CCC.

Centennial Parklands' Community Consultative Committee has a new chair, Jill Anderson who also takes up the role as a Trustee.

She replaces outgoing chair and Trustee, Phillip Black.

Jill is a lawyer engaged in legal writing and brings a wealth of experience to the role.

As a local resident, she sees her new dual role as a natural extension of her passion for the Parklands.

"As a member of the CCC for the last two and a half years, we've had the Olympics, Centenary of Federation, major community consultations and with the Transport Access and developments", she said.

"Now all of these major events and consultations are complete or underway, it's time to return to a focus on maintenance of the Park - the ponds restoration project, tree planting, looking at basic amenities, safety issues and so on.

"The CCC is looking at a wide range of issues and projects this year including disability access, amenities, sport users' needs, the volunteer program, compliance with the Parklands' rules and policies, among others."

The CCC and Trust welcome your views and suggestions.

The CCC can be contacted by emailing ccc@cp.nsw.gov.au For other enquiries phone Parklands Administration on 02 9339 6699. ■

Premier appoints new Trust chair

In early March, the NSW Premier, Bob Carr MP, officially announced the appointment of a new chair for the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust.

Professor John Niland AC, has taken up the Chair after the completion of the term of Annette O'Neill who has served since 1997 on the Trust.

Professor Niland is currently the Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of New South Wales. He has held directorships across a range of portfolios and organisations including community, education, corporate and environmental.

"I've long regarded Centennial Parklands to be one of Sydney's great community assets, and I'm delighted to be so closely involved now in helping carry forward this fine tradition," Professor Niland said upon his appointment.

The Premier said that Professor Niland's leadership and vision would be of tremendous value to Centennial Parklands.

"The Parklands are considered to be among the best urban parklands in the world and Professor Niland's experience in innovation and best practice will further enhance this standing", said Premier Carr.

Professor Niland draws upon extensive experience. In his long association with UNSW, he has held the Chair in Industrial Relations since 1974 and has served periods as Head of the School of Economics, Head of the School of Industrial Relations and Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Economics, before becoming Vice-Chancellor of the University in July 1992.

Professor Niland's academic qualifications include a Bachelor of Commerce (1963) and Master of Commerce (1967) from UNSW, and a PhD from the Institute of Labour and Industrial Relations at the University of Illinois (1970). He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



New Trust chair Professor John Niland brings a wealth of experience and vision to the Parklands.

Beyond the University, Professor Niland draws on much experience in roles such as CEO of the State Pollution Control Commission, Executive Chairman of the Environment Protection Authority and is on many professional bodies and boards. ■

Sharing my affections

New Trust member, Margaret Varady couldn't be more excited about her new appointment to the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust.

As an immediate neighbour of the Parklands through her role as principal of Sydney Girls High School, Margaret shares a common affection for what she, along with many avid park users, refers to as "my park".

"People have a tremendous sense of ownership and enthusiasm for the Park and I must say I share the same attitude", she enthuses.

"I am thrilled to be appointed to the Trust and consider it a great honour. I am very much looking forward to working with the other Trust members continuing to care for this very unique part of Sydney."

As head of Sydney Girls since 1992, she has worked closely with the Trust and forged many strong links with Centennial Parklands over the years.

"We've worked closely with the Park on a number of important projects such as our Phoenix Palm replacement program. Like the Canary Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) in Centennial Park, our palms fell prey to the fungus, *Fusarium oxysporum*, and are subsequently dying. We've been very appreciative of the support from the Parklands which helped us with our replacement program. We've now replanted Kauri Pines (*Agathis australis*), a similar species used to replace the Parklands' palms, and very much look forward to their evolution."

As Trustee, Margaret is looking forward to contributing to the further improvement and maintenance of Centennial Parklands.

"With my background in science and biology, I have taken a strong interest in the restoration of the ponds and caring for the diverse habitats within the Parklands", she said.

She sees this unique eco-system and the diverse habitats of the Parklands as a vital educational facility.

"The Parklands have played a significant role in the education and recreational development of many of our students.

"I'd certainly like to see more schools take an active role in the Park and make use of this unique education facility." ■

New Trustee and Parklands' neighbour Margaret Varady.



Did you know William Street in Sydney was originally built by a convict gang? Or that Oxford Street was once called South Head Road? Or that the original Woolloomooloo Finger Wharf was a wool dispatch point before being used as a passenger terminal?

Visitors to Centennial Park can discover more about Sydney's rich history in a fascinating photographic exhibition currently showing at the Superintendent's Residence.

Titled *Changes 1901 – 2001 South Sydney – A Retrospective*, the exhibition, depicts the process of change South Sydney has undergone over the century.

The exhibition highlights well known locations such as William Street, East Sydney; Oxford Street, Darlinghurst; and King Street, Newtown, as well as many local streets of inner city suburbs including Surry Hills, Newtown, Erskineville, Redfern, Kings Cross and Woolloomooloo.

Local schools, town halls and heritage public buildings and parks also figure prominently together with their local history.

The original exhibition was collated as part of South Sydney Council's Centenary of Federation celebrations in 2001. It comprised



Many of the images in the *Changes* exhibition are from the State Library and Sydney City Archives.

some 250 black and white photographic images taken from 1901 to 2001.

Interestingly, many of the images had been reproduced on different print mediums such as vinyl, canvas, chiffon and laminates which enhances the exhibition.

The exhibition has been a collaboration of local photographers, designers, image production people, printers,

publishers, historians, residents and Council officers.

A highlight of the exhibition is a series of videos, Woolloomooloo to Moore Park and Surry Hills to Newtown, by local photographer Sharon Hickey. These, along with a selection of images, together with large canvasses and chiffon banners, are all a part of the Superintendent's Residence exhibition.

Changes was launched in April as a part of Heritage Week 2002 and will run until September 2002.

The Superintendent's Residence is located at Paddington Gates and open every Wednesday and weekends, 10am – 3pm. For further information contact Centennial Parklands Administration on 02 9339 6699. ■

New playground at Café

Exciting news for children and parents. The construction of a new playground at the café will begin in July. The concept of upgrading and relocating the existing café playground went on public exhibition from December 2001 to late January 2002. Public comments were received and they have been incorporated into the final design which has now been completed.

According to Landscape Architect, Gillian Smart, the original principle was to upgrade the existing playground. "However, in the planning process it was decided that it would be more appropriate to relocate the new playground about 30 metres south of the existing playground. This is nearer to the large fig tree and toilet

block at the rear of the restaurant", she said.

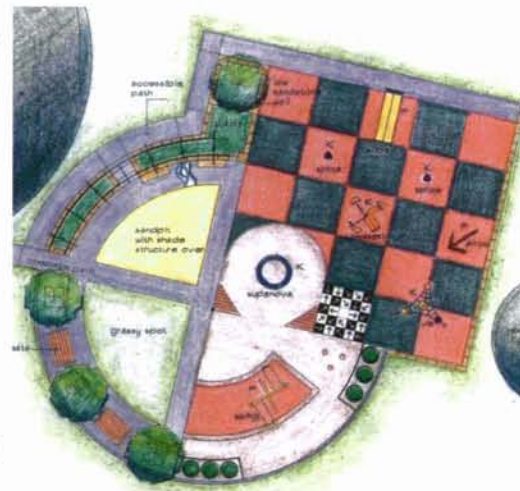
"The decision to relocate the playground site was for a number of key reasons. Being further away from the assorted horse and car traffic of Grand Drive, the new site will be significantly safer and more accessible for disabled parking. The site is comparatively low-key and doesn't obscure the historic vista down through the Parade Ground from the Cannon Triangle.

"Furthermore, a member of the public highlighted the importance of the convenience and standards of toilets next to playgrounds. In response to this comment, the new playground will be nearer to the toilet block and the current toilets will be upgraded. The women's toilet will be relocated to

the current men's toilet so it is directly related to the playground."

The Playground itself is one of a 'family' of playgrounds within the Parklands. Primarily designed for the 'Tots' group, this playground will cater for children of all abilities aged 0-6 and has been designed for disabled access.

"Both the design and play equipment are explorative and innovative with a shaded sandpit, wave net, slides, swings, spicas and a state of the art super nova. Not forgetting the parents, there will be comfortable seating and a grassy sitting area for overseeing the kids", Gillian said.



The new playground will be explorative, innovative and above all fun!

In conjunction with this project, the playground at the Learner's Cycle Way is also to receive an upgrade including additional swings. ■

People of the Park

Most days, Kylie Robert is up with the larks in Centennial Park turning over the soil of the horse track on Grand Drive with her two horses that are stabled at the Equestrian Centre.

"This is Forest, I have only had him for a couple of weeks. He used to race at Randwick and then in Wagga, but he only won once. I am going to try and re-educate him as a show jumper. We shall see", she laughs.

Kylie is a C-grade showjumper and trains with Olympic rider Jamie Coman. She has a passion for all creatures great and small and is currently studying a PhD in Zoology.

"Being a zoologist I love the wildlife in the Park. There is a lot more wildlife here than people realise. The waterbirds, the tawny frogmouths and the possums are great. You can even see the possums furry bottoms in the tree hollows during the day", she said.

As a neighbour, Kylie is a big fan of the Park. "The park is beautiful, we are so lucky to have it. It is uniquely situated in the middle of the city like the last haven for wildlife." ■

Kylie Robert with her horse, Forest.



The Spangled Drongo

With up to 142 recordings of different bird species, Centennial Parklands can easily be described as a city oasis for bird watchers. To draw upon this great reserve, *Parklands* magazine will feature a topical bird species each edition for our readers to identify. This edition, local bird enthusiast, Trevor Waller, pictured right, of the Cumberland Bird Observers Club and Birding NSW introduces us to one of his favourites, the Spangled Drongo, pictured below.

The onset of winter brings the star of the season, one of our winter migrants, the Spangled Drongo. Whilst most migrants have spent the summer in Sydney avoiding the cold in the Northern Hemisphere, this bird has been to northern Australia and Papua New Guinea for breeding. Going against the general flow of traffic it comes



to spend the winter with us arriving in March–April and stays until September–October.

The Spangled Drongo is an all black bird with a bright red eye and a very distinctive "fish-tail". It likes to perch on open bare branches or wire, and frequently flicks its tails open and shut. The beautiful spangles for which the bird is named are best seen scattered on the breast of the adult bird. When the sun shines on the bird's breast, the small, highly reflective, blue-green iridescent spots are revealed in all their glory.

Insects form the bulk of the bird's diet and are taken in flight. There are bristles around the base of the bill which assist with insect-catching in flight by guiding an insect into the open bill. Often, after much twisting, turning and aerial pursuit, the insects are brought back to the perch.

The Spangled Drongo's call is varied and consists of harsh chattering, strange metallic notes, rasping, hissing and crackling. It is very vocal and often gives its location away long before you see it.

The Spangled Drongo with its distinctive red eye.

Photo: Courtesy of Keith Brandwood, Cumberland Bird Observers Club.



Trevor Waller – forever on the lookout for feathered friends.

Spangled Drongos are a delight to watch as they go about their business and perhaps you will have the chance to see one in the Parklands this winter.

Trevor Waller will be guiding a Birdwatchers Breakfast at the Parklands on Sunday 25 August. For bookings and further information call (02) 9339 6699. For information on the Cumberland Bird Observers Club visit www.cboc.org.au or contact Andrew Patrick on (02) 9639 8549. For information on Birding NSW visit www.ozemail.com.au/~nswbirds or contact Charlie Andrews on (02) 9439 1981. ■

Award for bus interchange

Designers of the Moore Park Bus Interchange Forecourt were awarded a prestigious award in the NSW Institute of Landscape Architects recent biannual awards night.

Trust consultants Spackman and Mossop entered their design in the "Traffic Planning" section and were awarded first prize. Congratulations to Michael Spackman.

Centennial Parklands Landscape Architect, Peter Nowland said the award was testimony to the thoughtful planning that went into

the design of the bus interchange.

"According to the Chair of the Awards Review Committee, the judging committee thought very highly of Moore Park East and the way we have tried to shift transport from the private to the public means while keeping the integrity of Moore Park as open space", he said.

The awards attracted a record 48 entries comprising a mixture of private and government based projects.

Centennial Parklands sponsored an award in the category



Peter Nowland and Michael Spackman at the site of the winning design.

'Management Plans' which was won by Sydney-based practice, Environmental Partnership for their project, 'Georges River Community Open Space Corridor'. ■

A day in the life of... Odilon Farias

With a whistle, a skip and a song, Odilon Farias, or 'Lonny' as he is affectionately known, is a constant ray of sunshine in the Parklands. As Acting Team Leader of Field Services, Lonny is set with the challenging task of maintaining 47 fields in the Parklands for over 200 hirers per year. It is little wonder that his colleagues have described him as the 'Backbone of the Park'. For the winter season alone the fields have already been booked for 14,912 hours, which range from 'A' grade squads such as the Roosters through to primary schools. If we imagine how many teams use the fields, multiply that by the amount of people in the teams, and then times it by the number of boots... it appears that Lonny is going to be busy this season!

Lonny was brought up in a small town in Brazil called Valladares and has been a resident in Australia around 30 years. His background culminates in an approach to work that has the energy and passion for life of a Brazilian with the accommodating and cool head of an Australian.

With Lonny, a job is never too big, there is always a solution and a cheeky grin is guaranteed.

Describe your role as the Acting Team Leader of Field Services in Centennial Parklands?

There are three of us in the 'turf crew' and we maintain the fields in Queens Park, Moore Park, Centennial Park and the ES Marks Sports Ground. We mow-mark, line-mark, look after the drains, top-dress the turf and coordinate the seasonal sports change.

Is the preparation for winter the busiest time of year?

Winter is very busy, there is a lot to do. We have to put in combination sports posts and re-mark the fields, there are more lines to make in the winter. All the fields have to be changed from softball, cricket, touch and volleyball fields into rugby union and league, soccer, lacrosse and hockey. Too many lines.

Working with sports fields each day, do you have a sport that you are passionate about?

Yes, soccer!!! I am from Brazil so it has to be soccer! I used to play myself until I broke my ankle. I also swim and enjoy rugby league too, but just as a spectator.

And who do you support (need we ask)?

Brazil of course, I also like watching the Socceroos, but unfortunately they're out of the Soccer World Cup.

Spot any famous sports teams training in the Parklands?

Every Friday, we put in fresh lines for the Roosters training at ES

Marks. We sometimes see them training in and around the Parklands which is very interesting. The other team that we tend to see is the Swans. They all work very hard and they are very tall fellas.

In your eight years with the Parklands, what has made you so committed to your job?

It has to be the outdoors. I love sport and action and I don't like sitting around for too long. Working in the Parklands means that I can move about and exercise at the same time. The job covers a great area, so we probably walk on average about 6kms a day. It keeps me fit.

What do you love about the Parklands?

I love seeing all the different people that visit the Parklands, there are always lots of new faces. As a sports-lover I enjoy the activity of the cyclists, rollerbladers and particularly the horse riders. My father had a farm in Brazil so I learnt to ride from an early age. Seeing the horses in the Parklands reminds me of those childhood days on the farm.

What is your favourite area in the Parklands?

Federation Valley is beautiful and I love the monument. It is a



Lonny, the Linesman with a difference.

perfectly relaxing area for a picnic. From the amphitheatre there are wonderful open views over the Valley.

What is your favourite flower in the Parklands?

I love the roses in the Rose Garden, they are so beautiful and romantic. I particularly like giving roses to my girlfriend because she enjoys receiving them as much as I enjoy giving them. She loves red roses.

Centennial Parklands playing fields and the ES Marks Athletics Field are available for bookings all year round.

Enquiries: (02) 9339 6699. ■

Pruning Perfect



The rose is a timeless symbol of romance, beauty and the signature of a good gardener. In Centennial Park, the rose garden next to Busby's Pond is continually praised for its blooms and we thought it was time to let you in on the secret. We speak to Senior Horticulturist Sarah Clancy for some expert tips.

"Roses are both beautiful and demanding flowers", Sarah says. "They need attention all year round and the winter months are no exception. Winter pruning is crucial to the wellbeing of the plant and encourages the best flowering".

NURTURING TIPS

- Always carry out winter pruning over July/ August when the threat of frost has passed.
- Sterilise secateurs between each rose bush to prevent transfer of disease.
- Ensure you always cut just above the bud at a 45° angle leaning away from the bud so water droplets can run off.
- Buds should be facing outwards to increase airflow through the bush and do not prune water shoots until flower is finished.

STEPS FOR PRUNING

- Clear away all the mulch from around the base of the bush.
- Remove dead, diseased and dying wood.
- Take out all crossing branches.
- Prune branches growing towards the centre.
- Cut remaining branches to the specified height of the rose variety.
- Apply lime sulphur to the plant and surrounding soil to address fungal spores that go dormant over winter. ■



Parks - a sustainable future

Parks practitioners from Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States attended the International Parks Strategic Partners (IPSP) Forum in Sydney in April.

The theme of the Forum was *Parks - A Sustainable Future*. Issues that were discussed included benchmarking and best practice in park management, and measuring the social, environmental, cultural and economic issues for parks as we head into the 21st century.

The Hon. Bob Debus MP, Minister for the Environment opened the Forum.

Below, Brian O'Neill, one of the keynote speakers shares his thoughts with *Parklands'* readers.

"The events of September 11 have been very unsettling and turbulent but if there indeed is a silver lining that we've seen in America it is that people are really reassessing what's important to them and what their core values are", Brian said.

O'Neill, General Superintendent of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban national park, has seen this public awakening on a daily basis.

"The number of people that are offering without solicitation to come and give us their expertise and time and effort is quite extraordinary", he told almost 100 delegates attending the



Talking parks at the conference were, from left, Brian Gilligan, Director General, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service; Peter Duncan, Director, Centennial Parklands; Bob Debus, Minister for the Environment; and Guy Cooper, Chief Executive, Taronga Zoo.

conference, hosted by Centennial Parklands in partnership with the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

Along with overseeing an annual operating budget of \$US29million, a staff of 470 employees, O'Neill has seen his number of volunteers grow to a record 11,000.

In his address, O'Neill presented a compelling case study on philanthropy, funding for parks and innovative ideas about building park communities and culture and creating partnerships.

For 15 years, the Golden Gate chief has been intensely studying how to build and sustain a partnership culture "so that we can understand it wasn't something we did, it was a part of who we were and it was our lifestyle, it was just natural to how we do business".

"How do you really get people to connect with the work that we do?

How do you understand the cycle of involvement in friend-raising? How do you go about building a principal park support group as an absolute seamless partner to be able to realise the park's future, bringing in the best of what the government can bring and bringing in the best of what the non-profit and community sector can do"?

He went on to set a challenge that Parks need to position their commitment and leadership in a different and more congruent way.

O'Neill also spoke of the strategies his park adopted to build public and private philanthropy and creative financing, both earned income as well as contributed income.

"I have my own visions for our park and what role I can do to guide that. Each of you do in your own way and, you know, we don't have the time to do everything and

be everything to everybody, but each of us in our own way has the ability to have tremendous influence over the destiny of certain things if we're able to organise and build support behind it."

His experiences relate specifically to San Francisco but his visions are relevant to parks around the globe and particularly to Sydney which he describes as a 'city of national parks'.

The conference attracted leading industry speakers from the US, UK, New Zealand and around Australia who presented a series of challenging talks and case studies on sustainability. David Lambert from the UK Heritage Lottery Fund spoke on the dramatic rise of urban parks up the political agenda in the UK.

"Urban parks have gone from the political wasteland to the political hot-bed in around five years", he told delegates. His organisation has invested more than A\$640 million into transforming perceptions of parks and the role they play in economic regeneration, social inclusion, community health, tackling crime and disorder, the needs of youth and the "liveability" of towns and cities.

Other speakers included Trish Caswell, Executive Director of Global Sustainability at RMIT University; Jo Moss from Sinclair Knight Merz; Peter Duncan, Director, Centennial Parklands among others. ■

Postcard from the Mountain Top

Intrepid Senior Ranger Rachel Ely, recently took a two month sabbatical from the comfort of Centennial Parklands to brave the elements and extremities of the Main Range in Kosciuszko National Park. As a Mountain Guide for Kosciuszko Thredbo, a rugged-up Rachel led adventurous groups on day and sunrise walks up to Australia's highest mountain. Rachel reports back to Park-Base.

Greetings from Australia's highest peak! Here I am doing my best to stay warm despite the minus six-degree temperature. The view of sunrise today is just magnificent. There are a few streaky clouds that have produced some lovely pink and orange colours and the peaks of the main range are carpeted in frost.

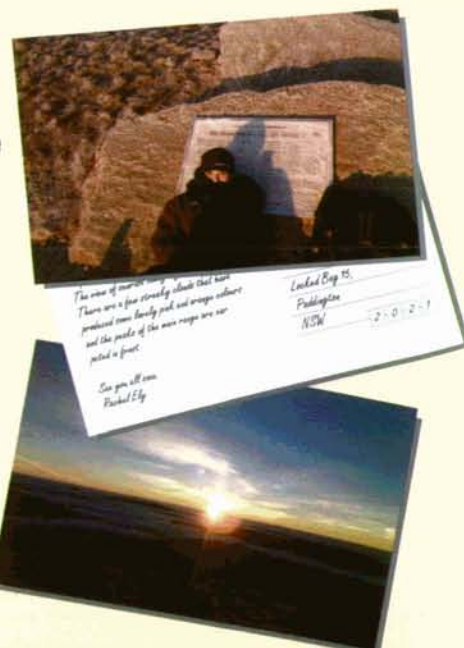
The guided walk up to Mt Kosciuszko is a 13km round trip but isn't as hard as most people expect. We left Thredbo Village at 3.15am and it took us about

three hours to get here walking at a leisurely pace. But everyone in our group agrees that the early start and the cold weather are all worth enduring for this spectacular sight.

After a few more photo opportunities and a thermos of hot chocolate we will return to Eagle's Nest for a well-deserved champagne breakfast and a ride on the chairlift back down to Thredbo.

See you all soon.

Rachel Ely ■



Restoring our ponds



In the coming months, the Trust begins the next phase of its Ponds Restoration Program.

The ponds of Centennial Park are the most readily recognised features of the Parklands. When cycling or jogging through the Park it is easy to see them as simply ornamental.

But according to Peter Nowland, Centennial Parklands Landscape Architect, "people rarely realise the extent of their cultural and environmental significance".

"Lachlan Swamp was the first major water supply to Sydney Town after the Tank Stream became polluted at the beginning of the 19th century", he said.

Originally the water from Lachlan Swamp was carted by bullock carriage to Hyde Park South and distributed to the community, but as the population of Sydney grew a further measure was needed. This brought about the construction of Busby's Bore, a water supply tunnel which ran from Busby's Pond to Hyde Park South. The bore operated between the 1830s and 1870s until Sydney's population outgrew the water supply once more.

"Without a doubt, the Parklands' ponds are culturally rich and central to the fabric of Sydney's history", said Peter.

The ponds are both environmentally and culturally rich. They sustain one of the largest populations of migratory and resident waterbirds in the city area. In addition their aesthetic value has provided relaxation and joy to parkusers since the Park's opening in 1888.

However, the impact of people and wildlife over the last century or more has brought about its own problems of degradation. Similarly the implications of the Parklands' historical roots as a low-lying swamp are enormous.

"Essentially the Parklands' ponds are a stormwater basin for the surrounding areas and water coming off the roads into the park is polluted with such things as rubbish, oil and organic debris", explained Peter. "The issue of pollution and silt build up from stormwater is a problem that we continually have to tackle. Our aim for the Parklands is for the water leaving the Ponds system to be cleaner than when it entered."

Each year the Parklands' aim for achieving a clean pond system gets one step closer. In 1997 the Trust commenced a six-stage rehabilitation program for the ponds system. Four years down the road major restoration has

been completed on Model Yacht, Fly Casting, Musgrave, One More Shot, Willow and Duck Ponds, with two stages remaining.

"The plan for stages five and six is being developed", Peter said. "Key works will be made to restore Busby's and Randwick Ponds to their full glory. As with the previous four stages, the challenge in pond management is to balance the pond's environmental sustainability with its cultural character."

The main aim in the Plan is to balance a number of factors. The need for hard pond edges in popular areas and the soft edge character of the Victorian ponds; the ponds' decorative value and their functional use as a stormwater detention and filtration system; and the habitat requirements of native wildlife and visitor use, and aquatic plantings to improve water quality and the aesthetics of the ponds.

"We will be stabilising embankments and making them attractive viewing points for visitors", said Peter. "At the same time we will provide edge details to attract or restrict public access to the water's edge. To improve the quality of the water, stormwater inlet and outlets will

Busby's Pond will be targeted under the restoration program.

be improved, silt build-ups will be removed and aquatic plants will be introduced. By removing pest habitats we hope to encourage native wildlife, and to benefit the turtle habitat, we are going to construct sandy edges at key locations."

It will be a busy year for Peter and his teams.

"We are very excited about this challenge. There is a lot of work to do and we apologise for any inconvenience during the construction phase. But we are all really looking forward to presenting the public with the even more beautiful and sustainable Busby's and Randwick Ponds."

The Ponds Restoration Plan as well as the Review of Environmental Factors and a Heritage Impact Statement will be on public display until mid-June at the Centennial Parklands Administration Building (behind the Café) and at the Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates. For more information phone (02) 9339 6699 or visit www.cp.nsw.gov.au ■

ALL WINTER

CHANGES 1901 – 2001 SOUTH SYDNEY – A RETROSPECTIVE

Walk through the doors of the historic Superintendent's Residence and find yourself in the year 1901. Travel on a photographic journey through South Sydney showing the transformation of well-known locations over the last century. Curated by South Sydney City Council as part of the Centenary of Federation celebrations in 2001, this is a nostalgic exhibition not to be missed.

Located next to Paddington Gates. Admission Free. Open Wednesdays and weekends 10am–3pm. General Park information also available.

CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS RESTAURANT – EVENING BOOKINGS

Enjoy a hearty winter dish in the snug setting of the Parklands. Centennial Parklands Restaurant is open daily 8.30am–3pm and now open for evening bookings from 6pm Wednesday to Saturday. Children are welcome. Bookings advised (02) 9360 3355.

DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING

Let the Eastern Suburbs Dog Training Club teach your pooch a few tricks. Every Sunday 9am–11am. Musgrave Ave Gates, Cnr York and Darley Roads. Bookings (02) 9398 6454 or 0412 645 154.

LUNCHTIME LEGENDS

Cheer on corporate teams as they come together for their lunchtime feed of soccer and touch football. Be inspired to enter a team for the next season, which starts on 4 June. 11.45am–2.15pm every Tuesday. Mixed and men's teams. Information and bookings (02) 9439 6060 or visit www.sportingspectrum.com.au

LEGENDS AT PARKLANDS

Practice those over-head, chest and bounce passes, and enjoy weekly games with the mixed and women's netball competition at Centennial Parklands Sports Centre. Individual players and teams of all standards are welcome. The competitions run all year. 6.30pm–9.15pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$550 per team. Cnr Lang Rd and Anzac Pde, Moore Park. Information and bookings (02) 9662 3523 or (02) 9662 3526.

CENTENNIAL STABLES ☺

Hop into the saddle at Centennial Stables for private lessons, group lessons or park rides. Accredited instructors. Open daily. Information and bookings (02) 9360 5650.

JUNE 2002

2 Sunday

CAR FREE DAY

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the first Sunday of winter in the peaceful surroundings of Centennial Park. Disabled access Musgrave Avenue Gates, 9am–5pm.

4 Tuesday

LUKE RICKETSON SYDNEY ROOSTERS SHIELD

Cheer on school teams in this seven a side Rugby League championship. Parade Grounds. 9.30am–2.30pm. Information 0411 159451.

7 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 torch. 5.30pm–6.30pm. \$8.50 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

12 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. Wear covered shoes. 10am–11am. \$8 per child (2–5 years), adults free. Meet Equestrian Centre Gates, corner Lang and Cook Roads. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

20 Thursday

GRANDMA'S GUMS ☺

Visit the Rangers in Centennial Park and experience a magical story time with old Grandma Gums. Meet Grandma's puppet friends, hear their habitat story and play the gum tree game. 10am–11am. \$8 per child (2–5 years), adults free. Meet Frog Hollow, cnr Parkes and Grand Drive. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

23 Sunday

INDIGENOUS FLORA WORKSHOP ☺

Join this two-hour walk and workshop focussing on Australian Aboriginal traditions. Hear stories told by Deborah Lennis including the Wattungoori story, learn about the uses of native flora and sample some bush foods. For adults. 10am–12noon. \$12 per person. Meet Learners Cycleway. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

JULY 2002

ESCAPE AND EXPLORE HOLIDAY PROGRAM

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–3pm. \$8.50 per ride. Meet Mobile Ranger Station, Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings not required.

8 Monday

FIVE-DAY TENNIS CAMP ☺

Children aged 5–15 years can have great fun this holiday learning tennis skills, playing games and winning prizes. Sausage sizzle on the last day. 9am–3pm daily (8.30am–4pm supervision). \$120 (or \$35 per day). Centennial Parklands Sports Centre. Bookings (02) 9662 7033.

9 Tuesday

GRANDMA'S GUMS ☺

10–11am (See 20 June)

FIGTREE FUN TRAIL ☺

Join the Rangers on the fig tree fun trail. Play the microbat game, learn about these grand leafy friends and gather foliage to create your own foliage frame. 2pm–3.30pm. \$9 per child (5–8 years). Meet Federation Valley, corner Parkes Drive and Loch Avenue. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.30–6.30pm (See 7 June)

TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

Saddle up for some holiday fun. Children 5 years and over will enjoy park rides, lessons, decorating ponies and mounted games on this camp held over two days. 10am–3pm. \$180 per camp (including morning tea and lunch). Moore Park Stables. Bookings essential (02) 9360 8747.

THREE-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

For a riding experience of a lifetime, jump into the saddle and join the expedition at Centennial Stables. \$250 per camp (including lunches and teas). 10am–4pm. Centennial Stables. Bookings (02) 9360 5650.

10 Wednesday

JUNIOR RANGERS ☺

Calling all Junior Rangers to discover the flora of Centennial Park! Join the gang and collect plant materials to use in paper-making, help the Rangers in planting and park care and carry out a Parklands patrol. Bring a hat, morning tea, drink and lunch. 10am–3pm. \$35 per child (8–12 years). Meet Administration Office (behind the Café). Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

11 Thursday

MELALEUCA MEANDER ☺

Join us to hear some of the local Guriwal people's stories and traditions about native plants and the animals that live in them. Go on a walk to find some native flora, listen to stories and be face-painted. 10am–11am. \$8 per child (2–5 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

NANDAN THE BAT ☺

Centennial Park's flora is important for many animals. Take a walk to discover some of the Park's native plants and find out why these plants are important in Aboriginal culture. Paint the story of Nandan the fruit bat. 2pm–3.30pm. \$9 per child (5–8 years). Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

10am–3pm (See 9 July)

12 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.30pm–6.30pm (See 7 June)

14 Sunday

PONY RIDES ☺

10am–3pm (See 7 July)

15 Monday

FIVE-DAY TENNIS CAMP ☺

9am–3pm (See 8 July)

16 Tuesday

MELALEUCA MEANDER ☺

10am–11am (See 11 July)

NANDAN THE BAT ☺

2pm–3.30pm (See 11 July)

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.30pm–6.30pm (See 7 June)

TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

10am–3pm (See 9 July)

THREE-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

10am–4pm (See 9 July)

17 Wednesday

JUNIOR RANGERS ☺

10am–3pm (See 10 July)

18 Thursday

GRANDMA'S GUMS ☺

10am–11am (See 20 June)

FIGTREE FUN TRAIL ☺

2pm–3.30pm (See 9 July)

TWO-DAY HORSE RIDING CAMP ☺

10am–3pm (See 9 July)

19 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.30pm–6.30pm (See 7 June)

AUGUST 2002

2 Friday

SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.45pm–6.45pm (See 7 June)

15 Thursday

MY LITTLE PONIES ☺

10am–11am (See 12 June)

21 Wednesday

MELALEUCA MEANDER ☺

10am–11am (See 11 July)

Escape and Explore Bookings

Bookings and advance payment are required for all Escape and Explore activities. Numbers are strictly limited and places will not be held without payment.

Bookings can be made by phoning (02) 9339 6699 or by visiting the Park Administration Building during normal business hours.

Cancellations made less than 48 hours prior to the activity may not receive a full refund.

21 Sunday

PONY RIDES ☺

10am–3pm (See 7 July)

25 Thursday

TED'S TREE TOUR ☺

Join Ted Hoare, Centennial Parklands Senior Arborist, on a guided walk looking at Centennial Park's majestic trees. Listen as Ted explains the origins and features of the Park's trees and plantings and outlines future planning directions. 10am–12 noon. \$9.00 per person. Meet at Cannons Triangle, above Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

28 Sunday

POWERTEL THE BULLETIN CORPORATE RUN

All you need is a good pair of shoes and plenty of get up and go for this 5km run around Moore Park. Enjoy the unique experience of crossing the finish line on the hallowed turf of the Sydney Cricket Ground. To enter a team contact 1 800 420 444 or www.corporatesportseries.com.au

25 Sunday

BIRDWATCHERS BREAKFAST ☺

Is there a seasonal difference in bird species you see in Centennial Park? Join this early morning guided tour to spot some of the Parklands migratory and resident land and water birds. For adults. Bring binoculars. 7.30am–9.30am. \$12 per person. Includes light breakfast. Meet Musgrave Avenue Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

In case of rain, please call to confirm the activity is proceeding. A full refund will be given if an activity is cancelled due to wet weather.

☺ indicates discount for *Friends of Centennial Parklands*. Please present your *Friends* keyring or membership card to secure a discount. Discount is 10% unless otherwise stated.

Ingredients

4 x 250 gr. pork cutlets

Marinade

1 tsp. ground fennel seed
1 tsp. chopped garlic
1 tsp. chopped lemon zest
1 tsp. black pepper
2 table spoons Extra Virgin olive oil

Fennel Confit

1 large head fennel, trimmed and diced 1 cm
1 med. onion, diced 1 cm
1 sprig rosemary
1 tsp. chopped garlic
segments from 1 orange
8 small pink eye potatoes
150ml Extra Virgin olive oil
100ml white wine
50ml lemon juice
salt and pepper to taste
2 table spoons parsley leaves

Roasted Pork Cutlet
with Confit of Fennel, Orange & Rosemary

On chilly winter nights there is nothing more satisfying than a warm hearty dinner, an open fire and a glass of red wine. Now open during the evenings, Centennial Parklands Restaurant can offer that very winter experience with a star-lit setting to boot. Executive Chef David Noonan has created a delectable winter menu and lets readers in on the secret to one of his culinary masterpieces.

Method

Mix together the marinade ingredients and marinate the pork cutlets over night.

Peel the potatoes and boil them until they are just cooked and put to one side.

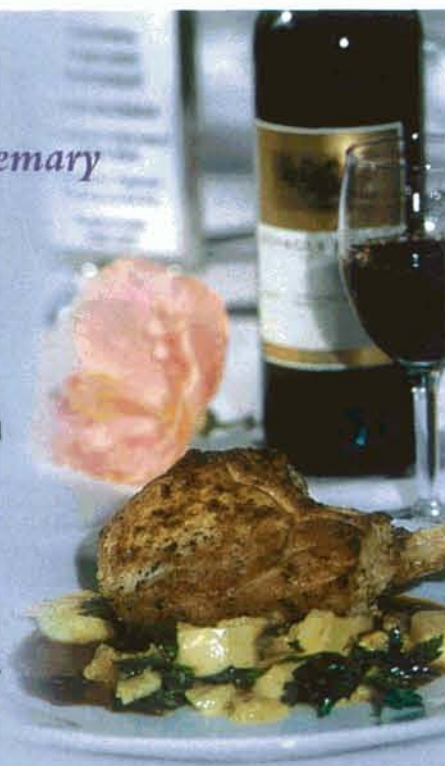
Soften the garlic and onions in the olive oil on a low flame. Add the rosemary followed by the wine and lemon juice. Bring to the boil and

simmer until tender. Add the fennel and simmer until soft.

Add the orange segments, cooked potatoes and parsley.

Take the pork cutlets and pan fry them until cooked. Fish can be used as an alternative. Serve the cutlets with the warm fennel confit.

To make a reservation at Centennial Parklands Restaurant phone (02) 9360 7718. ■



QUICK GUIDE

First Aid and Emergency

24 hour Ranger service, 7 days.

☎(02)9746 2164 or (02)9746 0444

Administration

8.30am-5pm Monday-Friday. Located behind Centennial Parklands Café.

☎(02)9339 6699 Fax: (02)9332 2148

Superintendent's Residence

Located at Paddington Gates, Oxford Street. Open Wednesdays and weekends (10am-3pm)

How to Get Here

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

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.

☎(02)9339 6699

Community Consultative Committee

Meets approximately every six weeks. Committee members can be contacted via Centennial Parklands administration.

☎(02)9339 6699

email: ccc@cp.nsw.gov.au

web: www.cp.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/community

Park Information

Information, maps and brochures are available from the Administration Building (behind the Café) or the Superintendent's Residence near Paddington Gates, Wednesdays and weekends (10am-3pm)

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Modern Australian à la carte restaurant offering a full wine list. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. 8.30am-3pm. Open for dinner 6pm-9pm Wednesday to Saturday. Also available for weddings and function hire.

☎(02)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.

☎(02)9380 6922

Centennial Parklands Kiosk

Located next to the Duck Pond, the Kiosk serves sandwiches, light meals, coffee, cold drinks and ice cream. Open Weekends and Public Holidays, 8am-sunset.

Centennial Parklands Children's Centre

Long day care centre for babies to pre-schoolers.

☎(02)9663 1200

Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre

Formerly the historic Sydney Showgrounds stables, now a world-class Equestrian Centre offering 270 stables, a lunging yard, arenas, veterinarian, agistment providers and riding schools.

☎(02)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.

☎(02)9663 3791

Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

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

☎(02)9662 7033

THINGS TO DO

Cycling & Roller Blading

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

- Centennial Park Cycles:
☎(02)9398 5027 (bikes & blades)
- Woollys Wheels:
☎(02)9331 2671 (bikes)
- Bondi Boards & Blades:
☎(02)9369 2212 (blades)
- Total Skate:
☎(02)9380 6356 (blades)

Dog Walking

Dogs can be exercised off leash, but under control in Centennial Park outside Grand Drive, and in Moore and Queens Parks. Dogs must be on a lead inside the Grand Drive circles. For safety reasons dogs are not allowed on the horse or cycle track, roads, equestrian grounds, children's playgrounds, Learner's Cycleway, in ponds, wildlife areas or on sporting fields when in use. Dogs must be kept 10 metres from BBQs, the Café and Restaurant and the Federation Pavilion.

Jogging & Walking

A 3.6km jogging track is available around Grand Drive. Self-guided walking trails are located at Lachlan Swamp and the Duck Pond. Guided walks held regularly each season. Guided walks bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Horse Riding

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

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

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: ☎(02)9339 6699

Children's Activities

Ranger-led birthday parties, toddler activities, holiday activities and school excursions are available as part of the Parklands' *Escape and Explore Program*.

☎(02)9339 6699

BOOK A SPACE FOR PLAYING OR ENTERTAINING

Playing Fields

Playing fields in Centennial, Moore and Queens Parks are available for team sports, including cricket, soccer, hockey, rugby and touch-football. Also available is ES Marks Athletics Field featuring an international standard 400 metre recatan running track, shot put, discus, javelin, long high & triple jump facilities. Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Centennial Square

Surrounded by trees and designed for marquees, this site caters for 50 to 1200 people. Located next to one of Centennial Park's historic ponds on the eastern side of the Park. Perfect for weddings, launches and events.

Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

Available for weddings and function hire. 8.30am-3pm.

Bookings: ☎(02)9360 3355

Events

Submissions from the public are welcome for activities and events that support the Parklands' cultural policy. Enquiries: ☎(02)9339 6615 or ☎(02)9339 6635

Filming & Photography

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

Enquiries: ☎(02)9339 6699


CENTENNIAL parklands
centennial park moore park queens park

Locked Bag 15
PADDINGTON NSW 2021
Tel: (02) 9339 6699 Fax: (02) 9332 2148
www.cp.nsw.gov.au
email: info@cp.nsw.gov.au