

parklands

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Directions

Progressive action plan

Centennial Park is synonymous with Federation. It was here that Lord Hopetoun, resplendent in black and gold full court dress, endorsed the Queen's proclamation of the Federal Commonwealth and declared himself the Governor-General of Australia and Edward Barton our first Prime Minister on January 1, 1901.

It was quite an occasion. It was a sultry day with thunder in the air as thousands of people flocked to the Park, many carrying banners which read 'One People, One Destiny'. The ceremony began with hymns from a massed choir and prayers of thanksgiving.

Here's how Manning Clark described it, with due credit to the Sydney Morning Herald, in

'A History of Australia': "Hopetoun rose to his feet and declared in a loud, clear, non-Australian voice that he assumed the office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia. Guns boomed; the band played the National Anthem. The bright helmets of soldiers flashed in the sunlight, the feathers waved on the headgear of the guards, the rich uniforms of the Indian soldiers gave a warm glow of Oriental opulence to the scene, as the last strains of the National Anthem roused the spirit of the crowd to fever pitch. The roars, the shouts, and the coo-ees rolled away over the grassy parkland towards the very vast sea on which their ancestors had ridden to glory or damnation on the way to plan British civilisation in an inhospitable environment."

We have already begun our tribute to the Centenary of Australia's Federation in fine style. A major project of interest to everyone who enjoys strolling through the Park is the restoration of Parkes Drive, originally planted with date palms and more recently cottontail palms. Sadly, both palm species have been attacked by a destructive fungus, *fusarium wilt*.

After much research and deliberation, we are going to progressively replace the palms with rows of Kauri pine which has similar stately qualities, and leave gaps for the reintroduction of palms once the disease problem has been solved.

We also intend to refurbish Federation Valley, the site of the 1901 Federation ceremony now marked by the Alex Tzannes-designed Bicentennial Pavilion opened in 1988. This lovely part of the Park will be improved with more trees, irrigation and improved land conditions, and essential maintenance will be carried out on the Pavilion itself.

As part of our commitment to conserve and strengthen the Parklands' historic place in the life of Sydney, the Trust has just completed our first Tree Master Plan study for the entire Parklands.

This important initiative will present guidelines for the conservation of the trees in accordance with their heritage, design and cultural value. We will be seeking feedback from the community as we finalise the plan.

It is clear that the Centennial Parklands are treasured for their important place in our history, their environmental values, and their beauty. We will continue to affirm those values.

Peter Duncan
Director, Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust

Parkbench

ROBIN GRIMWADE LEAVES TRUST

Long standing Director, Mr Robin Grimwade, has left the Trust to take up the position of Managing Director with the NSW Waste Service Board. Director with the Trust since 1991, Robin's achievements include the implementation of a strategic planning framework, and significant improvements to the integrity of the Parklands' environment, including initiating a major makeover of Moore Park and a \$6.5 million Ponds Improvement Program.

Reflecting on his time as Director, Robin said "The past eight years have been a period of considerable growth and development for Centennial Parklands. I have valued my time at the Trust and I consider that the Parklands are now better positioned to respond to the demands and challenges of the new millennium."

The staff and management of the Trust wish Robin every success in new position. We also welcome Mr Peter Duncan, who took up the role of Director from 6 September. See page 3 for our interview with Peter, who has been driving the establishment of Millennium Parklands at the Homebush Bay Olympic site.

CELEBRATE AT THE PARKLANDS

The festive season is on its way – and Centennial Parklands offers two ideal locations for celebrating with a difference.

Our newest venue is 'C Pavilion'. Located in the Centennial Parklands

Equestrian Centre, C Pavilion derives its name from its former residents – the Carlton Clydesdale team. With imposing five metre high entrance doors, soaring ceilings, cobblestone and timber floors, coach lights, and brass fittings, C Pavilion evokes the atmosphere of a historic stables – and is perfect for a themed event.

For those looking to capture the atmosphere of the great outdoors, Centennial Square offers a purpose-built function space overlooking the Flycasting Pond in Centennial Park. Scenically tucked behind a forest of Sheoaks, the site incorporates a paved forecourt, with a deck extending over the pond. It is equipped with power, lighting, water and parking, and is perfect for marquees or outdoor events.

Both venues are suitable for weddings, corporate events, and launches as well as a special

PARKLANDS BIRDWATCHER RECEIVES HONOUR

Ernest Hoskin, a renowned ornithologist, has been passionately observing the Parklands' numerous species of birds – both migratory and non-migratory – for more than 50 years. He has taken countless park visitors on bird watching tours, enthusing the experienced and beginner alike. Ern has also generously given the Trust all of his findings and recordings made during his visits. "This information on bird species, numbers and behaviours, is proving invaluable in the assessment and management of the Parklands' bird

habitats and populations," says Centennial Parklands Ranger Colin Cheshire. "Ern has volunteered considerable free time over the years to the Trust for bird watching tours, and advice on bird behaviour and sightings. Without his knowledge, Rangers would not have nearly the same level of knowledge about our avifauna today."

Nominated by the NSW Field Ornithologists Club, and supported by the Trust, Ern was recently awarded an Order of Australia for his outstanding contribution to the study of Ornithology. Thank you and congratulations Ern!

HELPING INJURED WILDLIFE

Centennial Parklands is a haven for wildlife. This means that occasionally park visitors may come across an injured or sick animal, needing assistance. Parklands Ranger Jonathan Cartmill says that observing a few simple rules will help the chances of the animal's survival and safe return to the Parklands. "Avoid moving or touching the animal, and contact a Ranger before doing anything else. Try to keep it warm until you get help. If you must move the animal, avoid handling it directly with your hands, particularly if it is a bird or bat. And always remember where you found it, so it can be returned to its home when it is feeling better," Jonathan says. Park visitors can help to protect wildlife by observing speed limits, keeping dogs on leads and sticking to marked tracks, roads and pathways.



Christmas or New Year party. For more information contact Gillian Stokie on (02) 9339 6613.

Historic venues reclaim the spotlight

Two of the grand halls of the former Sydney Showground at Moore Park have been revitalised and refurbished, promising renewed interest and use in the future, and comfort for patrons.

Both buildings were originally integral elements of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW's annual Royal Easter Show. The Royal Hall of Industries was built in 1912 as an exhibition hall to showcase Australia's growing industrial capabilities, but was best known in later years for the thousands of showbags which filled its 5500 square metre space.

The Hordern Pavilion, built in 1924, was first a machinery display pavilion, but later became one of Sydney's best known concert venues, hosting some of the world's greatest entertainers – including Perry Como, Shirley Bassey, Benny Goodman, Michael Jackson, Cliff Richard, Neil Diamond, Elton John, Sammy Davis Junior, Bob Hope, Roy Orbison, Liberace, and James Brown.

The buildings were handed over to the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust after the Royal Agricultural Society relocated to Homebush in 1997. The Trust has licensed the management of the venues to Playbill Venue Management. Together, the two organisations have implemented a \$27 million refurbishment program to preserve the historic character of the buildings and upgrade their facilities.

Improved staging, ventilation, rigging and acoustics were at the centre of the buildings' upgrade, transforming them into state-of-the-art venues able to cater to a range of activities.

The results of the revamp were unveiled by the Premier, Mr Carr, on September 6, at a glittering ceremony featuring Jimmy Barnes and live entertainment recalling the history of the two venues.

"The buildings were vested in the Trust to guarantee their future as entertainment facilities for public use. Retaining their original feel was one of our key goals," Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust Chairman, Annette O'Neill, says. "Great care has been taken to restore the buildings' facades – including some parts that were severely damaged – and the external finishes on both buildings now reflect their original colour schemes."



Jimmy Barnes rocks the Hordern at the re-opening.

The restoration was overseen by Architectural Consultants Daryl Jackson Robin Dyke in conjunction with Godden Mackay Logan Heritage Consultants, with construction services provided by Lend Lease Projects. The Department of Public Works and Services assisted with the project and risk management on behalf of the Trust.

Geoff Ashley, an associate director of Godden Mackay Logan, says the two buildings are of exceptional heritage significance. "In restoring both buildings, the importance of the fabric in telling the story was respected," Geoff says. "Instead of replacing steel and timber windows badly affected by water, and basically held together by paint, corroded areas were painstakingly replaced. Broken or

missing window panes were reglazed with matching glass, which was sourced from as far afield as the United States and Scandinavia."

In the Royal Hall of Industries a false ceiling has been removed, exposing the original steel truss structure, which in its time was a significant achievement in terms of its size.

"The internal space has been reconfigured to expose that original space, which is quite an important feature of the work," Geoff says. "The other key feature of the Royal Hall work is the restoration of its external facade. There has been a fair bit of work in terms of cleaning and repointing the brickwork where the mortar has come out. It has had a new roof because the original roof was corrugated asbestos."

The refurbishment of the Hordern has retained the "signature wall" which was signed over a number of years by performers at the venues, among them Eric Clapton, Marc Hunter, and George Benson.

The wall has been relocated to the venue's new Green Room, where performers are encouraged to keep the tradition alive by adding their names to the collection.

The refurbished Hordern has been upgraded to include air conditioning, increased power capacity, flexible rigging, new food and beverage facilities, new toilets and improved concert facilities. With most of the intrusive 1970s elements removed, the Hordern is now much closer to its original configuration as an exhibition hall.

An unsympathetic cluster of kiosks and the old chairlift between the two buildings have been removed to expose an expansive forecourt that will now grace the entrance to both buildings and reflects the original entry point to the site.

"We think it is a very important that there is no physical separation or subdivision between these buildings and the Showground as a whole, so that historical associations can be maintained," Geoff says.

New Director leads Parklands into the next millennium

As the new Director of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, Peter Duncan is filled with excitement about being in charge of a world class park that is used by millions of people a year.

He also is feeling a strong sense of responsibility. He knows he will be under much scrutiny, being in charge of parklands that are much-loved by many Sydneysiders. Peter says there is a great tradition of good management, which is why the area is in such good shape today.

Former Director Mr Robin Grimwade left earlier this year after he was promoted to Managing Director of Waste Service NSW.

"Implementing the Trust's initiatives and seeing them come to fruition will be a challenge," Peter says. "There is a strong commitment to the millions of people who know and love the park."

The Parklands are "operating very soundly" and while all good parks have a tradition of being "loved to death", he is not anticipating making any major changes or restricting use. One of the challenges he lists is dealing with traffic management. Car-free days should

continue to be part of Centennial Park's annual program.

The role of Director seems like a natural progression for Peter who since 1994 has worked at Homebush Bay in various roles and most recently as Director of Estate Management for the Olympic Coordination Authority.

Since 1997 he was responsible for managing the planning, design, approvals and stakeholder involvement in the Millennium Parklands project. This will see the Parklands at Homebush Bay quadruple in size from the original Bicentennial Park to 450 hectares. He has also been responsible for providing the services and management of the Sydney International Regatta Centre at Penrith and estate management services to the Equestrian Centre projects in Western Sydney.

He feels that leaving a year out from the Olympics gives his successor a good period of time to settle in. "Any



closer and I would have felt I had to stay until after the Olympic Games," he concedes. Just as Centennial and Moore Parks were set aside late last century close to Sydney's population base, the Millennium Parklands are being developed in the city's demographic heart. From the development of this modern urban park,

Peter is taking charge of Parklands blanketed in history.

"The Centennial Park founders showed a lot of foresight and I think they would be very satisfied today," Peter says. "The Centenary of Federation and Olympic events will see the Parklands enter the next century providing a great deal of value and profile to Sydney and the local community."

He sees one of his main roles in his new job as implementing the Plan of Management to take the Parklands into the next century.

"Parks provide very good leisure

opportunities for people to learn about the environment while having fun. There are great opportunities to continue to develop leisure programs that enhance the experience of the park visitor."

After starting his career in road design and traffic engineering, Peter has worked in the areas of parks, landscape and environmental management. He has worked for Kuring-gai Council, the NSW Public Works Department and the Department of Main Roads. He has undertaken private consulting work in Australia and London and was involved with the road, rail and landscape design on the London Docklands Redevelopment Project.

Although he now lives some distance from the Park, Peter has been a frequent user of Centennial and Moore Parks, especially when he lived locally. He believes strongly in park managers being park users and understanding user needs. One of his favourite past times has been regularly cycling in all of the parks he has managed. He will enjoy continuing this in Centennial Parklands.



The exterior of the Royal Hall of Industries had a major overhaul to restore its picturesque qualities.



Parkes Drive, prior to the onset of the destructive fungus. The Date Palms created a colonnade effect, reminiscent of a Greek Temple.

Classical form of noble avenue restored to park

At the turn of the century, a stately avenue of date palms was planted along Parkes Drive. The effect was intended to be both classical and tropical and certainly splendid. The grand rhythm of the avenue will be restored as a special Federation Project.

Most visitors to Centennial Park are aware that the glorious palms lining Parkes Drive from the Centennial Park Restaurant south to Grand Drive are blighted with the dreaded fungus, *fusarium wilt*.

At the turn of the century, Parkes Drive was planted with 350 noble Canary Island Date Palms, whose tall, strong trunks formed an elegant colonnade through the middle of the Park. Parkes Drive was one of the first great palm avenues in Australia with the date palms reaching their full magnificence 30 or so years later.

However, in the 1980s, horticulturists noticed something awry with the palms and soon recognised the signs of *fusarium*. So, as the date palms started to fail several years ago, they were replaced by 350 *Washingtonia* or cottontail palms which were believed by botanists to be immune to the fungus. Alas, *fusarium* took to the *Washingtonias*, too, and about 150 out of 350 have now been lost.

At this stage, there is no cure for *fusarium*, which is transferred through the water table, and also perhaps by birds. It is now also found in the palms

along Macquarie Street and in the Botanic Gardens.

In a move to preserve the dramatic avenue effect of Parkes Drive, the palms will be replaced with the stately, southern hemisphere conifer *Agathis australis*, or Kauri pine. Alternate gaps will be left for a future planting of palms once the disease has been controlled or a resistant species of palms has been developed, so that this integral feature of the Parklands' fabric is not lost. The replanting project is one of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust's special Federation Projects.

In a move to preserve the historical and dramatic avenue effect of Parkes Drive, the palms will be replaced with the stately, 35-metre southern hemisphere conifer *Agathis australis*, or Kauri pine.



About 150 *Washintonia* Palms have been lost due to *fusarium*.

As Peter Nowland, Landscape Services Co-ordinator, points out, Parkes Drive with its avenue of palms has become a symbol of the Park. In fact, the palms featured on Centennial Park's logo until 1991 when Moore Park also came under the care of the Trust.

"The Parkes Drive avenue was planted under the supervision of Joseph Maiden, who was Director of Centennial Park and the Royal Botanic Gardens between 1896 and 1924.

"Maiden didn't want just evergreen trees," Peter says. "His horticultural vision was for a tropical effect which is why figs, palms and bird of paradise were used so extensively.

"The colonnade effect is classical, reminiscent of a Greek temple, with tall, straight trunks framing the vista beyond in a distinctive rhythm."

As Peter Nowland describes it, the original avenue of date palms was stunning, with the closely spaced palms creating almost overpowering grandeur.

He says the Kauri pines, with their strong columnar tree form, will create the same feeling. So far, some 180 Kauri pines have been ordered and will be ready for planting next March.

Sydney's first carbon sink planted at Moore Park

An innovative planting in Moore Park is providing a valuable new green corridor in Centennial Parklands, and Sydney's first "carbon sink", designed to drain greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

Called Project Arboria, the urban forest realises the vision of SCEGGS Redlands HSC student, Allyson Buttle. It will demonstrate, especially to young people and the business community, how planting trees can help to combat global warming.

Students from Waterloo Public School and SCEGGS Redlands recently joined forces with AFL hero Tony Lockett, NSW Ministry for Forestry and Energy, Kim Yeadon, and Centennial Parklands field staff to plant the first seedlings at the site.

"The Trust has played an integral role in establishing the new carbon sink, which illustrates how companies can trade emissions against the green credits generated by the sink," Parklands Operations Manager Andrew Ferris says.

"The forest-style plantings needed to make this a genuine carbon sink meant that most of our parklands weren't suitable for this use, particularly as one of our requirements is to maintain the Victorian character of Centennial Park. So we set about involving other urban parks as a way of achieving the carbon sink.

"Millennium Parklands at Homebush Bay came on board, so that the carbon sink will now eventually cover some two hectares at Mount Steel in Moore Park and 18 hectares at Millennium Parklands."

"The new urban forest at Mount Steel is also part of the ongoing revitalisation of Moore Park, adding a valuable native woodland area next to the Eastern Distributor," Andrew says.

According to Allyson Buttle, it has been inspiring to see organisations such as the Trust putting their weight behind young

peoples' ideas.

"The subject of global warming had been brought to my attention through my studies," Allyson says. "I realised this was an issue that most young people don't know about, despite the fact that it will have major effects on the future of the planet."

A barracker for the project, Tony Lockett spends a lot of time in Centennial and Moore Parks, and says he appreciates their great beauty and value to Sydney.

"As a father of two young girls, I am concerned about the quality of the environment and the world my children will inherit," he says. "It's very important that we all look after our environment and we all look after our trees."

State Forests of NSW will donate the 20,000 seedlings for the project, provide planting advice and account for the carbon credits generated as the forest grows. Other supporters include accounting firm KPMG, GHG Management and AMP.

Parklands visitors are welcome to visit the new seedlings, which are along the western side of Mount Steel.



Forestry and Energy Minister Kim Yeadon, HSC Student Allyson Buttle, and Swans star Tony Lockett, plant the first seedlings in the new carbon sink.

The Centennial Parklands' trees are its most important and fragile asset. They enhance its aesthetic and cultural value and reflect changes in these values over time. A new Tree Master Plan will conserve the existing trees and integrate new plantings to guarantee the continuing important historical role of the Parklands.

Centennial Parklands' Tree Master Plan

Plan to nurture multi-million dollar asset

With the trees in Centennial, Moore and Queens Parks having been valued at \$90 million, it is timely that a Master Plan for the Centennial Parklands trees has just been completed. The final draft of the Master Plan is currently being considered by the Trust, and will be available for community comment before it is finalised and implemented.

"It is important to focus attention on both the economic and aesthetic value of our trees," says Peter Nowland, Landscape Services Co-ordinator, adding that the value of the trees was determined by a formula now used by Australian parks managers and municipal councils which takes into consideration the species, age, maturity, size and height, rarity and historical significance of the trees.

"We have never had a grand plan for planting of the whole Parklands, or any guiding principles, before. Everything was done on a piecemeal basis. Now the Master Plan gives us a long-term picture and will help us plan for future planting across the Parklands."

The Tree Master Plan, a year in the making with the expertise of a steering committee and specialist consultants, acknowledges the history of the three different parks and their evolution under different management regimes and social pressures.

"Moore Park was created in the

1860s as an active sports area. Similarly, Queens Park is a sports oriented park with playing fields bordered by avenue plantings," Peter Nowland says.

"Centennial Park has always been a passive recreation area in the manner of English landscape parks of the Victorian period. It is characterised by ornamental lakes and ponds, grand trees, ceremonial drives and magnificent gates and fernery.

As Peter Nowland points out, the Parklands are constructed landscapes with very little remnant natural vegetation. The environment is harsh with poor sandy soils, a high water table and severe winds from the south.

Many plants and trees have been tried and failed over the years and what remains are the hardy survivors – figs, paperbarks, pines, oaks, and coral trees. The major plantings occurred under the directorship of Joseph Maiden between 1896 and 1924.

"What we have now is a fairly homogenous, evergreen canopy which presents a consistent view of the Parklands. The coral trees, being deciduous and flowering, provide splashes of colour, a striking relief from the evergreens. They are intrinsic to the picturesque character of Centennial Park."

The coral trees provide a good example of the way in which the Tree Master Plan will work. Susceptible to



Arborists have collected information on more than 8,500 trees for a tree data base supporting the new Master Plan.

decay and collapse, they are now old and failing. However, given their aesthetic significance, they will be retained and replanted in Centennial Park's woodland areas where there is minimal risk to visitors. In more populated areas, they will be replaced

Established at the turn of the century, groves of paperbarks have proved to be a resilient, as well as pleasing, feature.

with another flowering tree.

The Tree Master Plan will acknowledge the importance of the trees in defining the character, spaces and role of the Parklands, and the part they play in enhancing the recreational, aesthetic and cultural value of the Parklands.

As Peter Nowland says, the trees are a link with the past as well as a legacy for the future.

The recommendations of the Tree Master Plan focus on the conservation of the trees in accordance with their heritage, design and cultural value and their maintenance in a way that perpetuates the distinctive and essential landscape character of the Parklands.

The Plan also promotes enhancement of the recreation amenity and aesthetic appeal of Centennial Park, Moore Park and Queens Park as originally intended as well as a framework to accommodate acceptable amounts of change in planting patterns.

"There has been a gradual decline in

the numbers and condition of the existing tree population. However, we will plan for sequential replacement plantings.

"Studies show that if no forward planting occurs over the next 10 years, then within 40 years the park will be denuded of mature trees giving a much poorer character to Australia's premier park.

"The Tree Master Plan promotes gentle change, we want to recapture the vistas of the parks and remove 'rogue' trees accrued over the years and compromise the character of particular areas," Peter Nowland says.

"We are studying recreation patterns in the Parklands and defining our tree areas to take account of those patterns."

The Tree Master Plan for Centennial Parklands sets out principles and



Coral Trees were originally planted as a colourful contrast to the parks' otherwise evergreen canopy.

strategies for the conservation of the existing tree population and a framework for the sensitive integration of new tree plantings into the historic fabric of the Parklands.

It also defines management approaches to strengthen and sustain the ageing tree population, and ultimately the Parklands itself, into the next millennium.

On Sunday 17 October the sound of horses' hooves will fill the Parade Grounds as the world's best showjumpers converge on Centennial Park for the 1999 Hermès International Showjumping event.

Showjumping's day of stars



Themed to harmonise with the Hermès year of "Stars and Mythology" the day will pit 20 riders – both male and female – against the clock as they speed over obstacles, higher and wider.

Showjumping is one of the few sports where men and women compete on equal terms. This year will see Britain's

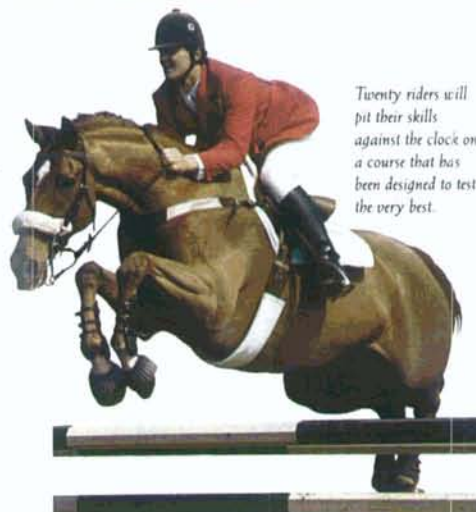
highest ranked rider, Dianne Lampard, riding against Greg Best, who won silver as part of the United States team at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Other international riders include Thierry Pomel from France, known as the "D'Artagnon of the 21st Century", and Joe Turi from Hungary. A former circus performer, Turi is currently creating world equestrian headlines.

International designer, Richard Bruggemann, is devising a jumping course to test the very best. Visitors will be given the opportunity to walk the course before the action starts in the main arena at 11am.

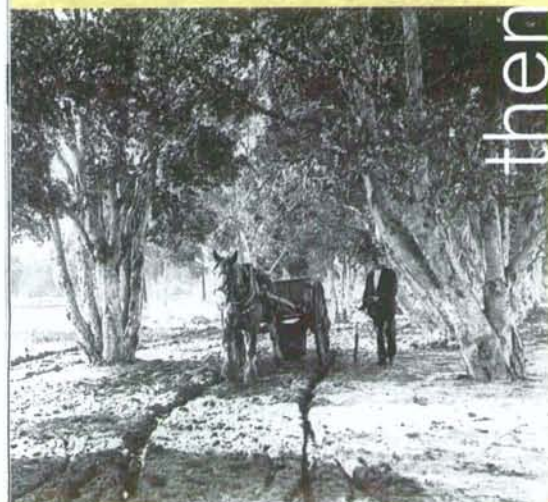
Now in its second year in Centennial Park, the Hermès International Showjumping is fast becoming a stellar event on the Sydney social calendar. Style-setters know that the attraction isn't only in the showjumping – at 9.30am a special Hermès "Village" materialises, offering the very best in fine goods, prestige products and sensational foods.

"A place of heavenly treats," is how Hermès Managing Director Patricia Galloway-Campbell describes the Village.



Twenty riders will pit their skills against the clock on a course that has been designed to test the very best.

parkland perspectives



A park worker leaves Lachlan Swamp on horse and dray during the 1930s.

While the vegetation around the Swamp remains much the same, Parklands employees now enjoy much more convenient modes of transport.



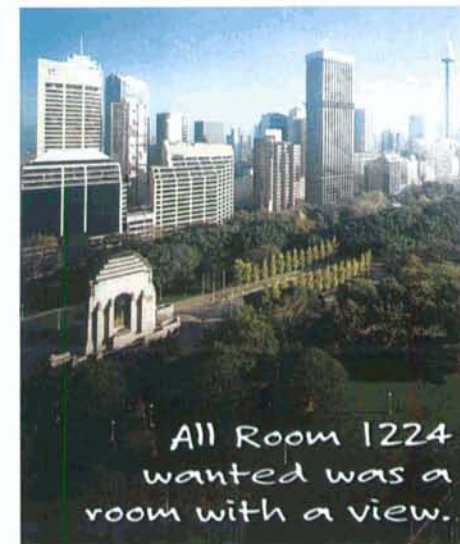
"Just as horse and rider capture the harmony of sport and style, the Hermès Village is an alliance of the useful and the beautiful. This year the Village will create an astrological journey from the past to the future, with a cosmos of fine foods, live music, entertainers and artisans."

Village stall operators include: RM Williams, NiceCream, Golden Nuts, Praline Nuts, Cafexpress, Circus Bizircus, Jane Lambert, Baubridge & Kay, Orpée Épicerie, Fine Food Café, Patagonia, Cotswold Furniture Collection, Farquhars', New England Girls School and Frensham School. Entry to the Village is free.

The Sydney Children's Hospital has been chosen as the official charity for the event, and will be selling seats in its special Rocabar Guest Grandstand to raise money for medical equipment. Tickets are \$100 and include covered reserved seating, a gourmet picnic lunch and an official event program. Tickets can be purchased through the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation on 9382 1188. Adding to the fun, local celebrities will compete in novelty events to raise money for the Foundation.

Alternatively, Private Guest Grandstand tickets (also including covered reserved seating, a gourmet picnic lunch and an official event program), are available for \$100 from Hermès Australia on (02) 9223 5844 or the Equestrian Federation of Australia on (02) 9571 8777.

Public Grandstand seats are \$35 plus booking fee from Ticketek Phonecharge (02) 9266 4800 or Ticketek Faxitx (02) 9267 4460.



All Room 1224 wanted was a room with a view.

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Friends of the Parklands

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

Friends – Application Form

Become a Friend of Centennial Parklands and enjoy these benefits:

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

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 PADDINGTON NSW 2021
 Phone: (02) 9339 6699
 Fax: (02) 9332 2148



BIG BOLD AND BRASSY FRIENDS DEAL

From the people that bought you *Opera in the Vineyards* and *Tower Twilight at Taronga* comes *Big, Bold & Brassy: James Morrison Swings & Strings in Centennial Parklands* on Saturday 11 December, proudly presented by *Sun-Herald, SundayLife!*

What better way to spend a summer evening, than reclining in Centennial Park enjoying the seductive sounds of Morrison and his 15 piece band! The performance will include tributes to the "Kings of Swings" such as Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw. Special guests include Monica Trapaga and Don Burrows.

Friends of the Parklands can receive \$6 off the regular price of tickets.

All seating is unreserved picnic style, so bring your rug and hamper, and picnic under the stars. Hampers can also be purchased on the night.

To obtain your special Friends' discount phone Georgia Stynes, Community Relations Officer on (02) 9339 6699. For general information phone the Concert Info Line 1800 675 875.

AUSTIN PLATT DEDICATION

The Trust is pleased to welcome artist Austin Platt as an honorary Dedicated Friend in recognition of his generous donation of artworks to the Trust (see *Parklands* winter edition).

On Thursday July 29 Trust staff gathered with the 88 year old artist and four generations of his family to dedicate Austin's tree.

In keeping with his love of the Moreton Bay Fig, Austin dedicated a young Fig overlooking the recently restored Willow Pond, to his late wife Nancy, mother Flora, his children, grand children, great grand children and future generations of Platts.

Deputy Director Judith Peters presented Austin with his gift: "This tree will live on for future generations and grow to be strong and imposing on this wonderful site. It will be a very fitting tribute to a man whose etchings will live on and tell others so much about these Parklands."

DEDICATED FRIENDS

The Trust would like to thank the following people for supporting the latest round of Dedicated Trees, and acknowledge their dedication. These plantings included a lovely Hoop Pine overlooking Federation Valley and a Broadleaf Paperbark at the Learners Cycleway.

■ Gay Mackay, Ian Mackay and Kate Mackay – in memory of James Alan Graham Mackay our beloved son and much loved brother to Kate.

■ Kevin Broadley & Margaret Broadley – to our English grandson William with love.

Enquiries about the Tree Dedication Program can be made on (02) 9339 6652.

VIVE LA FRANCE! BASTILLE DAY DINNER

Over 120 Friends of the Parklands and their guests celebrated Bastille Day at the Centennial Parklands Restaurant.

The second of our Friends' themed dinners, the evening began with a talk by renowned Landscape Architect Anton James on contemporary French Landscape Design.

All Friends present were invited to put their names in a draw for the prize of a bottle of French wine and a double CD featuring French Cafe songs. The prize was won by Byron Harford & Associates, who joined as Dedicated Friends on the night.

Don't miss our Friends' Spring dinner on October 14 (see this page). Bookings are essential and can be made by phoning Centennial Parklands Restaurant on (02) 9360 3355.

FRIENDS ONLY EVENT – FAMOUS FACES, FAMILIAR PLACES. Sunday 24 October 3–5pm

Centennial Parklands has long drawn people to its green splendour. Ever wondered who else has enjoyed Centennial Park since its birth over 100 years ago? Poets, painters and politicians have all stood in the same spots as today's visitors. Join Ranger Brian Page for a tour of Centennial Park's *Famous Faces Familiar Places* followed by a glass of champagne by the Duck Pond. Friends Only event, numbers strictly limited. Cost \$6, Bookings (02) 9339 6699.

Celebrating the rites of Spring

Spring is in the air, bringing with it the

fresh tastes of the new season.

Centennial Parklands Friends and their guests are invited to savour a special menu of Spring-themed treats at the Centennial Parklands Restaurant *Celebration of Spring* dinner on Thursday October 14.

The evening begins at 6.30pm sharp with a talk by University of NSW Professor James Werrick on prominent architect Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion Mahoney Griffin. Well known for designs that integrated sympathetically with nature, the Griffins' work can still be seen in suburbs such as Castlecrag, Avalon, Castle Cove and, of course, Canberra. The world's first registered female architect, it is thought that Marion helped behind the scenes with many of her husband's designs.

Describing himself as a "Landscape Educator", Professor Werrick has taught at Universities in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Massachusetts. He is a regular commentator on current urban design issues, such as design around the Olympic site at Homebush Bay, and has recently contributed to publications such as *Architecture Australia*.

He is the author of numerous articles and essays on the life and work of the Griffins, and was a major contributor to the *Beyond Architecture* exhibition held last July at the Powerhouse Museum celebrating their work.

Chef David Noonan has created a Spring-themed menu to welcome the joys of the new season. The evening's menu includes entrees of Asparagus with Almond and Basil Pesto, Goats Cheese Salad with Rocket and Witlof, Scallops with Saffron



Pasta, and Carpaccio of Beef.

Mains will follow with Risotto Alla Primavera, Roasted Marinated Chicken Breast with Spinach and Ricotta Dumplings, Grilled Spring Lamb with Braised Globe Artichoke and Peppers and Baked Blue-Eye Cod with Tomatoes, Caperberries, Green Beans and Aioli.

Deserts include fresh Spring Strawberries with Almond Short Bread and Double Cream (pictured above), Apple Mascarpone Tart and a Selection of Australian Cheese.

Tables can be booked from 6.30 to 9.30pm. Menu enquiries and bookings (essential) can be made directly to the Centennial Parklands Restaurant on (02) 9360 3355. Parking is available at the Restaurant, entry via Paddington Gates. Please present your Friends' keyring on the evening to receive your special discount.

Dinner (including talk)

2 courses: Friends \$30, Guests \$35

3 courses: Friends \$35, Guests \$42

spring events



OCTOBER

1 Friday
SPOTLIGHT PROWL – All ages
Discover the secrets of Centennial Park after dark. Join the Rangers spotlighting possums, flying foxes and other creatures of the night. Make sure to bring your own torch. 6.30–7.30pm.
\$6 per person
Bookings essential 9339 6699

11 Monday
MINI RANGERS – Toddlers (2–5 years)
Calling all mini rangers! Help with bush regeneration, and seed feeder construction. 10–11am.
Bookings essential 9339 6699



14 Thursday
CELEBRATION OF SPRING DINNER
Feast on the tastes of Spring and enjoy a talk by Professor James Werrick from the University of NSW on Walter Burley Griffin. Reservations between 6.30–9.30pm. Parklands Friends \$30 (2 courses) / \$35 (3 courses), Others \$35/\$42.
Bookings 9360 3355

17 Sunday
HERMES SHOWJUMPING
Enjoy all the colour and excitement of Hermès international show jumping at the Parade Grounds, Centennial Parklands.
Public Grandstand tickets from Ticketek \$35 (plus booking fee) on 9266 4800. General enquiries Hermès 9223 5844

FAMILY WATERBUG SURVEY
Join in the Spring Streamwatch Waterbug Survey. Hunt for waterbugs in Centennial Park's ponds to check the health of our water. Bring hat, sunscreen, drink and white ice cream container. Children must be accompanied by an adult. BYO white ice cream container & dipnets or \$2 dipnet hire. 11am–1pm. Free.
No Bookings Required.
Meet York Road Gates.

28 Thursday
SOUTHERN CROSS MULTI DISABILITY CHAMPIONSHIPS
7–10.30am Centennial Park
Major international cycling race leading up to the Sydney 2000 Paralympics

COMMONWEALTH BANK CYCLE CLASSIC
11am–2pm
Day six of this nine-day road race is being held in Centennial Parklands. Free viewing.
Spectators welcome.

29 Friday
SOUTHERN CROSS MULTI DISABILITY CHAMPIONSHIPS
7am–2pm. See above

NOVEMBER

5 Friday
SPOTLIGHT PROWL
See 1 October
7.45–8.45pm
Bookings essential 9339 6699

8 Monday
Toddlers
MINI RANGERS
See 11 October.
10–11am
Bookings essential 9339 6699



28 Sunday
PET TREK
Finally, a guided walk where you can bring the whole family. Dogs and their owners are invited to join Rangers for a guided walk through Centennial Park discovering both the natural and cultural features of the Parklands. Bring a hat, drink and dog leash. 10–11.30am. \$6 per person.
Bookings essential 9339 6699

■ Bookings for Centennial Parklands events are only confirmed on receipt of payment.
■ In case of rain, please call to confirm event is proceeding. A full refund will be given if an activity is cancelled due to wet weather.

Escape and Explore Spring School Holiday Program

■ Bookings are essential for all School Holidays activities and can be made by calling 9339 6699
■ Please note that numbers are limited. Activities are only confirmed on receipt of payment. Places will not be held without payment in full.
■ Cancellations less than 48 hours prior to the activity may not receive a full refund.
■ Toddlers activities for 2–5 years and Children's activities for 6–12 years (unless otherwise stated)
■ In case of rain, please call to confirm event is proceeding. A full refund will be given if an activity is cancelled due to wet weather.



28 Tuesday
JUNIOR RANGERS – Children (8–12 years)
Calling all Junior Rangers! Patrol the Parklands in your hand decorated Junior Ranger T-shirts, paint stormwater drain messages, regenerate bushland vegetation and set up a native seed nursery. 10am–3pm. \$30 per child

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT PROWL – All ages
Discover the secrets of Centennial Park after dark. Join the Rangers spotlighting possums, flying foxes and other creatures of the night. Make sure to bring your own torch. 6.30–7.30pm.
\$6 per person.
Bookings essential 9339 6699.

29 Wednesday
FLOWER FUN – Toddlers
Excite your senses and explore the colour and fragrance of the Parklands' beautiful flower gardens! Plant a flower in your own hand-decorated flower pot and make a pot pourri to take home with you. 10–11am.
\$7 per child, adults free

HABITAT HUNT – Children
The pursuit is on! Follow the map to hunt for different habitats around Centennial Park. Rewards will be given for hunters with the most successful search. 2–3.30pm. \$8 per child

30 Thursday
POND LIFE – Children
Investigate the ponds in Centennial Park and assist Rangers with a Wetland Monitoring Program. Search for waterbugs, survey waterbirds

and observe pond plants in and around Model Yacht Pond. 10–11.30am. \$8 per child

WEEDBUSTERS – Children
Become a 'Weedbuster' by learning to identify weed plants, how they spread and why they threaten our native vegetation. Join Rangers to remove weeds from our Parklands and plant local native species. 2–3.30pm. \$8 per child



OCTOBER

1 Friday
ANIMAL TALES – Toddlers
See September 27. 10–11am

MY LITTLE PONIES – Toddlers
See September 27. 2–3pm

3 Sunday
MOBILE RANGER STATION – All ages
Visit the Mobile Ranger Station to find out all about Centennial

Parklands. Children can design and decorate reusable 'biodiversity' shopping bags. 11.30am–2pm. \$3 Biodiversity bags. Paperbark Grove, opposite Centennial Parklands Cafe.
No Bookings Required

4 Monday
MOBILE RANGER STATION – All ages
See October 3. 2–3.30pm

5 Tuesday
FLOWER FUN – Toddlers
See September 29. 10–11am

HABITAT HUNT – Children
See September 29. 2–3.30pm

6 Wednesday
WEEDBUSTERS – Children
See September 30. 10–11.30am



POND LIFE – Children
See September 30. 2–3.30pm

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT PROWL – All ages
See September 28. 6.30–7.30pm

7 Thursday
JUNIOR RANGERS – Children (8–12 years)
See September 28. 10am–3pm

8 Friday
ANIMAL TALES – Toddlers
See September 27. 10–11am

MY LITTLE PONIES – Toddlers
See September 27. 2–3pm

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT PROWL – All ages
See October 1. 6.30–7.30pm

10 Sunday
MOBILE RANGER STATION – All ages
See October 3. 11.30am–2pm

CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS – USER'S GUIDE

PARKLAND OPERATIONS

First Aid and Emergency

24 hour Ranger service, 7 Days.
9339 6699 or 9519 4803

Administration

8.30am-5pm Monday-Friday. Located behind Centennial Parklands Café.
Phone 9339 6699, fax 9332 2148

Friends of Centennial Parklands

More than a group of park lovers, the Friends are an important association of like-minded people committed to preserving the Parklands' history and culture. 9339 6699

DINING & REFRESHMENTS

Centennial Parklands Restaurant

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

Centennial Parklands Café

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

Centennial Parklands Kiosk

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

SPORT AND RELAXATION

Cycling & Roller Blading

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

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

Horse Riding

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

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

Picnics & BBQs

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

Jogging & Walks

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

Dog Walking

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

Cycleway, in ponds or on sporting fields when in use. Dogs must be kept 10 metres from BBQs.

Children's Activities

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

FACILITIES

Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre

Formerly the historic Sydney Showgrounds stables, now a world-class Equestrian Centre offering 270 stables, a lunging yard, arenas, veterinarian, agistment providers and riding schools.
9332 2809

Moore Park Golf Club

Public 18 hole golf course in the heart of the Eastern Suburbs. Includes Golf Pro Shop and one of the largest driving ranges in Australia. 9663 3791

ES Marks Athletics Field

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

Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

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

Playing Fields

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

Centennial Parklands Children's Centre

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

FUNCTIONS & EVENTS

Centennial Square

Surrounded by trees and designed for marquees, this site caters for 50 to 1200 people. Located next to one of Centennial Park's historic ponds on the eastern side of the Park. Perfect for weddings, launches and events.
Bookings: 9339 6613

C Pavilion

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

Events

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

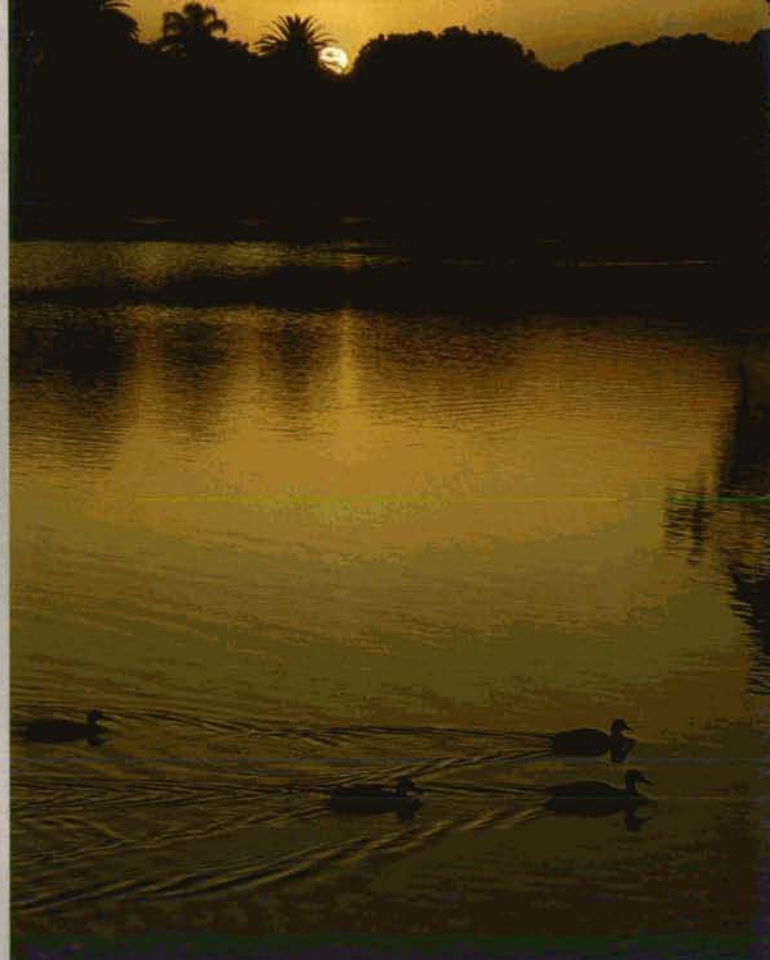
Filming & Photography

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

TRANSPORT

Public Transport – easily accessible by bus. Contact the BUS and FERRY INFO LINE: 131 500

Car – Main Gates to Centennial Park open from 6.30am–5.30pm during Winter. 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.



Sunset over Busby Pond, Centennial Park.

Front cover: Spring plantings in Parkes Drive, Centennial Park.

CENTENNIAL  parklands

Locked Bag 15
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