

World Park News 2015 年 10 月号

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Recognising large urban parks



Dr Digby Whyte, Australia, World Urban Parks CEO

Conference delegates at the recent Large Parks in Large Cities conference in Stockholm, Sweden accepted an invitation from World Urban Parks Europe Region Chair and Board Director Dr Anna Steidle for a dedicated section or committee in World Urban Parks after delegates considered forming an organisation or seeking a place in a relevant world organisation.

This was announced in a [joint press release](#) between the World Wildlife Fund, Ekoparken Association and World Urban Parks on 4 September 2015.

Large urban parks can have their own issues related to their size, role, high level of use, climate change and other factors.

The recent World Wildlife Fund and Ekoparken Association conference Large Parks in Large Cities took place from 2-4 September and covered such topics as:

- Visions of Large Parks in Large Cities: historic perspectives and visions for the future
- Quality of Life in the City: What role for green structures and large parks?
- Large Parks in Large Cities – a modern city planning project: from Central Park to Medellin
- Large Parks and Ecosystem Services in Large Cities
- The Future of Large Parks – where to from here? Are large parks 'doomed' to be exploited in the global rush to cities? How do we increase public awareness, and do we need international cooperation?

Some key benefits of bringing together large urban park members is to accumulate and exchange knowledge and experience related to large parks, and to formulate policy, standards and advocate for large parks.

Large parks can join World Urban Parks as an organisation or may be automatically included with the membership of a parent agency or organisation, such as a national association. This is an opportunity for those members to get added value focussed on their needs.

During the next few weeks representatives of large city parks from World Urban Parks' membership and from the Stockholm conference will meet to refine a Terms of Reference outlining their role and how they are organised, as well as activities for 2015/16 and bringing large urban park members together.

This followed initial discussions between World Urban Parks Chair Gil Penalosa and Richard Murray, President WWF Ekoparken Association in Sweden in September.

Those interested in more information or becoming involved are welcome to contact me at ceo@worldurbanparks.org.

Global highlights from World Parks Day 2015



World Parks Day 2015 made news around the globe, with media releases, events, and ceremonies to celebrate the value of parks.

This year's event was the eighth World Parks Day, an event held annually on the third Saturday in September to celebrate the many benefits parks provide to communities. Previously organised by Parks for Life, this was the first World Parks Day to be organised by World Urban Parks since the organisation's establishment earlier this year.

In Ireland, historian, author and artist Pat Liddy led a tour of the history of Dublin's parks, exploring the history of [Fairview Park](#), Bram Stoker Park and the lost paradise of the Marino Demesne, completing the journey in the [Marino Casino](#). Phoenix Park in Dublin also held a honey festival and bird watching events.

Silesia Park (Park Śląski) in Poland held [many great events](#) to mark the occasion, including concerts, a funfair, the opening of a new ornithological walk, organics workshops and outdoor games. These events [made the news](#) in nearby city Katowice.

Other events around the world included talks on using parks as emergency shelters at National Martyrs and Peace Park in Nepal, concerts in Paradise Parklands in Australia, and events across Japan from outdoor yoga classes in Musashi Kyuryo National Government Park to annual festivals celebrating the blooming of Cosmos flowers.

In England, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London [celebrated five million visitors](#), while a [ceremonial raising of Green Flags](#) awarded in 2015 was held in the borough of Wirral at Queens Park in Hoylake, Bebington's Mayer Park, Central Park in Wallasey and Victoria Park in Birkenhead to coincide with World Parks Day.

World Parks Day also featured timely calls for recognition of the value of parks. The city of Johannesburg in South Africa made a [media statement](#) highlighting the value of parks and calling for citizens to celebrate their parks, while UK organisation The Parks Alliance made a call for testimonials.

Popularity was also seen on social media, with [mentions](#) from bloggers in Japan, [Instagrams](#) from the city of Pori in Finland and tweets from visitors to Seville's parks in Spain.

Visit the [World Parks Day webpage](#) for logos and more details on World Parks Day.

Parks of the World: Parc de la Tête d'Or, France



The Parc de la Tête d'Or is one of the largest urban parks in France. It was designed by the Bühler brothers in 1857 along the lines of an English country garden.

Located in the north of the city of Lyon beside the River Rhône, it covers an area of 105 hectares (260 acres). It can be thought of as the lungs of the city, with its vegetation, zoological gardens and lake of 16 hectares (40 acres).

The extensive areas of grass alternate with woodland, and many of the trees are more than 150 years old. The borders of the paths and flower beds, with their roses and peonies, bring touches of scent and colour in all seasons.

The park gained an ISO 14001 certificate in 2005, because of the environmentally-friendly way it is managed by the city.

It is open to the public year-round, free of charge.

The International Rose Garden

The history of Lyon is closely linked to horticulture and rose-breeding, with many famous rose varieties having been created there. There are more than 100,000 rose plants of 350 different varieties in an area of 40,000 square meters (10 acres). There are also two other rose gardens in the park; one in the botanic garden and the other devoted to the International Competition of New Roses.

The Botanic Garden

The Jardin Botanique de Lyon was created in 1763 by the Royal Veterinary School in Lyon. In 1793 it moved to the Croix-Rousse district (in the place still called the Jardin des Plantes), then in 1857 to the park where it is one of its most treasured features. It was closely linked to the economic development of Lyon, first for medicine and then for science, industry and art (research on food plants, dyestuffs for the silk trade and pharmaceuticals).

Outside the Botanic Garden there is an arboretum with over 350 species, as well as the School of Botany, the Alpine Garden and the bamboo groves. There are also many greenhouses well known for their living collections which help conserve plant species, and also for their architecture.

The large tropical greenhouses (built in 1883) are essentially for camellias and pandanus (tropical palm-like trees). The smaller tropical humid greenhouses cater for araceae (arum family), bromeliaceae (such as pineapple), tillandsia and orchids, while the Dutch greenhouse is devoted to plants from the Canary Islands and South Africa, and to carnivorous plants. The Madagascar and Victoria greenhouses complete this group.

The Botanic Garden is involved in French groups of botanic gardens, including The Botanical Gardens of France and French-speaking Countries (JBF), Conservatoire des Collections Végétales Spécialisées (CCVS) and in international groups such as the Botanical Gardens Conservation Initiative (BCGI) and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The Zoological Garden

With some elements of construction starting in 1858, the Zoo de Lyon is one of the oldest zoos in France. From 1870 wild and exotic species arrived, kept in cages as was usual at that time.

The zoo now occupies more than 10 hectares (25 acres). It contains some 400 animals of 64 species (30 of which are in European breeding programmes). In 2006, the African Plain was set up. In this open space there are over 100 animals, including giraffes, zebras and pink flamingos, living together in a more natural and ecological environment. The cages have been left behind and the zoo is now a model of what a zoo should be.

Zoo de Lyon has been a member of the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums since 2006. It aims at becoming a biodiversity area and a conservatory for endangered animal species.

Management

The Parc de la Tête d'Or is under the responsibility of World Urban Parks Board Member M. Daniel Boulens. He is head of Parks and Gardens in the City of Lyon, the third largest French city.

There is a staff of 400 in the department, whose role is not only to maintain the existing parks and gardens but to design and create new ones. It also oversees nature and environmental education policy.

Lyon recently hosted the World Federation of Roses Societies international convention, also presenting a rose festival including olfactory tours, exhibitions and other events.

Contact details:

Ville de Lyon
Direction des Espaces Verts
69205 Lyon Cedex 01
Tel : 0033 (0)4 7269 4760



Photos provided courtesy of [Parc de la Tête d'Or](#).

Introducing our national associations – AEPJP



Over the next few months we will introduce many of the national association members of World Urban Parks. National associations advance the industry through, knowledge exchange and professional development and it is a key role of World Urban Parks to act as an umbrella association that unites and supports them.

Asociación Española de Parques y Jardines Públicos (AEPJP) is the professional association for urban public parks and gardens in Spain. Since its foundation in 1973 as an NGO, its nearly 400 members are distributed equally amongst public administrations, commercial enterprises, university and research institutions.

A high level of skills and knowledge ensures its leadership regarding green urban infrastructures in Spain. Its main objective is to promote top level professional knowledge as regards urban public parks, and AEPJP strives to enhance life quality, social cohesion and environmental sustainability.

This is achieved through seminars, lectures, meetings and congresses which are held each year, together with the scientific production of its working groups which is made public via internet and conventional publications. Membership to AEPJP includes Professional, Corporate and Protector (Honorary) Members.

Secretariat

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PARJAP: Boletín de la Asociación Española de Parques y Jardines

A quarterly printed magazine, [PARJAP](#) is produced in printed and electronic form.

Website

<http://www.aepjp.es/>

Conference

The next AEPJP Congress, Ciudad Entre Jardines (A City Amongst Gardens) will be held in Huesca (northern Spain) from 8-11 June 2016.

The programme at Ciudad Entre Jardines will explore the conference theme of the health and culture of green urban infrastructures, dealing with contemporary issues related to the social, economic and environmental dimensions of public parks. Cultural uses of parks and their problematics as well as potentiality will also be explored.

[View the preliminary programme on the AEPJP website>>](#)

Introducing our national associations – PLA



Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) is the peak industry association for professionals working in the parks and leisure sector in Australia, representing over 2,500 members.

Through a broad range of services PLA supports members to provide opportunities that strengthen communities through good use of leisure time for the social, environmental, economic and physical wellbeing of all Australians.

With a history stemming back to 1925, the organisation was originally known as the Victorian Tree Planters Association. In 1962 when it became a national body, the name was changed to the Royal Australian Institute of Parks and Recreation. In 1998, the organisation merged with the Australian Leisure Institute, leading to the current incarnation of Parks and Leisure Australia.

Services

- Training and continuing professional development
- Providing networking opportunities and information sharing for members
- Developing a strong industry profile and promoting the benefits of the sector
- Identifying and promoting products and services that enhance and develop the sector
- Forging strong alliances and partnerships with organisations with similar agendas and aims
- Policy development and best practice research
- Advocating on behalf of the sector
- Underpinning everything we do is the understanding that leisure is a basic human right and one that impacts the quality of life for all Australians.

Secretariat

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Ph: (08) 8332 0130
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www.parksleisure.com.au

Australasian Parks and Leisure Journal

The Australasian Parks and Leisure journal is a quarterly publication, published jointly with the New Zealand Recreation Association. The journal is in electronic and printed form. An article Sustainable Urban Parks is featured in this issue of World Parks News. The PLA maintains a regularly updated

Website

www.parksleisure.com.au

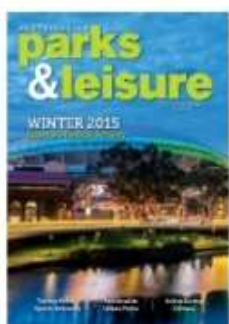
PLA National Conference

Parks and Leisure Australia holds an annual conference attracting up to 550 registrations. The next conference is 25-28 October 2015 in Sydney.

The event attracts key decision makers working in policy, planning and provision of assets, services, facilities and programmes who are committed to protecting the environment, promoting sustainable living, building healthy communities, transforming the places in which we live, conserving our culture and inspiring our future. The Gala Evening includes the annual PLA Awards of Excellence for professionals and organisations, by region.

[Conference website](#)

Australasian Parks and Leisure Journal now online



The new look
AP&L Journal

AP&L Journal Winter
Edition available
online

Australasian Parks and Leisure is a magazine-style journal produced in partnership by Parks and Leisure Australia and the New Zealand Recreation Association.

This publication is now available online, and often features articles of interest to people involved in managing parks and open spaces. The [most recent edition](#) includes an article on sustainable urban parks on page 50.

[Visit the Australasian Parks and Leisure website to read more>>](#)

New Membership and Partnerships Standing Committee established



Jenn Halliday, New Zealand, World Urban Parks Board Director

As a director on the World Urban Parks Board I am honoured to be appointed as Chair of the Membership and Partnerships Committee.

This is an exciting new committee responsible for membership development and engagement, member and external communications, networking,

partnerships, and coordinated programmes such as World Parks Day and Healthy Parks Healthy People activities.

Although this is an inspiring task, I will need the help of committee members!

We expect the committee will meet three or four times per year by Skype and may develop working parties in areas of interest.

Hopefully a number of you will be inspired to volunteer to join the committee. Please let me know if you are able to help out by emailing me at chair@generatenetwork.org .

I have included information on the role and activities of the committee below:

Key Activities

- Membership development and engagement
 - Marketing and recruitment strategy and oversight; effective databases
 - Targeting services to different member types, surveying needs and satisfaction
- Communications
 - Development of a communications plan and social media suitable for international members and the public and targeted advocacy
- Networking and Partnerships
 - Relationships with Large Parks in Large Cities network
 - Relationships and Memorandums of Understanding with allied international organisations and networks
 - Partnerships that expand member services or leverage their services/products world wide
 - Supporting international networking by members - Member contact database
- Coordinated events and programs across membership
 - Healthy Parks Healthy People
 - World Parks Day – expansion to world parks week in March. Observance of other world days

Introducing our associations - Generate



Supporting young parks, sport and recreation professionals in New Zealand and Australia (with a view to global development), the Generate Network seeks to unite the sector through connecting young professionals with senior leaders via projects, conferences, mentoring and professional development opportunities.

Generate has two types of free membership: Generate Member and Generate Supporter. They believe collaboration is the only step forward for the industry and seek to facilitate intergenerational dialogue.

Taking a holistic view of the sector, the Generate Network has a wide variety of members, including park rangers, to consultants, to horticulturists to sports managers to facility planners to conservation and community recreation organisers.

Generate also provides events such as webinars to share new innovations around the world. Their next scheduled webinar is titled 'Building a Bridge', a webinar looking at technology and innovation in sport, recreation and parks across New Zealand and Australia.

This webinar will take place on 13 October at 11am. Join Jenn Halliday, Hamish Rogers and Rebecca Cray to connect with young professionals and explore solutions for recreation programmes, sport initiatives and parks and open spaces. Registration is open, and additional attendees are welcome to [join in](#).

Conference

Generate partners with other organisations to provide a voice for young professionals, working on taskforces, boards, publications and events. They are involved in several conferences across New Zealand and Australia, and will be holding a New Zealand Hui (conference) for young professionals at the end of 2015. This Hui has limited space and is available upon application with support from managers.

Website

<http://www.generatenetwork.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/generatenetwork>

Contact

Phone: +64 3 3735049 or Mobile: +64 27 873 3329

Jenn Halliday - Chair@GenerateNetwork.org



Generate Chair Jenn Halliday with World Urban Parks Director Kenzo Oguchi at World Urban Parks Japan



Jade Connolley, Generate Steering Group Member, speaking at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney 2014



Generate members at the IUCN World Parks Congress, held in Sydney in November 2014



Generate members at a Hui (meeting) held in Pirongia, New Zealand

Identifying the world's 'best urban parks' – an impossible task?



There have been some interesting replies from last month's [discussion topic](#) on the possibility of rating the 'world's best' urban parks.

Discussion was spurred by a recent article from acclaimed architecture critic Rowan Moore, featured in *The Guardian*, listing ['The Best 10 Parks'](#).

Peter Stünzi of Die Vereinigung Schweizerischer Stadtgärtnereien und Gartenbauämter (The Association of Swiss city garden centers and horticultural offices) commented "It is in my opinion impossible, to make a ranking of parks from different continents".

An interesting contribution came from Daniel Boulens in France, who commented "I can't agree with this article of *The Guardian*... If I had to make a top ten for France, it would be impossible; then to make a top ten in the world..."

He said it was difficult to compare different parks without practical and objective criteria, while also taking into account the feeling people experience when they are in a park.

As each park is a result of its own unique cultural and climatic conditions, city prestige, livability and environmental sustainability, quantifiable statistics alone are not enough to define which ones are "best", Mr Boulens said.

"'Best' or 'good' are totally subjective criteria that can't be measured.

"Area, number of trees, number of species, number of benches, quantity of visitors, incomes [et cetera], are objective criteria but the limit is the comparison. Even in the same country, it is difficult to do benchmarking... so to benchmark the feelings of different persons in different places or countries is a real challenge!"

Mr Boulens said France's association Hortis has run many surveys in France about what citizens (rather than visitors) expect and look for. In terms of local gardens, he said this was "clear and simple", with locals wanting small gardens in close proximity to their homes with benches, playground areas and trees for easy and daily use.

He said for large urban parks, the expectations are different. People living close to the park can use it daily, but for others, these parks are considered as destination parks for weekend use, even if they are easily accessible urban parks with effective public transportation.

As a case study, Mr Boulens provided [TripAdvisor](#) ratings of the ten parks rated in *The Guardian*'s article to illustrate how their importance was rated by tourists, with four of the parks in the list featuring in the top 10 attractions in their regions.

"If you look at New York, the top things to do in this city [on TripAdvisor], you will discover: Central Park is the number one of 891, with 49,916 reviews (second is Metropolitan Museum of Art with 24,812 reviews). In Lyon, the top thing to do is Tête d'Or Park.

"If you want to know the feeling of people (tourists) it is not so bad, but it could disadvantage the parks if in a city there are too many things to do which are in competition."

Elisabeth Fournier, General Secretary of Hortis, commented that this was a sensitive discussion, often more akin to assessing artistic merit than quantifying statistics.

Ms Fournier said any assessment would be subjective and any discussion based on personal taste, although it was reasonable to have criteria based on artistic merit as well as quantifiable statistics.

She provided a quote from Hector Biancotti for inspiration: "The gardens are a form of dreams, such as poems, music and algebra".

The World Urban Parks [Linkedin page](#) provides a forum for discussion of the issues affecting the world's urban parks – if you are interested, why not visit and let us know your thoughts?

[How much parkland is enough?](#)



The World Urban Parks Annual Indicators online benchmarking program allows parks agencies to compare 27 key indicators around the world for \$380 USD annually.

The program is available for agencies in countries without the full [Yardstick Global](#) benchmarking program, but accesses the Yardstick data for the 27 benchmarks.

There are many ways the Annual Indicators can be used to benefit organisations and this article will explore the value of just one of them: Open space per 1,000 residents.

The international median for park provision in 2014 was 14.2 hectares per 1,000 residents. Of this 6.6 hectares per 1,000 residents is maintained urban parkland, with the balance being natural/conservation areas. Across different countries this ranges from 2.5 hectares per 1,000 residents to 15.4 hectares per 1,000 residents.

Given the increasing evidence that parks benefit city health, sustainability and liveability, agencies with parkland at the lower end of the range may be able to use international data to gain recognition that their city is falling behind other similar cities and has potential to further enhance the city economy, reduce health costs, and create a cleaner environment through greater open space investment.

These standards can also be applied across a city. For example, some studies have shown that low-income neighbourhoods have less access to parks and green space than high-income neighbourhoods and that this can partially explain the often significant difference in life span of residents between neighbourhoods.

How much parkland is reasonable may depend on factors such as population growth, the quality of the city's geography and the desirability of integrated and connected green space, such as rivers and streams, but comparison to similar cities is a good start.

City planning is increasingly taking a long-term view, projecting populations and needs over 10, 20 and sometimes 50 years. A city that has 14 hectares per 1,000 residents now may see that fall to seven hectares in 50 years if the population is projected to double. The time to deal with this issue is now, while land is still available or relatively affordable. It does not have to be immediately developed and can be

leased for other purposes such as horticulture, or as unmaintained natural open space.

The second option is to develop existing parkland to increase the capacity of use. This does not always address the need for sufficient access to parkland in neighbourhoods where there are few parks, although there are many creative areas, such as roof gardens and partnerships with other organisations to reclaim streets or broker community access to schools etc. Development can be a good option to save for the future when open space is no longer available or affordable.

The Annual Indicators program reports:

- Park provision
- Asset provision
- Investment (operational and capital expenditure)
- Management best practice
 - Operations and maintenance
 - Asset management
 - Planning
 - Sustainability

Other examples of indicators are below, the value of which can be discussed in future issues of World Parks News.

- Split between urban parks and natural parks provision
- Maintenance cost per hectare
- Capital expenditure per 1,000 residents
- Staff employed per hectare of park
- Asset management competency
- Strategic planning competency

Do you know how your organisation performs against these benchmarks? To find out more about World Urban Parks Annual Indicators Benchmarking or to join other cities contributing their data, contact ceo@worldurbanparks.org .



Advocacy, promotion and networking

While World Urban Parks seeks to advocate globally as the united voice of the urban parks and recreation sector, it is less recognised that World Urban Parks will advocate and support member organisations in their local endeavours.

This could include endorsement of parks or services (on evaluation), letters in support of grant applications, budget bids, or policy initiatives, promotion and endorsement of member organisations and major events on the website and in World Parks News, or connecting organisations with expert members, relevant data and resources that may assist them.

If you would like the support of World Urban Parks, please contact Dr Digby Whyte, Chief Executive at ceo@worldurbanparks.org or +61 439229997.



Communities in Bloom International Challenge



The Communities in Bloom International Challenge involves municipalities who have demonstrated excellence, and wish to showcase achievements in green spaces. This programme provides opportunities to promote these achievements and to exchange information between all participants.

Over the years, participants have included Communities from Europe, Asia, and North America along with winners from different National Programs competing with each other based on population categories.

Communities in Bloom organizes the International Challenge (logistics, scheduling, and information) in partnership with America in Bloom, Britain in Bloom, Tidy Towns of Ireland and Commune Fiorito of Italy.

The programme consists of communities receiving information and being evaluated by an international jury on the accomplishments of their entire community (municipality, institutions, businesses and, most importantly, the citizens).

The evaluation, which normally takes place in June or July, is based on the following criteria:

- Tidiness
- Environmental Action
- Heritage Conservation
- Urban Forestry
- Landscaped Areas
- Floral Displays

The judges visit the community for one to two days (as community involvement is an important element) using the Communities in Bloom Evaluation Form. Registration information is available on line.

Communities receive a comprehensive report based on the evaluation criteria along with:

- Bloom rating (four or five blooms) along with Bronze, Silver and gold levels for evaluated communities who will have obtained five blooms
- Opportunity to submit for Outstanding Achievement Awards and Special Recognitions.

The Awards are presented during the Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards, to be hosted by the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, in Regina, Saskatchewan from October 26 to 29, 2016. International Finalists are provided with promotional opportunities during the events.

For further information, please visit the [Communities in Bloom International Challenge website](#) or contact Raymond Carriere, Founding President via email at bloom.fleurs@sympatico.ca or by calling 001-514-912-6535.



[World Urban Parks Europe Region Congress announced](#)



The 2016 Europe Region Congress will be held in Albi, France in partnership with HORTIS the French association for managers of green spaces. The Congress will take place from 6-8 October with a day for members of World Urban Parks on 5 October.

The congress is expected to attract 250 participants and is themed: “Heritage and culture, the contribution of green and natural spaces in the city (economy, social, landscape)”. The beautiful Episcopal city of Albi, is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is the second largest conurbation in the Midi-Pyrenees Region and is a one hour drive from Toulouse and its international airport.



Presentations will be in both French and English and there will be a call for papers at a later date. The Congress will suit those involved in management of the environment, landscape, biodiversity, green spaces, urban development, land management, and urban planning. The Congress includes trade partners in a technical exhibition.

At this stage, a three-day conference has been proposed, including a pre-congress Day reserved for World Urban Parks members, workshops and meetings, a gala evening, lectures and debates. There will also be field trips and post-congress tours with accompanying persons.

The Albi conference centre has an upper auditorium seating 250 and capacity for 170 people in four other conferencing rooms.

The Congress was approved by the World Urban Parks Europe Region following an expression of interest process. The 2016 World Congress is expected to be announced in the November World Parks News.

[Lyon Festival of Lights](#)

Daniel Boulens, France, World Urban Parks Board Director



For four nights from 5-8 December a variety of different artists will light up buildings, streets squares, and parks all over the city of Lyon in the Fête des Lumières (Festival of Lights).

Over 70 lights installations create a magical atmosphere. Three to four million visitors from France and abroad enjoy the friendly and joyful spirit of this unique annual event.

The Festival of Lights extends the traditional festival of 8 December, when the residents of Lyon celebrate the Virgin Mary by placing candle lamps on their window sills and balconies, wandering the streets of the city through amazing public light displays and performances.

Based on this tradition, the festival of lights has since become the world’s principal event for creative light displays, showcasing the work of top artists and offering an open-air laboratory for up-and-coming talent.

The Festival of Lights is an outstanding sustainable development, consuming less than 0.1 per cent of the city's annual lighting energy.

You can see a beautiful [five minute video](#) of the 2014 event on YouTube.

[For more information visit the event website>>](#)

Event: PLA National Conference

The Parks and Leisure Australia National Conference will take place in Sydney from 25-28 October.

The conference theme is 'INSPIRE and create the future together', and the programme includes World Urban Parks Vice-Chair Neil McCarthy as well as young professionals' board representative and Chair of the Generate Network Jenn Halliday.



[To register or find out more, visit the conference website>>](#)

Event: NZRA National Conference

The New Zealand Recreation Association National Conference speakers are booked, the programme is out, and award nominations have started. This event will set the course for the industry and help you navigate through recreation's sometimes turbulent waters.



The theme of this year's event is Navigating Recreation, and key concepts wellbeing, spaces and places, risk and people will be explored by leading recreation researchers and industry professionals from New Zealand and around the world.

[To register or find out more, visit the conference website>>](#)

Upcoming events

We have an exciting schedule of events planned in fascinating locations all over the world. For information about all upcoming World Urban Parks conferences and events, visit our website.

[Visit the Congresses & Events section of our website>>](#)

Call for contributions

We welcome your contributions to keep the World Park News interesting, vibrant and relevant. Contributed articles of up to 1,000 words in length are preferred, and each should ideally be accompanied by at least one photo or image.

If you have a news article, research summary, event report or photo to share with the Ifpra community, please email CEO Digby Whyte at ceo@worldurbanparks.org or James Heffield, Communications, at office@worldurbanparks.org.

Please note: Member associations are welcome to forward selected articles from their e-newsletters and e-magazines for publication.