

*Native Enfield*

# *Folland Park*

*flora  
native*

## The plant community

Known as the 'Pine Forest' in historical accounts, the park contains native pine with mallee box, red and white mallee, and unusually, two sugarwood or false sandalwood trees.

The shrub layer consists of desert senna, golden wattle, gold dust wattle and umbrella bush, together with a few native apricot and turkey bushes. A much disturbed ground layer with saltbush, small-leaved bluebush and berry saltbush, together with chocolate lily and, flax lily, native lilac and iron grasses have to compete with a vigorous weed invasion of soursobs and exotic grasses. Native grasses, such as spear, windmill, wallaby and brush wire grasses are still well represented in the park. Well known plants that seem to have disappeared from the Enfield area include quandongs, native cherries and several species of native orchid.

## Already progress has seen...

- Significant regeneration of saltbush, daisies, acacias and lilies since 1990.
- The reappearance of four original indigenous species in the park in 1993-94.
- Paths begin to grow over.
- Natural regeneration begins amongst the trees and shrubs in the adjacent Cemetery buffer zone.

## What you can do

Charles French Folland wanted to preserve the park for future generations. You can continue his work by supporting Folland Park as a living museum to be valued for its own sake.

- Try not to let invasive weeds like couch and kikuyu grass escape from your garden into the park; or from further away, olives and white cedars. Every year bridal creeper appears in the park, brought in by birds.
- Avoid throwing garden rubbish into the park – grass clippings, prunings and fruit can be another source of weeds.
- Grow plants which occur naturally in the park in your own garden. This extends the gene pool of the park and will help towards its survival.
- The Adelaide Plains Flora Association (Tel: 8269 6596) can advise you which plants are suitable and available.
- Attend working days, to help out or just look around – every last Sunday of the month except December, Turnbull Road gate, 10am-12noon.

## Further information

**Bush for Life** • Tel: 8406 0500 **Trees for Life** • Tel: 0407 606 578

**City of Port Adelaide Enfield** 163 St Vincent St • PO Box 110 Port Adelaide SA 5015

Tel: 8405 6600 • TTY: 8405 6999 (*Telephone Typewriter, hearing impaired*)

**Website:** [www.portenf.sa.gov.au](http://www.portenf.sa.gov.au) **Email:** [customer.service@portenf.sa.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@portenf.sa.gov.au)

Surrounded by the suburbs of Enfield in Adelaide, this 3.2 hectares (8 acres) of mallee eucalypt and native pine woodland exists today as a reminder of the vegetation of the northern metropolitan area prior to European settlement. It is one of the very few areas of native bushland left on the entire Adelaide Plains.

Named after Charles French Folland, the first settler, who set aside 8.1 hectares (20 acres) of bush to be conserved for posterity, it is now a reserve owned by the City of Port Adelaide Enfield and protected by a heritage agreement.

## *Folland Park History*

### **1836**

Originally home to the Kurna people, who ranged from Crystal Brook to Cape Jervis, and from the coast to the Mount Lofty Ranges.

### **1842**

Charles French Folland acquired 81 hectares (200 acres) for farming, including the area which today is Enfield Cemetery. His will nominated the park to be preserved uncleared.

### **1949**

His descendants sold the property to the South Australian Housing Trust and subsequently, Enfield Council acquired 8.1 hectares (20 acres) of bushland for use as a public park.

### **1952**

Before this date, 61 species of plants had been recorded.

### **1955**

The first kindergarten was built on the northern boundary.

### **1989**

The park was put on the Native Heritage List.

### **1990**

A two metre high fence was erected to secure the park and allow the regeneration of damaged plant communities. A friends group of Trees For Life volunteers began to work in the park in cooperation with Enfield Council.

### **1991**

A One Billion Trees Grant was awarded.

### **1992-93**

A management plan, sponsored by a Save The Bush grant, was produced. 38 species of plants were recorded in the survey. The friends group planted 560 seedlings grown from Folland Park seed in a 'buffer zone' established within the Enfield Cemetery next to the park.

## **The Community**

The rich animal community of the Enfield area, which would have previously included kangaroos, wallabies, echidnas, bandicoots and many other species has sadly disappeared with the spread of urban development. Folland Park is still however, a valuable refuge for over 20 species of native birds and at least four species of lizard.

## **Aims and objectives**

Since 1990, tree plantings from Folland Park seed have given way to intensive weed control efforts. Control techniques have included handpulling troublesome plants like olives and boxthorns, the mowing of exotic grasses before seedset, the selective application of weedicide on troublesome weeds, and stormwater control. By removing the pressure of weed invasions, the indigenous vegetation is starting to regenerate naturally.