



The continuing tradition



THE official opening of the new Kings Park and Fraser's Restaurant complex by Premier Richard Court on Thursday, 2 December, re-established the Twentieth Century tradition of catering for the public palate in Kings Park.

The first such venue heralded the new century with the opening of the Terrace Tearooms on 19 December 1899. These were originally situated atop the escarpment north of Kennedy Fountain, near the First Rotunda.

On the site of the present restaurant the Mount Eliza Tearooms were established in 1909 with a Mrs Pilley as lessee. Upon her demise in 1928 these tearooms were leased to Mrs Nina Love and thus began a 63 year catering dynasty for the Love family in Kings Park.

The more recent and fondly remembered Kings Park Garden Restaurant was opened on 17 December 1957. By this time Mrs Love Snr was being ably supported by her son David and his wife.

Back in those days it was a BYO restaurant and in 1964 the granting of a liquor licence was vetoed by State Parliament 21 votes to 20. The public had to wait another 14 years before they could enjoy the convenience of a licensed establishment in Kings Park.

Shortly after the licensing of the restaurant the Love family's 21 year lease was extended by another 10 years in January 1979 and they maintained their renowned service till the old restaurant was closed on Sunday, 2 June 1991 (with David Love's

KINGS PARK AND BOTANIC GARDEN RESTAURANT COMPLEX

was opened by

THE HON RICHARD COURT MLA
PREMIER OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

on

2nd December 1993

Mr A H Tognolini AM
PRESIDENT
Mr R P Evans JP
Mrs R Y Paynter
Mr T L McCormish
Mr K G Wyatt JP
Hon Robert Hetherington
Mrs B J Keighery
MEMBERS
KINGS PARK BOARD

Dr S D Hopper
DIRECTOR

Premier Richard Court (and fellow Friend of Kings Park) resplendant in Panama hat, on the podium prior to unveiling the plaque commemorating the opening of the new restaurant complex (as shown above).

Photos - Neil Coy



son Ian as one of the tenants and Nina Love's grand daughter as the receptionist).

The modern concept

The need for an up-market facility was mooted by Kings Park Board and on 7 October 1988 announced that architects and planners Forbes & Fitzhardinge had been the successful candidate in the site redevelopment ideas competition. No attempt to commence building was made at that time however.

With the O'Brien family's involvement in 1990 came the necessary expertise to bring to fruition a dining complex of international standard. In the Eastern States the O'Brien's have been responsible for establishing restaurant facilities at venues such as the Victorian Arts Centre, Darling Harbour, Melbourne Cricket Ground and the award winning Tramcar Restaurant.

The new \$8 million project was constructed in a little over 14 months after completing the demolition of the Love family's former establishment late in September 1992. Seventy experienced staff will eventually be employed in the complex.

At the official opening in early December, Mr Noel O'Brien said he'd travelled the World but never found a park that could 'top the location of Kings Park' as a people's natural mecca in a major city. When questioned later about the restaurant's viability he likened the complex to planting an orchard, meaning it would take 10-12 years to recoup the outlay
(continued page two)

Dr. Kingsley Dixon and his research team at the Friend's Festival function.



The Friend's stall as originally composed.

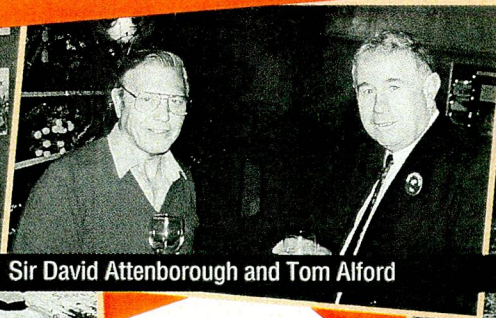


At the Kings Park Festival

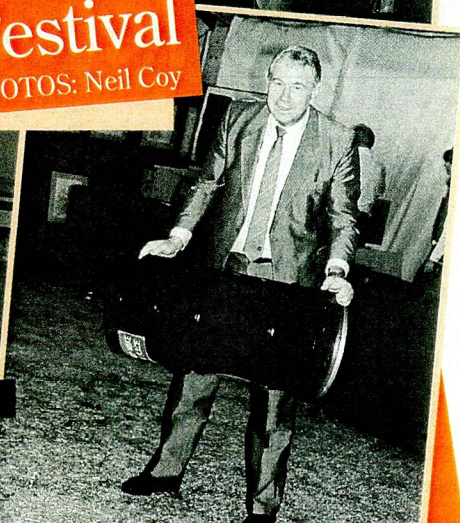
PHOTOS: Neil Coy



The revamped Friend's stall.



Sir David Attenborough and Tom Alford



Tom Alford rolling out the barrel prior to the drawing of the Friends' raffle. Photo: Eleanor Bennett

The continuing tradition *(continued from page one)*

before the investment began 'to bear fruit'.

The facility

The new Kings Park Restaurant which serves as a tearoom and quick food facility can accommodate 260 people inside and 120 outside. Restaurant manager Kathy McLinden said this section of the complex will function as a restaurant by day and is also available for exclusive bookings at night.

Artwork adorning the elevated Entrance Foyer and Orchid Room section of this restaurant is a series of bold portrayals of orchids by Angela Stewart. North wall of the adjoining Karri Room section is dominated by *Sunergos -The Fire Within*, 'a symbolic fusion of human growth and natural forces', by visual artist Shaun Wake-Mazey and wood craftsman Peter Kovacsy.

The sophisticated Fraser's Restaurant, also under the same roof, can accommodate 120 people with another 80 alfresco patrons on the colonnade terrace. The managerial hostess is Jan Lotham and renowned chef Chris

Taylor will pamper your palate when you and your Friends visit Fraser's - for Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner, seven days a week.



Leader of the Opposition Dr. Carmen Lawrence with her commemorative planting, ably assisted by Botanic Gardens foreman, David Hicks.

Photo: Neil Coy

The southern wall of the more traditional Fraser's is adorned with two landscape compositions by local artist Roger Davis. One is a bushland composition of Red Gum Pass and Toolbrunup Peak in the Stirling Ranges while the other is *On the Road to Nannup*, portraying a pastoral and bushland vista of the Blackwood River valley.

As trustees of the Cullity Collection of Kings Park water colours, the Board will provide variation on future artistic themes. A current showing, adorning the long wall of the service corridor, is a series of exquisite water colours by botanical artist Patricia Dundas, of bushland plants found in Kings Park.

These images are 'topped' by a Gum Leaf parquet floor beneath the copper dome of the upper, central core entrance and further enhanced with landscaping by local consultant Marion Blackwell. Combine this 'gardenesque gourmet' with the relocation and revamping of Kings Park's renowned 'floral clock' (with endemic rather than exotic plants) and the new complex is surely destined to become an eminent place *For People and Plants!*

Neil Coy

Kings Park Guides report

THE highlight of the period under review was, of course, the Wildflower Festival where Friends and Guides operated stands opposite one another at the entrance to the marquee.

The floral season took Guides out to other venues holding delights for plant lovers. Amongst these were Burswood Park Heritage Trail, Wireless Hill Park, and Araluen. In Kings Park itself there were treasures to be viewed in the Rare and Endangered Species Garden and in the Bush Arboretum.

The Guides new committee had their first meeting on Tuesday 9 November, with President Helen Harrison, Secretary Jean Port, Social Secretary Thelma Edwards, Further

Education Roger Hilton, Newsletter Anton Clark, Social Walks Billie Carter and Rosters Jennifer Stewart and Leta Liwzyc.

A Friend's meeting on Saturday 13 November was introduced to the topic of 'The Joys and Tribulations of Guiding'. Mack Searle was there and has written the following account of the activities:

The Friends' Tom Alford (in the chair) gave the 20 or so members an introductory chat which was followed by a talk from Thelma Edwards. Thelma is our very active and recently retired President and she outlined the general duties of the Guides staffing the Information Centre from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm daily and participating in the

Schools Education Program.

Following the traditional 'cuppa', a short walk in the immediate area was enjoyed with commentary by Thelma, Ann Newman and Mack Searle of the Guides. Tom Alford was quick to point out the large, scarlet blooms of the *Eucalyptus youngiana* currently flowering beside the H.Q. building and informed the group with some pride of his success at cultivating several specimens at his home.

The walk concluded with a sneak review of the impressive new restaurant (not functioning then) and an enjoyable interlude was had by all.

Roger Hilton
Further Education Officer
Kings Park Guides

F R I E N D S N E W S

THANKS to the Friends and others from the Guides of Kings Park and Friends of Shenton Park a total of 90 person-hours was served by volunteers for the removal of *Acacia lasiocalyx* in October and November. Special thanks to: Ms Simone Chapple, Roy Dewar, Bob Dixon, Pam Dobb, Victor Galea, George Minna, Brian Gorey, Tim Graham-Taylor, Mrs Babara Hannay, Paul Harrison, Keran Keys, Lorna Lauchlan, Ms Jill Midolo, Bruce Rhind, Jack Rigden, Mack Seale, Fay Thurling, Noel Thurling, Ms Marita Walker, John Weymouth, Sally Wilson, Brenda Wittenoom BEM, Kay Wright, Ted Yates.

Bruce Rhind (Sec.)



Jack Rigden and Barbara Hannay join the action at Woody Weeds eradication working bee.

Photo: Bruce Rhind

WOULD all Friends please note that membership fees are now due for the 1994 calendar year. After much debate in committee this decision was decided to facilitate convenience for future records and member's appreciation alike. The Committee also decided that those Friends who have paid membership fees since October 1 will be considered financial for 1994.

AT the October meeting those 30 Friends who attended were privileged to be informed of the early history of Mt Eliza and Kings Park, prior to circa 1910. Past Director Dr Paul Wycherley's vast store of historical knowledge was aired with authority and his learned offer to interpret the past eight decades will no doubt be received with much interest.

OF a contrastingly different ilk we were entertained in November by the mercurial images and sentiments expressed by radio and television personality Verity James. Ms James' casual approach, sometimes prone on the polished jarrah of the Board Room table, was like a breath of fresh air - as she of course intended - with her pep talk on the enthusiasm needed to market and promote the Friends of Kings Park.

ON a more sober note I wish to thank Dr Hopper, Tom Alford, the Kings Park Board and the Friends themselves for the opportunity to edit and contribute to *For People and Plants* during our formation year. Though I have truly enjoyed this 'act of expression' I am obliged to move house to Waroona, too far away to be effective as your editor.

MAY I take this opportunity to introduce Jill Midolo as our new editor. Jill's already proven enthusiasm and dedication to The Friends will stand her in good stead for the future of this newsletter.

On behalf of the Committee and the Board, I wish the Friends the very best for the festive season and may we grow from strength to strength during 1994!!

Neil Coy

What's flowering

(December to March)

THIS is the season for the golden-orange Christmas spectacle of our Christmas Tree, *Nuytsia floribunda*. This semi-parasitic tree is a root parasite which derives nourishment from the roots of neighbouring plants. Restricted to sandy soils from the Murchison River to Israelite Bay it is the largest parasitic plant on Earth. Several specimens can be seen in the bushland of Kings park.

Along the escarpment the Chenille Honey-myrtle, *Melaleuca huegelii*, is commencing to flower. This shrub has very small leaves pressed against the stem and the deep pink buds open into white flowers.

Throughout the bushlands and Botanic Garden the Slender Banksia, *Banksia attenuata*, is still in full flower with its yellow candles obvious above the foliage. As the old grey flowers are retained on the fruiting cone the seed bearing follicles protrude through, thus resembling the Banksia Men of 'Snugglepot' and 'Cuddlepie' fame. Many of the other Banksia species are

Coming events

Guided Walks	Day	Starting point	Available
Summer Walk	Sunday 11 am	Karri Log, Fraser Ave Opposite War Memorial	November 1 - March 31
FRIENDS IN THE PARK (Atop escarpment 50 m north & opposite Fraser's.)		Tuesdays & Fridays 10 am - noon. Weekends noon - 3 pm.	
FRIENDS MEETINGS Administration Centre.		8.00 pm. 2nd Thursday each month and Saturday afternoons as notified (excluding January).	
GUIDES TRAINING COURSE Contact Dr Eleanor Bennett immediately for participation in Information Centre duties and Education Walks training course.		Commencing early February. Limited vacancies. \$50 fee.	
WOMEN'S ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY CORPS ASSOCIATION (WA) Wreath Laying Ceremony at State War Memorial.		10.00 am Sunday 13 February.	
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION Wreath Laying Ceremony at State War Memorial.		10.30 am Sunday 27 March.	

also in flower and as you walk around the bushland or Botanic Garden observe the developing new growth as this can be very interesting and often as spectacular as the flowers.

Near the end of summer the Marri, *Eucalyptus calophylla*, with honky nuts used as woggles by Boy Scouts, will commence to flower. Within Kings Park the cream coloured form is the most common but some of the pink flowered forms can also be seen, especially in the Botanic Garden. These are often mistaken for the Red Flowering Gum, *E. ficifolia*, which flowers at about the same time around metropolitan Perth.

Two species which seem strange to see flowering in the heat of summer are two 'lilies': *Thysanotus sparteus*, one of the Fringed Lilies, flowers with delicate fringed petals and the Yellow Autumn Lily, *Tricoryne elatior*, with its delicate yellow flowers whose petals twist spirally as the flowering finishes.

A spectacle not to be missed in several of the Botanic Garden beds toward the end of summer is the massed orange to red flowering of the Sand Bottle-brush, *Beaufortia squarrosa*.

Dr Eleanor Bennett
Principal Display Botanist

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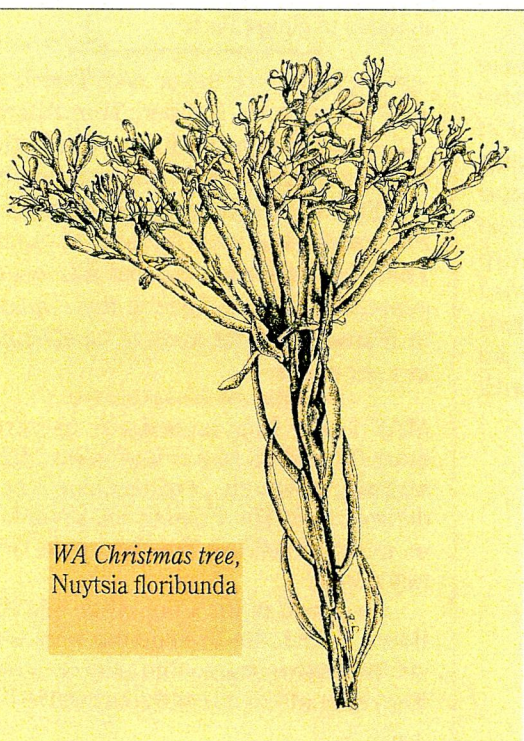
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WA Christmas tree,
Nuytsia floribunda