

parklands

THE MAGAZINE OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS

A new era in dining

Evergreen Dinner a
resounding success

Grand Drive Trial
Tree Remediation



CENTENNIAL
parklands
is living Sydney

Directions



Welcome to the summer edition of *Parklands* magazine.

It is timely to mention that we are in our final year of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust's Park Improvement Plan 2002-2009 which will have seen over \$50 million invested by the NSW Government and the Trust into rejuvenating Centennial Parklands by next June.

From tree replacements, upgrades to amenities, pond restoration works, heritage restoration, road and footpath safety improvements and the refurbishment of facilities, the Park Improvement Plan has ensured that the Trust has been able to maintain and improve the more than \$740 million of Parklands' assets to community expectations.

The Trust is pleased to see that this collaborative partnership with the NSW Government has been a success and is actively working with the Government to continue to invest in these iconic Parklands.

In this edition, you will read about the completion of one of our largest and most anticipated rejuvenation projects under the Park Improvement Plan – the Centennial Parklands Restaurant (pages 6-7). The Restaurant and surrounding upgraded

precinct provides a markedly improved visitor services hub and an important stable revenue to the Trust to manage the Parklands.

On behalf of the Trust and the Centennial Parklands Foundation, I would also like to thank attendees, sponsors and supporters of the inaugural Evergreen Dinner. Through your support more than \$60,000 was raised towards the Education Centre and Recycled Garden project (page 11).

Finally, we extend a warm welcome to the Hon. Kevin Greene MP who was recently appointed as Minister for Sport and Recreation.

Enjoy summer in Centennial Parklands.

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

Contents

Parkbench	3
Grand Drive Trial Tree Remediation	4
Open Day Success	4
Parklands key to a creative revolution	5
Evolving Events	5
Feature: A new era of dining	6-7
Twitcher's Corner: Peregrine Falcon	8
Behind the Scenes...	8
Plant of the Season: Begonia cultivars	9
Native Watch: Australian Bluebell	9
Foundation	10
Friends / Volunteers	11
Visitor Information	12



Parklands magazine is published quarterly by the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust: Locked Bag 15, Paddington NSW 2021

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

Trustees:

Prof. John Niland AC (Chair)	David Leckie
Justice Annabelle Bennett AO	Mairaed Bilmon
Yvette Pietsch	Anne Keating
Dr Margaret Varady AO	John Walker

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

Editor: Rachel Maiden
rachel.maiden@cp.nsw.gov.au

Contributors: Trevor Waller, Frank Hemmings

Photography: Chris Gleisner, Ben Chapman (www.bjcp photography.net), Richard Gates Photography

Cover: The new deck of the Centennial Parklands Café, part of the new Centennial Parklands Dining experience.

Parkbench



Foundation goes online

You can now support Centennial Parklands and the work of the Centennial Parklands Foundation with a few mouse clicks! The Centennial Parklands Foundation has a new website: www.yourparklands.org.au which features eCommerce facilities to make donations and tree sponsorship even easier. There is also a great rundown of news and events as well as some spectacular photography. Go online to support your Parklands today.

Ecological burn success

In October and November the Trust, in conjunction with the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) and NSW Fire Brigades, started a bushfire.

The Trust undertook a controlled ecological burn of part of its remnant Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS) located on York Road, opposite Musgrave picnic area. An ecological burn is widely recognised as the best and most successful method of stimulating native plant seeds in the soil to germinate.

Outcomes from the burn are encouraging with new plant growth already appearing.

A second burn is planned for the ESBS site in the Bird Sanctuary in late 2008. This will be the last action required by the Trust to fulfil the requirements of its \$25,000 grant from DECC on attaining best practice status. It is expected that similar burns at the two sites will be required every two to three years.

New brochures

A range of new brochures have been released to assist our visitors and sports hirers:

- an updated **Dogs in the Parklands** brochure to advise dog walkers and dog owners of their rights and responsibilities in Centennial Parklands.
- new brochures for the **Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre** to outline horse riding opportunities and stabling options for horse owners.
- new **Sports Hirers** brochures to assist in booking a sports field or facility on a casual or seasonal basis.

All brochures are available at the Visitor Information counter, Parklands Office or online at www.centennialparklands.com.au

Hairy Mary the Not-So-Scary Spider



The magnificent golden orb spider

During January, Rangers will be introducing children to the many wonders of our eight legged friends through a summer school holiday program "Hairy Mary the Not-So-Scary Spider". More commonly feared than admired, Rangers will be answering interesting spider questions such as 'Why is Mary so hairy?' to help explain the important role spider's play in the Parklands.

So next time you visit the Parklands make sure you keep an eye open for the many spiders that are more active in the warmer weather. And remember that ninety eight per cent are not only harmless, they are important for noting changes in the environment. In fact, did you know we couldn't live without them?

To find out why this is so, and to explore the fascinating world of spiders, make sure you book in to the "Hairy Mary the Not-So-Scary Spider" program this summer holidays. *Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.*

Graffiti eyesore



An example of the recent spate of graffiti

Did you know that over \$15,000 a year is spent on graffiti removal across Centennial Parklands? Steve Corbett, Director and Chief Executive, acknowledges this is a disappointing figure saying that 'everyone wishes that this money could be spent on things that would truly improve the assets, such as tree replacement and weed eradication.'

Recently there has been a spate of graffiti attacks across the Parklands, including at the Paddington Gates playground and amenities, the Queens Park amenities and the Federation Pavilion. Trust Rangers and Security Rangers patrol the Parklands day and night and offenders will be fined and referred to the police. If you see any suspicious activity please contact our Security Rangers on 0412 718 611.

We want your memories and stories!

Did you grow up around Centennial Parklands? Did you visit regularly? Have you walked in the Park all your life? Or have you just discovered this place? Centennial Park was established back in 1888 and dubbed "The People's Park". Never has a truer name been given to a public space – as the history of these Parklands is as much about the 'people' as the 'place'.

From our leaders' ideas that shaped the landscape to the everyday family who picnic by the ponds, from a music lover attending a Bob Dylan concert to group of children spotlighting possums after dark - Centennial Parklands has been built on a thousand memories, experiences and stories.

As part of our oral history and upcoming souvenir publication project we want to hear your memories and stories. Please contact the Trust on (02) 9339 6699 or info@centennialparklands.com.au.

A trial to extend the life of our trees

As you walk around Centennial Park's Grand Drive, take a few moments to look up at the trees above you. Many are not well. These trees around Grand Drive are some of the Parklands oldest and most significant trees, but for various reasons they are struggling to survive.

Due to a combination of age, drought, poor soils, pollution and soil compaction from cars parking on their root systems, these trees now need some TLC.

The Trust is undertaking a trial to see if it can give these trees some breathing space to regenerate and recover.

Grand Drive is a magnificent late 19th century landscape design feature comprising the riding track, footpath, road, trees, embankments and fences. The most significant element of the Grand Drive landscape is undoubtedly the two avenues of trees. These avenues incorporate 466 trees, comprising three main species: the Port Jackson fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*), the Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*) and the Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*).



Holm Oak (Quercus ilex) is a tree from the Mediterranean region that thrives in poor soil and dry climates. These two trees in Centennial Park appear remarkably different even though they are only a few hundred metres apart.

The trial project zone is immediately adjacent to the Robertson Road entry gates to Centennial Park. It will take approximately six months to complete, with work having commenced on 10 November 2008.

The Trust will be working with independent experts in the field of urban



tree management and soil science throughout this project.

Further information on this trial remediation project visit our website: www.centennialparklands.com.au. Or if you want to contribute invaluable funding support to these trees, please visit www.yourparklands.org.au.

Thank you for helping us celebrate 25 Years of Trust



Rebecca Moore playing at the Open Day

Hundreds of people visited the Centennial Parklands Open Day on Sunday 2 November 2008.

The Open Day was a community celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Trust, signifying 25 since the Trust Act

passed through Parliament leading to the creation of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust.

The day featured entertainment and learning for the whole family which included a visit from the Taronga ZooMobile, jumping castle, face painting, free tours, pony rides and ranger-led art and craft activities.

The day also featured live acoustic music from Rebecca Moore and Los Tres Monos, and a number of lucky visitors walked away with prizes and gift vouchers. It was also an opportunity for the community to talk to our staff about the Parklands and an occasion for people to connect with the Centennial Parklands Foundation.



Children enjoyed the visit by the Taronga Zoo mobile

If you would like to receive a free copy of the last issue of Parklands magazine, a commemorative issue celebrating this 25 year milestone, please email us on info@centennialparklands.com.au or call (02) 9339 6699.

Parklands key to a creative revolution



Sandra Levy

One of Australia's most experienced and respected film and television producers, Ms Sandra Levy, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) is leading an ambitious change of direction aimed at making it more creatively open and flexible. But, she acknowledges, the shift would not have been possible without the school's move to its new quarters in Centennial Parklands. Ms Levy told ABC Radio National's Media Report on 16 October 2008 that the exciting changes in AFTRS's curricula and direction were, in part, driven by a revolution in the cost,

flexibility and ease of use of communications technology.

Filmmaking, for example, was until recently largely restricted to 35mm equipment that only the most experienced and privileged people got to use. 'Now anybody can make a little film, a little video, a little digi-story. In a sense, the school is attempting to respond to that enormous shift in what's happening,' Ms Levy said.

In an important initiative, AFTRS next year will take up to 100 students 'pretty much straight from school' into a new course known as the Foundation Diploma.

Said Ms Levy: 'We looked at all the students who were doing fantastic work for their school exams - artwork, wonderful composing of music. We saw lots and lots of kids making films and videos and mobile camera films, and all the things they put on Facebook. We realised that there's a huge wave of creativity that's not being captured by this school. Students are ready to come to this institution probably younger than in the past because of the technology.'

The school had also launched a part-time Centre of Scriptwriting to attract writers from across age, experience and interest spectrums, among other initiatives.

AFTRS's move from its former home on the campus of Macquarie University 26 kilometres out of town at North Ryde was one of the 'main triggers' that enabled new directions to be taken, Ms Levy said.

'Suddenly we're right in the middle of the film precinct. We're cheek-by-jowl with Fox Studios and all that activity. Plus [digital production company] Animal Logic, and [recording studio and scoring stage] Trackdown and Baz Luhrmann's film is being locked off just a few yards from where we sit!' The school also found itself hosting a widening range of industry activities - test screenings, the Directors Guild conference and drinks for the 2008 SPAA Fringe festival.

'Being right in the centre of the industry really has made a huge impact on the school,' Ms Levy said.

Clearly, the exciting promise of a vibrant, alive and creative Entertainment Quarter at Moore Park is being realised.



The new AFTRS facility at Moore Park

Evolving Events

Reflecting the Trust's Business Plan goal and in line with the NSW State Plan, we are excited at the opportunities presented this year to address the balance between cultural, sporting and recreational events.

With a number of new small community-focused events being staged in the Parklands for the first time over the 2008-09 event season, the calendar sees a broadening of our programs.

We are pleased to welcome events like:

- **Taste Sydney** (12-15 March 2009). This public event is aimed at discerning food lovers. Visitors will be able to taste a selection of the city's best signature dishes from high profile restaurants of Sydney in the beautiful Parklands setting.

- **Relay for Life** (May 2009). This community fundraising walk event is held in conjunction with The Cancer Council NSW. By hosting this event in the Parklands the event will gain greater coverage within metropolitan Sydney, leading to greater awareness and increased fundraising opportunities for the Cancer Council.

By including these types of events to our existing program of popular sporting, cultural and recreational events the Trust is able to offer a more vibrant and diverse range of events and maintain the program's fundraising/charitable focus.

For more information on upcoming events this summer, please visit www.centennialparklands.com.au and select your date or special interest using our handy events calendar feature.

taste
of Sydney

12-15 March 2009

Centennial Park

Principal Partner



Friends of Centennial Parklands take note!

As part of your membership, show your card to receive a 10% discount at CP Dining and any other Trippas White venue. Visit www.friends.net.au for more information on becoming a member.

Bon Appetit!

A new era of healthy choice at Centennial Parklands Dining

All three components of our brilliant new eating precinct, Centennial Parklands Dining, opened in October 2008. CP Dining, as it is known, comprises Centennial Parklands Kiosk, Centennial Parklands Café and Centennial Parklands Restaurant. Together they offer healthy and delicious food to meet every pocket, palate and culinary mood.

A colourful history

The original Centennial Parklands kiosk was constructed in 1892. In 1908 the Kiosk was refurbished and part turned into a Cyclists Pavilion. It survived Centennial Park's occupation by Australia's military in World War II, only to be destroyed by fire in 1946 and rebuilt shortly after.

A new restaurant and café was opened in 1987, just in time for the 1988 Bicentenary Celebrations. This building was much admired by the community and the structure we see today retains many of its attributes.

Meet the licensee

In 2006 the Trust commenced the long-planned upgrade of the premises to meet present and future needs and to co-incide with the re-tendering for a new licensee.

The licence was won by Trippas White Catering. Many people unfamiliar with the name will know the quality of Trippas White's service. Among the notable establishments it runs are the Royal Botanic Gardens Restaurant and the dining facilities at The Mint, the Art Gallery of NSW, the Pavilion and the National Gallery of Australia.

Trippas White's empathy and experience in working with institutions and sites of cultural and heritage significance was an important factor in its successful bid, but its vision for CP Dining was the unique

point of difference.

Says Brien Trippas, Chief Executive Officer of Trippas White: 'It is wonderful to see our vision coming to fruition. We wanted healthy options and an operation with good environmental practices such as compostable packaging.' Brien adds proudly that he now regards CP Dining as his company's flagship establishment.

Trippas White also recently "scooped the pool" in the 2007 Awards For Excellence (Restaurant & Catering NSW) including "Caterer of the Year".

The Kiosk – great options for less than \$10



Patrons enjoying the expansive deck outside the new Kiosk

The kiosk is a takeaway self-service facility. Trippas White's vision is of a 'tactile sort of place, a place where people can see what they buy'. Customers can choose from a range of options including sandwiches, salads, drinks, gelato, gourmet pies or fruit. Coffee is made to order and some items can be toasted.

'The great thing about the Kiosk,' says Lucinda Newton, General Manager of CP Dining, 'is that all daily prepared items are priced under \$10. This even includes our organic baby food. Plus we have a great range of provisions for a

spontaneous picnic in the Park.'

Seating is available on the deck under the magnificent Port Jackson fig tree.

Kiosk fast facts

- Trading 7 days
- Hours: 7.30 am–5.00 pm
- Self-service

The Café – an accessible dining experience



The spacious and light area of the Café can be changed dramatically for a private function

Glass doors envelop the breezy, spacious Café, while expansive timber decks provide a large outdoor dining space with expansive Park views much-coveted by casual diners. The Café offers table service for guests dining indoors and counter service for those dining outside on the terrace or deck.

Says Lucinda: 'I think people will really enjoy the all-day breakfast menu available at the Café. We have tried to make it really accessible and attractively priced for a great dining experience. In addition to the Café menu, we offer a Little Person's menu (under 10 years) and a Young Person's menu (for 10-16 years) to make it an enjoyable dining experience for everyone.'

From 2.30 pm the Terrace menu is available on the deck. With outdoor lounge seating it will provide the perfect spot for a glass of cheeky wine and a delicious cheese platter in the afternoon sun.

Café fast facts

- Trading 7 days
- Hours: 7.30 am–5.00 pm
- No bookings taken
- Will be fully licensed by Christmas

The Restaurant – simple and delicious food

Fabulous cuisine and service, lush views and plentiful parking make Centennial Parklands Restaurant the city's smartest lunching spot.

Culinary consultant Mark Best, of Marque Restaurant, brings his unique style and philosophy to the Restaurant. The menu showcases the produce that is in season, focusing on what is locally sourced and organically grown.

Mark says: 'The food is natural and wholesome and this makes the ingredients taste more intensely of themselves. Our technique is to support the ingredients, not to dominate them.'

Restaurant fast facts

- Trading 7 days
- Hours: 12.00 pm–3.00 pm
- Reservations are recommended
- A-la-carte and fully licensed

Events – a cleverly adaptable space

CP Dining is also available for events, weddings and parties. 'We have an enormously flexible space and we are still exploring all the ideas and options. There are endless possibilities,' says Brien.

The venue can accommodate a variety of events from cocktail parties to formal dinners and has already hosted many successful events since opening.

New restaurant plantings



The northern aspect planting

The horticultural displays surrounding CP Dining have been designed to complement the new buildings and



Outdoor lounge seating adjacent to the Restaurant surrounding landscape. Plants were selected to fit with the existing sub-tropical and fernery planting theme.

The garden beds to the north and south sides have different aspects and conditions and the plants have been chosen accordingly.

The southern side is more temperate with two large Port Jackson Figs (*ficus rubiginosa*) creating a cool microclimate suited to such plants as Philodendrons, Cycads, Bromeliads, Plectranthus and Begonias. One of the feature plants of this section is the sacred ear cycad (*Dioon mejiae*), a majestic cycad native to Honduras and Nicaragua.

The northern side of the restaurant features hardy plants that are better suited to sunny aspects including Cannas, Heucheras, Strelitzias and Colocasias. These plants border the walkway up to the new Visitor Information counter and the existing courtyard that features Bougainvillea and Spathodeas.

New Information counter – open 7 days

Just behind the Kiosk you will find the new Visitor Information counter – a one stop shop for everything you need to know about the Parklands. Pick up our new brochures, check out our merchandise, become a *Friend* or book yourself into one of our exciting programs or activities. It's all on offer at the new Visitor Information counter

Dogs and Bicycles

For health and safety reasons dogs are not allowed in any kiosk, café or restaurant within the Parklands. Tethering posts and dog water bowls have been installed across Banksia Way (opposite the Kiosk) and more will be installed adjacent to the playground once it is completed.

Bicycles are not permitted to be ridden up, or parked on, the accessible ramp. Temporary bike racks are installed on Banksia Way. Purpose-built racks recommended by the Trust's Cycling Liaison Committee will be installed by Christmas.

From the kitchen of Mark Best:

Leatherwood Honey Madelines with Salted Butter (makes 20 small)

- 3 whole eggs (60 gm)
- 130 gms castor sugar
- 150 gms plain flour
- 125 gms lescure salted butter (or best quality unsalted with the addition of 5 gms sea salt)
- 30 gms leatherwood honey
- 5 gm fresh baking powder
- zest of one lemon (Meyer for preference)

Melt the butter with the lemon zest and leave to infuse for 10 minutes. Use a 'Kitchen Aid' with a whisk attachment to beat the eggs, sugar & honey until pale. Sieve the flour with the baking powder 2-3 times. Add to the mixer and beat at high speed until very pale. Turn the mixer to slow and add the butter in a slow steady stream. Put the mix into a piping bag and refrigerate at least 12 hours (preferably 24) before use.

To bake: Lightly butter a non-stick madeline mould and dust it with flour tapping the mould on the bench to remove any excess. Pipe each 'shell' 2/3 full. Pre-heat the oven to 190°. Place the mould into the oven and bake for 5-7 minutes until the middles rise like little volcanos and turn golden. Best served immediately. You may have to repeat this process many times as guest will display an insatiable appetite for them!



Meet our chefs (from left) John McFadden, Group Executive Chef for Trippas White, Mark Best, Culinary Consultant and Darren Footes, Executive Chef for CP Dining.

Twitcher's Corner

Peregrine Falcon

By Trevor Waller



Peregrine Falcon

Living life at the top of its food chain the Peregrine Falcon is a formidable and highly accomplished predator. It has a renowned ability to reach great speeds in flight while chasing prey. The Peregrine will often hunt pigeon and other similar sized birds from above, diving down to hit them with great impact. Once the prey has been caught they kill with a bite to the vertebrae using a specially shaped tooth on the upper mandible.

The head is mainly black with a white chin and throat. There is fine dark barring on the breast and the back is dark. It has dark eyes with a yellow eye-ring. The legs and feet are yellow and equipped with powerful talons. Its long, narrow and pointed wings give the bird powerful and agile flight ability.

They do not build nests, but use ledges on cliff faces as a nesting site, often re-using a nest site in their territory from a previous season. Other nesting sites can include ledges on buildings in cities and stick nests of other species. They lay 2 – 3 eggs that are incubated by both sexes for about a month. The young chicks will spend about another month in the nest before leaving to become another fine tuned predator. Once they have left the nest they will fly with the adults who will teach them how to hunt. The adults will drop prey for them in mid-air and the young birds will practice catching and killing their prey.

If you hear the distinctive alarm call of the Noisy Miner and other small birds in the Parklands, look to the sky and you might see a Peregrine Falcon circling overhead. If you are lucky you might even see it diving down on a Pigeon.

Trevor Waller is a bird enthusiast with more than 15 years behind the binoculars. He is a member of various bird watching clubs in Sydney, including Birds Australia, and conducts the Parklands' Birdwatcher's Breakfasts each season. The next Birdwatcher's Breakfast will be held on Sunday 8 February 2009. Please visit www.centennialparklands.com.au/whatson for details.

Behind the scenes...

Playing the numbers game



Horticulture is just one aspect of Park maintenance

Looking after the presentation and maintenance of the physical fabric of the Parklands is a massive job. Within the three Parks there are over 360 hectares of Parklands to maintain. This includes facilities management, horticultural activities and asset maintenance.

Through a rigorous program involving full-time staff and contractors, we ensure the Parklands are open for business 365 days per year. Here's some interesting number crunching! All up we maintain:

- **1.6 hectares** of horticultural displays and garden beds.
- **4 kilometres** of timber fencing combined with **8 kilometres** of heritage listed iron and sandstone fencing around the perimeter of Centennial Park.
- **11 ponds** which, aside from being an important feature of the Park, are catchments for the surrounding suburbs. Professional water management includes the removal of pollution and re-using our water. This is critical for the Parklands' ecosystems as well as demonstrating sound environmental practices.
- **12.5 kilometres** of roadway and **6 kilometres** of pedestrian footpath all requiring mechanical sweeping.
- **28 hectares** of dedicated sports turf spread across **36 sports fields** requiring mowing, weeding and feeding. And with over **55,000 rounds of golf** played annually at Moore Park Golf there is a lot of wear and tear!
- **50 buildings**, including heritage structures, sports and exhibition facilities and public amenities, each requiring individual maintenance programs.
- **15,000** trees and growing! This includes new plantings (**225 semi-mature trees** were planted in the 12 months prior to July 2008) as well as mature and culturally significant plantings. These trees are subject to an annual care program carried out by Parklands arborists, who are responsible for the unique needs of **250 individual species** of trees.
- the removal of **214 tonnes of general waste** (including green waste that is recycled as compost and **58 tonnes of recyclable waste** collected from the Parklands each year.

Plant of the Season

Begonia cultivars

Begonias are a genus of plants comprising mostly small shrubs and climbers, native to the tropical climates of the Americas. Begonias come from the plant family Begoniaceae, which is host to over 900 species and cultivars.

The plants themselves can grow from a rhizome or have a fibrous root system. The foliage is usually a light to dark green, often with spectacular variegations of pink and red growing on individual canes that form a clump. It flowers all year round and appear in white, yellow, orange, red and pink. New cultivars of begonias are discovered frequently as the plants can quite easily hybridise with other plants in the genus.

Interestingly, the leaves of this genus are rarely symmetrical, meaning that the leaves could not be folded into equal halves.

Begonias are tender to a cool climate and therefore are better suited to a sub-tropical climate in part to full shade. They prefer a cool, moist soil rich in organic matter with regular watering and feeding. Adequate air flow must be provided to avoid any fungal problems. Propagation is by seed, division or cuttings, depending on the species.

Where can it be seen?

Begonias can be found planted by the new Centennial Parklands Restaurant on the southern side, adjacent to



Begonia cultivars

Banksia Way, where they complement the surrounding sub-tropical theme.

Native Watch

Australian Bluebell (*Wahlenbergia gracilis*)

By Frank Hemmings

We often don't notice smaller flowers and fail to appreciate that there is beauty in the small as well as the large. Australian Bluebell is a classic example; this plant often goes completely unnoticed, even when in flower, but although it is not as showy as some of its bigger cousins the flowers are nevertheless beautiful.

Australian Bluebell is one of 21 Australian *Wahlenbergia* species; 19 of these are found in NSW, including Royal Bluebell (*Wahlenbergia gloriosa*), the floral emblem of the ACT. *Wahlenbergia* belongs to the same family (CAMPANULACEAE) as the widely cultivated Bellflowers (*Campanula*). Australian Bluebell is the smallest flowered Bluebell in Sydney. In NSW it occurs predominantly on the coast and tablelands but is scattered into the western plains. It is found in all Australian states except Western Australia, and also occurs on Lord Howe Island, New Zealand, New Caledonia and New Guinea.

Australian Bluebell is a small herb ('herb' in the botanical sense indicates a non-woody plant, as opposed to woody plants such as trees and shrubs), with tufts of leaves near the ground. The

flowers are from 3 to 11 mm long, and are scattered in few-flowered inflorescences (sprays) to 80 cm high, but often much shorter, even as low as 5 cm. Flowering occurs throughout the year but predominantly from spring through summer.

Where can it be seen?

Australian Bluebell occurs in many different habitats including roadsides and lawns. It is widespread throughout the Parklands, and may be found in many lawn areas. The best places to see this plant are those open areas of Centennial Park where the grass is left to grow fairly tall, such as on the sand hills above the Kensington Pond, near Alison Road.

Frank Hemmings is curator of the John T. Waterhouse Herbarium at the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales.



Australian Bluebell

Evergreen Dinner a resounding success



Master of Ceremonies James O'Loughlin with Foundation Chair Sarah Whyte

The Centennial Parklands Foundation's inaugural Evergreen Dinner on Saturday 11 October 2008 was a resounding success with more than \$60,000 raised towards a new Education Centre and Recycled Garden project in Centennial Parklands. This was an impressive result given the turmoil that unfolded on the Australian stock market the day prior to the event.



Lucy Turnbull and Nick Greiner with Foundation Governor Annabelle Bennett

The Education Centre will provide a "classroom in the Park" and will be

New benefactors

Optus Mobile
Gilles & Susan Kryger
Fox Studios
Deslie Craigie
The Glowka Family

An evening of exceptional food was enjoyed by around 280 people, with internationally renowned chef Mark Best, from Marque Restaurant, delighting people with creative 'slow food' using locally sourced organic and biodynamic produce. Innovative Production Services brought the venue to life by washing the trees and building in beautiful colour which slowly changed throughout the evening. Evocative images of the Park were displayed on oversized plasma screens portraying the beauty of the Parklands to guests.

Amongst those at the dinner were Federal Opposition Leader Malcolm Turnbull and former NSW Premiers Nick Greiner and Neville Wran.

The auction of the Port Jackson fig to be planted in Banksia Way, Centennial Park raised \$12,000, with Culligan Water being the generous winning bidder.

To learn more about the success of the Evergreen Dinner and our supporters

The Miles Family
Henry Pollack Foundation
Dr Alan Krell and Jake Stretton
Audrey Symons
The Griffith Family
John Plummer

complemented by a best practice recycled demonstration garden. It was the first function held at the new Centennial Parklands Dining and guests enjoyed an evening in a stunning edible garden created by event stylists Form Over Function. Guests took home the ingredients and recipe for their own artichoke salad as well as garden hand tools that were part of the lush green table centrepieces.

please visit www.yourparklands.org.au. This event could not have been possible without the generosity and support of the following:

Principal Sponsor: Centennial Parklands Dining.

Major Sponsors: Form Over Function, Innovative Production Services, Kiehl's since 1851, Cascade Green, Tamburlaine Vineyard.

Supporters: Green Tomato Cars, Culligan Water, Vitamin X Advertising, The Alison Principle, Climate Friendly.

Raffle Prizes kindly donated by: AWR Wines, Centennial Stables, Earth Food Store, Electrolux Home Products, Fuzzy, Global Publishing, La Sala, Lexus Australia, Lloyd Lomas Salon, Marque Restaurant, Moore Park Golf, Paperbark Camp, Polo Enterprises, Pratten Boutique, Pure Spirits, The Bark Hyatt, Tim Brown Meditation, True Blue Cruises and Walkies.

Gift bags courtesy of: Camilla, Culligan Water, Form Over Function, Kiehl's since 1851.



Charlotte Ritchie and Tim Gordon from Culligan Water - winning bidder of the magnificent Port Jackson fig

To find out more about dedicating a tree or to make a donation, please contact the Foundation on (02) 9339 6699 or visit www.yourparklands.org.au

**BECOME A FRIEND TODAY
AND ENJOY EXCLUSIVE
BENEFITS FOR YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY!**

**GET THE MOST OUT OF WHAT YOUR
PARK HAS TO OFFER WITH THE
FRIENDS OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS
PROGRAM. YOU WILL ENJOY GREAT
DISCOUNTS AND BENEFITS IN AND
AROUND THE PARKLANDS. PLUS,
YOU WILL BE HELPING CARE FOR THE
PARKLANDS, KEEPING IT BEAUTIFUL
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

**BECOME A
FRIEND OF CENTENNIAL
PARKLANDS
BY 31 JANUARY 2009
AND RECEIVE A DOUBLE PASS
TO MOONLIGHT CINEMA
(VALUED AT \$34)
WWW.FRIENDS.NET.AU**

**FRIENDS OF
CENTENNIAL
PARKLANDS**

Volunteers

Welcome Christine Shergold

The Trust is delighted to accept the services of Christine Shergold as our new Volunteer Archivist. Christine responded to our call for volunteers to work in the Trust's archives. As a long-time local resident of Randwick she has regularly enjoyed the amenities of the Parklands and is keen to give something back.

Christine is a fully qualified archivist and her overall goal is to improve the management and storage of the Trust's archives. She is currently surveying our archival collection and determining a range of tasks to be undertaken by members of a volunteer archival team.

Thanks Rabobank!

Four staff from Rabobank Australia's Corporate Lending Division



Volunteers from Rabobank

volunteered their time in August to help with weed removal and planting of native wetland species on Busby's Island. This is the second volunteering stint by Kellie Fitzgerald, David Barradough, Phil Streten, and Scott Lewis and they are planning to return in 2009!

A new era for Visitor Information Volunteers

With the opening of the Visitor Information counter in the new Centennial Parklands Dining, the Visitor Centre in the Superintendent's Residence is now closed. We are delighted that volunteer June Murphy will continue her great volunteer work at the new counter. We also warmly welcome Mike Schapiro to the volunteer team.

June was a member of the inaugural Visitor Information Team, established in 2003. The Trust would like to sincerely thank June for her commitment and regular involvement over the past five years.

Other volunteers that have assisted over the period, and whom we would like to extend our sincere thanks, have included: Fay Brown (deceased); Roslyn Elwing; Allan Kauter; Helen Morrison; Peter Reid; Bella Wedderburn; Ruth White; Elizabeth Wright; and Robert Hart Jones.

The new Visitor Information counter is open 7 days a week. If we have a few spare hours we are currently recruiting volunteers to help provide this vital public service in the new hub of the Parklands.


To find out more on any of these programs please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Lyn Walker on (02) 9339 6627 or email volunteers@centennialparklands.com.au

Visitor Information

Please refer to the map insert for locations.

HOW TO GET HERE

5 km from the Sydney CBD. Easily accessible by bus, train, car, bike or on foot.

 Regular buses from Circular Quay, Central Stn, Bondi Jn Stn and surrounding suburbs. Trains to Central and Bondi Jn, both a 30-40 minute walk to the Parklands. www.131500.info

 Cycle lanes along Darley Rd, Alison Rd, Anzac Pde, South Dowling St, Cleveland St and Federation Way.

CAR FREE DAYS

Last Sunday of every season (February, May, August and November).

Next day: 22 February 2008

CENTENNIAL PARK GATE TIMES

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

Primary Gates (Paddington, Woollahra, Randwick & Robertson Entry Rd)

April* to 30 April 6.00 am–6.00 pm
May to August 6.30 am–5.30 pm
September to October* 6.00 am–6.00 pm
October to April ** 6.00 am–8.00 pm
* After Daylight Saving ** During Daylight Saving
In NSW, Daylight Saving will operate from 5 October 2008 to 5 April 2009.

Secondary Gates (York Rd, Jervois Ave and Robertson Exit Rd)



Weekdays 9.00 am–4.00 pm
Weekends as per Primary Gates

Govett St Gates

Weekdays 9.00 am–Primary Gate closing time
Weekends as per Primary Gates

FOOD OUTLETS

Centennial Parklands Dining E3

 Incorporating a restaurant, cafe and kiosk.
 Off Banksia Way, Centennial Park. Open 7 days. Café/Kiosk: 7.30 am–sunset.
Restaurant: Noon–3.00 pm
www.cpdining.com.au

Centennial Park Mobile Food Van E5

Light meals, sandwiches, cold drinks, gelato and espresso. Open weekends and public holidays, 8.00 am–sunset.

The Travelling Barista C4 H5

Sandwiches, wraps, cakes and coffee. Open weekends and public holidays, 8.00 am–sunset, at Moore Park and Queens Park.

Moore Park Golf Patio Bar B3

Overlooking the first tee, the outdoor patio bar serves light meals and drinks. Open 7 days, 7.30 am–7.30 pm (Mon to Wed), 7.30 am–6.00 pm (Thu to Fri), 7.30 am–5.00 pm (Sat to Sun) (02) 9663 1064 www.mooreparkgolf.com.au

The Long Apron at Moore Park Golf B3


This bar and restaurant serves quality meals and a full variety of wine and beers. Open Wed to Sun, Noon–5.00 pm (02) 9663 1064 www.mooreparkgolf.com.au

RECREATION ACTIVITIES

BBQs and Picnics

Free BBQs. First-in first served basis. BYO portable BBQs with legs permitted (except during total fire bans), portable picnic equipment permitted. Bookings required for groups of 50 or more. BBQs located at **A3 D5 D6 E2 E3 G4 G5 H5**

Cycling and Rollerblading

 3.8 km cycle/rollerblade lane on Grand Dr, Centennial Park. Cycle lanes along Darley Rd, Alison Rd, Anzac Pde, South Dowling St, Cleveland St and Federation Way. Off-road cycling circuit for children at Learners Cycleway. Helmets required. **D5**

Centennial Parklands Cycle Hire F3

Cnr Hamilton & Grand Drs, in Centennial Park 0401 357 419

Centennial Park Cycles G6

50 Clovelly Rd, Randwick (02) 9398 5027

Skater HQ D3

Shop 2154, The Entertainment Quarter, Moore Park (02) 9368 0940

Playgrounds

There are five playgrounds catering for a range of age groups. **A2 D5 E2 E3 H5**

Dog Walking

On and off leash dog walking areas. BYO dog tidy bags to pick up after your dog. Pick up the Dogs in the Parklands brochure or visit www.centennialparklands.com.au

SPORT AND FACILITY HIRE

Quality sports grounds and facilities for hire for casual one-off bookings or seasonal competitions. (02) 9339 6699

ES Marks Athletics Field B5

For hire for training or carnivals. 400 m running track, floodlit field and covered stand with seating for 1000 people. Casual public training, Tue, Wed & Thu, 3.30 pm–8.30 pm. (02) 9339 6699 www.centennialparklands.com.au/sports

Moore Park Tennis Courts B3

Tennis court hire, coaching, social competitions, racquet and ball sales and ball machine hire. Four floodlit courts. Open 7 days, 7.00 am–10.00 pm. 0412 123 456

Parklands Sports Centre C4


 Tennis court hire, coaching, school holiday camps and competitions.
11 floodlit courts. Open 7 days, 9.00 am–10.00 pm (summer & Mon to Thu in winter) 9.00 am–6.00 pm (Fri in winter) 8.00 am–6.00 pm (winter weekends) (02) 9662 7033


Moore Park Golf B3

Par 70, 18-hole Group One Championship public access golf course. All weather, day-night Driving Range, Putting and Chipping greens, Pro Shop and School of Golf. Membership now available. (02) 9663 1064 www.mooreparkgolf.com.au


Horse Riding C4 D5


3.6 km horse track; 3.5 ha of fenced grounds featuring showjumping, dressage, lunging and turf hacking; Equestrian Centre with covered arenas, hot and cold wash bays and sand rolls. Riding schools offer lessons, horse hire, pony camps, pony parties, pony leads and guided park rides. Stabling available. (02) 9332 2809 www.cpequestrian.com.au

 Budapest Riding School 0419 231 391 budapestridingschool@aapt.net.au

 Centennial Stables (02) 9360 5650 www.centennialstables.com.au

 Eastside Riding Academy (02) 9360 7521 www.eastsideriding.com.au

 Moore Park Riding Stables (02) 9360 8747 www.mooreparkstables.com.au

 Papillon Riding Stables (02) 8356 9866 or 0407 224 938 www.papillonriding.com.au

WHAT'S ON

Ranger-guided educational excursions, children's birthday parties, guided tours and workshops, school holiday activities, vacation care programs as well as sports camps, concerts, festivals and events. (02) 9339 6699 www.centennialparklands.com.au/whatson

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment Quarter D3

Located adjacent to the Fox Professional Studios, this is a hub for events, concerts, shows, movies, Farmers markets, bars and dining. (02) 8117 6700 www.eqmoorepark.com.au

Hordern Pavilion and Royal Hall of Industries C3

www.playbillvenues.com

Moonlight Cinema G2

www.moonlight.com.au

CONTACT US

Visitor Information counter

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

Parklands Office

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

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

t. (02) 9339 6699 f. (02) 9332 2148

after hours emergency. 0412 718 611

e. info@centennialparklands.com.au

w. www.centennialparklands.com.au

a. Locked Bag 15, Paddington NSW 2021

Healthy Parks
Healthy People



Printed on Recycled Paper
(90% Post Consumer Waste)