

# CENTENNIAL parklands

the magazine of the centennial park & moore park trust

VOL 4

AUTUMN 1998

Tree Tours:  
tall tales and true



**W**elcome to the fourth issue of *Centennial Parklands*.

Thanks to all those readers who contributed to the reader survey in the last issue. Your feedback will help us keep the magazine fresh and interesting and ensure that we give you what you want to read, not just what we want to write about!

This issue, we introduce you to one of Sydney's great characters, the Parklands' arborist, Ted Hoare. By his own admission Ted has the best job in Sydney and he infuses those of us fortunate to be his colleagues with his unstinting enthusiasm and passion for his work. Read Helen Pitt's profile of Ted and you'll see why his Tree Walks have become one of the Parklands' most popular public programs.

We also introduce you to Susan Markham, a visiting Canadian academic who has studied women's participation in parks. Male visitors to Centennial Parklands outnumber females by 3:2 – and, broadly speaking, this is the same for most of Sydney's parks, so Susan's insight has particular local relevance.

Speaking of men in the Parklands....come with us as we interrupt the Roosters' training program to see 'active recreation' in action!

Finally, an invitation to each of you to write to us with your thoughts, questions and suggestions – on the Parklands or on the magazine. We'll print a selection of your letters, faxes and emails in the next issue.

Happy reading....

Tina Broad  
Editor

## Readers' survey recommendations

Thank you to all the readers who responded to our survey. The winner of the lunch for two at Centennial Parklands Restaurant is Malcolm Wilson of Rozelle. We have taken a lot of your comments on board and welcome further feedback.

Our survey found most of our readers – four out of five – read all or most of the magazine. Most readers are aged between 20 and 59 and two out of three came from the suburbs surrounding the Parklands. Most – four out of five readers – received the magazine through direct mail.

A pleasing aspect for us here at *Centennial Parklands* is that 54 per cent of readers said the magazine had influenced the way they used the Parklands. It is good to know you are reading our stories.

For those inspired to learn more about trees from this issue contact the Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust (9339 6699) to join one of Ted's Tree Walks.

Our readers enjoy environmental and wildlife stories and are interested in upcoming events and new features of the Parklands. We promise to provide that and more in future issues of *Centennial Parklands*.

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# Aboriginal art in the park

The Aboriginal name for the area of Centennial Park is *Brob-broi* and it was once a popular gathering spot to collect bird eggs in Spring, according to an Aboriginal elder of the Dharawal people – the tribe which once roamed over what is now parkland.

"Aunty" Jean Carter, a Dharawal descendent from the La Perouse community spoke as a special guest at the opening of Walkabout at Centennial Park – an exhibition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artwork.

The exhibition, held at Centennial Square on the weekend of April 4 and 5, raised more than \$40,000 for World Vision Aboriginal projects.

Sales from the exhibition – the first public event to be held at the new marquee site – will fund programs for youth, preventative health, and economic development in Aboriginal communities.

More than 100 people attended the official opening of the exhibition at Centennial Square on April 3.

In her opening address, "Aunty" Jean Carter spoke about the Aboriginal history of the Park.

"All the coastal tribes – especially the women – used to gather here for egg gathering during the Spring.

"They collected all kinds of bird eggs, it was a special place for them," she said.

Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust Director, Mr Robin Grimwade, told the gathering that while Centennial Park was a very special place because it was the site of the proclamation of Federation in 1901, it was also important to remember the Park had a much longer history.

"Many Aboriginal tribes used to come here to collect water from Lachlan swamp. It was a place which linked many different Aboriginal communities," he said.

Former head of the indigenous arts unit of the Australia Council, Ms Lydia Miller, officially opened the exhibition.



*Centennial Square made its public debut as an outdoor gallery for the indigenous art exhibition 'Walkabout'.*

The balmy April evening and the clear half moon provided a perfect backdrop for the opening which featured a didgeridoo player and an Aboriginal dancer.

"It was just like being out in the bush," Ms Miller said.

She said the point of the exhibition was to show there is much more to Aboriginal art than just dots.

"Sales of Aboriginal and Torres Strait art in this country and on the world stage run into more than \$200 million each year – but only a tiny fraction gets returned to the artists themselves and their communities," Ms Miller said.

She gave the example of Aboriginal artist Johnny Warangkula whose painting sold at auction for more than \$200,000 last year but he didn't get a cent of it.

"He is in his 70s and losing his sight but he won't agree to medical treatment because he thinks doctors will remove his eyes, and he usually sleeps in a dry river bed.

"He gives the term struggling artist a poignant new twist," she said.

During the two-day exhibition silent bids were accepted for Warangkula's latest work "Story of three men."

The painting was sold for \$5,500 which will go to the Papunya Community Council in the Northern Territory to set up a special trust for the Warangkula family. The Centennial Park exhibition attracted ethical art buyers from far afield and even abroad. One buyer read about the exhibition in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on the plane from Auckland and went straight to Centennial Park to make a purchase. ☺





The trees of Centennial Park are some of Sydney's greatest assets. **Helen Pitt** takes a tree tour with arborist Ted Hoare.



Senior arborist Ted Hoare

Centennial Parklands' senior arborist, Ted Hoare, begins his workday watching the sunrise over the canopy of trees that are his charges. For Ted a typical day at the office can be spent up a tree, in a grove of eucalypts or tending to the tangled buttress roots of an ancient Moreton Bay fig.

Few people have a passion for their work as strong as Ted's.

"I've got the best job in Sydney," he proudly proclaims.

His bright blue eyes sparkle when he describes the "yellow butter colour sheen" of the Holm Oaks in Spring, which turn translucent before they become dark green in summer. Ted has no favourite season and no favourite tree – he simply loves them all.

"I am blessed. I see the trees change each year and each season – they each have a special story," he says.

After 14 years of caring for the close to 10,000 trees in the

# come talk to the trees

photographed his sons in front of them to gauge their growth.

From Argyle Apple to Bullbay Magnolia, from Lombardy Poplar to Liquid Amber, Ted can recite all their Latin names and knows nearly all of the trees by sight. He can tell you little anecdotes about how they came to be there, even who planted them.

Any visitor to the Parklands would benefit from the

wealth of information contained in Ted's regular tree walks which tell tales of the trees, their origins and special features.

Only a well trained eye like his could spot the deliberate pattern of the 410 trees planted along the inner circuit of Grand Avenue.

If you walk the circuit in a clockwise direction, explains Ted, you will see the trees are planted in a sequence of two Figs, an Oak, a Fig, Norfolk Island Pine, and then an Oak.

"The trees have been planted so that you can stand anywhere on Grand Drive and see three tree species," he says.

Although Centennial Park is a man-made Victorian park – he says of the 136 species planted there are more natives than exotics.

A stroll round the Parklands with Ted reveals not only a social history of the trees but highlights the changing fashions of tree planting from the Park's inception.

"Like fashion or clothing there are different types of planting throughout the Park which reflect the fashion of the day," he says.

## Hard Core Assets

The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust has begun a groundbreaking project to record an inventory of one of its main assets: its trees.

The project, the first undertaken by any Australian park, will record the location and arboricultural information of all of the estimated 10,000 trees in the Parklands.

The Trust is using Streets Ahead, a computerised tree database management system developed in Ballarat to record information about the trees.

The package was originally designed for street tree inventories and has been used to record trees in several Victorian Councils. This is the first time it has been used to record information about a park.

The register will record specific information about the trees including their age, height, life expectancy and heritage features.

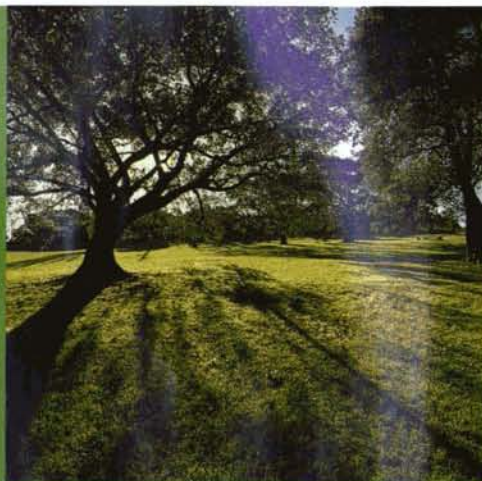
Since January 1998, Parklands staff have used a Geographic Information System (GIS) – a combination of software and field equipment – to map the location of all trees in the 360 hectares of parkland.

Arborist Chris Streeter is recording information in the field about the trees which is then recorded and mapped in the database.

The information technology officer on the project, Ross Johnson, says the tree survey will help future generations as well as the current one, understand more about the Park.

"This project is significant because it has never been done in a parks and gardens environment," Ross says.

"This is an assets management project – trees are as much of an asset as a building but until now it has been hard to record information about our natural assets," he said.







He believes the oldest trees in the Parklands are two giant Moreton Bay figs in Queens Park which he estimates to be older than the Park.

Ted says no-one really knows who laid out the original blue print for the planting of the Park's trees when it was created in 1888.

It is Sir Charles Moore, Director of the Botanical Gardens from 1848 until 1896 who is credited with turning the Park from coastal scrubland into the semblance of a Victorian park.

But it was Sir Joseph Maiden, whose visionary design for much of the Parkland from 1896 until 1924, who Ted calls "the great hope" for the Park's trees.

"He had a great imagination for the Park – his design is the stuff of legend," Ted says.

One of Maiden's lasting legacies is now one of the Park's most photographed features – the Paperbark Grove.

"It is the only place where trees are used in an avenue setting – only there is no road – it looks more like a cathedral," Ted says.

Maiden also devised and planted the sequence of trees along Grand Avenue and planted the trees around Federation Pavilion.

"I am blessed.

I see the trees

change each

year and each

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they each

have a special

story."



"When he planted these trees from seeds he had no idea how they would turn out or even if they would survive," says Ted.

"He had no idea how well an imported species like oaks would grow in this soil or climate." Maiden also was responsible for the tree planting at the top of York Road. He did it to block out the view of the bus depot which was then a tram depot, says Ted.

From 1924 until the 1960s is known in tree planting terms as the Park's "quiet years."

There was World War II, the Depression and no major planting projects until the mid 1960s.

"From the mid 1960s until the mid 1970s there was a real push to plant natives," says Ted.

So trees from open forests were planted including Spotted Gum, Pines, She Oaks and the Paperbark grove near Duck and Lily ponds.

Ted casts a careful glance at the river She Oaks near Model Yacht pond – and reminisces about how they shimmer in summer with the cool North-east wind. There is only one word to describe his work. Magic. ♀



# sydney people's parks

## parramatta park

Parramatta Park is a site of national significance as well as a vital asset for the people of western Sydney. Before European settlement, Aborigines of the Burramattagal clan practiced fire ceremonies in the area for thousands of years. Early white settlers were attracted to the park-like landscape whose fertile soil was said to have 'saved the colony from starvation' with the establishment of a farming settlement in what is now park grounds.

Originally known as the "Governor's Domain" it was established in 1788 and became a public park in 1857. In European terms, it is Australia's most historic public open space and contains two of the oldest buildings in Australia – one of them built in 1789, Government House. Evidence of Aboriginal occupation exists within the park – several scarred trees and artefact scatters have been found. Australia's first observatory was established in Parramatta attracting astronomers from all over the world before it was demolished in 1847. The 86 hectare park now has close to a million visitors each year, hosting events such as Australia Day and Carols by Candlelight. It is popular with cyclists and picnickers all year round.

### How to get there?

Catch a train or take the rivercat from Circular Quay to Parramatta. There is a park entrance at the historic George Street Gatehouse.

For more information contact Parramatta Park Trust. Tel. 9891 4488.

## bicentennial park

Established in 1988, to commemorate 200 years of European settlement in Australia, Bicentennial Park was created to protect and conserve Homebush Bay's remaining wetlands. Situated on Parramatta River, the 100 hectare park contains 60 hectares of natural estuarine wetlands – the largest remaining wetlands on Parramatta River. The parkland was built on what was once a rubbish tip, and before that part of Mr D'Arcy Wentworth's property "Home Bush". It now includes: an artificial freshwater lake, Lake Belvedere, the Silent Hearts Memorial Garden to commemorate all those who have died and donated their organs for

others to live and a sculpture dedicated to multicultural Sydney. The treillage – trellis structure – which is the focal point of the park provides views all over Homebush Bay and back to the city. Among the mangroves a field studies centre allows visitors to watch for the hundreds of species of migratory and local birds – a feast for birdwatchers. A wetlands explorer train operates tours through the week and individual tours such as "breakfast with the birds" and "champagne with the cormorants" are available by arrangement.

### How to get there?

Catch a train to Olympic City or catch the 401 or 404 bus from Strathfield Station.

For more information contact Bicentennial Park Trust. Tel. 9763 1844.

Living in one of the world's most urbanised cities, Sydneysiders have come to appreciate their parklands as oases from modern urban life. You don't have to go bush to find your own piece of green space. Our parks are not only a great place to unwind but also let us take a glimpse into our history. Here is a guide to some of Sydney's best known and best loved parks.



## the royal botanic gardens and the domain

Founded by Governor Macquarie in 1816 the Royal Botanic Gardens is Australia's oldest scientific institution. Within a few months of the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788 Governor Phillip had planted nine acres of corn at Farm Cove for the new colony. This land has been in constant cultivation ever since.

Phillip enclosed an area from Darling Harbour to Woolloomooloo as the Governor's Domain. Today the Gardens extend over 30 hectares, surrounded by the 35 hectares that remain of the Domain. It now houses one of the world's major botanical collections. The Gardens once housed Sydney's first zoo, which was later transferred to Moore Park and then to Taronga in Mosman. The herbarium houses approximately one million specimens including some collected by Joseph Banks during James Cook's first round-the-world voyage.

### How to get there?

Catch the train or bus to Circular Quay. Entry is near the Opera House.

For more information contact the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust on 9231 8111.

## centennial park

First known as the second Sydney Common, Centennial Park was proclaimed to celebrate 100 years of European settlement in Australia. The Centenary Bill presented to NSW Parliament in 1887 introduced the notion of a park that would be accessible to everyone, even the very poorest. It was opened on Australia Day, 1888 by Sir Henry Parkes. In his opening address he called it "the people's park". On January 1, 1901, Centennial Park was the place where Federation was proclaimed by Lord Hopetoun. An estimated 250,000 people gathered in what is now known as "Federation Valley" where a special pavilion made of plaster of Paris was constructed. It has also hosted many important moments in Sydney's history including a huge open-air Thanksgiving Service in 1918 for the end of World War I. The Parklands' 365 hectares also include Moore Park and Queens Park. Popular with horse riders, roller bladers, cyclists and walkers.

### How to get there?

Catch the 378 bus (to Bronte) from Railway Square or the 380 (destination Bondi Beach) from Circular Quay.

For more information contact the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust on 9339 6699.

## SUPER Parks

These four parks are part of the Sydney Urban Parks Education and Research (SUPER) Group. They have joined forces with the Metropolitan Parks Unit (National Parks and Wildlife Service), the Olympic Coordination Authority, and the University of Technology Sydney to conduct social research into Sydney's open spaces.





The red, white and blue Jersey of the Sydney City Roosters – formerly known as Easts – is a familiar sight for regular users of Centennial Parklands.



# ROOSTERS

## strut their stuff

*Sydney City Roosters training at E.S. Marks Athletics Field.*

And the faces of the football stars wearing them such as the 1997 ARL Australian captain, Brad Fittler; fullback, Andrew Walker; former Papua New Guinea captain, Adrian Lam; and former Wallaby, Scott Gourley, are equally identifiable.

"It is a good thing for our identity to be part of the local community," he says.

Autograph hunters and football fans often stop the players on their summer jogs through the Park and some are keen enough to wait patiently until training is finished to approach their sporting heroes.

"Our uniform is quite striking – we are very recognisable especially when we are running around the Park," Mr Canavan says.

Training at E.S. Marks allows the footballers the opportunity to mix with the athletes who use the stadium and swap tips with them about training and stretching, he says.

"We like active training programs. That's why we like using the Park – it's well structured and laid out – nobody annoys us and we don't annoy anybody else.

"Centennial Park is a very active environment. People there are doing some sort of sport themselves like cycling, running or roller blading. Occasionally when we stop there is a friendly recognition between us as fellow sports people," Mr Canavan said. And using park facilities means access to local people who may not only be fans but potential new recruits, he says.

"Unfortunately rugby league is not a dominant sport in the eastern suburbs – there is also rugby union, Aussie rules, and surfing.

"So we're always on the lookout for new recruits," he says.

"Our coach is always looking out for the runners in Centennial Park with big bull necks." Who knows, he jokes, they may be tomorrow's football stars.

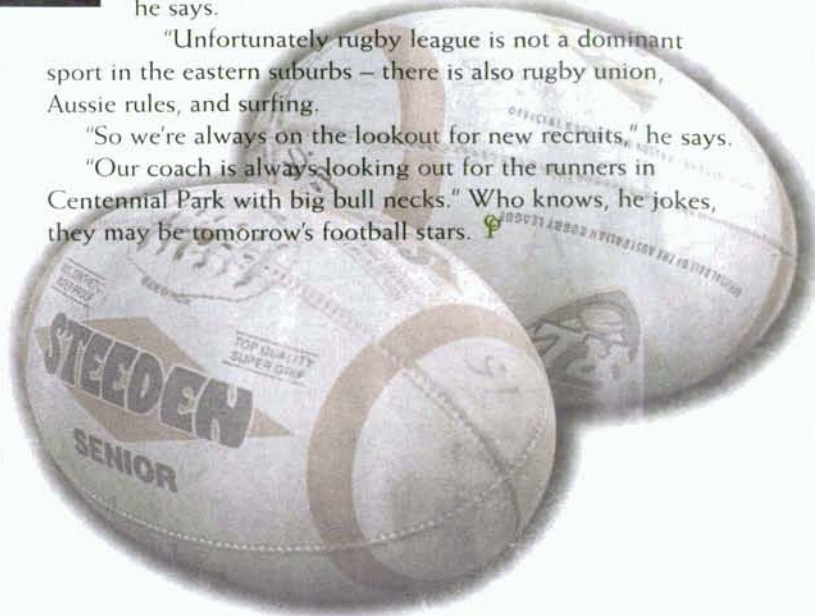


Any day from mid-November until the end of January you can see the pack of footballers in their tri-colour clothing running around Centennial Park. Two laps of Grand Drive is part of their summer off-season exercise regime.

Coach, Phil Gould, and his team of eight – including a doctor and a physiotherapist – put the team to task in preparation for the weekend matches.

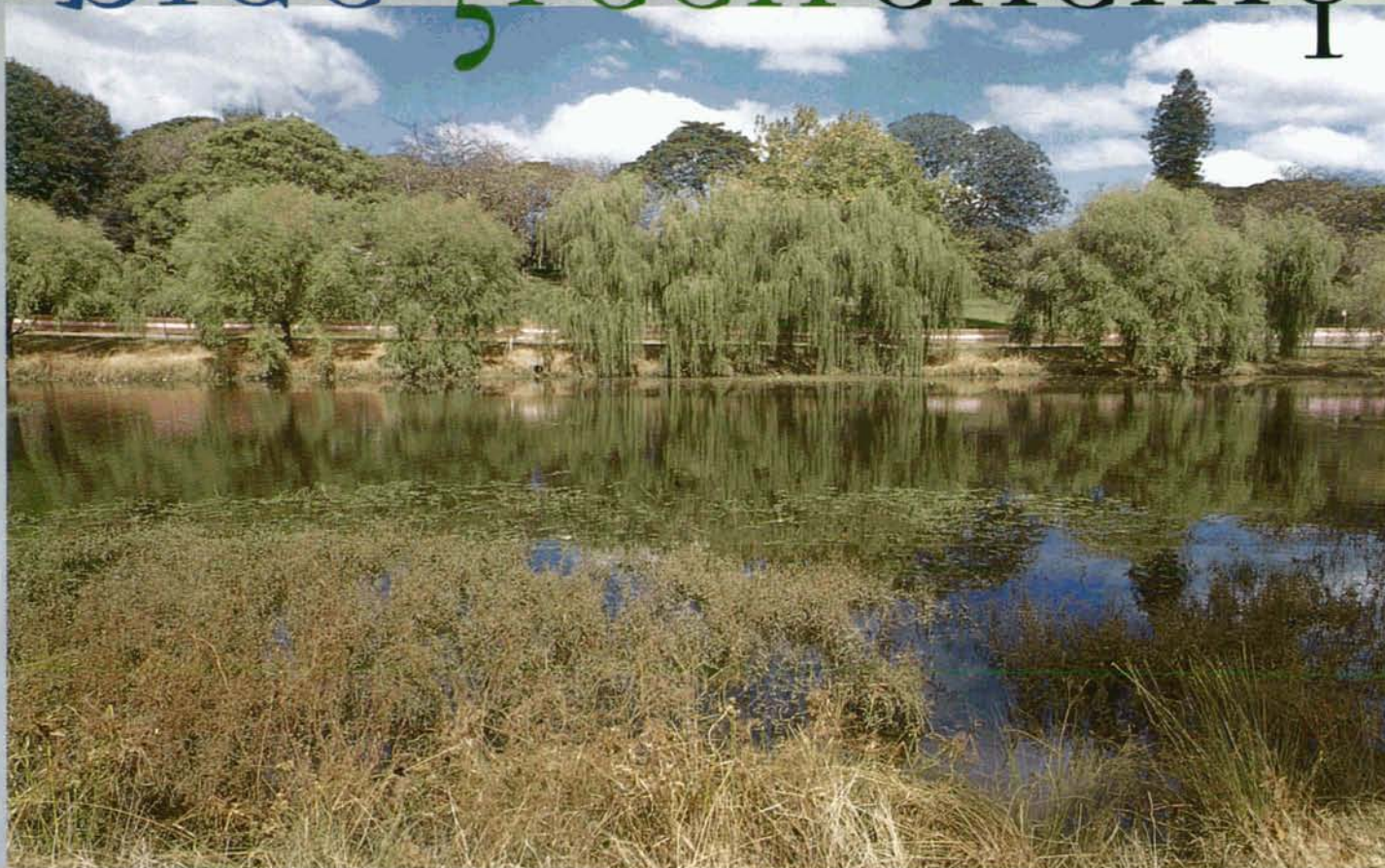
The team has been using the facilities at E. S. Marks athletics field at Moore Park since 1995 when the club decided to move training from Henson Park at Marrickville to a venue closer to the eastern suburbs community.

Their football manager, Brian Canavan, said the move was made because the facility had enormous potential not only for rugby league but to provide access to other sporting facilities such as the Park and the E. S. Marks gymnasium.





# Attack on the blue green enemy



The \$1.2 million second stage of the restoration of Centennial Parklands' ponds has begun. Work will focus on the three ponds on the eastern side of the park – Willow, One More Shot and Musgrave Ponds – part of the \$4 million overhaul of the Park's heritage pond system.

Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust's Water Quality Officer, Ms Barbara Almond, says while the construction work may be an inconvenience for Park visitors, the long term benefit will be better, fresher water.

"The ponds are a key focus for visitors," she says.

"But they are going to have to bear with us and be patient during the construction work – in the long run all the work will be beneficial in improving the water quality of the ponds," she says.

Pollution plagued the network of ten ponds as long ago as 1859 when the area became polluted by grazing and the city's urban sprawl.

But now, 130 years later, algal blooms and deteriorating water quality are the main problems. The Park's ponds, the catchment area for the eastern suburbs, once supplied Sydney Town's drinking water. Today, the stormwater which flows into them from Bondi Junction, Waverley, Kensington,



Randwick and Paddington bring pollutants into the system and have a major impact on the water quality.


Between 600 and 800 kilograms of rubbish is removed each month from Musgrave Pond alone and stormwater from over 590 hectares of the eastern suburbs drains directly into the ponds system.

To combat this, pollution traps will be part of stage two.

A \$250,000 grant from the NSW government's Stormwater Trust, will be used to install a technologically advanced pollution trap in Musgrave Pond.

Other work will include removing contaminated silt, stabilising the banks, removing weed, redirecting water flows and, when all that work is finished aquatic natives will be planted to help the filtering process and cut down on blue-green algae. Revegetating the island in Willow Pond is also part of stage two.

The work has been scheduled around the breeding time of the ponds' birds.

Ms Almond said the English design of the duckponds, where the lawn comes to the edge of the pond, presents a specific set of problems in an Australian setting. 



# women and park preservation

From goddesses to government ministers; women have played an important role in the creation and preservation of Canadian National Parks. For the most part their efforts have been unpaid. This is the finding of Canadian academic Ms Susan Markham\* who has been involved with Canadian National Parks for over 20 years. She is now Associate Professor of the School of Recreation Management and Kinesiology at Acadia University, Nova Scotia.

## when did the national park system begin in north america?

The national park system in both the United States and Canada began in the mountains. In the US it was at Yellowstone National Park in 1872 and in Canada at Banff in 1885.

## when did women first become involved in national parks?

Throughout history, mountains all over the world have held mystical properties. Mythology gives us examples of the mystical powers of the mountains and the goddesses who dwelt there. Before Zeus took over Olympus, his grandmother Gaea Olympia ran the show. The mother of all Gods, she was known as the "Universal Mother". Closer to our own experiences are the roles of women in the last two centuries.

## what sort of women became involved in canada's national parks?

Native women, hotel workers, wives of miners, ranchers, camp workers, missionaries, guides, outfitters, and later park wardens, all contributed to regional history, geography, and the multifaceted tourist gaze. Yet most of the women who left accessible accounts of their experiences were writing from positions of privilege.

## who were the female trailblazers in the parks?

The native people – the Stoney Indians and thus their women would have been early visitors to the mountains. "White discoverers" of hot springs at Banff – an event which is viewed as the catalyst for the development of Canada's first national park – were certainly not the first users of the area.

## which group of women came next?

Adventurers and mountaineers who not only climbed and explored, but founded organisations such as the Alpine Club of Canada. There were many of these women but five who played key roles. They are:

- Mary Vaux Walcott (1860-1940) an avid photographer and painter of wildflowers for whom Mt Mary Vaux is named.
- Mary Sharples Schaffer (1861-1939) who first visited the Rockies in 1889 and is the Canadian female adventurer about whom the most is written.
- Elizabeth Fulton Parker (1856-1944) co-founder of the Alpine Club of Canada. What many of us find intriguing is that this event happened in Winnipeg, Manitoba – in what is the flattest part of Canada.
- Henrietta Tuzo Wilson (1873-1955) whose mountain climbing career was short but her career as an activist carried on for several decades. She became President of the National Council of Women of Canada and of the Canadian National Parks Association.
- Phyllis James Munday (1894-1991) who took her daughter Edith on her first climb at the age of 11 weeks in a 1920's version of a snuggly. Her climbing career lasted well into her 60s – Mt Munday is named after her and husband Jack.

## what sort of women were they?

They were characteristic of the forward-thinking, 20th century "New Woman" who was aware of, and increasingly participated in, politics and social reform movements. Seeking health and fitness through sport was one facet of the expanding range of activities outside the private domestic sphere of women's lives.

## what other roles did women play in park preservation?

A more lasting role of women in the parks was as part of pressure groups who advocated preserving the parks from destruction. There is evidence of the role of women in efforts to preserve cliff dwellings in the Mesa Verde, to oppose a reservoir in the high country of Yosemite, to support new parks and national historic sites and establish a national parks service. Women worked not just to preserve the mountains but also as promoters of the mountain parks and operators of tourist establishments to serve park visitors. The first and in my mind the most interesting promoter was Lady Agnes MacDonald, wife of the Prime Minister of Canada in 1886. Another was Princess Louise, wife of the former Governor-General of Canada, who in 1886 illustrated a pamphlet for tourist promotions in the area. Lake Louise is named after her. There are thousands of others who worked in the parks as unpaid workers – either as volunteers or spouses of national park staff.

More recently the Federal Government Minister responsible for the operation and preservation of Canada's national park system is a woman, Ms Sheila Copps. ♀

\* This is an edited version of an address by Susan Markham at the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust's Breakfast series at Sydney's Marriott Hotel on April 24.



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IN SEASON



## winter Blues

Finally the winter chill is in the air which means a change of colours for Centennial Park.

For those in charge of Centennial Parklands' flower beds it means a lot more work to prepare the flower beds for their winter displays.

Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust's nine-strong horticulture team are currently pulling out the summer salvias and planning the winter blooms.

The theme for winter will be blue, says horticulture team leader Kyla Watts.

"We decided to keep strong colours so we have gone with a blue theme," she explains.

Blue delphiniums and red Flanders poppies will feature along with blue and white aquilegias in Frog Hollow's circular beds.

"It should look like a sea of blue with splashes of red here and there," she says.

"Blue and red are quite striking colours which should look great against the green of the Park."

The Column Garden will look like a Van Gogh vision with purple irises contrasting against red anemones. Delphiniums, poppies and aquilegias will also be planted here.

The flowers around the cafe will also be the same blue theme featuring pink and blue anemones.

"This year we are trying some different bulbs along with a new treatment of less common annuals," Kyla says.

The ever popular rose garden was a mass of colour in summer and will continue to be carefully tendered to throughout winter.

Winter planting will start in May and should take four weeks to complete.

Kyla said the summer plantings of sunflowers and salvias were a hit with summer visitors.

"The sunflower display worked very well. The birds loved them too." ☺

the  
column  
garden  
will  
look  
like a  
van  
gogh  
vision





## MOORE PARK UPDATE: EVENT ACCESS PLAN

A new plan has been developed to relieve the Moore Park precinct of traffic congestion during major events.

The plan is an initiative of the Moore Park Transport Committee which comprises Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, Fox Studios Australia, SCG and FS Trust, RTA, STA, South Sydney Council and the NSW Police.

The plan aims to:

1. give priority to public transport users through bus-only lanes
2. create pedestrian-only zones to improve safety
3. improve entry/exit points to the car park for event-goers

Moore Park access arrangements are being trialed to coincide with the new football season.

### MORE MOORE PARK

The removal of Moore Park Leisure Centre is part of a program to "green" Moore Park. The move came as a result of a feasibility study commissioned by the Trust, in response to South Sydney Council's decision to close the centre and hand over management to the Trust.

The review looked at the short-term implications of the centre's closure, and investigated the feasibility of upgrading it, relocating it or demolishing it.

"We have decided to remove the building and rehabilitate the landscape to give the people of Sydney more green space at Moore Park and a greater diversity of recreational options," said Trust Director Robin Grimwade.

Built in the early 1980s by the then City Council with assistance from the Department of Sport and Recreation, the centre was transferred to the Trust along with the rest of Moore Park in 1990. The day to day operation and management of the centre has been the responsibility of South Sydney Council.

### SUPER IDEA

The Sydney Urban Parks Education and Research Group (SUPER) has been set up to conduct social research into the city's open spaces. Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, Bicentennial Park Trust, Parramatta Park Trust, Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, and the metropolitan unit of the National Parks & Wildlife Service are members of the group. The idea is to establish greater information exchange on urban parks and gardens. To learn more about these parks, turn to pages 6 and 7.

## CHILDREN'S CENTRE ON THE MOVE

Construction work on the Eastern Distributor has seen the relocation of the Frank Saywell Kindergarten from the city end of Anzac Parade to the E. S. Marks Athletics Centre at Moore Park. The centre will re-open in May as the Centennial Parklands Children Centre. For information, contact KU Children's Services on 9264 8366.

### CYCLISTS SEEING LINES

**"The wider  
cycle lane  
now  
makes  
busy  
Grand  
Drive safer  
for all its  
users"**

Centennial Park cyclists will notice a new line marking on the 4 kilometre long Grand Drive circuit. The move to grant more space for cyclists is good news for bike riders, pedestrians and motorists alike. The line marking to widen the cycleway is one of the key recommendations of the Centennial Parklands Traffic Management Study which was conducted in 1996 and 1997. "The wider cycle lane now makes busy Grand Drive safer for all its users," says Senior Ranger, Colin Cheshire.

### EASTERN DISTRIBUTOR

The Trust is seeking the best design for the landscaping works and the Mount Steele retaining wall in its on-going negotiations with Leighton and the RTA on the Eastern Distributor project. The wall design will feature native floral emblems.

### Centennial Parklands Facilities

Moore Park Golf Course: .....	9663 1064
Moore Park Pro Shop & Driving Range: .....	9663 4966
Parklands Tennis Centre: .....	9662 7033
Centennial Parklands Restaurant: .....	9360 3355
<i>Sports Facilities – including lawn bowls, hockey, soccer, cricket and touch football.</i>	
Bookings: .....	9339 6699
Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust: .....	9339 6699
Centennial Park Rangers (24 Hour): .....	0418 164 488
	or 0418 650 562