



# *Sunday Drive*

Marsden Park  
Park Central, Campbelltown

photography by Bob Hughes

## Park Central and Marsden Park

OK by this far into the magazine you all know I have a broken collar bone. I cannot drive. This regular feature put me in a difficult position. I always actually 'do' the Sunday Drive so that the article is up to date, helpful and entertaining. So what to do? I know - "Get them to come to you!"

Many of you also know that I live in Park Central overlooking the beautiful Marsden Park. It is my front yard. Pretty impressive hey? Yeah, I have help.

One of the joys of living three storeys above a beautiful city park is having brecky on the balcony while you watch the activity below. Joggers, dog walkers, Tai Chi exponents, kids on their way to school, park workers (my help), there is always entertainment. My favourite is watching people get flogged by personal trainers.

And then of course there is the wildlife. Ducks, swans, even shags. There are a stack of bird species in and around the park. Two resident swans had given birth to six signets just weeks before my publish date. They are cute as buttons and have created quite a stir around the area. There seems no end to the flow of visitors to congratulate the proud parents and smile maternally at six fluff balls with beaks.

Back to the park. Marsden Park covers some 11 hectares in total. The formal park is the centrepiece and the major portion of the total area. It is also where all the action is. Family picnics, group volley ball games, impromptu cricket test matches as well as all the usual strolling couples and kids on scooters.

On weekends the park is used by families and bigger groups for all sorts of activities. The BBQ facilities are constantly in use and the excellent kids' activity centre is a hive of... activity.

The formal park even incorporates an orchard of ornamental pears, a nod to our farming heritage past and current.

The rest of Marsden Park is equally interesting if less utilised. Wetlands and bio retention systems at either end of the main park provide a treatment process for the natural watercourse which winds through (and always has) the Park Central estate. The results are the removal of 100% of gross pollutants, 50% of phosphorous and 25% of nitrogen. This leaves the water in much better shape to rejoin the water catchment ahead of it. The system also prevents flooding in the estate.

There is also a stretch of natural bushland which was stripped of weeds and regenerated with local natives.

Then there are the restaurants! Do you think you could work Pancakes at the Rocks into your Sunday Drive? Maybe breakfast? How about a coffee at Jamaica Blue? Or lunch at Ribs and Rumps? All of these fabulous eateries (and there are more) offer views over Marsden Park.

Yes you're welcome to visit my front yard anytime you like. Marsden Park really is a destination park. The surrounding lifestyle opportunities make it a very worthwhile addition to our district's growing collection.