

e-Gazette No. 049 – April, 2019

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SECRET MEETING PROMPTS \$60 MILLION THREAT TO PARK 2



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SECRET DOCUMENTS AND PILES OF CASH

The Adelaide City Council has delivered the Adelaide Crows a secret set of guidelines to maximise the chances that the multi-million dollar sports franchise can establish a new "training and administration" base in [Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla \(Park 2\)](#)

The Council has refused to release details of what it's given the Crows. Councillors voted on Tuesday 9 April NOT to consult the public until after the Crows have heavily invested in drawing up glossy plans for their desired corporate takeover.

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Only three Councillors (Anne Moran, Phillip Martin and Robert Simms) voted to ask the public for their views. The others believed there was no point consulting the public until after the Crows draw up their detailed plans.



Adelaide Football Club [CEO Andrew Fagan says](#) the club wants to build, on Park Lands, new "training and administration headquarters".

He's welcomed \$15 million that's been offered by the Federal Government, towards the club's \$60 million dollar building fund.



The Crows desired site in Park 2 currently hosts the Adelaide Aquatic Centre, and four sports grounds including this one used by Blackfriars Priory College and other community and casual groups.

The Aquatic Centre is well known to be a drain on the City Council's finances. It loses \$700,000 per year. What's more it requires major refurbishment or repairs. Options include spending \$3 million to \$5 million on short-term repairs or between \$10 million to \$15 million for a major overhaul. ([Subscriber-only link to 'Adelaide Now' story](#))

There is a [Park Lands Management Strategy](#), endorsed by both the Council and the State Government. No part of that strategy envisages a multi-million dollar sports franchise having its administration headquarters in Park 2.

However the City Council earlier this year in a confidential meeting, encouraged the Crows to prepare a bid. The decision and the documents given to the Crows after that meeting are shrouded in official secrecy.

According to the City Council it will be assessing the Crows' "unsolicited bid" (that the Council has encouraged) when it arrives eventually, fully-formed, to see whether it is "legally, technically and financially feasible."

In the meantime, the Council is [not willing to discuss with the public](#) whether it should even be entertaining a bid for a corporate takeover of Park Lands.

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The Council has "three unsolicited bids."

The Park Lands are Adelaide's crown jewels.

If someone lodges an "unsolicited bid" to relieve you of some of your jewellery, how many stages of proper process are required to assess the offer?

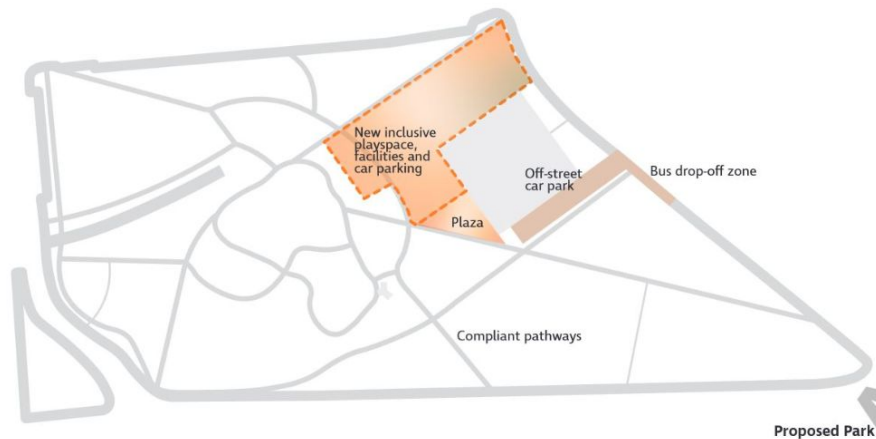


If this makes you see red, then don't wait for the official glossy-brochure "consultation."

You can convey your views to [City Councillors](#), and to the Crows CEO [Andrew Fagan](#), before the footy club gears up its plans to take over any of Adelaide's jewels.

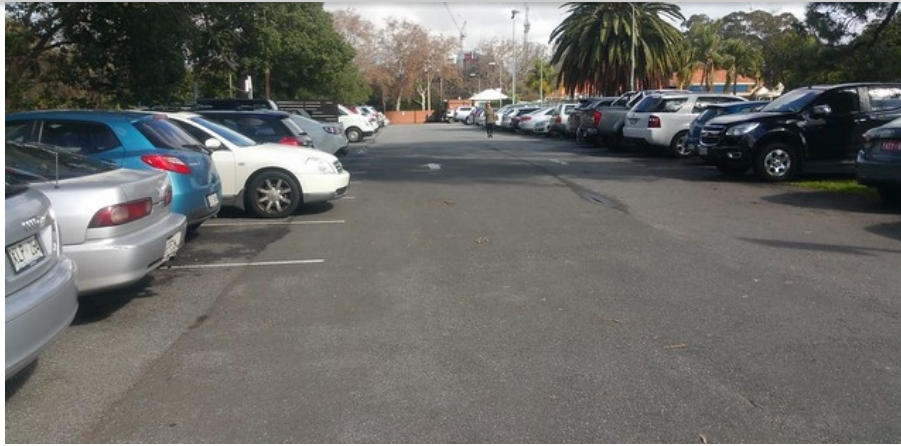


RYMILL PARK or RYMILL CAR PARK?



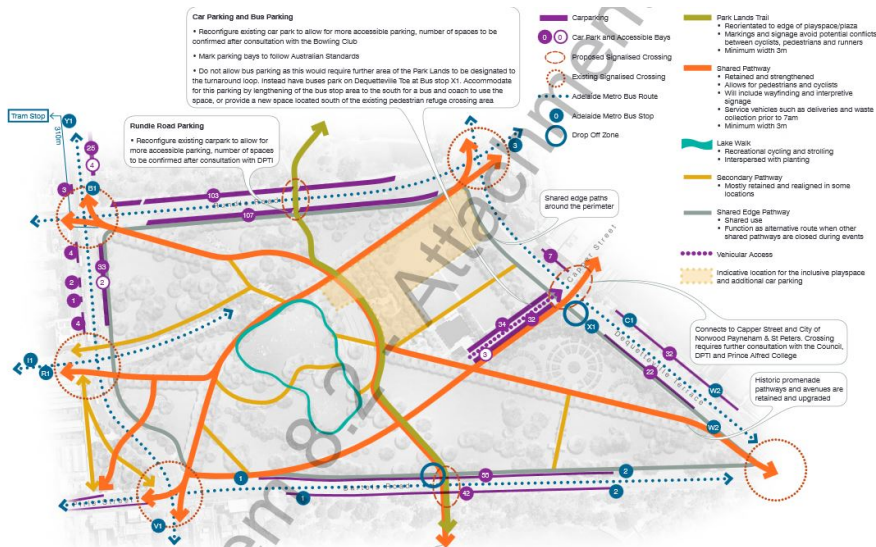
New plans have been drawn up for Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka ([Park 14](#)) that would turn part of the Park into a parking lot for cars and buses.

There is already a large car park in Rymill Park, with an entrance off Dequetteville Terrace next to the Adelaide Bowling Club. See the pic below. There is also substantial car parking available on either side of Rundle Road.



Nevertheless, the Adelaide Park Lands Authority, meeting on Thursday 11 April, agreed with suggestions from Council administration that the existing Rymill Park car park is not large enough.

The Authority recommended to the City Council that it go out to public consultation in coming weeks proposing that an additional area of Rymill Park be converted to another new car park. See the area marked in orange in the diagrams above and below.



The proposed new "Master Plan" for Rymill Park recognises that the Park has been irretrievably altered by the 2017 O-Bahn tunnel intrusion.

The Plan – soon to be considered by the Council for public release – proposes to:

- create new "event spaces"
- reinforce the formal pathways with new tree plantings
- introduce a memorial to the Stolen Generations
- improve water quality in the lake, and
- upgrade both the playground and public toilets.

These aspects are welcome. However we are hoping the Council will re-think the draft Master Plan's emphasis on turning a large part of Rymill Park over to car parking.

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DUCK UNDER THE ROTOR BLADES, AGAIN

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On Tuesday 9 April 2019 the Adelaide City Council re-opened the door to putting a commercial helipad on Park Lands.

This saga began in late 2016 with a secret 'commercial -in-confidence' approach to the Council by helicopter operators.

After a year of botched consideration the proposal was abandoned in January 2018.

However, a new batch of Councillors elected in November 2018 have opened the door to look again, at putting a commercial helipad somewhere on the Adelaide Park Lands.

APPA would be unconcerned if there were any proposal to put a helipad on a non-Park Lands site, such as on top of a CBD building, or next to the Keswick interstate rail terminal.

However, for obvious reasons, a commercial helicopter business would be incompatible with the peace and serenity of any park, especially the world-unique National Heritage-listed Adelaide Park Lands.

On 9 April 2019, Council was asked to vote on a motion from Cr Phillip Martin that would have permitted continued investigation of potential helipad sites, while ruling out Park Lands sites.

However the vote was lost 6-5.

Voting for the motion to exclude potential Park Lands sites were Councillors Phillip Martin, Robert Simms, Alex Hyde, Helen Donovan and Anne Moran. Thanks to each of these five Councillors for being alert and aware of the risks.

We will continue to engage with the City Council to ensure that they are aware of the reasons why a site other the Park Lands should be preferred.



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OVAL HOTEL - THE FIGHT GOES NATIONAL

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Have you ever wondered how so many attacks can be made on the Park Lands when they have National Heritage status?

What use is National Heritage listing if it can't prevent attacks like the O-Bahn trench in Rymill Park ([Park 14](#)) nor the proposed [Oval Hotel](#) in Tarntanya Wama ([Park 26](#))?

The problem is that Federal laws are far too weak. That's why APPA has joined a national movement, campaigning for better environment and heritage protection laws.

We have joined the [Places You Love Alliance](#). Together with 55 other like-minded organisations across Australia, we are campaigning together for a new generation of national environment laws to:

- protect and restore our natural environment,
- strengthen our democracy and
- support community involvement.

Now your support of APPA is part of a much larger movement of over 1.5 million people who are fighting to preserve our wildlife, ecosystems and a safe climate for our generation and future generations.

Together, APPA and the many others in the [Places You Love Alliance](#) are demanding strong laws that actually protect our natural environment and heritage, and conserve our biodiversity.

Find out more at <http://www.placesyoulove.org/>

OVAL HOTEL – APPA'S EVIDENCE TO SELECT COMMITTEE

On Tuesday 9 April, APPA President Shane Sody and Secretary Damien Mugavin [gave evidence](#) to the Parliamentary Select Committee inquiring into the proposed Adelaide Oval Hotel.

APPA's evidence included:

- some background and history about the Adelaide Park Lands;
- why a commercial hotel is inconsistent with public Park Lands;
- the ineffectiveness of federal environment law which does not protect a national heritage listed asset;
- the apparent illegality of the proposed hotel; and
- the failure of the State Government to push back against the over-reach of the Stadium Management Authority.

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The Oval and its concourse are both part of Tarntanya Wama (Park 26) and the hotel would be built directly over that paved part of the Park Lands.



2. NOT FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

The site "should be held for the public benefit of the people of South Australia" (That's the law!) A hotel is for private benefit, not public.



3. SPORT BUSINESS IS NOT CHARITY

Cricket and footy are multi-million \$ sports businesses. They had \$535m in taxes to build the stadium. Now they want more?



25. ANCILLARY?

If a hotel is OK because it's "ancillary" to the stadium, why not a supermarket as well?



You can read the transcript of [APPA's evidence here](#).



Our evidence was part of the story on Channel Nine News, on Tuesday 9 April

Find out more at

www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/oval-hotel

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NEWSCORP BARRACKING FOR A NEW PARK LOSS

News Corporation made an entry in Park Lands debate on Sunday 14 April without even acknowledging the Park Lands.

The Sunday Mail and Adelaide Now website [reported the results of an opinion poll \(\\$\\$ subscriber-only link\)](#) asking which, of two proposed sites, would be preferred to replace both Hindmarsh Stadium and the Entertainment Centre.

Of course the question being asked did not acknowledge that both proposed sites would be on Park Lands. Either

- a [site partially over railwards and Helen Mayo Park, on Park 27](#); or
- an [enlarged Tennis SA stadium](#) alongside Adelaide Oval in Park 26.



As we described [in last month's newsletter](#), these are just two of the multiple threats facing the Park Lands in 2019.

Plans are also being considered for:

- A \$60 million Crows administration and training centre on Park 2 (see our lead story above);
- A multi-storey [function centre in the North Adelaide Golf Course](#) in Park 1;
- the proposed [Adelaide Oval Hotel](#); and
- [Pulteney Grammar School](#) function rooms and private storage in Park 20.

Keep up to date with these and other Park Lands threats at www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/current-issues



VIDEO OF THE MONTH - LOVE PARK LANDS



What's your favourite part of the Adelaide Park Lands? Why do you love it?

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During March 2019, we sought contributions from you; to share your love of the Park Lands, or a place within the Park Lands that's special to you.

Here's the result - the 3-minute 'Love Park Lands' video.

Thanks to everyone who entered. We can't feature all of them, but 12 contributors to this video have each won a prize - an APPA retro fleecy picnic blanket.

The APPA Annual General Meeting on 28 April will choose one of these contributors, judged as best conveying feelings to inspire others to love the Park Lands too.

That overall winner will receive a new 6th-generation iPad wifi, 128 Gb (retail value \$599)

In next month's (May) newsletter we'll return to our regular series of videos highlighting each part of the Park Lands in turn.

Catch up on any of our earlier Park videos (Park 1 through to Park 20) by following the links at www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/explore-parks



WHAT'S ON IN THE PARK LANDS

There are always events scheduled in the Park Lands, many of them free, and there are always opportunities to explore the Park Lands on your own, or with friends or family. Browse our '[Explore Parks](#)' pages for hints about interesting spots to visit. This month's featured opportunities, in date order, are:



[Parkfest](#) - Wed 17 April from 12pm - 4pm in Light Square/ Wauwi A FREE festival for young people with activities including: Skate and BMX ramps; Live Music Performances; Mural Art Walls; Haircuts; Rock climbing walls; Dance demonstrations; Pedal Smoothies ...and much more.

Click the pic for details.



[Circus Rio](#) - Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) four times daily until Sun 12 May. Featuring motorbike jumps, tightrope walkers, flying trapeze team, along with circus classics: juggling, acrobatics and rolla bolla. Tickets from \$19 to \$49.

Click the pic for details.



[Anzac Day dawn service](#) - 25 April 6am at the war memorial in Prince Henry Gardens (part of Park 12) corner of North Terrace and Kintore Ave.

Click the pic for details.

[Parkrun](#) a free 5 KM run held every Saturday at 8 AM at Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) and at Torrens Weir.

Click the pic for details

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[Learn to play croquet](#). South Terrace Croquet Club in Carriageway Park / Tuthangga (Park 17). Mondays and Fridays until 17 May. The City of Adelaide is taking registrations for people interested in learning croquet. Attend as many classes as you like but register separately for each class. Part of the City of Adelaide's Wellbeing and Resilience Program. Click the pic for details.

[Adelaide Busking and Food Truck Carnivale](#). 11am to 10pm 26 to 28 April in Light Square / Wauwi. It includes more than 30 of Adelaide's top food trucks and buskers.

Click the pic for details

[The Vigil](#) – Elder Park rotunda (Park 26) Wednesday 1 May. 5.30 to 6.30pm This is an annual event held to remember the women and children who have lost their lives because of domestic and family violence. Stand in solidarity with those who have lived experience of domestic and family violence, and in honour of those whose lives have been lost. Click the pic for details.

[Mothers Day Classic](#) walk or run. Sunday 12 May, 6.30am to midday at Peace Park, off Sir Edwin Smith Drive in Red Gum Park / Karrawirra (Park 12). Choose from a 2km walk, 4.5km walk, 7.4km walk, 4.5km run, or 7.4km run. Also featuring a tribute wall, free massages, pilates. For kids, a bouncy castle, obstacle course, giant board games, face painter and a henna station. Click the pic for details.

[Darkness Into Light walk](#) – Sunday 11 May, at dawn. River Torrens Linear Park. A fundraiser for mental health. Walk together out of the predawn darkness and into the sunrise, as an expression of hope for those who have suffered mental ill health.

Click the pic for details.

[Guided Walk through Brougham Gardens & Palmer Gardens](#) – Saturday 11 May, 2pm to 3.30pm Explore the two formal gardens of North Adelaide and the built heritage that surrounds them – including of course the tower of the Brougham Place Uniting Church. Find out about the role of Palmer Gardens and Brougham Gardens in Adelaide's history, their hidden secrets, and their continuing role in the city's life. Click the pic for details.

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Peek into the Past with Popeye Saturday 11 May, 4 to 4.45pm - part of the History

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and participating in our colonial past. Be part of an arrest by our first policeman, learn of your struggles as our first settlers and participate in stories of some of our very own bushrangers. Presented by: The Popeye on the River Torrens. Bookings essential.

Click the pic for details.



Million Paws Walk - Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16). The day AFTER the federal election - Sunday 19 May 9am to 3pm. Funds raised go to the RSPCA, for animal care. After the walk enjoy a "dog village" with fun activities including entertainment, food stalls, doggy games and free pet advice. Click the pic for details.

Click the pic for details



TEN TREES TO BE REMOVED - 300 TO REPLACE THEM



Mistletoe Park Tainmuntilla

part of Park 11



If you see trees being removed soon along the Torrens riverbank, don't be alarmed.

The City Council is stepping up its re-vegetation plan along the River Torrens in Mistletoe Park / Tainmuntilla ([Park 11](#)) near the Adelaide Zoo.

The management of this Park over the past 10 years has included re-establishing the type of vegetation that would have existed pre-European settlement, i.e. within a River Red Gum forest.

As part of this project, since 2008, Mistletoe Park / Tainmuntilla has also had a new award-winning bridge, extensive riverbank reinforcement, improved paths and lighting, and weed control.

Within the next three months, you may notice Council workers removing seven

Both species are considered to be "woody weeds" that are likely to spread, either via suckers or seed dispersal if not removed.

After the removal of these seven Swamp Oaks, there will still be 38 Swamp Oaks remaining in Mistletoe Park / Tainmuntilla pending a later stage of the revegetation project. See the diagram below.



The three Canary Island date palms, being an introduced species, are not consistent with a River Red Gum forest. The Council hopes to re-plant one of the date palms elsewhere in the Adelaide Park Lands.

After these ten trees have been removed, in the next two months, about 300 new trees will take their place. The new plantings will be co-funded by the Urban Greening Initiative Grant provided to the City of Adelaide by the State Government's Department for Environment and Water.



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Two of the swamp-oaks (top) and Canary Island palms (bottom) targeted for removal.



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SPORTS LEASING IN PARKS 17, 18, 19



As we noted in [our February newsletter](#) the City Council recently invited expressions of interest from schools and sporting groups seeking new or renewed access to the sports facilities in Carriageway Park / Tuthangga ([Park 17](#)) - marked in green above.

The result of the process looks set to see current users continue to maintain effectively the same rights that they have had for decades.



The Park Lands Authority at its meeting on Thursday 11 April, recommended to the City Council that:

- Christian Brothers College be invited to renew its lease over the tennis/hockey/half-court soccer pitch (Zone 1, off Hutt Rd)
- The SA Croquet Association be invited to renew its lease over courts and buildings in Zone 2, (corner of Glen Osmond Rd & Hutt Rd)
- Pembroke School be invited to renew its license over the playing fields in Zone 3 (off Greenhill Rd); and
- Touch Football SA be invited to take over the licensing of the sports grounds in Zone 4 (corner of Greenhill Rd & Beaumont Rd).

The facilities in Zones 1, 3 and 4, are used not only by the license holders, but other groups can book them, or the public can use them if there is nothing booked.



The City Council is currently running a similar process seeking expressions of interest for the sports fields and facilities in:

- Pelzer Park / Pityarilla ([Park 19](#)) – Zones 1 and 2 above; and
- Peppermint Park / Wita Wirra ([Park 18](#)) – Zone 3 above.

Expressions of interest close on Friday 26 April. More details here: <https://yoursay.cityofadelaide.com.au/COA-EOI>

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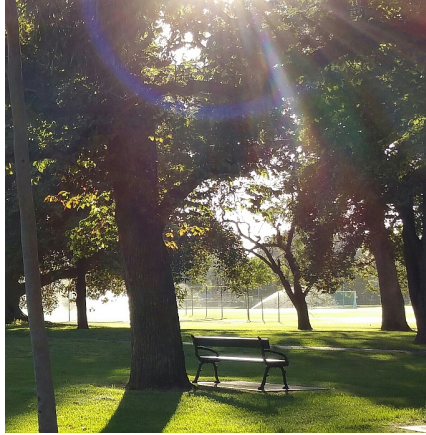
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BRIEFLY IN OTHER PARKLANDS NEWS

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Who pays for the upkeep and maintenance?

The Adelaide Park Lands are of national and world significance. However the cost of maintaining the majority of the Park Lands (the City Council's annual \$18 million bill) is paid by just the 23,000 ratepayers of the City of Adelaide. Although the Park Lands are used by people from all over Adelaide (and further afield) the City Council receives no contribution to their upkeep from the State Government or even neighbouring Councils.

At its meeting on 9 April 2019, the Council decided to put this issue onto the agenda for the next meeting of the "Capital City Committee" for discussion with the State-Government.



New shared use bicycle/pedestrian trails

This path is nearing completion along South Terrace between Sir Lewis Cohen Avenue and Goodwood Road. It's in Golden Wattle Park / Miru Wirra (Park 21W). The new pathway also includes new tree plantings and landscaping work.



PARKS & LEISURE AUSTRALIA
(SA/NT)

Do you have an interest in using Parks to improve community wellbeing?

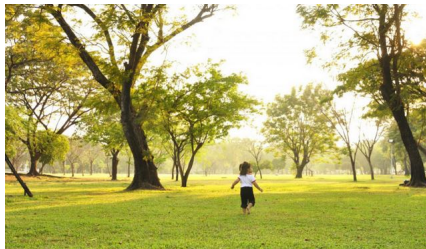
Parks and Leisure Australia (SA/NT) is holding a conference on that theme, on Thursday 9 May at Campbelltown.

Speakers include sports journalist Mark Aiston and sport coaches Kris Massie and Roger Rasheed. [Click the pic for details](#)



The recently-completed 'Tasting Australia' event in Victoria Square / Tarntanyangga attracted many visitors to the Square. However it also unfortunately turned a significant part of the Square into a car park.

It's a shame that event organisers are permitted to use this public open green space for something as mundane as car parking, especially when there is a Council-operated U-Park nearby at the Central Market.



Access to Parks is good for kids' mental health!

A new study of more than a million people has found that children who grew up with the lowest levels of green space – parks, gardens and sports fields – had up to a 55 per cent higher risk of developing a psychiatric disorder. [Click the pic to read the story in NewDaily.](#)





As previously advised the [Annual General Meeting](#) of the Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association is scheduled for Sunday 28 April at the North Adelaide Community Centre (pictured) at 176 Tynte Street. Be there 9.30am for a 10am start. Please be aware that Tynte Street will be subject to a partial road closure that day to accommodate a "Classic Car" community event. The best access to the Community Centre will be from Wellington Square.

APPA financial members will receive an AGM reminder a few days before the AGM, with the finalised agenda and reports from the Treasurer and President.

The guest speaker at the AGM will be Hon. Stephan Knoll MP, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government; Minister for Planning.

Members of the public are invited to attend but voting rights at the AGM are restricted to APPA members. You can join APPA before or at the AGM if you wish to vote. Membership options are here <http://www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/membership>

We rely almost exclusively on annual membership fees to continue our Park Lands advocacy, so if you haven't already, please consider putting your money where your mouth is and backing APPA to keep up the Park Lands fight.

As a financial member of APPA, you receive:

- the priceless satisfaction of supporting APPA's work;
- free participation in our [monthly guided Park Lands walks](#);
- eligibility to become a Park Ambassador and lead an annual [guided walk through one Park](#);
- the responsibility to help guide APPA's activities through the [Annual General Meeting](#); and
- a printable PDF membership certificate.

PHOTOS OF THE DAY - RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



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- From the top:
- a) Citizenship ceremony in Blue Gum Park / Kurangga ([Park 20](#))
 - b) cyclist riding through irrigation spray at the entrance to Bonython Park / TTulya Wardli ([Park 27](#))
 - c) Women's soccer in Bullrush Park / Warnpangga ([Park 10](#))
 - d) Running along the Torrens riverbank in Red Gum Park / Karrawirra ([Park 12](#))
 - e) Ladybird and butterfly eggs on a caper bush in the adelaide Botanic Garden ([Park 11](#)). Photo: Greg Coote

The Park Lands 'photo of the day' series has been running since May 2014, and the collection of Park Lands photos gathered over almost five years now numbers over 1,800. We maintain (and gradually grow) more than 40 separate albums: one for each numbered Park and Square, along with several albums for 'Alienations'. Contributions are very welcome! To find out more about any of these featured Parks, click the link to the Park number.

Adelaide Park Lands



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**BETTER LAWS
FOR A
BETTER PLANET**

We are a member organisation of the national "Places You Love Alliance"

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