

# SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS

"One of the primary aims of the park's design was to provide the Springfield and Ipswich communities with a recreational setting that is engaging and unique."

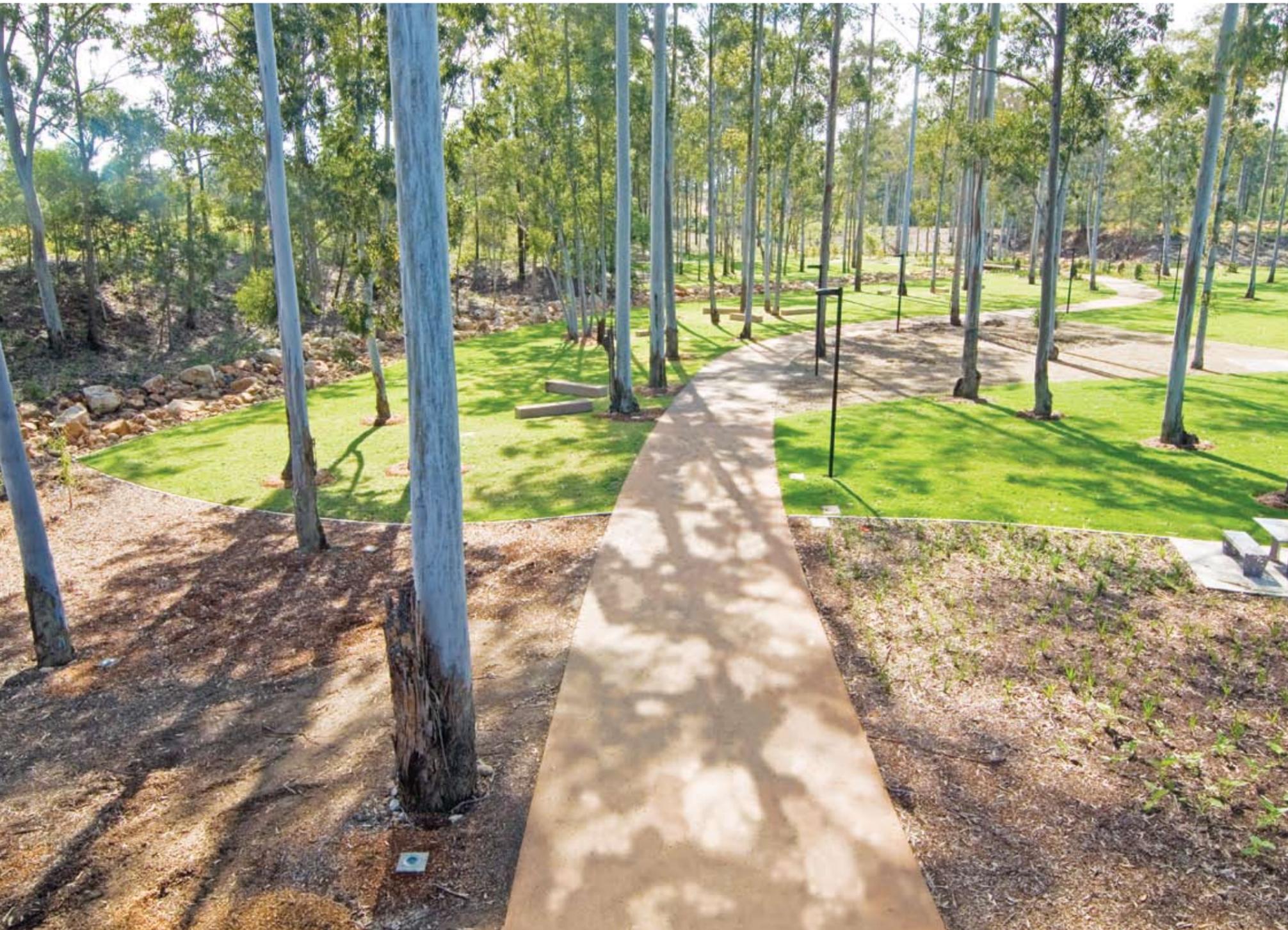
PROJECT MANAGER MARC MILL -  
JMAC CONSTRUCTIONS

# CARVING OUT A SLICE OF PARADISE FOR EVERYONE

Joining communities through space, culture and play.

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ JMAC CONSTRUCTIONS

**Below** There are many points throughout Springfield Central park to begin a journey of exploration and discovery.



**Touted as the most significant parkland in south east Queensland**, the Springfield Central Parklands spans a mammoth 25 hectares, linking Springfield's CBD and shopping precincts as well as the University of Southern Queensland. Officially titled Robelle Domain, this masterplanned masterpiece features numerous attractions such as waterfalls, cafes, water cascades, water play zones, playgrounds, picnic areas, land art pyramids, exhibition gardens and forest walkways. Truly a slice of paradise.

This \$30 million project was headed by the landscaping professionals at JMac Constructions, a committed team that has specialised in commercial development, public infrastructure and environmental management for over 30 years.

“One of the primary aims of the park's design was to provide the Springfield and Ipswich communities with a recreational setting that is engaging and unique,” said Project Manager Marc Mill. “We transformed the project from virgin bushland to urbane parkland, encompassing approximately 70,000 squares of turf, 150,000 squares of garden revegetation works and 5000 mature trees.” With figures such as these, it is no surprise the Springfield Central Parklands is one of JMac's largest and most comprehensive endeavours to date.

It is no secret that innovation and architecture play a fundamental role in such a multi-faceted project, but JMac have found a way to merge the two, cementing their place as one of the industry's leading landscape construction companies.

“We felt the need to add an element of play for children in the park,” said Marc. “Rather than bring in a formal structure, we created six large architecturally sculpted land art pyramids. It was more an earthworks project, where we basically fashioned these shapes with geometric precision and laid turf on the surface. We are hoping they will be a big hit with spectators.”

The site sits on the delta of two major creeks in the area, which proved to be the greatest logistical challenge facing JMac. After

experiencing storms in May 2009, the parklands were ruined and JMac lost a significant amount of project works. Fortunately, just as every cloud has a silver lining, JMac ratified their design to cater to similar events in the future so maintenance crews would not have to rebuild the creekline every time there is a storm.

Sadly, one of the park's greatest feats of engineering will remain unseen by spectators. “The diversion drainage system consists of 550 lineal metres of underground concrete piping,” said Marc. “This complex network transports water from one arm of the creek and deposits it into the central lake, which then feeds into a system of cascading waterways that flow through the remainder of the park.”

Part of JMac's reputation stems from their constructive liaisons with developers, local councils and state government departments. True to form, JMac continue to exceed expectations thanks to their consultative approach.

“The design and construct model that we used in collaboration with Ipswich City Council, Springfield Land Corporation and Vee Design is something very special,” said Marc. “In many cases, the design, investigation and engineering phases of a project can account for anything between 30%-35% of the overall budget. Thanks to our integrated approach, we are hovering at the 10% mark, an outcome Ipswich City Council recognise as great value for money.”

Since their inception in 1975, JMac has completed numerous large scale projects including the Sunshine Coast Industrial Park and the Precinct 8 Commercial Development at Brisbane Airport. From street scapes, ocean view boardwalks, public structures, stone entry statements, playgrounds and parklands, JMac has the ability to successfully construct and create unique landscapes of all shapes and forms.

*For more information contact JMac Constructions, 32-53 Metroplex Avenue Murarie Qld 4172, phone: 07 3902 9100, fax: 07 3899 3013, website: [www.jmacconstructions.com.au](http://www.jmacconstructions.com.au)*

**Below** The inspiring design created by Vee Design for this community and recreation area.

**Below** The decorative concrete used for the footpaths and walkways is composed of the Boral special aggregate concrete.



**Vee Design is a boutique planning and design practice** focussed on delivering successful design outcomes for their clients in the fields of Landscape Architecture, Urban Design and Master Planning. Their latest achievement is the design of new central urban parklands for the town centre of Springfield, recently awarded the world's best master planned community.

Working in a design and construct collaboration with Landscape Contractors JMac, the Springfield Land Corporation and the Ipswich City Council; Vee Design has delivered the new Springfield Central Park to be named "Robelle Domain".

David Hatherly, a Director of Vee Design, says "the project has allowed for something quite unique, 24 hectares of urban parkland in the centre of a CBD providing a range of engaging spaces and facilities, not just for the residents of Springfield, but broader Ipswich and Brisbane. The park does not just reveal itself as soon as you arrive; there are a range of intimate spaces to balance the large open spaces. The park evolves as you travel through it. From waterfalls and water cascades to picnic areas, wet and dry children's play and land art pyramids, our designs integrate with the existing terrain, utilising much of the existing landform and vegetation, delivering a very memorable parkland."

From the master planning phase through to landscape design and construction, Vee Design led and guided a design team of civil, structural, environmental and hydraulic engineers as well as lighting designers and artists, ensuring an outcome that seamlessly integrates all requirements of the park.

"The quality of our life is significantly affected by the quality of our outdoor environments," said David. "That is why sustainable design is ingrained in everything that we do. In fact, one of the innovative sustainable solutions planned for the park is to capture the wasted water that comes from adjacent commercial buildings, treat it and recycle it for use in some of the water bodies."

Vee Design are very proud of their involvement in delivering an urban parkland that will leave a legacy for the city of Springfield and Ipswich, and provide a wonderful asset for the community to enjoy for years to come.

**For more information contact Vee Design**, Level 1, 599 Brunswick Street New Farm QLD 4005, phone: 07 3358 5222, fax: 07 3358 5233. Email: info@veedesign.com.au, website: www.veedesign.com.au.

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **VEE DESIGN**

**One of Boral Concrete's most recent local projects is the** Springfield Central Parklands, which required 4000 cubic metres of decorative concrete.

All footpaths and walkways are composed of the Boral special exposed aggregate concrete. This decorative range of speciality concrete is durable and low maintenance, with a unique marbled aesthetic. After laying the paving, Boral applied a special retarder to wash 1-2mm from the surface to expose the stone within. Boral aggregates are sourced from natural quarries revealing the innate beauty and minerals of the stone.

When thinking of concrete, the last word that comes to mind is "flexibility". However, the team at Boral is known for creating custom solutions to complex problems.

If an architect is working on a large scale project and they require a product outside of our catalogue, we collaborate with them to develop a variety of custom-made samples that fit their design needs. We can craft stones using a range of oxides to suit the overall vision of the project. We at Boral are committed to the needs of the client.

Boral's experience in design and construction of complex structures is well exemplified by the Eleanor Schonell Bridge, also known as the Green Bridge. The technical team at Boral conducted extensive tests in the laboratory and onsite to create crucial precast panels made from low-shrinkage concrete. Yet another example of how boral works in partnership with the client to ensure the integrity of the project.

Boral remains an integral part of the concrete industry with approximately 240 premix concrete plants around Australia providing a wide range of mixes to both metropolitan and rural areas.

**For more information contact Ryan Pearce (Product Manager - Decorative) at Boral Concrete**, 147 Coronation Drive QLD 4064 Milton, phone 07 3867 7600, fax 07 3867 7433. Website: www.boral.com.au.

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **BORAL CONCRETE**

Below Blue Sky Nursery supplied all the plants to suit the conditions and requirements of the project.

Below Russell Anderson of Art Design was the talent behind the concept of the Giant Tipping Bucket for the playground.



Striking foliage and native plant life serve as both heart and soul to the Springfield Central Parklands. Fortunately, Blue Sky Nursery was adamant to lend their expertise to such a comprehensive project. Having serviced the Australian landscaping industry for nearly two decades, the professionals at Blue Sky have cultivated and contributed indigenous species to a variety of landmarks and attractions, including the Gold Coast Botanical Gardens.

Blue Sky has been in operation since 1991 and with the acquisition of Tango Trees in 2010 they currently command 85 acres of growing area over four sites. With premises located between the Gold Coast, Brisbane CBD and the Logan and Ipswich western corridor, Blue Sky are local growers, making their extensive stock list of native flora ideal for the parklands.

“As a wholesaler, we supplied thousands of plants across dozens of different species to the parklands,” said Edward Brain, owner and director of Blue Sky. “This included such natives as Lomandras, Dianellas, Melaleucas and Kangaroo Paw. These particular species are naturally hardy and resistant to drought. They also require minimum upkeep as well as coming to bloom in the Spring and Summer months, specifically during the parkland’s peak visiting season.”

Despite the sheer size of the parklands project, Blue Sky Nursery has never shied away from a challenge. Thanks to a dynamic team of experienced professionals, Blue Sky has the ability to supply and support any landscaping endeavour, no matter the size.

“Our plant range is diverse with all sizes catered to from tubes for revegetation projects such as Springfield Central Parklands through to ex ground specimen trees and all sizes in-between and no project is too large for us to supply”, Said Edward.

Blue Sky Nursery holds a Certificate of Accreditation for Area of Property Freedom for Red Imported Fire Ants.

**For more information contact Blue Sky Nursery**, 340 Rotary Park Road Alberton QLD 4207, phone: 07 3807 0005, fax: 07 3807 8180, website: [www.blueskynursery.com.au](http://www.blueskynursery.com.au), e-mail: [enquires@blueskynursery.com.au](mailto:enquires@blueskynursery.com.au)

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **BLUE SKY NURSERY**

**Russell Anderson is an experienced Artist and Designer**, with a diverse body of work including children’s playgrounds, public art, streetscapes and conceptual artworks. He has over fourteen years experience as an artist specific to innovative public art practice, including design, construction and installation.

His experience in the public realm covers corporate commissions, state and local government commissions and community projects.

Russell’s business Art Design is able to deliver through all stages of a public art project from concept design, through costing, time tabling, fabrication and installation and is excellent at working with built environment professionals (architects, engineers, landscape architects) and manufacturers.

Russell prides himself on the finish of his work, and does not compromise on quality.

He has a talent for industrial design and often finds unconventional solutions for design problems. He uses, where possible, ethical materials and concepts including renewable energy, energy efficient lighting, low-light pollution and recycled/plantation timbers.

WWW.ANCR.COM.AU

Russell’s Springfield Central Park commission developed an interesting and aesthetic way to interpret the challenge of the “giant tipping bucket” as a central attraction.

The giant water bucket – created to look like a 6 legged walking robotic water collector - is 1000 times bigger than the original concept of the playground as one giant “nano machine”. Imagine if you were 1/100th of a millimetre tall – that is the scale of a nano machine! The bucket machine is actually 6.5 metres tall, and stainless steel and aluminium in construction, and although it “should” be able to walk around collecting water, it does have the potential to tip the water both ways.

Russell has designed several regional scaled playgrounds – often themed around a central story eg: Hidden World for the Brisbane City Council, is one of Brisbane’s most popular playgrounds.

**For more information contact Russell Anderson Art Design**, mobile: 0413 272 912. Email: [info@russellanderson.com.au](mailto:info@russellanderson.com.au), website: [www.russellanderson.com.au](http://www.russellanderson.com.au).

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **RUSSELL ANDERSON ART DESIGN**

Springfield Central Parklands, VIC



**Below** With a 150 year history who better than BlueScope Lysaght to supply steel for this project.

**Below** Ozz Crete is the skilled team behind the walkways, trails, walls and footings throughout the parkland.



**Serving as more than just a leisurely landscape, the Springfield Central Parklands** is also a social hub. Featuring an open air amphitheatre, kiosks and several hectares of BBQ and recreational space, the parklands are populated by numerous amenities that could not have been realised without the structural integrity of BlueScope Steel, Australia's largest steel manufacturer.

In a meeting of minds with Head Contractor JMac, BlueScope Lysaght was chosen for their exceptional product range, supplying their Lysaght Longline 305 roofing iron as well as their patented Lysaght Bondek steel decking.

Making a prestigious appearance on such structures as the Sydney 2000 Olympic Velodrome, the Lysaght Longline 305 serves as a concealed-fixed roof cladding with bold ribs and wide pans. The standing seam ribs make a bold architectural statement, while simultaneously maximising water tightness. The Lysaght Bondek tells a similar story. This steel decking is a versatile and robust formwork, reinforcement and ceiling system for concrete slabs. As a profile steel sheeting, it is widely accepted by the building and construction industry for its efficiency and easy construction.

As the name implies, BlueScope Lysaght manufactures the Lysaght range of premium steel building products exclusively from steel such as Colorbond steel and Zinalume steel. The Lysaght product range includes steel roofing, walling, rainwater, fencing, home improvement, house framing and structural products.

With over 150 years of history, Lysaght products have been a proud part of Australia's architectural and building heritage, shaping homes and buildings throughout the country. As the only steel building products manufacturer who guarantees their rollformed steel products are 100% Australian made, BlueScope Lysaght go to great lengths for their craft. All profiles undergo performance testing at their market leading research and technology laboratory.

*For more information contact BlueScope Lysaght, 1800 641 417 website: [www.lysaght.com](http://www.lysaght.com)*

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **BLUESCOPE LYSAGHT**

**Most know the Springfield Central Parklands as a place for families** and individuals to relax, unwind and enjoy a healthy outdoor lifestyle all year round. However, few stop to regard its geographical significance. Located in the heart of the masterplanned city of Springfield in Brisbane's southwest, the parklands are bordered by Orion Town Centre, Parkside Business Address and Education City. The parklands provide an ecocentric link between these destinations via a network of bike tracks and pedestrian walkways.

Such a feat would not have been possible without the professional contribution of Joseph O'Brien and his team from Ozz Crete. Highly adept at all aspects of concreting from commercial and domestic to industrial projects, Ozz Crete were the busy hands behind the parkland's concrete pathways, walls and footings. They placed a stunning 2000m<sup>2</sup> – 3000m<sup>2</sup> on a weekly basis, totalling 50,000 squares of decorative and architecturally designed concrete by the project's end. These walkways and trails stretch up to eight kilometres and provide a healthy alternative to getting around Greater Springfield city.

Working through extreme weather conditions, Ozz Crete's professionalism is made all the more apparent when considering the organic shapes and difficult jointing requirements they had to negotiate, all with zero cracking.

[WWW.ANCR.COM.AU](http://WWW.ANCR.COM.AU)

Ozz Crete do not limit themselves solely to concrete. Owner and Director Joseph O'Brien is also a licensed steel fixer, working attentively alongside long-time associates JMac to create and construct the suspended decks that punctuate the parklands.

Even though this was the largest and most demanding project to date, Ozz Crete relished the challenge. After all, delivering high quality service at affordable rates is their mission statement.

Greater Springfield is the largest masterplanned city and community development under single ownership in Australia. As the latest large-scale addition to the region, the parklands add great value to the development which is expected to support a population of up to 86,000 residents within the next two decades.

*For more information contact Ozz Crete Pty Ltd, 13 Laurina Drive New Beith QLD 4124, phone: 07 3200 1380, mobile: 0422 591 721, email: [joe.ozzcrete@hotmail.com](mailto:joe.ozzcrete@hotmail.com).*

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **OZZ CRETE**

**Below**  
**ALL ABOUT QUALITY** - All About Improvements provided the expertise to build the forest walkway which extends for 300 metres through the parkland.

**Below** Nuturf Australia provided environmentally friendly turf management solutions for this huge parkland project.



Feel like a walk amongst the breathtaking foliage of the Springfield Central Parklands? Now you can. Ben Storer and his team from All About Improvements have stepped in to help city residents and park visitors alike enjoy the natural beauty on display with the construction of an authentic forest walkway. Stretching 300 metres and built from timber to blend into the landscape, the main advantage of the forest walkway is its hillside location. From this vantage point, visitors can enjoy the spectacular views that include the parkland's towering Ghost Gums.

All About Improvements prides itself on its versatility and flexibility, rendering a large concrete footbridge for the parkland while simultaneously constructing the amenities building and doing all the formwork for the stairs. They even managed to overcome a serious logistical challenge and survey the necessary landscape without damaging or altering the surrounding flora and fauna.

Having operated in the construction industry for nearly ten years, All About Improvements maintains a level of dedication rarely seen in today's market. Ben goes to great lengths and a stringent screening process to ensure only the top tradesmen are lending their talents to a project. Ben also works alongside his men and continually manages project quality by remaining onsite at all times.

Ben has nearly two decades worth of construction experience, originally working alongside his father in both residential and commercial domains. Ben has since expanded his skill base to include high-rise construction, post-tensioning, landscaping, concreting and rendering.

Thanks to their professionalism, All About Improvements was the right choice for Project Manager Mark Mill from JMac Constructions. Both Mark and Ben have maintained a seven year professional relationship spanning roughly 20 projects, adding a level of trust unique to this project.

*For more information contact All About Improvements Pty Ltd, 3 Elson Street Margate QLD 4019, mobile: 0407 242 581, fax: 07 3284 9391, email: aai1@live.com.au.*

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **ALL ABOUT IMPROVEMENTS**

**When JMac Constructions required the specialist support of** the turf management industry, they relied on the expert prowess of Nuturf Australia. They specialise in sourcing and supplying a comprehensive range of products and technical services to softscape projects throughout the country.

Like the icing on the cake, Nuturf's professional contribution is usually reserved until the very end of a project's lifecycle. However, that's all about to change. In close collaboration with JMac consultants, Nuturf have redefined traditional practices by focusing firmly on a results-based methodology.

"Normally the softscape, the horticultural elements of a project, is limited or even neglected because of budget and scheduling constraints," said Queensland State Manager, Ashley Neuendorf. "With approximately 70,000m<sup>2</sup> of wintergreen turf, we knew the Springfield Parklands would require a very different approach. We have prioritised the agricultural aspect as much as the landscaping and earthworks."

Nuturf pride themselves on their commitment to the environment, supplying tailor-made solutions to suit any problem.

WWW.ANCR.COM.AU

"Our goal when using specialist products is to minimise our environmental footprint," said Ashley. "If too much fertiliser is administered too quickly, it has the potential to leech into underground waterways and harm the environment. To avoid this, we chose a nutritional turf starter from our Black Label Range. It features a control-release component that keeps the fertiliser where it needs to be as well as gauging release. This unique spoon-feeding mechanism is what eliminates leeching potential."

Nuturf extend their services across a variety of areas including golf courses, bowling greens, racetracks, sports fields, spray contractors, turf farms and schools. They also conduct qualitative audits covering such areas as surface levelness, soil nutrition levels, irrigation water suitability, turf root health, desirable and undesirable plant populations and insect, disease and nematode occurrences.

*For more information contact Nuturf Australia Pty Ltd, 82 Christensen Road Stapylton QLD 4207, website: www.nuturf.com.au.*

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ **NUTURF AUSTRALIA**

**Below** The beautiful Coastal Blackbutt and Queensland Spotted Gum timber featured on the forest walkway was supplied by Thora Wholesale Timbers.

**Below** A vantage point to take in the stunning scenery of Springfield Central Parklands. The shaded seating at the BBQ facilities.



One of the most significant and celebrated additions to the Springfield Central Parklands is the new forest walkway. Like any attraction, many factors were taken into consideration before its construction including cost, shape, strength, aesthetics and especially longevity. For professional wholesalers Thora Timbers, quality hardwood was the magic material that met all the necessary criteria.

“We supplied the green off-saw hardwood framing as well as the kiln-dried decking for all the boardwalks,” said Tony Towerton, Manager of Thora Timbers. “We used Coastal Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus Pilularis*) for the framing and Queensland Spotted Gum (*Eucalyptus henryi*) for the decking. These two durable species are known for their visual appeal as well as their long lifespan of 25-30 years.”

Things have gone smoothly for these timber professionals, considering the sheer size of the order. Thora Timbers supplied a total of 90 tonnes of unseasoned sawn hardwood.

Having a professional history spanning more than 15 years, Thora Timbers provides a comprehensive service including sizing, dressing, custom machining (milling) and even delivery of unseasoned sawn hardwood to locations throughout Brisbane and the Gold Coast. Thora

Timbers has built its reputation on fast order fulfilment by enabling building material suppliers to trade in sawn hardwood products without the need to carry a significant stock of their own.

In addition to providing quality customer service, Thora Timbers sources its entire stock locally from sites in northern New South Wales and regions in south-eastern Queensland. They also have a hardwood job lot turnaround of 24 to 48 hours, allowing them to supply hardwood orders to customers quickly and efficiently throughout the Queensland Timber Industry.

*For more information contact Thora Wholesale Timbers Pty Ltd, 76A Richland Avenue Coopers Plains QLD 4108, phone: 07 3274 5455, fax: 07 3274 5110, website: www.thoratimbers.com.au.*

SPRINGFIELD CENTRAL PARKLANDS/ THORA WHOLESAL TIMBERS

