

Free

parklands

www.centennialparklands.com.au

Easy riding in
the city

Duelling at ten paces

Experts praise
Parklands' trees

Spring 2011



Healthy Parks
Healthy People


CENTENNIAL
parklands
is living Sydney

Welcome to the spring edition of *Parklands* magazine.

One of the great pleasures of my job is getting out with our teams and participating in the garden and tree maintenance (for evidence, see image to the right!) that is integral to our beautiful Parklands. Our small teams of well trained experts maintain the many formal and informal gardens throughout the parks and the 16,000 trees that make up the bulk of our green assets.

The work our horticulturalists do is physically demanding and requires a good understanding of the needs of the plants and trees and also, like all Parklands employees, accommodating the changing needs of Parklands visitors (whilst always protecting our heritage assets).

The gardening teams are both a strategic and hands-on manifestation of our vision to be world-class managers of our highly valued Parklands. There is a plan in place to maintain and augment all aspects of the Parklands, but it is no secret that the qualities that our flora provide for our visitors and our city are of special significance.

Whether it be trees, open fields, manicured gardens, aquatic vegetation and even our 'bush' areas – all dimensions of our 360 hectares of 'greenery' are deeply considered and then addressed with knowledge, meticulousness and efficiency.

With the heavy rains this winter, our Parklands are set for an explosion of growth in spring. Although we suffered some damage during the rain, our teams are working to repair this before spring comes and our visitor numbers start to peak.

These are the best days to bring your family to the Parklands. Bring a picnic or grab a bite to eat at our wonderful Centennial Park Dining, then find a shady tree to rest under. (If you have children with you, good luck with the 'resting' element!) I look forward to seeing you here.

Kim Ellis
Director and
Chief Executive
Centennial Park
and Moore
Park Trust



Healthy Parks Healthy People

Dirty hands are healthy!

Who said cleanliness is next to Godliness? Well, in the context of gardening, it's likely that there might be some biblical latitude granted, as its health benefits are being increasingly extolled by the health community. Research has found that gardening helps improve satisfaction with life and mental health, whilst also lowering the risk of diabetes and osteoporosis.

Different levels of gardening activity can be undertaken to suit the capabilities of each person. From the elderly to children, it is an ideal activity in which to enjoy outdoors and, potentially, get even more healthy by growing fresh, nutritious vegetables.

Spring, with its favourable growing conditions, is the perfect time to get into the garden. But don't forget a hat and sunscreen, as well as take regular breaks, keep hydrated and stretch to avoid stiffness.

The Parklands periodically has tree tours you can participate in and pre-schooler Little Green Fingers school holiday programs, whilst Centennial Parklands Foundation Volunteers are given professional gardening guidance. Check our website for more information.

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:

John Walker (Chair)

Anne Keating

Yvette Pietsch (Deputy)

Fran Meagher

Lindley Edwards

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

Editor: Craig Pearce craig.pearce@cp.nsw.gov.au

Contributors: Trevor Waller

Photography: Chris Gleisner, Phil Quirk

Cover: Horse riding in Centennial Park

Reverse Cover: South Sydney and former Queensland State of Origin rugby league player, Ben Ross, who will play in the Foundation Golf Day

Visitor Information

Centennial Park Gate Times

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

Contact Us

i Visitor Information Counter

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

i Parklands Office

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

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

T: (02) 9339 6699 | **F:** (02) 9332 2148 | **After hours emergency:** 0412 718 611

E: info@centennialparklands.com.au

www.centennialparklands.com.au

Locked Bag 15, Paddington NSW 2021

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

t www.twitter.com/cent_parklands



New blog for more conversation

A new addition to the way in which Centennial Parklands interacts and shares information with its community is its blog, which will launch this September. The blog will feature content on a range of topics from food to cycling to bird watching to kids care to horse riding to flora and fauna to golf and much, much more.

Each of the topics discussed will be relevant to the Parklands. Guest bloggers will also contribute to it. The blog will be another interactive adjunct to our Facebook page, Twitter presence and, even better, the real-time, face-to-face contact we have with you! Don't forget to email subscribe to get latest news delivered to your inbox. Check our website homepage, subscribe to our eNewsletter or join us on Facebook to make sure you don't miss the launch.

Father's Day plant sale

Centennial Parklands' Father's Day plant sale is taking place on Saturday 3 September, the day **before** Father's Day, from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Numerous native and exotic species of plants – many propagated by volunteers from plants found within the Parklands – will be on sale. Money raised will help with Parklands beautification. The sale will take place at Turpentine Grove (on Banksia Way adjacent to Centennial Parklands Dining).



Polo in the park

Sydney Paspaley Polo in the City is one of the many popular events that takes place in Centennial Park which help generate revenue for the maintenance and enhancement of the Parklands. This year the well established annual (and notoriously glamorous) event – rugby on horses? – will be held on Saturday 19 November. For more information and hospitality, visit www.polointhecity.com

Running events in Centennial Park

Centennial Park roads and vehicle gates will be closed on Sunday 18 September until 12 midday and on Wednesday 9 November from 12 midday. The first closure is due to the Sydney Marathon passing through the park and the second is for the running of the JPMorgan Corporate Challenge. Both events provide opportunities and incentives to increase participants' fitness and raise significant funds for charities.

International experts praise our trees

Centennial Parklands' collection of trees recently received high praise from around 90 members of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), in Sydney for their 87th annual conference. Senior Arborist, Ted Hoare, gave the group a Parklands tour and explained how our arborist team runs the tree database (acknowledged as being one of the best in the world), assessments and management plans.

Ted has been a member of the ISA for over 25 years and is a foundation and life member of the Australian Chapter of the Association. His in-depth knowledge of arboriculture and dedication to his profession provided diverse and expert insight for the members. The ISA – www.isa-arbor.com – promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and generates worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees.



The birthplace of our nation

Federation Pavilion, located just north of, and adjacent to, Grand Drive in Federation Valley, commemorates the Federation of Australia, which took place in Centennial Park on New Year's Day 1901.

The Pavilion (which is actually the second Federation Pavilion, as the original one quickly fell into disrepair and was removed as long ago as 1903) is an interesting mix of historical and cultural elements.

A stone obelisk – 'Federation Stone' – was a central element of the original pavilion. It symbolises the coming together of the states and territories.

Federation Stone is housed in the new Pavilion, designed by Sydney architect Alexander Tzannes, which was opened in 1988 as part of the Bicentennial Celebrations. The design of the building incorporates the entire landscape of Federation Valley and was based on a circle – the symbol of unity – to reflect the significance of the site.

The Pavilion's main artwork has a mix of European and Aboriginal elements. The dominant figure resonates in numerous ways (e.g. convict origins, heroic rural settler clearing the land. It is taken from the work of German painter George Baselitz. Juxtaposed next to this is a contrasting image by Aboriginal artist Michael Tjakamarra.



Detail of Imants Tillers' Federation Pavilion artwork

Colours reflect those of the Australian outback and its symbols are commonly used in Aboriginal art, including circular elements, which are complementary to the design of the Pavilion itself.

The artwork which lines the underside of the Pavilion's dome is a montage of 1,440 vitreous enamelled steel panels by artist Imants Tillers and is relatively contemporary in style. The focal point of the mural occupies only a small portion of the dome, the remainder being left white to depict the vast emptiness of the Australian inland.

The inscription on the sandstone frieze of the Pavilion, just below the dome, 'Mammon or Millennial Eden', is a paraphrase of questions posed in the poem Australia by Bernard O'Dowd, written in 1901. Professor Manning Clark believed that the poem reflected the principal obsession of the intellectual community at the time: will Australia become a country of corrupt, ill-gotten wealth or will we create a paradise that will last for 1,000 years?

What do you think? We'd love to hear your thoughts on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/centennial.park.sydney

Show off your photographic talent

Calling all amateur photographers: Centennial Parklands is running a photographic project for 2011... and there are prizes!

The photo carousel on the Parklands' website homepage is being rejuvenated with 52 Parklands user-generated photos – one photo from every week this year.

Photos must be taken in 2011 in Centennial Parklands and they can be posted on our Facebook wall (www.facebook.com/centennial.park.sydney) or emailed to online@centennialparklands.com.au

Every so often, guided by their personal likes and the 'Likes' registered through Facebook, our Rangers will pick their favourite photos and the photographers will win a Parklands prize.

When posting or emailing photos, please indicate (if known) the date your photo was taken and the location. We hope to see some great new projects – so get snapping!



Corella by Fleur Angiolini



Fig Tree by Jessica Barker



Goose Parade by David Havas



Sunset by Felipe Moscon

Off with his hat!

It's been 160 years since the last known gun duel was conducted in Sydney, which just happened to occur in Centennial Park!

"Gentleman, you may fire!"

Were these (ultimately, not-so-fateful) words those which preceded shots ringing out in a Dostoevskian scene across what is now Centennial Park in 1851, when NSW's last-known duel took place.

Preserving one's impugned honour was traditionally the cause of duels. And so it was in this instance, which involved high profile NSW political identities, Sir Stuart Alexander Donaldson and Sir Thomas Mitchell.

Mitchell is a well known explorer and was Surveyor General of NSW for many years. Donaldson, a Member of the Legislative Assembly at the time, was to become NSW's first Premier in 1856, though at two months and 20 days, he also has the shortest tenure of any of the state's premiers.

The reason for the duel was that Mitchell took profound umbrage to Donaldson's criticism of the Surveyor General's Department, of which Mitchell was head, during an election campaign. At the time, according to the National Museum of Australia (where the duel's pistols are preserved), the government was trying to ensure Mitchell followed its instructions more closely

A letter writing duel, of sorts, eventuated in The Sydney Morning Herald, but only a duel of the pistols-at-dawn variety was going to satisfy Mitchell – and so it came to pass.



Pace, face, aim, fire!

Each protagonist fired three shots but, despite a close call on each side (i.e. one noted casualty: a hat), neither was hit. As per generally accepted duelling etiquette, as the face-off occurred and shots were exchanged, it was deemed that honour had been satisfied and the gentle(?) men went their separate ways.

(The above photo was taken from a duel reenactment featuring on Jabba's Curious World, screening on National Geographic Channel 12 October at 2:30pm: natgeotv.com.au/jabbas-curious-world)

Church Grounds venue with parkland, city and pond views

If the notion of proximity to the beautiful Randwick Pond and a backdrop of Sydney's grand city skyline sounds enticing for your event, then Centennial Park's Church Grounds is a venue worth investigating.

Located on the Randwick edge of the park, on Parkes Drive near Grand Drive, and an easy stroll from the Govett Street and Randwick gates on Darley Road, Church Grounds offers excellent and easy access for cars and taxis, with the racecourse and buses a short walk away, too.

It's the physical beauty of the location that is its most appealing characteristic, however. A strategically positioned marquee can unfurl out to the expansive Randwick Pond, fringed by trees, with passing traffic likely to include black swans. The open expanse and situation of the area makes it ideal for enjoying the twilight and/or evening out from under the cover of the marquee itself, with a stand of paperbark trees enhancing the ambience.

If you're going for a creative approach to your event, the fundamentals of flatness and excellent drainage make it easy for marquee set-up and particularly weather-durable.



A marquee opening up to a stand of paperbarks and Randwick Pond at Church Grounds

Church Grounds is also close-by the Rose Garden, the Column Gardens and the Lily Pond, the latter featuring a delightful wooden bridge, whilst Busbys Pond is just up the road. All of these locations are popular for special occasions such as wedding ceremonies and their attendant photo sessions which follow. The huge Duck Pond is on the other side of Parkes Drive, too.

The venue can cater for very large groups (with the wide promenade of Parkes Drive being amenable for plentiful car parking) but is just as effective for more intimate gatherings.

For further information and venue hire details call the Parklands on (02) 9339 6699.

A saddle with a view

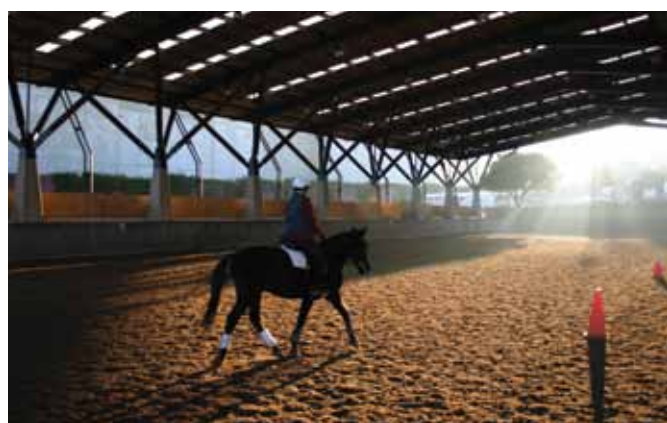
Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre is minutes from the Sydney CBD and offers horse riding for the inexperienced to the expert.

Horse riding is a magical, addictive activity. One ride and its magnetic charm lifts you back in the saddle again and again.

Not enough people, especially in our busy cities, take advantage of the pleasures that horse riding offers. Yet somewhat ironically, snugly nestled by the congested heart of one of the world's great metropolises, Sydney, there exist opportunities to undertake what is an accessible, engaging and enjoyable activity.

The Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre (CPEC), which stables about 250 horses, makes it easy to benefit from the remarkable perspectives, muscular and cardio-vascular health benefits and sensory delights that horse riding offers.

Most of us experience Centennial Park at ground level (or close to it). However, on a horse you get to experience the tranquility of the Park in a quite unique way.



Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre's covered arena

Horse riding made easy and accessible

CPEC provides a simple means of both riding in Centennial Park or training and participating in events under its amazing covered riding arena – where dressage, jumping, hacking (or showing), eventing (which includes dressage) and natural horsemanship, an approach that appeals to the animals' instincts and herd mentality – take place.



A riding clinic in Centennial Park

There are few more striking sights in an urban environment than an expansive, open-sided, architecturally arresting horse riding arena, populated with a collection of elegant horses and riders (the former also possessing Herculean strength) moving in graceful, purposeful movements. When the riders are children, with the self-assurance of adults (or, at least, the very well drilled), the sensation is even more striking.

You might even be lucky enough to see some of the state and national champion horse riders with a base at CPEC working their horses here!

While you are welcome to wander these historic confines during daylight hours when CPEC is open, just don't feed the horses. A well-meaning hand (that might have a trace of ointment on it) offering an apple can inadvertently lead to a positive swab at an equestrian event and all the heartbreak that entails. A horse may bite off more than you intend it to chew, as well...

Horses for hire and Centennial Park rides

CPEC houses five riding schools which teach both proficient riders and riders-to-be, as well as hire horses for a stroll around Centennial Park's 3.6km horse track. No experience is necessary, as riding school employees are always on hand. Both less experienced and experienced riders are catered for, with children being a special focus of the schools.

Individual and group lessons, hand-led pony rides, school holiday programs, pony parties and corporate packages are available. Two complementary programs that include horse care, as well as riding, are the Eastside Riding Academy's Junior Rider program and CPEC's My Little Ponies. The former, over a nine week term, includes group lessons. In the latter, pre-schoolers find out where the horses live, what they eat and how to care for them (of course the kids get a hand-led ride, too!).

Contact details of the riding schools are available on the Equestrian Centre's website, whilst information on My Little Ponies specifically is on the Centennial Parklands website.



Living horse history in Centennial Parklands

Horse riding has been taking place in Centennial Park since it opened in 1888. The buggies and sulkies which featured heavily in horse traffic at that time have given way to single riders and groups of riders, though a Clydesdale-drawn tram made an appearance for a while in the 1980s.

The NSW Mounted Police Unit use Centennial Park for exercises. Sydney's mounted police force is the oldest continuously operational mounted police force in the world, having formed in 1825 – older even than the Canadian Mounties!

As with many of the elements of Centennial Parklands, its Equestrian Centre has historical and social dimensions which make

it an intrinsic part of Sydney and Australia. It, for instance, still features one of the most popular elements of the pre-Homebush Royal Easter Show, a pavilion used to house the much-loved Carlton United Brewery Clydesdales.

There was once a contingent of mounted Centennial Parklands rangers, the last of which was John Leckie, who just happens to be CPEC's livery provider today, having set up his business in 1976. CPEC's farrier, Richard Ballard, has also known a steed or two, having worked on Melbourne Cup winner Kingston Town, amongst many other thoroughbreds at tracks such as Caulfield, Flemington and Mornington.

Free Friday night horse fun for families

A wonderful way to experience the diversity and cultured excellence that many horse riders aspire to is through gala events hosted on the first Friday of every month in CPEC's grand covered arena by the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre Members Club. The events are free to watch, run from 5.00 pm till 8.00 pm, have food like a sausage sizzle available and are an excellent free family entertainment occasion.

Riding school clients are also welcome to take part in the monthly dressage or jumping events, so you don't need to own a horse to participate. It also provides an opportunity for competition that centre clients might not otherwise have.

These events are organised voluntarily by the members club, which can be contacted at cpecmembers@gmail.com and there is more information at <https://sites.google.com/site/cpecmembers/>

CPEC is managed by the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, which recently invested \$280,000 into the centre – mainly on drainage, weather proofing and stable repainting – to help maintain this significant heritage asset. The Trust is a self-funded entity and will continue enhancing and investing in CPEC, as we do with all our assets.

For more information:

W www.cpequestrian.com.au
T (02) 9332 2809 E cpec.office@cp.nsw.gov.au
A 114-120 Lang Road, Moore Park (next to the Entertainment Quarter)

Twitchers Corner

Fan-tailed Cuckoo

The Fan-tailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*) is a bird with a different approach to breeding. They get other species to raise their offspring for them. They are blue-grey over the back and head, whilst the upper breast and under-parts are a light chestnut colour. They have a very distinctive yellow eye ring around a dark eye. This is a distinctive field mark and helpful when identifying this bird in the field.

Their bills are short, black and slightly down-curved. The tail is slim and strongly notched white on the edges and the rest of the undertail is barred black and white. They will sit patiently watching for prey and then fly down to take food on the ground. They eat mainly insects and larvae and are partial to hairy caterpillars.

They have a graceful undulating flight pattern. Their call is very distinctive and is useful when identifying this species. It consists of a far carrying trill with a downward inflection that can be quite loud when close. They can be found in rainforests, open woodlands, mangroves, paddocks and gardens.

They breed from July to February and are parasitic breeders, laying an egg in the nest of another host species. These hosts are usually wrens, scrubwrens and thornbills. Their eggs look similar to the host's eggs and usually hatch first. The very young chick then ejects any other eggs or chicks in the nest so that it does not have to compete for food. The host birds feed the chick and are kept very busy by the chick's begging calls. These begging calls can go on even after the chick fledges ensuring a constant supply of food.

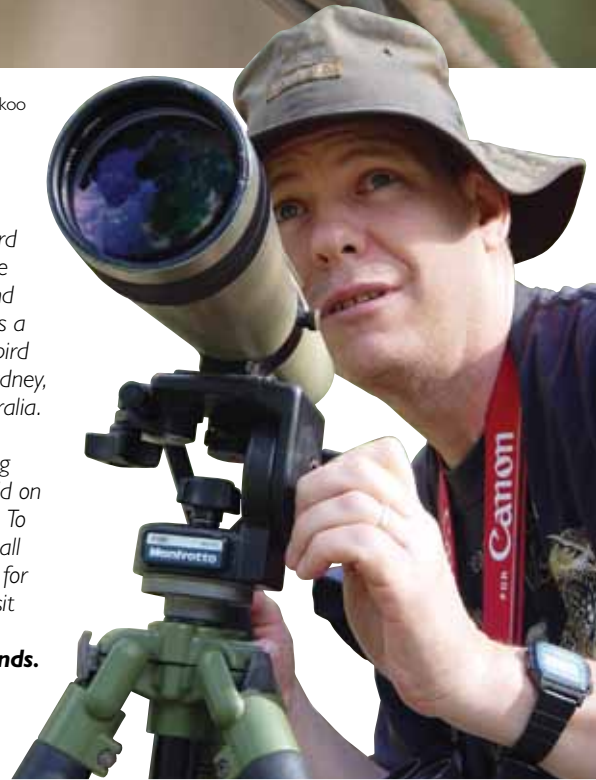
You might find this bird in the stand of trees near the south western bank of Busbys Pond.



Fan-tailed Cuckoo

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. This spring Trevor's popular Birdwatching Breakfast will be held on Sunday 16 October. To reserve your place call (02) 9339 6699 or for more information visit www.centennialparklands.com.au/whatson

Trevor Waller



Plant of the season

Pride of Madeira

Pride of Madeira (*Echium candicans*) is an evergreen, multi-stemmed shrub that grows to 1.5 metres and is native to the Canary and Madeira Islands. It is grown for its proud and commanding lilac blue flower spikes that appear in spring and last until early December, as well as its distinctive grey-green foliage.

It is a hardy plant, which is drought resistant and grows in full sun and well-drained soils. It tolerates light frosts and does not need a lot of attention, other than to remove the spent inflorescences (a group or cluster of flowers arranged on a stem that is composed of a main branch, or a complicated arrangement of branches) and a light prune to keep it in check within its allocated garden space. It can be used in rockeries and dry areas, on banks and slopes; it tolerates coastal areas and is ideal for a Mediterranean-style garden.

The oils of this genus of plants can be used in cosmetic and skin care products. Honeybees are attracted to its flowers, producing a highly flavoured honey.

Interestingly, in the same genus of plants is Patterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*), a well known and much dreaded broadleaf pasture weed that is prevalent throughout much of southern Australia and also infests native grasslands, heathlands and woodlands. The colour of the plants' flowers is very similar, too.

Where can it be found in the Parklands?

The Pride of Madeira can be found growing in Centennial Parklands, with one easy-to-find specimen located in the shrubby garden bed within the Rose Garden, situated on Parkes Drive.

Luke Latham has been working with Centennial Parklands as an arborist in urban forestry – involved in tree establishment, preservation and care – for 11 years.



Pride of Madeira

Luke Latham

Wildlife babies in the Parklands



Common Brushtail Possum joeys

Spring's favourable conditions mean that many of our wildlife residents will be breeding. This is the perfect season to bring your children and grandchildren to meet our animal children! So keep an eye out for the return of these adorable babies.

Aquatic birds like ducks will start spring by collecting grasses, leaves and reeds from around their pond home to build a nest.

A female duck will lay 7-13 eggs, which hatch about four weeks later. Imagine raising 13 children at one time – what a challenge!

The Tawny Frogmouths should also start building their nests as the weather gets warmer and the amount of daylight increases. The female will lay two to three eggs. Incubation of the eggs is shared between the male and female Tawny Frogmouth. The male will generally incubate the eggs during the day and the female will incubate at night – a fantastic example for all of sharing the workload!

A Common Brushtail Possum has a very short gestation of only 18 days, but once they have given birth the joey will continue to grow in their pouch for four-five months. During springtime the joey will start to adventure out of the pouch and travel on mum's back. The best time to see them here is at sunset.

And lastly, don't let yourself get stuck in doors on a rainy spring day. Put on your raincoat and come to the Parklands to hunt for turtles! Turtles breed in spring and lay their eggs at the end of the season. When it rains, some turtles move out of the pond onto surrounding grass, seeking new territory. If you're lucky, you might spot a turtle moving between ponds looking for a mate!

Have a howlin' Halloween!



The Centennial Parklands Education Rangers are hosting a Halloween party this October down at the Learning Centre. The Learning Centre is

currently the Centennial Parklands venue for all of the Ranger-led birthday parties and is the perfect venue for a Halloween party, especially with the fantastic nearby spooky wildlife such as bats and spiders.

The party is guaranteed to be a very scary affair with plenty of activities to get your vampire fangs around. There will be a wizard and witch wand making workshop, a potion making class and some freaky party games such as pin-the-wart on the witch!

The party will end with a graveyard dance-off and costume parade. Prizes will be given to the participants who have the most interesting costumes – that's a costume that you have made yourself or added your own special touch to. Not just bought straight off the shelf!

Tickets will be extremely limited so if you think you have the guts, get your tickets early as this party will be sure to sell out.

Saturday 29 October, 3.00pm to 4.30pm for ages 4-12 years. To book your place, call (02) 9339 6699.

Centennial Parklands'

Ranger Quick.

By Sam Crosby



The seven most beautiful leaves in Centennial Parklands



1. Leave a donation



2. Leave a tree



3. Leave as a Member



4. Leave as a sponsor



5. Leave a bench



6. Leave as a volunteer



7. Leave a bequest

Contact the Foundation

To find out more about any of these stories, or to make a donation:

Ph: (02) 9339 6699

Email: foundation@centennialparklands.com.au

Web: www.yourparklands.org.au

New Foundation 'Membership' program

The *Friends of Centennial Parklands* program has been revamped with a new name and format. All *Friends* will now become *Members of the Centennial Parklands Foundation*.

"We greatly appreciate the support provided by *Friends* past and present since its creation in 1996," said Foundation Executive Officer Peter Hadfield. "But many *Friends* have suggested that it was time to move to a more vital program, one more representative of the Parklands and of our supporters."

The current membership rate of \$55 per year will be retained and, for existing *Friends*, the benefits accruing will be honoured until their expiry period.

Members will become an integral part of the Foundation's supporter base, joining our Volunteers, Donors and Dedicators as a part of the Centennial Parklands family.

There will be a range of benefits associated with the new *Members* program. Visit www.yourparklands.org.au to review details. "We encourage you to sign up as a *Member* if you are not one already," continued Peter.

"I would also ask that you to spread the word to your family members, friends and work associates to become a *Member* so that they, too, can reap the benefits of supporting these wonderful Parklands."

Unique human, horse and dog-friendly fountain returns

The restoration of the Comrie Memorial Fountain returns a monument to Centennial Parklands, originally situated here in 1936, that has been in storage for many years. The new high profile location is in Federation Way, across the road from both the Centennial Parklands Equestrian Centre and Centennial Park's Robertson Road gate.

In its glory days, the fountain provided fresh drinking water for park users, horses and dogs. Its restoration will still provide water to all three species, but given current health requirements, a sophisticated labyrinth of pipes, valves and drains has had to be installed (below ground level) to ensure that the fountain could still be utilised as a fully functional piece.

The Centennial Parklands Foundation is providing funding to cover the costs of restoring and replacing elements of the fountain (a brass bowl, copper finial on the roof), lighting, interpretive components and the commemorative plaque which acknowledges the original benefactor, Mrs Sophia Louisa Comrie.

The Comrie Memorial Fountain will be officially unveiled in October.



Comrie Memorial Fountain in its original location (photo courtesy City of Sydney Archives)

New benefactors

John & Jennie Brand-Miller

Mary Hollo & family

The Lowe family

Dr Don Grimes

Four anonymous supporters



The Lo Blanco and Walsh families in front of a Centennial Park Hoop Pine, dedicated to Joseph Lo Blanco

Fundraising golf day imminent

The inaugural *Centennial Parklands Foundation Golf Day* will be played at Moore Park Golf on Monday 24 October 2011.

Corporate hole sponsorship packages are now available at \$1,100. They include hole naming rights, customised corporate signage, green fees for four players, electric carts, driving range balls, breakfast, lunch, prizes and golf pro assistance on the day.

A number of celebrities from rugby, rugby league, AFL, cricket and various Olympic sports, plus a few media personalities, have signed up to play on the day. The opportunity exists for your corporate team to play with one of our celebrities.

Individuals are also able to play at a cost of \$190 per person. For more information contact the Foundation on (02) 9339 6699 or email foundation@centennialparklands.com.au

Cocktails in the Park



The Foundation's annual functions raise valuable funds for the Parklands

The Centennial Parklands Foundation is excited to present *Cocktails In the Park*, a sparkling celebration to herald the end of a wonderful year. This event is the Foundation's marquee fundraising event. It honours the Parklands strong sense of community and replaces the Evergreen Dinner.

Cocktails In The Park will be an elegant evening of musical entertainment and delicious food (provided by Centennial Parklands Dining), offering lovers of the

Parklands an opportunity to show their support while enjoying an end-of-year celebration.

Cocktails In The Park will be held on Thursday 10 November 2011 in Centennial Parklands Dining. Tickets are priced at \$150 per person. It will be a popular event, with limited tickets, so please don't delay in downloading a booking form at www.yourparklands.org.au For further information call (02) 9339 6699 or email foundation@centennialparklands.com.au

Volunteers

The 2010-11 financial year was a very successful one for the Centennial Parklands Foundation Volunteers. Perhaps more important than any single achievement, the inspiring enthusiasm and selflessness of their work provides excellent societal role models.

Specific stand out achievements for the year include:

- delivery of 15 different projects (eg. bird and bat surveying, plant propagation)
- providing over 7,750 hours of valuable work, an increase of more than 70% over 2009-10
- facilitating the Parklands' first ever plant sale, raising valuable funds
- being the catalyst for a NSW Government ministerial grant of \$9,000, awarded to the Australian National Sportfishing Association to administer delivery of the Fishing for Therapy (for people with disabilities) program within Centennial Park
- gaining volunteer support from over 100 IBM employees and being the recipient of a \$10,000 grant from IBM. The funds will assist in: the purchase of new equipment for the education centre; targeted educational outreach work in local communities; the development of new volunteer programs to engage local communities (implemented with hands-on IBM employee assistance).



Our Volunteers hard at work

For more information on our volunteer programs, please visit www.yourparklands.org.au/volunteers

foundation & volunteers

www.yourparklands.org.au

Fountain free for all:
dogs, horses, humans!

New membership
program

Volunteers celebrated

Spring 2011



CENTENNIAL
PARKLANDS
FOUNDATION