

VOLUME 22 • AUTUMN 2003

# parklands

THE MAGAZINE OF CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS



  
CENTENNIAL  
parklands  
centennial park  
moore park  
queens park

# Directions



**Peter Duncan**  
Director,  
Centennial Parklands

Welcome to the autumn issue of *Parklands*.

Last issue saw us all hoping for a break in the drought. What a break! Four days of widespread rain fell generously over the State. While still being cautious about the lasting effects of these recent rainfalls, the difference it has made to the Parklands is quite spectacular. The dry, parched land of recent days now shows signs of regrowth, grassed areas are gradually becoming green again and the critically low pond levels have risen slightly.

As with the rest of NSW, we will continue to wait for further rain to confirm that the worst of this terrible period is truly over.

While pond levels are still not at capacity, we are taking the opportunity to undertake major

maintenance and cleanup work and to complete the final stages of the pond restoration work. We will continue with voluntary water restrictions for watering of the gardens and grassed areas and halve all mowing activity until we can be sure it is no longer necessary.

Of course, the water of Centennial Parklands has always played an important and significant role in its history and that of Sydney during the 1800s. In the article, *The Historical Links of the Parklands Waterways*, we take a look at the historical connections the ponds and swamplands hold.

In October last year, a congress in Singapore was organised by the International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration. The congress dealt with the issues

of managing urban parks in the information age. One of the keynote addresses was presented by Dr Tan Wee Kiat, Chief Executive Officer of the National Parks Board of Singapore who spoke about the challenges of the role played by parks in the economic development of a city. In a world where information technology has overtaken many outdoor pursuits, the challenge facing park authorities is to draw people away from the computer screen and into the park. I hope you will find the views he expressed as interesting and thought provoking as I did.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Parklands* and the many events planned for the autumn season ■

# Contents

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

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

Trustees: Professor John Niland AC (Chairman), Jill Anderson, David Leckie, Michael Marx AM, Margaret Varady, John Walker, Sarah Whyte.

Editorial team: Anne Ferguson, Julie Hunter Ward

email: [anne.ferguson@cp.nsw.gov.au](mailto:anne.ferguson@cp.nsw.gov.au)  
[julie.hunter\\_ward@cp.nsw.gov.au](mailto:julie.hunter_ward@cp.nsw.gov.au)

Design: Imagepoint Creative Solutions

Photography: Ian Lever

Printed on recycled paper

Cover: Liquid Amber

## 3 Parkbench

## 4 Singapore A Wider Role for Parks

## 5 Parks in the Information Age

## 6 Twitcher's Corner

Person in the Park

## 7 The Historical Links of the Parklands' Waterways

## 8 A Bench with a View

Catch of the day

## 9 Rare Collection donated to Parklands' Archives

## 10 Events

## 12 Friends of the Parklands

## 13 Recipe

## 14 Calendar

## 16 User's Guide





# Parkbench

## SUMMER COMES TO AN END

For the last six years, Moonlight Cinema has been synonymous with summer and each year Centennial Parklands has played host to this successful event. Since then, other open air cinemas have popped up around Sydney to cater to the ever growing popularity of watching a movie under the night sky.

Moonlight Sounds was the first dance music event to use the Kippax Lake area of Centennial Parklands. The chilled and relaxed atmosphere was set beside the beautiful lakeside with patrons enjoying International acts Cassius (duo from France) and Derrick Carter (from Chicago, USA) amongst others. The event was a great success appreciated by all.

The end of summer also sees the end of yet another successful season for Circus Oz. Once again, the amazing antics of this premier troupe entertained Sydney audiences and no doubt their return will be eagerly awaited.

## HEALTHY PARKS HEALTHY PEOPLE

In 2000, Parks Victoria embarked on an innovative campaign to encourage people to take advantage of the many health benefits visiting a park can offer. Called *Healthy Parks Healthy People*, the campaign was aimed at inspiring the people of Victoria to take an active role in caring for their parks and their own health and well-being at the same time.

Park agencies throughout Australia have been invited to participate in the campaign. In Sydney, the Sydney Urban Parks Education and Research Group (SUPER group) is planning to implement the *Healthy Parks Healthy People* campaign across its member agencies.

The SUPER group was established in 1998 to provide a strategic, integrated approach to urban park research in Sydney. The members

of this group include Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust; NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service; Planning NSW; Sydney Harbour Federation Trust; Parramatta Park Trust; Sydney Olympic Park Authority; Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust; and the University of Technology, Sydney School of Leisure and Tourism.

SUPER group will be involved in a number of exciting new initiatives consulting with the community, Government, educational institutions, tourism and business to promote community support for this important project. It will be working with Parks Victoria to promote *Healthy Parks Healthy People* to the park-goers of New South Wales.

Regular updates and information will be published in future issues of *Parklands* and on our website [www.cp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cp.nsw.gov.au)

## IMPRINTS

If you haven't already done so, try to get along to the **imprints** exhibition on display in the Superintendent's Residence near the Paddington Gates at Centennial Park.

The exhibition features works by well-known local artist Austin Platt who would cycle around the park recording his own impressions of the trees, ponds, wetlands and grand entrances and architecture of the park.

The exhibition illustrates the influence of Centennial Parklands on the people and the people on the lands and also displays works from other artists.

*The Superintendent's Residence is open on Wednesday and weekends from 10am to 3pm.* ■



# Singapore *A Wider Role for Parks*

In a world increasingly dominated by information technology, major urban parks have a vital role to play in interposing natural environmental reality on virtual reality.

Such was the view expressed by Dr Tan Wee Kiat, Chief Executive Officer of the National Parks Board (NParks) of Singapore at a conference organised by the International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration (IFPRA).

Dr Tan also raised the role that major parks play in the economic development of a nation.

While conceptually IT and parks may appear at opposite ends of the spectrum, there is an interrelationship, according to Dr Tan, that goes beyond the use of IT as a tool of park management.

IT, he said, navigates the realm of the virtual, unencumbered by physical boundaries. Parks, he contrasted, are "anchored firmly in the physical reality of planet earth".

"IT has been increasingly insinuated into our social, work and even recreation time," Dr Tan told the Singapore conference, adding: "So pervasive has IT become that sometimes, one needs to escape to the nearest park for respite from the crush of virtual reality."

Parks can break through the isolating barriers that IT creates as the small screen, displaying a myriad of images, becomes the portal through which the sedentary and chair bound access the world outside from an often dimly lit room.

Dr Tan's messages were not only timely but could tap a new stream of potential park users for the world's major urban green spaces, such as our own Centennial Parklands.

The growth of IT into almost every aspect of daily life, work and non-work, opens up opportunities and potential for park administrators.

"The key lesson for parks people to learn from IT is that we must

remain relevant by creating value for the clients we serve," he said.

In Dr Tan's view, the clients of his parks are not only those who amble down green canopied walkways or pedal their bicycles around his avenues but also those who have a role in the economic future of Singapore itself.

"My job specifically is to make sure that the National Parks Board remains relevant in serving Singapore's needs, and increasingly to contribute value towards the development of Singapore as a great Global City. To achieve our outcomes, my staff and I, as stewards of nature, parks and gardens, must meet the challenge to ensure that our parks and greenery-based recreational endeavours attract and retain our users, both foreign and local," he said.

Dr Tan went on to say, "we must be able to sustain our green estate as an integral part of the work/live/play environment for the people of Singapore.

The greenery we provide thus becomes a key factor in honing Singapore's competitive edge as the business, tourism, services and even educational destination of choice."

To remain competitive as the right environment for new job creating investment, he said that Singapore must retain existing and attract new talent to sustain its way of life.

It was, he said, "a fact that the world's best managers, scientists and business people want not just good business practices, market access and government incentives, but an excellent environment for living as well, in places they choose. "Our parks and greenery must continue to enhance Singapore's reputation for providing a top-notch environment in which to work, raise a family and enjoy life."

That's what former Singaporean Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, set out to do and the creation and expansion of the island nation's parks was integral.

In less than 200 years, what was a lush equatorial jungle, with growth invigorated by rain, humidity and a perpetual summer, Singapore, with its industrial, commercial and residential ambitions could have become a new jungle of steel, glass and concrete.

Through almost every aspect of Singaporean life, from the major and minor parks, the sides of roads and even to vegetation on the outside walls of high rise buildings, which were topped with roof gardens, the greening of Singapore complements the economic development of the small nation.

The views and notions put forward by Dr Tan are thought provoking as they explore new ways in which parks can be appreciated and how they can play a part of economic development.

He presents a challenge for parks administrators on how to access the screen watchers and draw them out of their chairs and into a natural environment. The Internet is one obvious avenue of communication and NParks Singapore, like Centennial Parklands, is active on the World Wide Web.

But in marketing parks to the inveterate IT user there is a need to go beyond a web site, however interactive, because a web site is still a combination of visual images and text on a screen.

New and innovative communication streams need to be developed and implemented so that the benefits inherent in actual park use are presented in such a form that a screen may be closed down, albeit for perhaps a short time, and a door opened to the

life-balancing attributes of parks, such as Centennial Parklands.

The space and nature of the parks creates opportunities for recreation and reflection, to see and hear a world of living things, breathe air neither conditioned nor filtered and to have the opportunity to interact with people who are more than one dimensional.

Then there is overall economic good of the community that new, job-creating investment can bring and how parks can enhance the attractiveness of an individual city.

Centennial Parklands has never had the prominence that Sydney Harbour, the Opera House, the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games or the very vibrancy of Sydney itself have had in the promotion of the city as the home for new capital

and job creating investment in the Asia Pacific Region.

Singapore has used its gardens, along with the premise that it is not just a Garden City but a City in a Garden, to its advantage.

Centennial Parklands offers Sydney a similar advantage. ■



*Vanda Miss Joaquim was chosen as Singapore's national flower in 1981. It was discovered in 1893 and is the oldest and the sole indigenous natural hybrid.*

## Parks in the Information Age

There was no point benefiting from "...the world wide web, e-mail, digital imaging, scanners, mobile phones, faxes, laptop computers and PDAs, GIS, CADD, networked databases, bar-coding, Wide Area Networks, LAN, virtual reality multi-media, electronic training, and public access technologies" if park authorities were remote from the people who used parks.

Along with Singapore and Japan, Sydney via Centennial Parklands was invited by the IFPRA Asia Pacific Congress to present a keynote address.

The Trust's focus, like that of Singapore, was an emphasis on the need for parks authorities to be flexible in order to maximise the benefits that technology and innovation can provide.

The address was delivered by Peter Duncan, Director of

Centennial Parklands and he began by outlining the history of Centennial Parklands and the integral role of IT in the future. What was once the tribal homeland of the Gadigal people became, with European settlement, a water supply, farmlands, a source for wood for fires and the place where the creation of the nation of Australia was proclaimed. Centennial Parklands has now become a vital greenspace for the ever increasing population of one of the world's great urban expanses.

But, with IT, there are some real challenges. IFPRA delegates were told that is easy to pick up every new bit of technology but the real challenge is to know what is relevant, to be selective yet innovative.

While parks are an escape from IT, they must also utilise it to streamline operations as well as

develop effective management systems for the future use of parks – activities which, in turn, benefit park users.

IT enables park managers around the world to share experiences, set benchmarks and compare indicators as well as being able to promote an agreed set of benefits of parks in a global sense.

In Sydney, IT use has seen the creation of a metropolitan-wide visitation database; allowed a multi-agency study of park usage; and developing trend analysis – gaining knowledge of what park users want.

With information technology, Centennial Parklands has also developed a Tree Management Masterplan that not only addressed trees as assets but has created a database of the 9,100 trees in the parklands which will enhance their very survival.

"Technology is now integrated in most of our processes," Peter told the conference, "and we need to redesign and re-engineer our systems to make the most of technology and not just apply technology to existing outdated processes.

As long as, he concluded, we do not forget that "our greatest assets are the parks themselves." ■



*Bike riders enjoy Centennial Park*

# Birds in the Park

Autumn is the quiet time between summer breeding, when mates are sought and found, nests built, the young fledged from the nest and winter migrants arrive. The summer migrants have left to breed in the northern hemisphere and will not return until spring.



*Chestnut Teal*

One bird which remains in the Parklands is the Chestnut Teal. The male and female have very different plumage making them quite easy to tell apart.

Male Chestnut Teal have an iridescent bottle-green head, rich chestnut breast and belly and a white patch on the flanks. In sharp contrast, the female is mottled brown all over with a light buff neck. Both sexes have red eyes and a dark green speculum which is the iridescent, reflective patch on the upper surface of a duck's wing. The female can be confused with the very similar looking Grey Teal which is a lighter brown with a white throat.

Chestnut Teal are small dabbling ducks often found in flocks, feeding from the surface for seeds and insects as well as up-ending in shallow water to reach the bottom. They are found in fresh, brackish and saline wetlands, tidal mudflats, estuaries and inlets. They breed throughout the year after rains, but usually from August to November. Nests are built in tree hollows using down to line the hollow. An alternative nesting site is on the ground under dense grass near the water's edge. A clutch of seven to ten eggs is laid. Look for this duck in any of the Parkland's many ponds and waterways. ■



*Bird Watcher, Trevor Waller, with a group of like-minded enthusiasts*

## Person in the Park *Laurie Mussoto*

Laurie Mussoto remembers football training on the fields above the water tower near Sandstone Ridge. As a student at Paddington High School from 1957 to 1960, he and his class mates would come to the park from school on sports afternoons. These days, his pursuits are less active and he comes to the park "just for the peace of it".

Laurie has been away from Sydney for a couple of years only returning recently. He says the Parklands is even more important to him now as a haven to escape the pace of the city and its sounds.

A local artist, Laurie can often be found wandering around Centennial Park collecting pine cones or other natural material to use as a reference for a painting he is working on. He will also take photographs of trees or birds to use later in his studio.

Like many people who grew up in this area, he has returned with his children to ride bikes or enjoy a picnic and show them the many treasures of the Park. He says, "Not only is the natural beauty of the place relaxing but I often just sit and watch the people doing

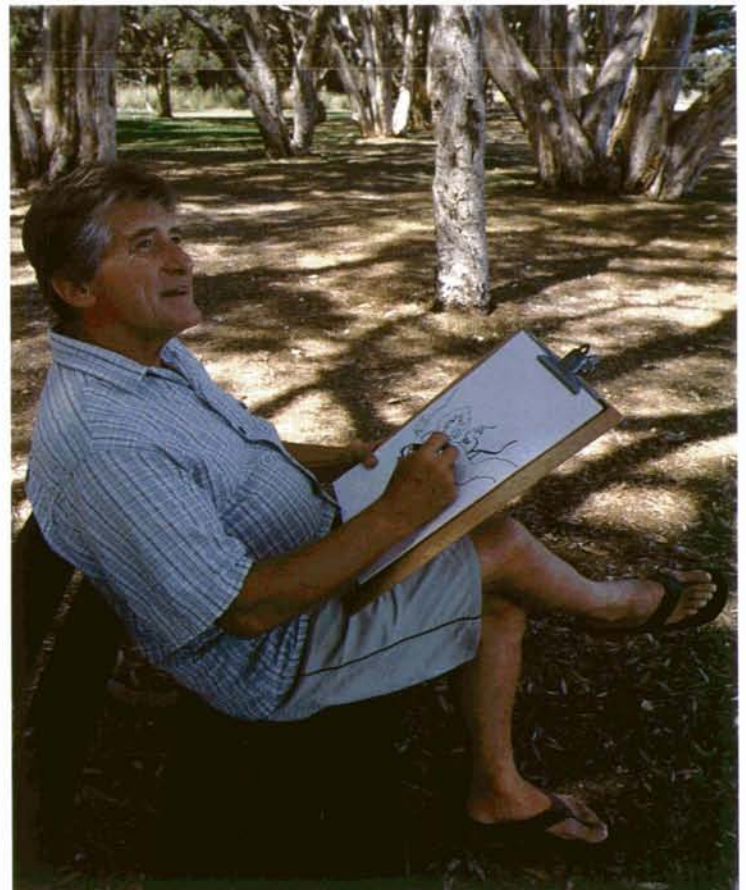


*Laurie Mussoto's painting of Lily Pond Bridge*

Tai Chi which gives me a great sense of peace".

Having spent most of his life in Sydney, Laurie has been a constant visitor to the Park and is especially fond of the Parklands' water systems. His favourite areas are around Lachlan Swamp and Lily Pond with their abundant wildlife. Perhaps surprisingly, Laurie says he has noticed very few changes. "I think that's one of the nicest things about the Park – that it is constant and also beautifully maintained."

*On 22 November 2003, Laurie's works will be on display for two weeks at the Valerie Cohen Gallery in Paddington. ■*



*Laurie Mussoto*

# *The Historical Links of the Parklands' Waterways*

Throughout its history, and even its pre-history, the water of the Centennial Parklands has been a major and inextricable link with the wider community of Sydney.

And that link showcases one of the many educational attributes of the Parklands, an attribute enjoyed by more and more school groups that visit Centennial Parklands.

The historical connection between marshes, ponds and swamps within the Parklands' borders and indigenous and non-indigenous settlement and expansion comes to the fore in the current educational group excursions.

Prior to European settlement, other groups were attracted by the land that now comprises the Parklands. Family groups moving through the Gadigal clan territory found not only resting places and food but a place to tell their stories.

The fresh water underpinned the presence of accessible food and the fruits and other food plants (of which remnants can still be found) provided the foundations for the temporary camps.

Ambling along the Lachlan Swamp Nature Trail, constructed in 1998 by the Guriwal Aboriginal Corporation, information on the wetlands and their importance to indigenous communities is outlined within an actual environment.

European settlement, the dumping of the ill-suited refuse from the over-crowded penal institutions of Britain with their custodians, also needed fresh water to survive in the harsh new outpost of the Empire.

The Tank Stream, the first exercise in a public water infrastructure project, quickly became, the first

pollution dilemma of the colony and alternatives were needed.

What became known as the Lachlan Swamp was one alternative.

The impetus was Governor Lachlan Macquarie, the first official in New South Wales, elected or not, to whom the title of builder could be justifiably applied.

When he arrived in 1810, Macquarie found a settlement "barely emerging from infantile imbecility". Factionalism in the community and the military was rife and infrastructure was in ruins.

A man never afraid to either implement his vision or attach his name to an area or a river, Macquarie utilised the aquifer in the swamps and the water needed to help grow a city flowed.

Post-Macquarie, mineral surveyor James Busby was commissioned for an infrastructure upgrade and shafts, bores and tunnels tapped more water and the Lachlan Water Tunnel introduced the first piped supply for Sydney. Busby also left his name on the public infrastructure and Busby's Bore, completed in 1837, became integral to Sydney's water supply.

Some of the shafts and other sandstone works, planned and constructed under Busby's blueprint, are still to be found and are part of the educational tours.

The water supply sourced from what is now Centennial Parklands, which was augmented with additional dams over the decades of the 19th Century, came to the end of its viability in 1888 when the Nepean system was completed.

Redundancy meant an opportunity to establish a park.

The dams were incorporated into the park plan and were deepened and reconfigured to become ornamental ponds.

The original embankments became paths and islands were created to enhance the ambience.

However, in almost a last hurrah, investigations were undertaken in 1969 to ascertain the suitability of Centennial Parklands as an additional water source for Sydney.

The investigation came to nothing and what were initially marshes fed by natural aquifers remained what they are today, ornamental

ponds, each with their own individual character, as well as an important drainage system to Botany Bay.

The ponds form the largest freshwater wetlands system in inner-metropolitan Sydney and are an invaluable natural and educational resource

In all, the Parklands contain three reservoirs, twelve ponds and seven open channels, which all combine to continue to be what the indigenous clans have known for generations – a habitat for fish, eels and other aquatic species as well as providing a place for rest and learning. ■



*Lily Pond Bridge*

# A Bench with a View

Forget the room with a view – in Queens Park it's the new benches that have the multi-million dollar views.

From the highest point at the eastern edge near Carrington Road, not only does the full extent of Queens Park unfold but the vista of Centennial Parklands becomes the foreground to the broad Sydney city landscape.

It is one of the best city views around and can now be enjoyed in the comfort of the park's new furniture. There are new park benches, new picnic settings and some additional bench tables.

Some of the new park furniture is close to existing BBQs while more can be found near the playground. It's all part of improving and upgrading visitor facilities.

All in all, it means Queens Park visitors can better enjoy the ambience, passive and active recreation or just watch the kids in the playground.

Also in Queens Park, the Centennial Parklands' tree masterplan focused on plantings of figs and palms, and while that might sound like the ingredients for a tropical recipe, it is the extension of the Parklands' characteristics to an area better known for its playing fields.

Initial planting works were undertaken in 2001 and 2002 and now park visitors will reap the benefits.

New major figs will grow to enhance the existing rows along Queens Park Road and the natural border between the Waverley College fields and the Parklands own fields.

Palms have been planted below the rock ledges along the eastern edge of the park in an effort to develop a rainforest character.

In the decades ahead, these new and important trees will ensure that what was once the Sydney Common will be very uncommon

indeed. We will continue to upgrade Queens Park with tree plantings and landscape improvements as part of the Park Improvement Program.

And from the park benches, one of the best views around will get even better. ■



*One of the best views around the parklands*

# Catch of the Day

We know nature abounds in Centennial Parklands and when it comes to "fish stories" we don't need to adopt the normal trait of exaggeration.

We really did get a "big one", a carp that is – and we're not telling stories as we have the photographs to prove it.

In 1999, we thought we'd set the benchmark when we landed a "monster" weighing in at 14.7 kilograms.

Well now that one can be described as just a minnow – it's been well and truly surpassed with two new contenders caught in late November last year.

As these photos show, we brought one in that tipped the carp scales at 19.5 kilograms and then we set the new record for the Parklands which we think might be unbeatable. The carp almost went off the scales, weighing in at 24 kilos.

When you realise that the average weight for carp caught in our ponds is usually between three and seven kilos, you can understand why we think this record will stand longer than any of Ian Thorpe's.

There's a serious side to this monster catch as carp are considered a pest in our ponds. Their prolific breeding impacts on the survival of native fish and their bottom feeding habits contribute to water pollution and bank erosion.

As part of our efforts to protect the natural environment, Centennial Parklands, in conjunction with Australian Water Technology, has removed 10 tonnes of carp in the past five years. With the removal of carp, Australian bass have been released into the ponds to build up the native fish population. ■



*Joe Perca holds one that didn't get away*



# Rare Collection Donated to Parklands' Archives

A rare collection of parks and recreation journals dating back to August 1964 has been donated to Centennial Parklands by John Mortimer, former Director of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust from 1982 to 1989.

The collection is believed to be the only complete set in existence in Australia. Titled *Australian Parks* and subsequently *Australian Parks and Recreation* the journals chronicle the hopes and aspirations of a group of people whose lives were devoted to the planning, development and maintenance of public parks and gardens around Australia. They were published by the Australian Institute of Parks Administration which then became the Royal Australian Institute of Parks and Recreation and is now known as Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA). The journal, which is still published quarterly by the PLA, has recently changed its name to *Australasian Parks and Leisure* to reflect a wider membership including New Zealand.

When reading some of the articles and papers published in the journals, park managers around Australia were well aware of the vital role open space, parks and gardens played in the health and well-being of the community just as current managers are today.

Following an overseas fact-finding tour in 1962, Frank Keenan, Assistant Superintendent of Parks and Gardens for the City of Melbourne, wrote "In summarising the many aspects of park administration throughout the countries visited, I will make brief mention of only four points I think are the most significant today in assisting us ...to meet the demands of our

rapidly increasing population and developing economy, coupled with the prospect of a shorter working week in industry".

He pointed to:

- the vital role that parks play in the lives of the community;
- a general public realisation of the meaning of recreation and the wide range of activities by people of all ages;
- the importance of parks administrators to recognise public relations; and
- the importance of education and sharing information among parks administrators and staff.

As can be seen from other articles in this edition of *Parklands*, these issues are still very relevant today.

Centennial Parklands is proud to be the recipient of these valuable journals to add to the growing collection of material in its archives. These journals will join other collections such as the Austin Platt artworks now on exhibition at the Superintendent's Residence; the Ern Hoskin Bird records which chronicle the vast array of birdlife seen in the Parklands over the past 50 years; material from the famous campaign in the early seventies to Save the Parks from being used

**"I have been very lucky and privileged to be a custodian of such a wonderful place as Centennial Parklands".**

for an Olympic Stadium; and the historic photographs of Joseph Maiden, Sir Henry Parkes and of course, the declaration of Federation in 1901.

Much of the material has been collected by previous



John Mortimer hands over the journals to Ranger Brian Page and Marketing and Community Relations Manager, Sarah Dinning

administrators however valuable material has also been donated by park visitors and local residents.

John Mortimer's donation of his valuable collection will be added to as we continue to record and archive the journal in its present form.

When *Parklands* asked the former Director what was the highlight of his time spent here he said "I have been very lucky and privileged to be a custodian of such a wonderful place as Centennial Parklands".

*If anyone has something of interest about the Parklands and would like to donate it to our archives please call (02) 9339 6699 or email [info@cp.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@cp.nsw.gov.au)* ■

# Events

*Avoid the fuss and catch the bus!*

Lachlan Swamp,  
Centennial Park  
Coloured Etching,  
1983 Austin Platt



## Birdwatcher's Breakfast

Trevor Waller is an avid birdwatcher who spends hours in the Parklands searching for the unexpected. His favourite times are the first two hours of the day especially for watching the skulking water birds.

Join this early morning guided tour to spot some of the Parklands' migratory and resident land and water birds. For adults. Bring binoculars. Includes light breakfast. 7.30am – 9.30am.

*Bookings essential*  
(02) 9339 6699. ■



*Birdwatcher's Breakfast*

In this new workshop for adults, you will be inspired by the imprints exhibition of Austin Platt's works to create your own dry-point etching. Artist Lucia Parella will guide you as you use the vistas of Centennial Park as your muse. All materials supplied.

After creating your masterpiece, why not visit the exhibition at the Superintendent's Residence. This series of works depicts the natural

heritage of the Parklands and shows the significant role it has played in forging connections between the land and the people.

The Residence is a perfect backdrop for the exhibition having been restored in 2001

2 and 9 April. 10am – 1pm.

*Bookings essential*  
(02) 9339 6699. ■



## Santana

Music legend Carlos Santana and his band will be touring Australia this year with performances in five major cities. Originally scheduled for one night on 27 March at Centennial Parklands, a second performance has been announced

for 28 March. Grab your tickets and enjoy an autumn evening watching this Grammy award winning artist.

*Bookings: Ticketek*  
[www.ticketek.com](http://www.ticketek.com) ■

## Photography Workshop

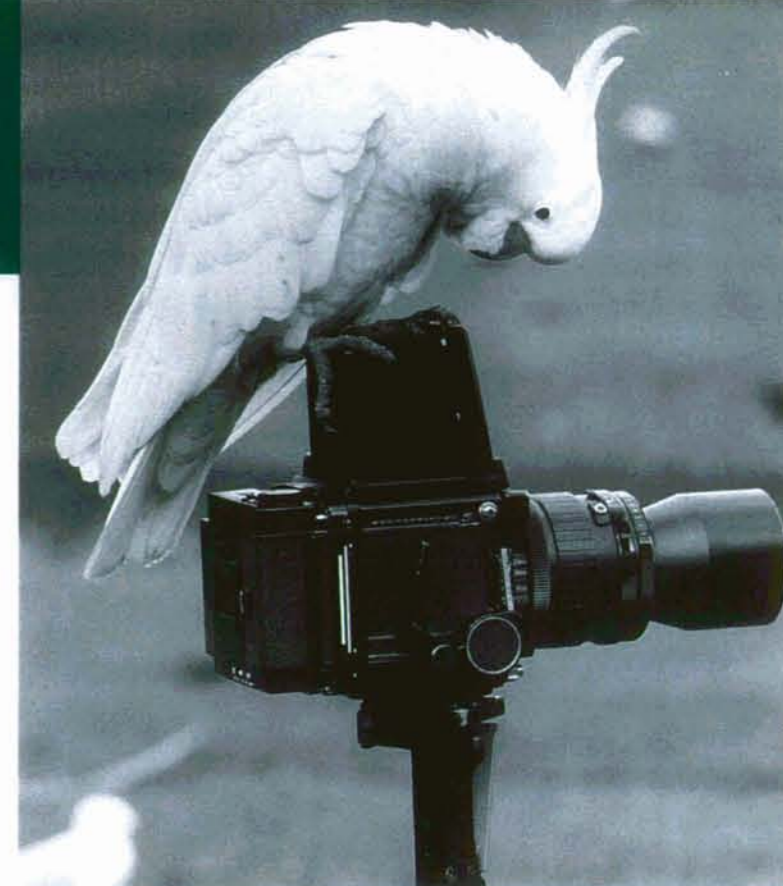
Join local photographer Ian Lever for this two hour practical photography workshop in Centennial Park.

Working as a photographer for 35 years with the last 10 photographing for the *Parklands*, Ian captures the beauty and feel of the Parklands life and history.

Learn some of the finer points of photography, composition, lighting and much more.

For adults. Bring own camera (SLR preferred) and 2 rolls of 24-exposure film. Includes light breakfast. 8am – 10am.

*Bookings essential*  
(02) 9339 6699. ■



## Swamp Dreaming

Centennial Parklands has long been a place of cultural significance for Indigenous people. The traditional custodians met in these lands as it supplied a rich source of water, plants and animals and provided a place for cultural expression.

Hear the Guriwal dreamtime story of how Lachlan Swamp was created. Learn traditional

indigenous painting methods from local Guriwal artist Deb Lennis and paint your own swamp dreaming masterpiece. Children over 6 years.

*Bookings essential*  
(02) 9339 6699. ■

## Bubbles & Boatmen

Dipnet for boatmen, wrigglers and nymphs and discover how they use bubbles to breathe underwater. Search for the hidden creatures that use bubbles to move about the water systems in the Parklands and which play an

important role in the ecology of the park. Create your own bubble-art boatman to take home with you! Children 2-5 years.

*Bookings essential*  
(02) 9339 6699. ■

## Million Paws Walk

Don't miss this year's RSPCA Million Paws Walk on Sunday, 18 May 2003. Join your four legged friends in a day filled with fun and festivities. The RSPCA needs your help to support the animals who need it so much.

There will be live music, entertainment, dog obedience

displays and much more. Remember, your pet must be vaccinated, non aggressive, healthy and on a lead during the walk.

*Registration at Loch Avenue South. \$10 adults and \$5 concession. ■*



*Join in the fun of the Million Paws Walk*



## ALL SEASON

## imprints

Don't miss this free exhibition of famous artist Austin Platt and others on display at the Superintendent's Residence. The exhibition imprints depicts the changes that have taken place in Centennial Parklands over the years and the impact of the landscape on the people who have used it.

Every Wednesday and Saturday

## FOX FARMERS MARKET

Farm fresh gourmet delights from leading growers and producers.

Open 10am – 4pm  
Fox Studios  
Every Saturday and Sunday

## FOX WEEKEND MARKET

Get your collectables, fashion, gifts, homewares, toys and much more.

Open 10am – 4pm  
Fox Studios

## EASTSIDE RIDING ACADEMY

Learn to ride

Bookings (02) 9360 7521

## MARCH 2003

## 2 Sunday

## CAR FREE DAY

Walk, cycle or catch public transport and enjoy the first Sunday of autumn in the peaceful surroundings of Centennial Park. Accessible entry via Musgrave Avenue Gates (adjacent to toilets, barbecues and picnic facilities) 9am–5pm.

## 2 Sunday

## CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Grab your hat and gardening gloves and join us for this annual event in Centennial Park. 9am – 1pm. Registration at Superintendent's Residence, Paddington Gates, corner Oxford Street and Lang Road. Inquiries (02) 9339 6641.

## 7 Friday

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

A chance to see the wild nightlife of Centennial Park. Join Rangers spotlighting possums, flying foxes and lots of other night creatures. All ages. Bring torch. 7.45pm – 8.45pm. \$8.50 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## 12 Wednesday

## MY LITTLE PONIES ☺

A special children's tour of the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre. Find out where the horses live, what they eat and how to care for them. Includes a short pony ride. Wear covered shoes. 10am – 11am. \$9 per child (2–5 years), adults free. Meet Equestrian Centre Gates, corner Lang and Cook Roads. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## 16 Sunday

## ALL CHEVS DAY

A display of up to 100 Chevrolet cars and trucks.

Open 10am–4pm.  
Fox Studios.

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

## 18 March

## BUBBLES AND BOATMEN ☺

Dipnet for boatmen, wrigglers and nymphs and discover how they use bubbles to breathe underwater. Create your own bubble-art boatman to take home with you! Children 2–5 years. 10am – 11am. \$8 per child. Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## 30 Sunday

## BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST ☺

Join this early morning guided tour to spot some of the Parklands' migratory and resident land and water birds. For adults. Bring binoculars. Includes light breakfast. 7.30am – 9.30am. \$12 per person. Meet Musgrave Avenue Gates. Finishes at Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## 2 Wednesday

## TWO-DAY ETCHING WORKSHOP ☺

In this new workshop for adults, you will be inspired by the imprints exhibition of Austin Platt's works to create your own dry-point etching. Artist Lucia Parella will guide you as you use the vistas of Centennial Park as your muse. All materials supplied. 2 and 9 April. 10am – 1pm. \$110 per person in total. Meet Superintendents Residence, Paddington Gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## APRIL 2003

## 4 Friday

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6pm – 7pm.  
See 7 March.

## 8 Tuesday

## TWO-DAY HOLIDAY CAMP

Join the fun at Moore Park Stables. Be part of our two day camp.

\$180 per camp (including morning tea and lunch). 10am – 3pm.

Children from five years and up.  
Bookings (02) 9360 8747.

## 9 Wednesday

## 2-DAY ADULT ETCHING WORKSHOP ☺

Day 2, 10am – 1pm.  
See 2 April.

## 10 Thursday

## TWO-DAY HOLIDAY CAMP

See 8 April.

## 12 Saturday

## PONY RIDES ☺

The only place where kids can jump into the saddle so close to the city! Hand-led, 10-minute rides for children. 10am – 3pm. \$8.50 per ride. Tickets at Mobile Ranger Station, Centennial Parklands Café. Bookings not required.

## 13 Sunday

## PONY RIDES ☺

See April 12.

## 14 Monday

## FOUR-DAY TENNIS CAMP

Learning tennis is fun. Coordination and playing skills, games and tournaments. Sausage sizzle on last day and presentations.

9am to 3pm. Supervision available 8.30am – 4pm.

\$110 per person.  
Parklands Sports Centre.  
Bookings (02) 9662 7033.

## 15 Tuesday

## MODEL YACHT WORKSHOP ☺

Back by popular demand! Build a simple model yacht in this unique workshop and learn the age-old techniques of sailing models in One More Shot Pond. All materials included. 2pm – 4pm. \$12 per child (Over 6 years). Meet Musgrave Avenue gates. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6pm – 7pm.  
See 7 March.

## THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

For a great riding experience, jump into the saddle and join the exciting adventure at Centennial Stables. \$290 per camp (which includes lunch and morning and afternoon tea). 9.30am – 3.30pm.

Bookings (02) 9360 5650.

## THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Holiday fun for kids.

\$270 per camp. 9.00am – 3pm.  
Papillon Riding Stables.  
Bookings 0407 224 938.

## 16 Wednesday

## BUSBY'S BORE WALK ☺

Walk the route of Busby's Bore, the underground supply of early Sydney's drinking water, with Sydney Water historian Jon Breen. Visit the source of the bore at Busby's Pond and the memorial cairn in Centennial Park; and see an exclusive viewing of the shaft into Busby's Bore within Fox Studios. For adults. 10am – Noon. \$12 per person. Meet Robertson Road Gates. Finishes at Fox Studios. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## BUBBLES AND BOATMEN ☺

10am – 11am.  
See 18 March.

## SWAMP DREAMING ☺

Hear the Guriwal dreamtime story of how Lachlan Swamp was created. Learn traditional indigenous painting methods from local Guriwal artist Deb Lennis and paint your own swamp dreaming masterpiece. Children over 6 years. 2pm – 3.30pm. \$9 per child. Meet Shelter Pavilion. Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## TWO-DAY HOLIDAY CAMP ☺

See 14 April.

## 17 Thursday

## BUBBLES AND BOATMEN ☺

10am – 11am.  
See 18 March.

## SWAMP DREAMING ☺

2pm – 3.30pm.  
See 16 April.

## 18 Friday

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6pm – 7pm.  
See 7 March.

## 19 Saturday

## PONY RIDES ☺

See April 12.

## 20 Sunday

## PONY RIDES ☺

See April 12.

## 22 Tuesday

## MODEL YACHTS ☺

2pm – 4pm.  
See 15 April.

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6pm – 7pm.  
See 7 March.

## TWO-DAY HOLIDAY CAMP

Ribbons and certificates. Tea, lunch and drinks included.

\$180 per camp (including morning tea and lunch). 10am – 3pm.

Moore Park Stables.  
Bookings (02) 9360 8747.

## THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

For a great riding experience, jump into the saddle and join the exciting adventure at Centennial Stables. \$290 per camp (which includes lunch and morning and afternoon tea). 9.30am – 3.30pm.

Bookings (02) 9360 5650.

## THREE-DAY RIDING CAMP

Holiday fun for kids

\$270 per camp. 9.00am – 3pm.

Papillon Riding Stables.  
Bookings 0407 224 938.

## 23 Wednesday

## BUBBLES AND BOATMEN ☺

10am – 11am.  
See 18 March.

## SWAMP DREAMING ☺

2pm – 3.30pm.  
See 16 April.

## 24 Thursday

## BUBBLES AND BOATMEN ☺

10am – 11am.  
See 18 March.

## SWAMP DREAMING ☺

2pm – 3.30pm.  
See 16 April.

## 25 Friday

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

6pm – 7pm.  
See 7 March.

## 26 Saturday

## PONY RIDES ☺

See April 12.

## 27 Sunday

## PONY RIDES ☺

See April 12.

## MAY 2003

## 2 Friday

## SPOTLIGHT PROWL ☺

5.45pm – 6.45pm.  
See 7 March.

## 4 Sunday

## SCRUFFS DOG SHOW

A 'big day out' for dogs where dogs and their owners can come together for fun and activities.

Open 10am – 3pm.  
Fox Studios.

## 11 Sunday

## PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Join local photographer Ian Lever for this two hour practical photography workshop in Centennial Park.

Working as a photographer for 35 years with the last 10 photographing for the *Parklands*, Ian has an intimate knowledge of the different areas in the is able to capture the beauty and wildlife.

For adults. Bring own camera (SLR preferred) and 2 rolls of 24-exposure film. Includes light breakfast. 8am – 10am.

\$12 per person.  
Bookings essential (02) 9339 6699.

## 16 Friday

## MY LITTLE PONIES ☺

See Wednesday 12 March.

## 20 Tuesday

## BUBBLES AND BOATMEN ☺

10am – 11am.  
See 18 March.

## 21 Wednesday

## FIVE-DAY TENNIS CAMP

Learning tennis is fun. Coordination and playing skills, games and tournaments. Sausage sizzle on last day and presentations.

9am – 3pm. Supervision available 8.30am – 4pm.

\$130 per person.  
Parklands Sports Centre.  
Bookings (02) 9662 7033.

## 25 Sunday

## BIRDWATCHER'S BREAKFAST ☺

See March 20.

# Centennial Parklands *User's Guide*

## QUICK GUIDE

### First Aid and Emergency

24 hour Ranger service, 7 days.

☎(02)9746 2164 or (02)9746 0444

### Administration

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

☎(02)9339 6699 Fax: (02)9332 2148

### Superintendent's Residence

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

### How to Get Here

- **By Bus:** easily accessible by bus. Route 339 from City stations and 355 from Bondi Junction run regular services to Moore Park. Route 378 from Central and 380 from Circular Quay run services to Centennial Park. Phone 131 500 for timetable details.
- **Car:** main gates to Centennial Park open sunrise to sunset. Car Free Days are held on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December. A 30km speed limit applies on all roads in Centennial Park.

### Friends of Centennial Parklands

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

☎(02)9339 6699

### Community Consultative Committee

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

☎(02)9339 6699

email: [ccc@cp.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ccc@cp.nsw.gov.au)

web: [www.cp.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/community](http://www.cp.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/community)

### Park Information

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

## FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

### Centennial Parklands Restaurant

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

☎(02)9360 3355

### Centennial Parklands Café

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

☎(02)9380 6922

### Centennial Parklands Kiosk

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

### Centennial Parklands Children's Centre

Long day care centre for babies to pre-schoolers.

☎(02)9663 1200

### Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre

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

☎(02)9332 2809

### Moore Park Golf Club

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

☎(02)9663 3791

### Centennial Parklands Sports Centre

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

☎(02)9662 7033

## THINGS TO DO

### Cycling & Roller Blading

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

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

### Dog Walking

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

### Jogging & Walking

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

### Horse Riding

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

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

### Picnics & BBQs

The Parklands offer unlimited picnic spots, with views of ponds, fields and gardens. Also five BBQ locations in Centennial Park and one in Queens Park. Access to picnic areas and BBQs operates on a first-in basis. Bookings required for groups of 50 or over. Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

### Children's Activities

Ranger-led birthday parties, toddler activities, holiday activities and school excursions are available as part of the Parklands' *Escape and Explore Program*. ☎(02)9339 6699

## BOOK A SPACE FOR PLAYING OR ENTERTAINING

### Playing Fields

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

### Centennial Square

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

Bookings: ☎(02)9339 6699

### Centennial Parklands Restaurant

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

Bookings: ☎(02)9360 3355

### Events

Submissions from the public are welcome for activities and events that support the Parklands' cultural policy. Enquiries: ☎(02)9339 6699

### Filming & Photography

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

Enquiries: ☎(02)9339 6699

  
CENTENNIAL parklands  
centennial park moore park queens park

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