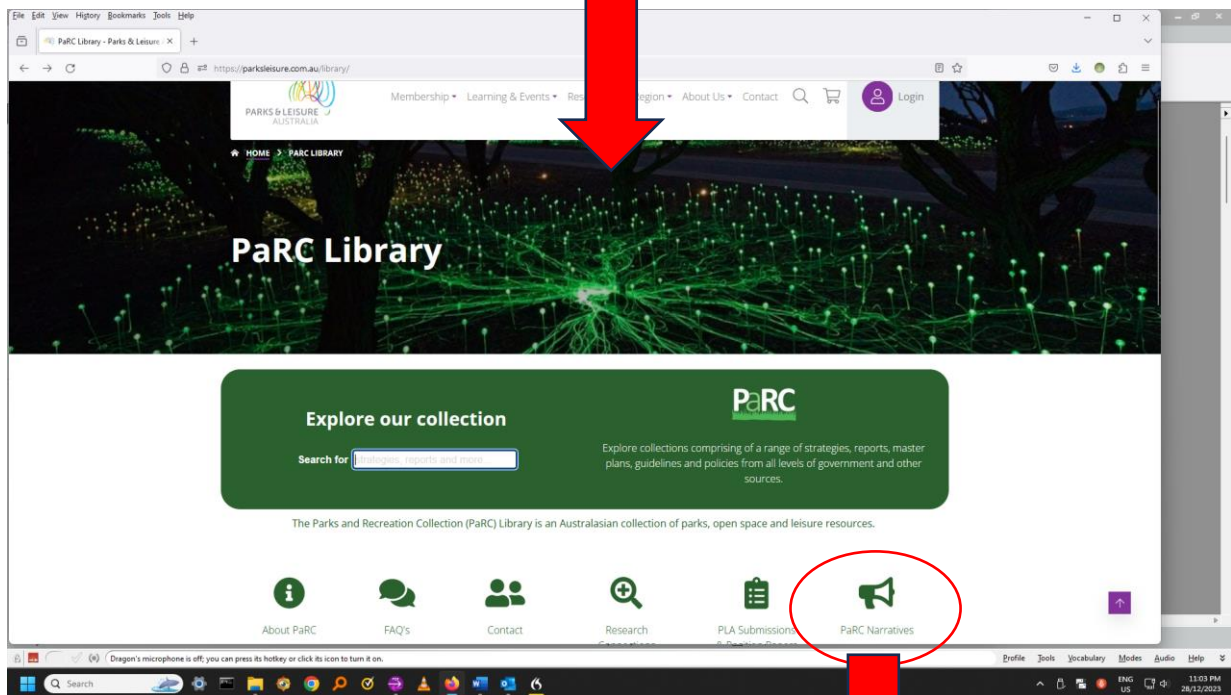
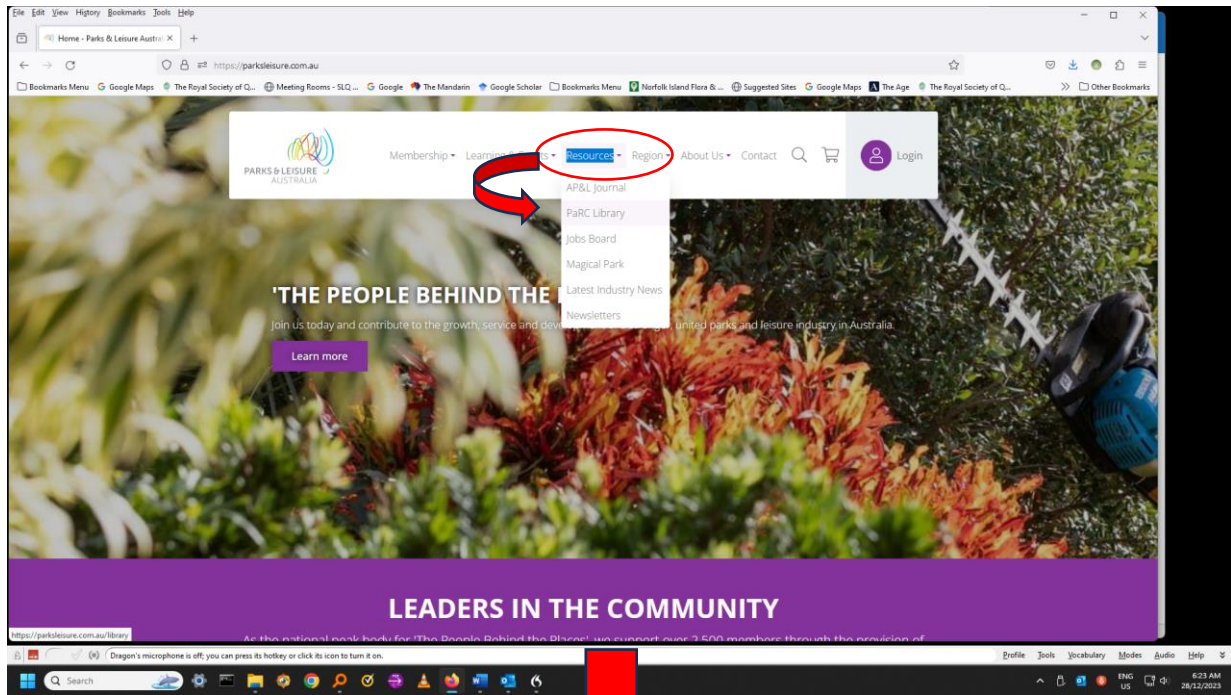


PARKS AND RECREATION COLLECTION

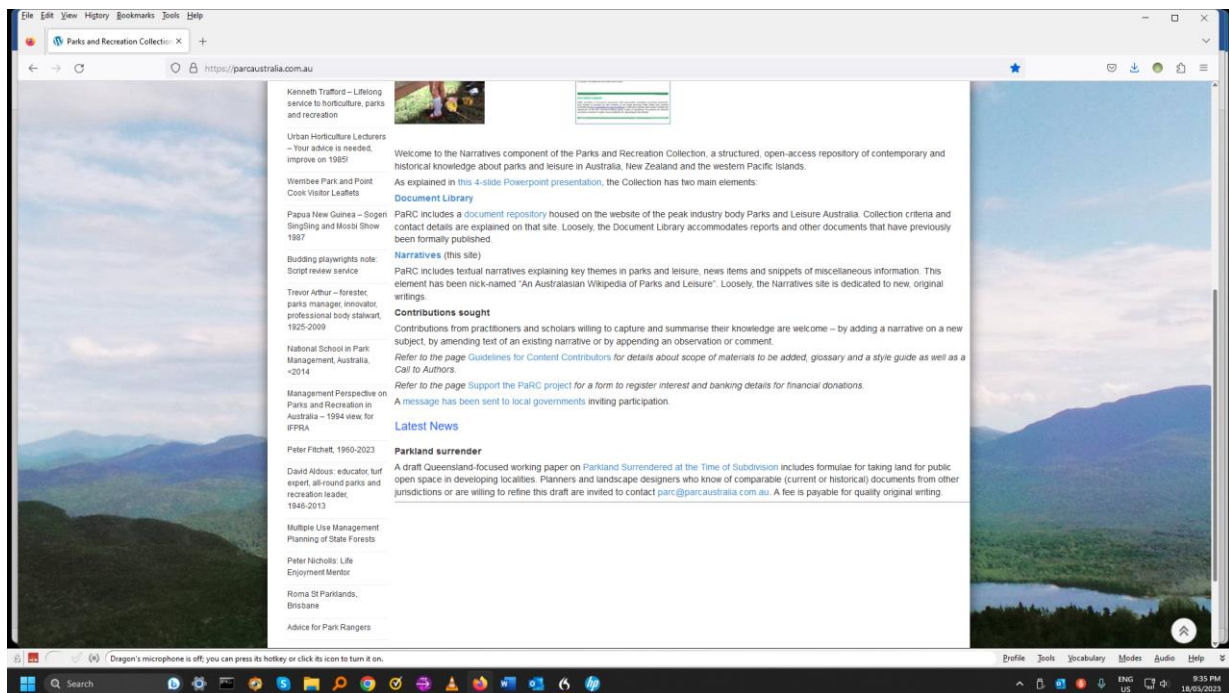
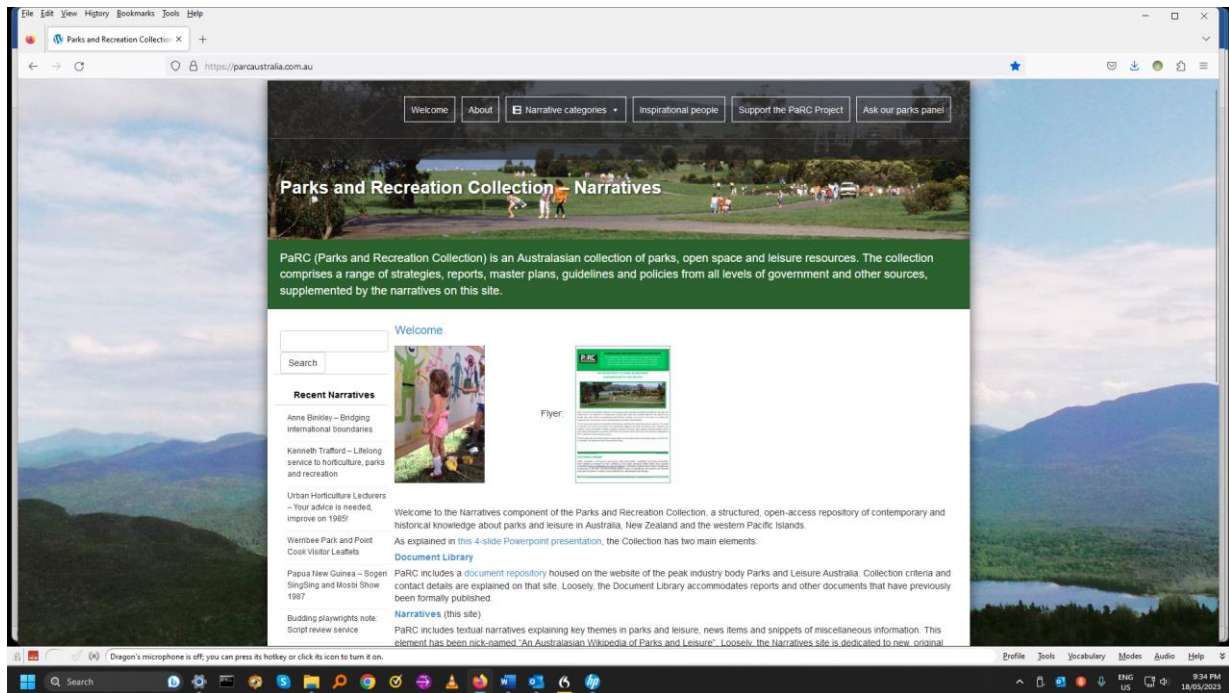
A Knowledge Resource for Parks, Open Space, Recreation and Leisure Personnel

This project was funded by the AIPR Trust Fund – Education established in 1974 by the predecessor to Parks and Leisure Australia, peak body for the sector. Two archival websites have been developed.

The **Document Library** specialises in previously published significant reports and historical documents that are not readily obtainable online. It is curated by Parks and Leisure Australia on its website <https://www.parksleisure.com.au/library/> :



The **Narratives website** specialises in previously unpublished material and original material created for the purpose. It is curated by a new not-for-profit body Parks and Recreation Collection Inc. at <https://parcaustralia.com.au/>.



Parks and Recreation Collection Inc. is keen to hear from practitioners and professionals who have knowledge they would like to share with others via these new twin international websites. It also wishes to draw their existence to public attention so that they can become an important resource in improving the quality-of-life of people in Australia, New Zealand and the Western Pacific Islands.

Geoff Edwards
Secretary PaRC Inc.
18 May 2023



PARKS AND RECREATION COLLECTION

An Australasian collection of parks, open space and leisure materials. The collection includes a range of strategies, reports, master plans, guidelines and original narratives from all levels of government, firms and personal sources.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN ENDURING CONTRIBUTION TO THE SECTOR



PaRC, the Parks and Recreation Collection, is an exciting project that aims to assemble knowledge in the parks and leisure sector. The collection is a living archive of parks, open space and recreation resources. The objective is to provide easy public access to contemporary and historical materials, as a service to the sector. It is being built collaboratively by practitioners with an understanding of the needs of the profession.

It is an online, open-access dual repository of documentary materials with supporting summary narratives. The twin portals are expected to be used by practitioners and professionals engaged in the parks and leisure sector, academics and students of parks, planning, leisure or related disciplines, librarians, educators, policy analysts in government, staff of peak bodies and laypersons. The history of the PaRC from the AIPR Trust Fund-Education established in 1974 is explained on the [Narratives website](#). PaRC has been incorporated to allow this work to continue indefinitely.

We encourage parks and leisure people to explore these two knowledge sources and develop them as a tool for all – in Australia, New Zealand and the western Pacific Islands.

PORTAL 1 - DOCUMENT LIBRARY

PaRC includes a document repository with searchable metadata including keywords. This library is housed on the website of the peak industry body Parks and Leisure Australia at www.parksleisure.com.au/library. Collection criteria and contact details are explained on the site. Anyone holding digital copies of significant, previously published documents not already included is invited to make them available for uploading to the library.

PORTAL 2 - NARRATIVES

A complementary element of PaRC is a less structured collection of narratives explaining key subjects in parks and leisure, introducing organisations such as World Urban Parks, describing geographic localities and recounting anecdotal information that has broad public interest. This limb, on www.parcaustralia.com.au, has been nick-named “An Australasian Wikipedia of Parks and Leisure” and specialises in previously unpublished writings. Anyone interested in contributing a narrative should contact the undersigned for more information OR refer to the site’s [Support the PaRC project](#) page.

INVITATION TO AUTHORS

The project is seeking authors to write narratives on subjects with which they are familiar. Contributions from both practitioners and scholars are welcome – to add a narrative on a new subject, to amend text of an existing narrative or to append an observation or comment. Profiles of ‘Inspirational people’, living or passed away, are sought.

The project is a charitable one and people willing to contribute narratives free of fee are particularly welcome, but remuneration can be negotiated if that would enable a person to participate. All contributions will be peer-reviewed in due course and can be bylined. Drafting a contribution could be attractive to early career researchers, those looking to build their CV or recently retired practitioners and scholars.

CONSULTING FIRMS AND PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

Firms consulting in the sector are encouraged to get in touch. Many firms have large archives of reports that would have broad interest to the profession but are not at present widely accessible. The project is willing to negotiate copyright clearances. Some firms may like to sponsor their staff to contribute pro bono or sponsor a page featuring their field of specialty. Officers of public authorities are encouraged to contribute, such as by unearthing and scanning historical reports, drafting descriptive narratives or bringing ‘grey literature’ into sunlight.

CONTACT US

Enquiries about management of the PaRC project may be submitted to **Geoff Edwards**, Secretary of PaRC Inc., by email secretary@parcaustralia.com.au. PaRC can offer sponsored scholarships or peer review of articles. Philanthropic donations will be welcomed.



December 2023



SCOPE OF PaRC'S ACCESSIONS

The Parks and Recreation Collection (PaRC) aims to serve the parks and leisure sector both as a source of previously published knowledge materials and as a forum for new materials – writings and audio-visuals.

Scope of accessions

The scope of PaRC is parks, open space, recreation, sport and leisure. Local governments' business development strategies and town planning documents are outside scope unless they contain significant learnings about open space protection and management. Elite sport and commercial team sport are outside scope to the extent that they are represented by the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Clearinghouse for Sport.

The geographic scope is Australia, New Zealand and the western Pacific Islands.

PaRC does not intend to systematically upload articles from scholarly journals, magazines or newspapers as these are competently indexed by the international search engines such as Google Scholar and are usually subject to copyright.

Ephemera such as tourist brochures are usually not saved unless they are embedded in a narrative with a storyline or are of historical value. Nor is modern geographical information that is readily obtainable from an Internet search. Draft reports that have been superseded by finalised documents are usually not saved.

Educational and training materials are particularly sought. Transcripts of conference papers that are not otherwise accessible are welcome.

Photographs of historical value that are stored by the respective State Library are usually not saved. Photographs of general interest that can be available for free public use under Creative Commons are welcome.

PaRC does not intend to duplicate existing websites or, given their impermanent nature, to include hotlinks to external websites, with occasional exceptions.

To offer materials for either website, please use the form on the [Support the PaRC Project page](#) or email secretary@parcaustralia.com.au. (PaRC will edit materials and decide which of the two websites will be the destination).

Funding

PaRC is open-access and there are no charges for uploading or downloading material. PaRC is run by unpaid volunteers and the not-for-profit PLA. However, the charitable fund that allowed PaRC to be established is now exhausted. Donations to allow PaRC to run events, offer scholarships or writing prizes, scan large documents and cover Internet fees are welcome.

Any public authority, commercial firm or philanthropist who would like to contribute financially to this project is invited to contact the Secretary via secretary@parcaustralia.com.au. Banking details can be obtained from the Support the PaRC Project page on the Narratives website.

September 2024