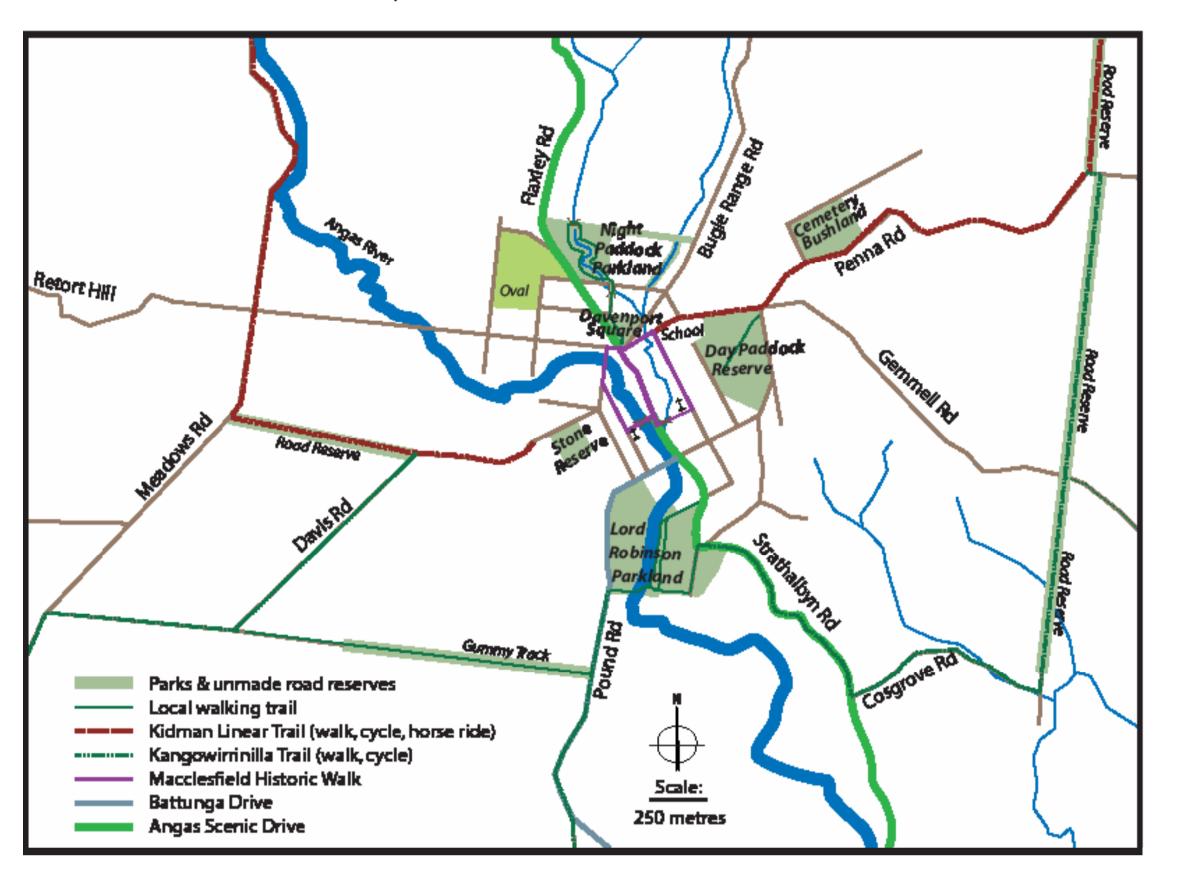
## Welcome to Night Paddock Park Battunga-Country

### MACCLESFIELD'S PARKS, TRAILS & WILDLIFE



Night Paddock Parkland

Battunga Creek Walk

Interpretative Sign

Figure 3 Night Paddock Parkland

Agistment area

### Natures Heritage

The Night Paddock is one of four parklands that surround Macclesfield totalling some 35 hectares. Together with many unmade road reserves they provide rich habitat and wildlife corridors for native birds and fauna and preserve through time our unique flora and native grasses. The walking trails that traverse these areas offer a perfect opportunity to observe and enjoy our natural environment.

### Parkland Features

This 5.5 hectare parkland on the Battunga Creek in the Angas catchment includes a walking trail, conservation corridor for native flora and fauna, interpretative signage, tables and benches, various picnic, bird viewing and recreation areas.

The park contains river red gum and manna gum woodland, whose hollows provide homes for a variety of birds, possums, bats and insects. The understorey consists of native grasses and sedges. Western grey kangaroos often graze the creek area.

### Native Vegetation

Prior to European settlement, the Peramangk inhabited this area which was known as kangowirranilla (place of kangaroos and water). The vegetation and ecosystem of the area experienced by Peramangk Aboriginies has been transformed by European settlement by the clearing of habitat, and the introduction of exotic species and weeds. The manna gum trees are named because of the edible secretion which appears at times on the upper parts of the tree which is food for birds. The Red gum is named after the colour of it's timber and acacia retinoides from Greek for resinous gum which occurs on the stem

# In 2006 volunteers fenced the creek

Park Restoration

and began a project to remove woody weeds and restore native habitat understorey to protect this reserve and create a wildlife corridor in this Parkland. Recent plantings include wattles such as acacia retinoides, acacia paradoxa and hakeas. Eucalypts are regenerating naturally.

The Park's name has been in common useage since the 1880's and was named from the historic practice of local residents using the reserve to graze a milking cow or a horse for transport.



An Echidna foraging among the debris for food

### The Web of Life

Erosion caused by Battunga Creeks rapid winter flows are being stabilised by plantings of vegetation.

Fallen timber & rotting leaves provide habitat for invertebrates and shelter for native fish and frogs. It is recycled by a host of creatures: fungi, moulds, worms, termites, & beetle larvae which are in turn consumed by other creatures up the food chain. Regeneration starts with seed as the next generation of trees, shrubs & grasses grow.

Snakes are native to the area and are protected.



