

# FAGAN PARK

## The Jewel in the Crown of HORNSBY SHIRE

### A PARK FOR THE PEOPLE

#### *A Gift to the Community*

Bruce Fagan had no children but he was very generous to other Australian families. In January 1980 he donated his \$1 million Galston property to the NSW Government. His homestead, Netherby Cottage, plus 55 hectares were permanently dedicated to public benefit and recreational use. In February 1983, as his sisters had predeceased him, Bruce released the property to the Trustee, Hornsby Shire Council.

#### **A Bicentennial Project**

With Hornsby Shire Council as sole trustee of this site, the development of Fagan Park became Council's major Bicentennial project. At a Gala Day in November 1988 NSW Premier, Nick Greiner, officially opened Fagan Park, also marking the opening of the Gardens of Many Nations within it.

#### **More than just a Park**

It has taken years of hard work and Fagan Park is still evolving. To keep it for public use, proposals including a golf course and an equestrian showground were rejected. The park now has something for everyone. At Netherby Cottage and the Rural Museum you can explore the park's rich history. In the Gardens of Many Nations you will see exotic plants and landscapes.

You can appreciate Australia's natural and cultural heritage in the rural grasslands or in the remnant forests of Turpentine Ironbarks and White Mahogany. You might see rare migratory birds in their carefully preserved habitats, learn about permaculture at the Ecogarden, or picnic near one of the lakes.

#### **The Friends**

The park owes much to the Friends of Fagan Park, formed in 1989.

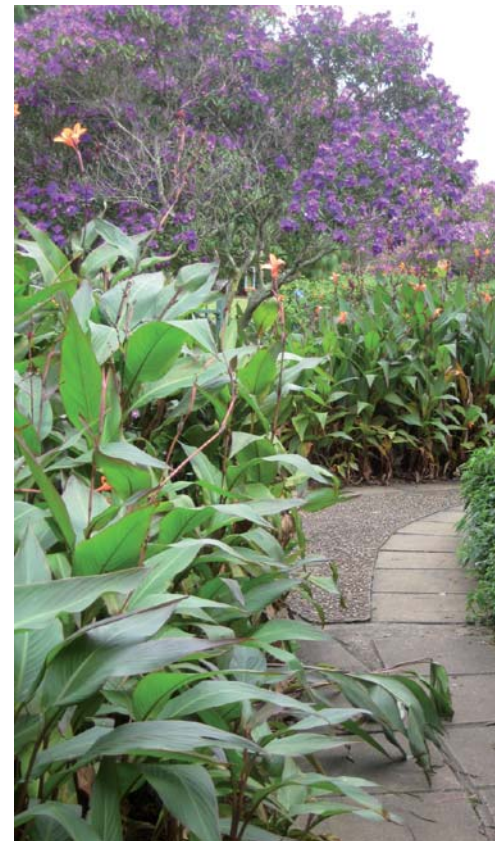
Some are former members and staff of Hornsby Council and the original Planning Committee. These skilled and dedicated volunteers restore and maintain the historic buildings and artefacts and collect historical material. The Friends of Fagan Park generously take time to explain the history of the park and its heritage significance to visitors and tour groups. (See What's On for details)

### FAGAN PARK FACTS

Located in the rural district of the Shire at 38-48 Arcadia Road, Galston, Fagan Park is open to the public from 7.00am until sunset all year round, 7 days a week, except for Christmas Day.

### THINGS TO DO

- Privately-run cafe service selling coffee and refreshments
- Gardens of Many Nations (10ha of gardens)
- Picnic and barbecue
- Netherby Cottage - the original Fagan family homestead
- Rural museums
- Children's playgrounds
- Bushland with short bushwalking trail
- Large open areas for informal games and kite flying
- Unsealed paths for bicycle riding
- Arcadia Road (1 large picnic shelter) and Carrs Road (3 large picnic shelters) Picnic Areas.
- Many small picnic shelters scattered throughout the park
- Eco Garden - an educational, productive and sustainable garden
- Dogs on a leash are welcome



### FEES AND CHARGES:

ENTRY FEE PER CAR: \$5,  
PER COACH: \$38

The Carrs Road area contains three large picnic shelters and there is also one in the Arcadia Road area.

The BBQs in Fagan Park are electric and accept \$1 coins.

**For further information contact the Parks Facility Officer on telephone (02) 9847 6791. A Public Pleasure Ground**

Fagan Park is one of Hornsby Shire's finest showpieces. People from all over New South Wales and beyond visit this oasis on the city's outskirts. It is popular for weddings, celebrations and concerts, and for community events like the Bushland Shire Festival to held this year on Sunday 19 September. (see What's On). Fagan Park is always crowded on Mother's Day, New Year's Day and Australia Day.

Bruce Fagan would be delighted to see the public enjoying his family's farm!

