

La Trobe Park

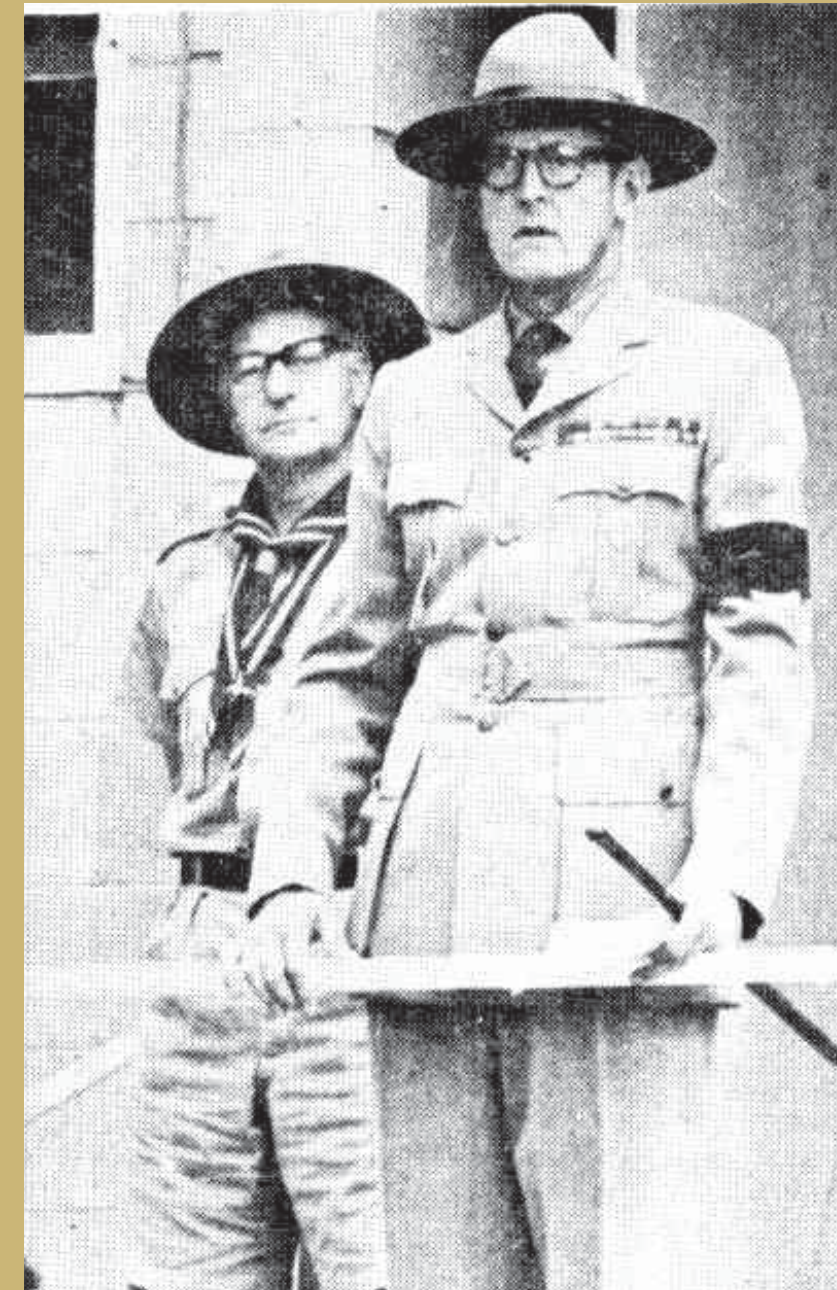


CHARLES LA TROBE. CREDIT: STATE LIBRARY VICTORIA

La Trobe Park is named for Charles Joseph La Trobe (1801-75), Superintendent, Port Phillip District from 1839 and Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria following its establishment as a colony in 1851. La Trobe was also a keen amateur botanist who collected botanical specimens in Switzerland, North America, Mexico and the West Indies and continued his collection after arriving in Australia. In his own garden he grew imported plants.

La Trobe oversaw the establishment of the Royal Botanic Gardens, probably his most valuable legacy, helping to transform Melbourne from a rough colonial outpost to the garden city it is today. A key objective of the Deakin Residents' Association (DRA) is to enhance the residential, suburban, social and environmental qualities of Deakin consistent with ACT Garden City Planning Principles. The DRA is dedicated to the preservation of Deakin's precious green spaces and streetscapes.

La Trobe Park, with its picnic area and children's play equipment, is highly valued by the Deakin community. It is used for sport and recreational activities by groups such as Canberra Girls Grammar School, the Deakin Preschool and Air Scouts Canberra, local residents and families and dog walkers. The La Trobe Park Scout Hall was officially opened on 23 November 1963 by Governor-General Lord De L'Isle.



SCOUT HALL OPENING. CREDIT: THE CANBERRA TIMES

The Governor-General during his speech at the opening of the Deakin Scout Hall, asked for two minutes silence in honour of the late President Kennedy of the United States. With him on the dais is the Chief Commissioner for Boy Scouts in N.S.W, Mr. Vincent Fairfax

Other environmental areas of interest in Deakin include Rosemary Dobson Park and the Deakin Anticline, an extensive green area beside The Lodge and the Royal Australian Mint ovals. Deakin also has many beautiful established gardens and streetscapes with trees planted in an earlier period, including along Carrington Street. Native wildlife frequently seen in Deakin includes kangaroos, possums and many species of birds including the endangered Gang-gang Cockatoo.



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