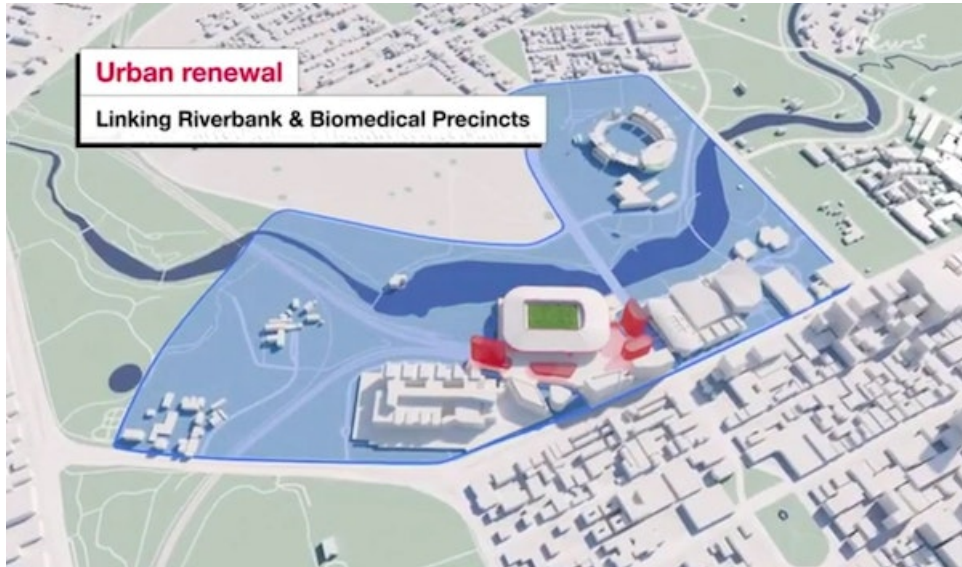


e-Gazette No. 67 - 10 October, 2020

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## HOW TO ATTACK PARKS - THE RULE BOOK



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### 1. ATTACKING A PARK? LEARN THE RULES

For those planning to confiscate a portion of the Adelaide Park Lands, and remove it from public access, what are the rules you need to follow?

#### RULE #1 - MAKE FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES

Most Park Lands heists require, at an early stage, a series of closed-door meetings.

Proponents try to get the decision-makers (i.e. the State Government or the City Council) on-side first, well before releasing their plans to the public.

That was how the Stadium Management Authority achieved its goal of [getting a State-sponsored hotel on Park 26](#) - by meeting repeatedly with the Premier, in private, throughout 2018.



*Premier Steven Marshall with former Premier John Olsen, the deputy chair of the Stadium Management Authority.*

The Adelaide Crows also had several years of private meetings with City Council staff between 2016 and 2019 (code-named "Project Blue") about getting their corporate headquarters on Park Lands, long before they progressed to Rule #2. [That Crows proposal is dormant, for now, but not forgotten.](#)

## **RULE #2 - PRODUCE PRETTY PICTURES**

After making friends in high places, the next Rule is to release lustrous artist's impressions, of a beautiful building, preferably with trees around it.

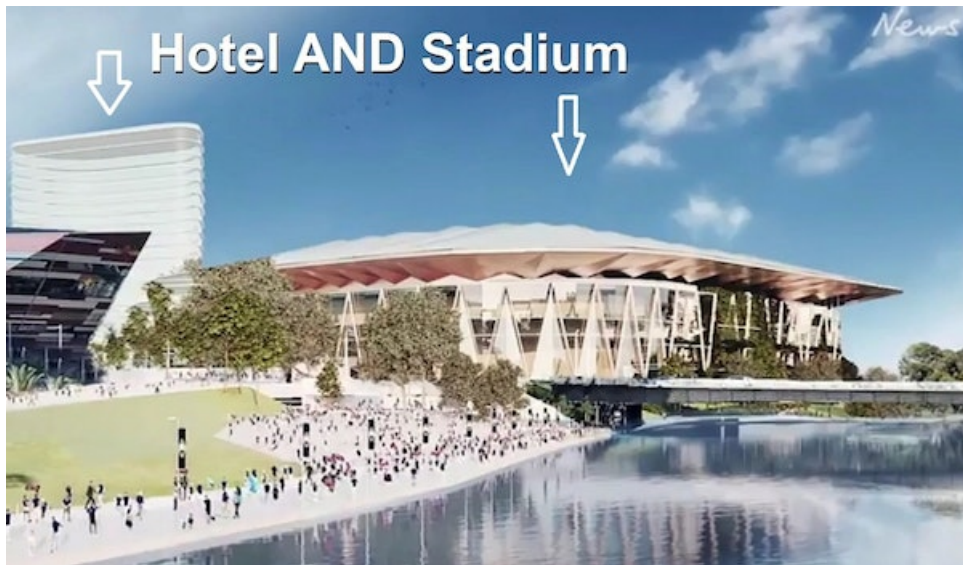
Would-be Park thieves then explain how much Adelaide needs this new building, and how many jobs would be created.

Of course Park Lands attackers don't restrict themselves to just one or two glowing artist's impressions. They usually provide an animated video, complete with a "fly-through" showing the proposed shiny new building from all angles, even from the inside.

The images below are taken from a promotional video, presented behind closed doors to the State Government by the Venue Management Corporation, showing exactly what part of YOUR PARK LANDS that they want.

Note that the Corporation wants not just a stadium, but also TWO hotels, a cinema, shops and offices - all on YOUR Helen Mayo Park ([Park 27](#)).





### RULE #3 - DON'T MENTION THE PARK LOSS

Would-be Park Lands thieves rarely, if ever, acknowledge in their publicity, that the site they are targeting is part of the world-unique National Heritage-listed Adelaide Park Lands. They might say that it "overlooks" Park Lands. But usually they just assume that their chosen site is vacant, unused and ripe for (their) development.

This, below, is YOUR Park Land (Helen Mayo Park, in [Park 27](#)) that is being targeted by the Adelaide Venue Management Corporation for its proposals above.







Similarly, the images below are from a promotional video, released by the State Government to support its plans for locating a new Womens and Children's Hospital on your [Park 27](#).

Note that the chosen site is marked as a red triangle. Of course, in reality the site is green. It's a Park. But marking it with red makes it appear to be an appropriate development site.



#### **RULE #4 - DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE OTHER POTENTIAL SITES**

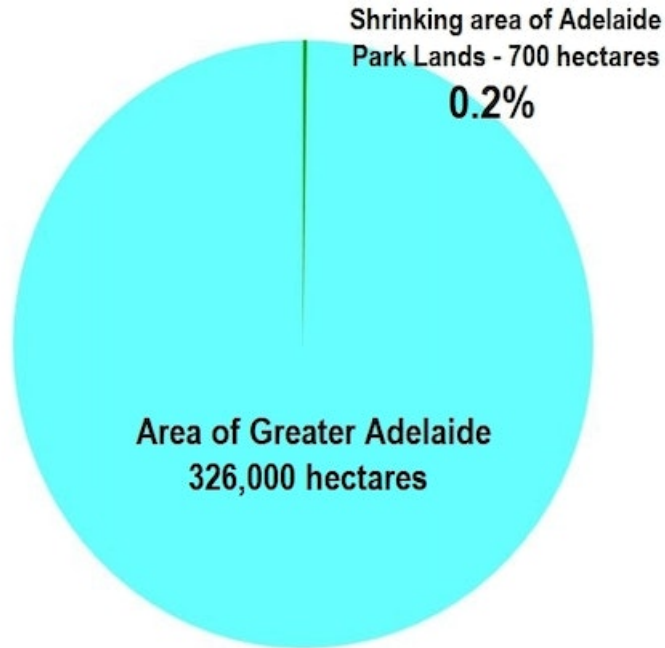
Would-be Park Lands thieves rarely, if ever, suggest any alternative sites, or that the Adelaide Park Lands have world-unique value that would be reduced by their proposed building.

They want public debate (if any) to be centred on the merits of the proposed building - rather than the merits of their targeted site.

Any Park Lands advocates can then be painted as resisting progress.

The reality of course is that those, like APPA, who value the world-unique Adelaide Park Lands are not opposed to important new buildings - provided such buildings are constructed on appropriate sites. We are trying to protect only 0.2% of the Adelaide metropolitan area - the garland of irreplaceable Park Lands.

There is another 99.8% of greater Adelaide on which new developments might be placed. But the would-be Park thieves don't want to talk about other sites.



In the two cases of (a) the proposed new stadium and (b) the proposed new Women's and Children's Hospital, (both proposed for [Park 27](#)) the two promotional videos are available only to News Ltd's paying subscribers. Reporting of these plans in *The Advertiser* included customary gushing praise, without acknowledging the Park Lands status of the land.

If you have a News Ltd subscription you can [see the stadium video here](#) and/or the Women's and Children's Hospital video [at this link](#).

If you think that Adelaide can do better than this, then:

**[TAKE ACTION](#)**



## 2. SKATE PARK - DESIGN REVEALED

Construction is about to begin on the long-awaited City Skate Park in Gladys Elphick Park / Namungga ([Park 25](#)).





As we advised during our Guided Walk in that Park last month, the skate park is to be constructed not far from the corner of West Terrace and Glover Avenue, as marked by the star, below:



The design includes retaining several significant native trees, to offer shade over the skate park.



It's expected the skate park will be ready for use by mid-2021.



You can see the full design, and watch the 3-minute design video here:  
<https://yoursay.cityofadelaide.com.au/city-skatepark>

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### 3. BREAK DOWN VICTORIA PARK BARRIERS FOR HEALTH

A new Working Group of concerned residents and Park Lands supporters is developing a list of demands to put to the State Government, to urge a re-think on current plans to extend motor racing indefinitely in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi ([Park 16](#)).

The group is now calling itself "Better at the Bend" as it argues that motor racing should be moved from the Park Lands to the purpose-built facility at Taillem Bend, in the interests of public health and amenity.

Next year, motor racing in Victoria Park has been postponed from March, to an unconfirmed date later in the year.

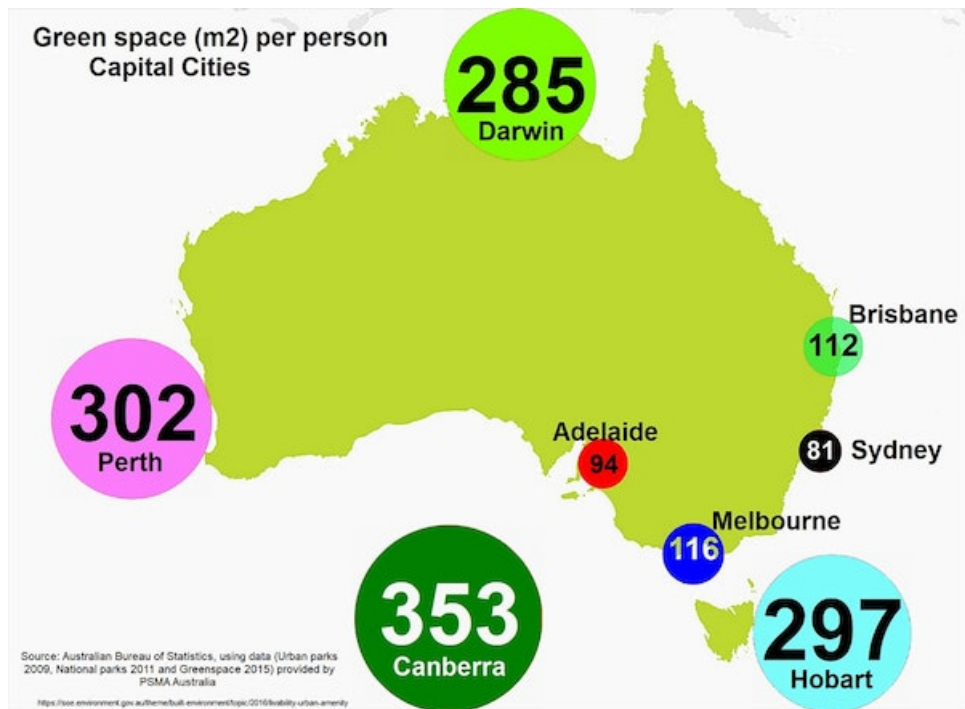
Although 2021 is the last year of the current motor sport contract, [Premier Steven Marshall has told APPA](#) that the Park Lands will continue to be used for the annual motor sport event "beyond" 2021.



In response, here's a draft of a pitch that the working group is developing, to submit to the Premier:

*"Adelaide has [the second lowest area of green space per capita amongst Australian capital cities](#). Canberra, Hobart, Perth and Darwin each have 300% more space per capita than Adelaide. Sydney is the only city poorer than Adelaide in terms of open green space per capita.*





*"The Adelaide Park Lands represent only 0.2% of the area of metropolitan Adelaide. The motor sport event locks up 30 hectares of Adelaide's already low level of open green space for several months each year. The race impedes access to the northern part of Victoria Park for recreational pursuits by runners, walkers, dog owners and for other smaller sporting and community events.*

*"Outside the five-month race construction window, some infrastructure (race track, and pit-lane) is permanently imprinted on the Park, adversely affecting the amenity of the area as a "People's Park".*

*"Numerous scientific studies have shown that access to urban green spaces is vitally important for the physical and mental health and the well-being of people living in cities.*

*"The Covid-19 pandemic has amplified the critical role urban green spaces play in preserving the mental and physical health of city dwellers. There is no clear end in sight to the Covid-19 pandemic. In the post Covid-19 era it is reasonable to expect, and important to plan for, further similar infectious disease pandemics.*

*"The State Government is encouraging higher density housing in both the CBD and suburbs, which is increasing the need for, and pressure upon the open green spaces of Adelaide's Park Lands.*



*"Therefore, the SA State Government should not sign a further contract for the Superloop 500 race, and instead:*

- *commit to ensuring that Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) is available as an open green space for all South Australians throughout the year, and in so doing*
- *fund the rehabilitation and redesign of the northern end of the Park as a true People's Park. This requires removal of extensive tarmac and concreted areas and replanting*



*and redesign of this section of the Park to allow greater access to green urban space during protracted public health emergencies such as Covid-19 and to help futureproof Adelaide against the impacts of global warming."*



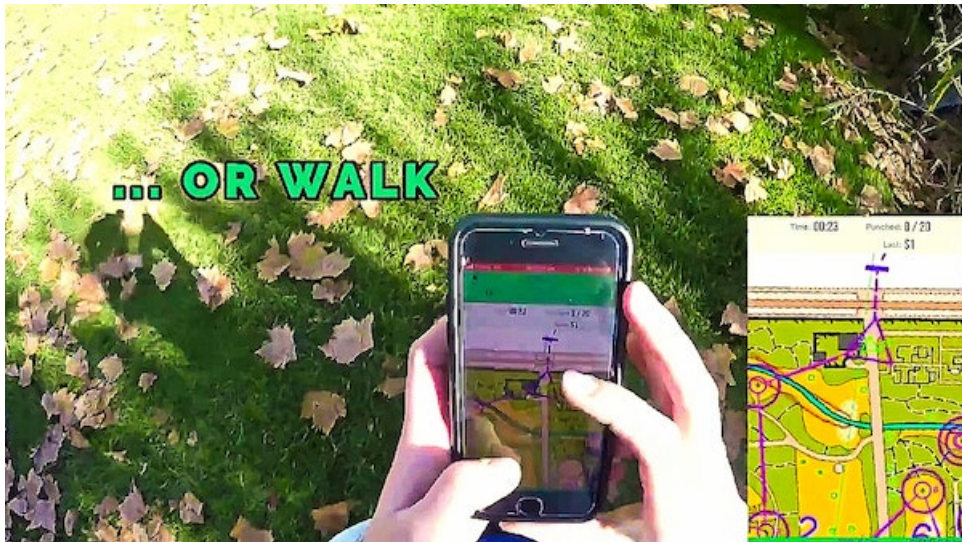
If you'd like to help "Better At The Bend" achieve these goals, please contact the working group chair, Paul Henderson [hendersonpauld@gmail.com](mailto:hendersonpauld@gmail.com)

#### 4. CUNNING RUNNING - NEW FREE ACTIVITY

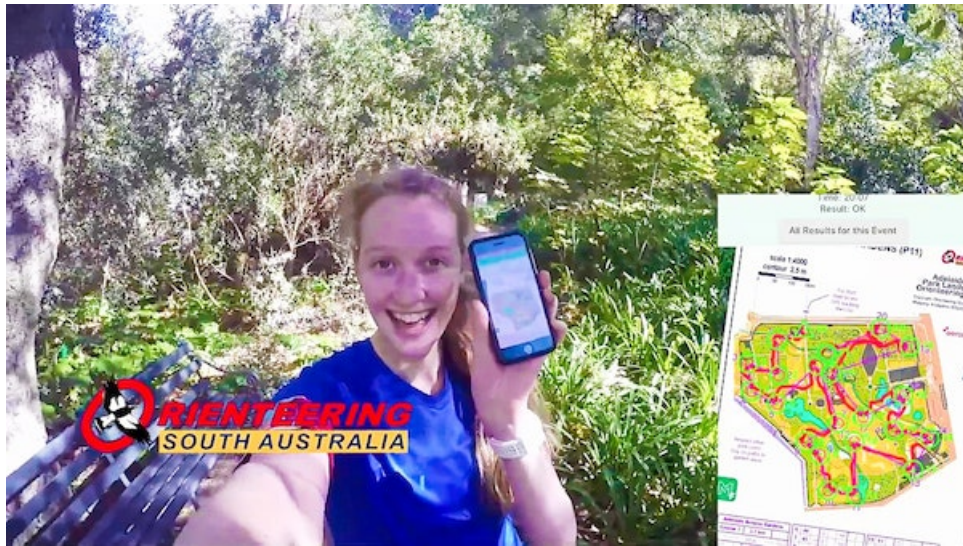
The sport of orienteering has come up with a new free activity that anyone can enjoy in the Park Lands.

Orienteers run or walk around a course, visiting specific check points. You need both a level of fitness and also map-reading skills.

Orienteering SA has released seven maps of various courses in the Park Lands, and made them available on a smart phone app, for both Android and Apple phones.



The Park Lands courses range in length from 2.7 km to 4.2 km. There are two courses in the south Park Lands, another two in the west Park Lands, one in the east, and two in the Adelaide Botanic Garden.



To get access to the courses, and a link to download the app, register yourself here:

<https://www.sa.orienteering.asn.au/about-orienteering/new-to-orienteering/mobile-orienteering>

 Share  Tweet

## 5. STATE HERITAGE LISTING - Minister quizzed in Parliament

Environment Minister David Speirs has been asked, in State Parliament, why there has been no action to list the Adelaide Park Lands as a State Heritage Area.





### Adelaide Parkland as a State Heritage Area, and if not why not?

The Park Lands were nominated for State Heritage listing in 2009. The State Heritage Council recommended Heritage listing in December 2018 but Minister Speirs has put it on the back-burner while he waits for a "Conservation Management Plan" to be drawn up.

The Park Lands already have a legally-required "Strategic Management Plan" and another legally-required "Community Land Management Plan".

In response to a question from Independent MP (former Liberal) Sam Duluk, on 24 September, Mr Speirs did not explain why a third plan was necessary. Nor did he give Parliament any time line for making a decision.

We were very surprised to hear the Minister say that APPA would be involved in the process of preparing the Conservation Management Plan.



Watch Mr Duluk's question, and the Minister's reply, (with captions) in a four-minute video here: <https://youtu.be/1ISbu3nPeNc>

Or read the question and answer in the Parliamentary record, *Hansard*:  
<http://hansardpublic.parliament.sa.gov.au/Pages/HansardResult.aspx#/docid/HANSARD-11-39151>

 Share  Tweet

## 6. BREAKTHROUGH FOR THE RAINBOW CIRCUIT

This could be the first time in Adelaide's history that Park Lands advocates, sporting groups, business, commercial and property sector interests, along with the Adelaide City Council are all united in pushing for the same development on the Adelaide Park Lands.

The "[Adelaide Rainbow Circuit](#)" is a proposal for an illuminated, high-tech unbroken walking / cycling / running trail that would encircle the City of Adelaide, through your world-unique Park Lands. It would require a network of underpasses and overpasses to establish what would become a tourist icon that no other city in the world could match.





Lead advocate Jason Redman has been working behind the scenes with multiple interest groups and decision-makers to raise awareness of the potential of this idea. He has now won the endorsement of Adelaide's [CBD Recovery Policy Committee](#), which is an initiative led by:

- the "Committee for Adelaide"
- the Property Council of Australia; and
- the Australian Hotels Association (SA).

The Recovery Committee also includes the State's three largest universities – Adelaide, UniSA and Flinders – as well as major firms such as PwC, KPMG, Deloitte, EY, the Festival Centre and the Global Shapers Hub, an initiative of the World Economic Forum.



Read the Recovery Committee's [letter of support here](#).

Read more about the Rainbow Circuit (and take the survey) here:  
<https://www.adelaiderrainbowcircuit.com/>



## 7. A PARK LANDS "FOUNDATION"? WHAT IS IT?

Adelaide Lord Mayor, Sandy Verschoor [is pushing a proposal](#) to create an Adelaide Park Lands "Foundation".

The proposed "Foundation" would receive contributions from the public towards the upkeep of the Park Lands and/or new developments.



There is a strong argument that as a world-unique resource, the Adelaide Park Lands deserve funding support from a wider base than just City ratepayers. APPA would support the Lord Mayor's call for additional funding streams to help pay for maintenance and upkeep.

However, as always, the devil would be in the detail - and there is no detail, so far, in the Lord Mayor's proposal.



It is not clear what the proposed "Foundation" would mean for decision-making about the Park Lands. Many proposed Park Lands projects are misleadingly described as "improvements" when they propose to exclude the public, to the benefit of commercial or private leaseholders.



Would a proposed "Foundation" make it easier to carve up the Park Lands, with proposals like [the Adelaide Crows corporate headquarters](#), leaving even less for the public?

We are waiting to find out what exactly the Lord Mayor has in mind, and whether the State Government, as a major Park Lands stakeholder, shares her vision.

Read the Mord Mayor's announcement here.  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CFIQW3lJFTA/>



### 8. VIDEO OF THE MONTH - JOHN E. BROWN PARK

Nestled in-between its better-known neighbours - Bonython Park ([Park 27](#)), and the North Adelaide Golf Courses on [Park 1](#) - [Park 27A](#) is a hidden secret. Spend three minutes exploring it now:



Next month: Mary Lee Park ([Park 27B](#)).

Catch up with videos for most of the other Parks (Park 1 through to Park 27) [at our YouTube Channel](#).



## 9. LIPSTICK ON A PIG

The State Government's political spinners are trying to fool you that one of the biggest Park Lands thefts of all time will create "Adelaide's premier events and open public space."

The Walker Corporation has been given both Festival Plaza and more than \$250 million of YOUR money to build a 23-storey office tower and commercial district within what used to be Festival Plaza in Tarntanya Wama ([Park 26](#)).



Infrastructure Minister Corey Wingard claims that the spaces in-between these new commercial buildings will be "public realm .... for the good of all South Australians."

The Festival Plaza selloff to Walker Corporation by the previous State Labor Government attracted a scathing report by the Auditor-General in November 2017.

<https://www.audit.sa.gov.au/publications/2017>



A large chunk of YOUR public space and YOUR money has been given to a billionaire property developer. The State Government "spin" is that you will be allowed to walk freely in



the smaller spaces that will remain between the new Walker Corporation buildings and the expanded Adelaide Casino.

Walker Corporation wants a Federal Government Department to be one of the new tenants in its office tower. ([\\$\\$ Adelaide Now subscriber-only link](#))

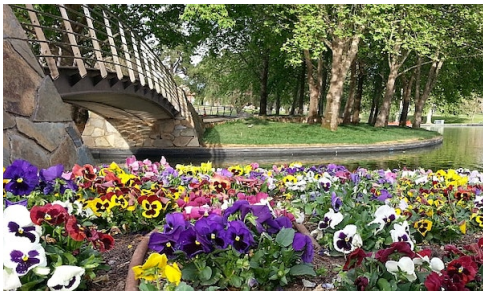
We hope that the Federal Government will not endorse this private takeover of Festival Plaza by becoming a Walker Corporation tenant.



### 10. 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.

Here are just some of the opportunities in coming weeks:



#### Guided Walk through Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)

Sunday 11 October, 10am to 11.30am

[Click the pic for details and/or to book](#)



#### Adelaide 100 - Showcase walk

Sunday 11 October, starting at 10am

A 7km walk along the River Torrens in the Park Lands

[Click the pic for details and/or to book](#)



#### Regenerate with Bushcare

Thurs 15th Fri 30th Oct, & Wed 11 Nov  
10am to 1.00pm

[Click the pic for details](#)



#### Vegan Festival

31st October and 1 November Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)

[Click the pic for details](#)

#### Guided Walk through King Rodney Park / Ityamai-itpina (Park 15)

Saturday 31 October, 10am to 11.30am



Click the pic for details and/or to book



## 11. BRIEFLY, IN OTHER PARK LANDS NEWS

### Wisteria is blooming!

This is the best time of the year to visit the Adelaide Botanic Garden, in Park 11 - especially if you love wisteria!



See what other attractions are in season, and [plan your visit to the Botanic Garden here.](#)

### Aquatic Centre - new location still uncertain

After more than a year of contemplating a proposed Adelaide Football Club corporate headquarters in Denise Norton Park / Pardipardinyilla ([Park 2](#)) the City Council is still no closer towards deciding what should happen to its Aquatic Centre.



Several sites for a new aquatic centre have been proposed - including one in Franklin Street



in the City, being championed by Councillor Greg Mackie and others.

A Council meeting this month will look at narrowing down its options. It has not yet allocated any funding for renewal of the existing aquatic centre in Park 2. [The Council is still hoping for cash contributions from either the State or Federal Governments.](#)

Strangely, the Council still does not appear to have considered the option of a joint venture with other nearby local governments.

## Dry Zone knocked back

The State Government has rejected an attempt by the City Council to impose a 24 hour, 7 day a week "dry zone" across all of the Adelaide Park Lands. See the story in InDaily: <https://indaily.com.au/news/local/2020/09/18/citywide-park-lands-booze-ban-knocked-back/>



We covered this issue in our newsletter of February 2020 where we described the Council push as "a broad-brush but selective approach to tackle a small segment of what is a much larger problem, for all of society."

[https://mailchi.mp/03f32f879c00/built-on-a-lie-analysis-shows-crows-hq-would-not-return-any-park-lands?#09\\_Dry](https://mailchi.mp/03f32f879c00/built-on-a-lie-analysis-shows-crows-hq-would-not-return-any-park-lands?#09_Dry)

## Countdown to Art Prize opening

We're getting excited about the long-awaited opening of our [Adelaide Park Lands Art Prize](#) exhibition opening. Entries closed at the end of January and the exhibition of finalists was originally scheduled for April.

The long delay was a precaution caused by the social distancing requirements of COVID-19 that were put in place back in April. The exhibition is finally set to open at the Festival Centre on 4 December.

You can purchase artworks before the exhibition opens from [www.parklandsart.com](http://www.parklandsart.com). Purchased artworks will be on display in the exhibition; purchasers will be able to collect them after the exhibition concludes on 30 January 2021.



Pictured above: four of the 77 finalists. Clockwise from top left:

- [Adele Beilin \(age 14\) - "Circles of Life"](#) Lino printing
- [Neil Huggett - "Under a Sunlit Canopy in Angas Gardens"](#) Oil paints on board
- [Natasha Nydegger - "The Invader"](#) Bronze
- [Donovan Christie - "Lungs and Heart of the City"](#) Oil

To view or purchase artworks from the coming exhibition, visit: [www.parklandsart.com](http://www.parklandsart.com)

### No fireworks in Elder Park this year

There'll be no fireworks in Elder Park ([Park 26](#)) this New Year's Eve, due to the uncertainty around what COVID-19 restrictions might be in force by 31 December.

After the City Council consulted SA Health, Police and others, they've decided instead on a range of lower-key festivities for New Years Eve.





Find out [what the Council is planning instead.](#)

### Planning for commercial interests

As we reported [in last month's newsletter](#), the City Council is proposing to change Park Lands planning, to allow more commercial concerts and fenced-off events in the area around Adelaide Oval #2, off Montefiore Drive in Tarrantia Wama ([Park 26](#)).



In the final edition of the [Adelaide Review](#), (yes the Adelaide Review is closing!) John Bridgland examines the way in which the commercial interests of the Stadium Management Authority have driven the proposed Park plan changes.

<https://www.adelaidereview.com.au/latest/news/2020/09/29/adelaide-oval-gambles-on-non-sport-rescue-plan/>



**Join us!**

You can be a proud Park Lands supporter, with membership starting at only \$15 (for concession and student membership) expiring 30 June 2021. Longer-term memberships are also available.

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](#);
- the opportunity to join the APPA Managing Committee;
- a printable PDF membership certificate (as below).



Join here: [www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/membership](http://www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/membership)

**100-year-old tree destined for the chop**

When a "significant" tree is being considered for removal from the Park Lands, it's not a simple matter. The Park Lands Authority needs to make a recommendation to the City Council, and it can be overturned by Councillors. This carob tree in [Wellington Square](#) (about 100 years old) has been the subject of an arborist's report which describes the tree as dangerous (at risk of falling over in a storm) and at the end of its life. It's also infested with termites.





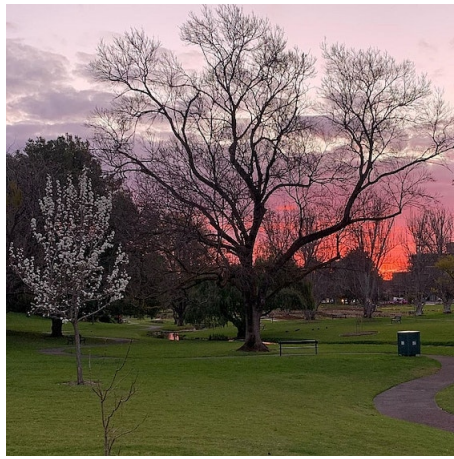
The tree's been fenced off, for now, pending a Council decision on Tuesday 13 October.



## 12. PHOTO OF THE DAY - RECENT HIGHLIGHTS







From the top:

- Princess Elizabeth playground off South Terrace in Golden Wattle Park / Miru Wirra ([Park 21W](#))
- Sunset over Veale Gardens in Veale Park / Walyu Yarta ([Park 21](#)) Pic: @Simonemcdonnell
- Quandong bushes in fruit, in West Terrace Cemetery ([Park 23](#))
- Grundy Gardens and the River Torrens / Karrawirra Parri in Red Gum Park / Karrawirra ([Park 12](#))
- Wood ducks near the billong in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli ([Park 27](#))
- The 1966 Bridgland fountain in Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka ([Park 14](#))

The Park Lands "photo of the day" series has been running since May 2014, and the collection of Park Lands photos gathered over more than six years now numbers over 2,300.



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.

To see the #AdelaideParklands #picoftheday as it's released each morning, just [follow us on Facebook, Instagram &/or Twitter](#).

Despite being a National Heritage-listed place, the Adelaide Park Lands are not well protected by Federal environmental laws.

That's why we've joined the [Places You Love Alliance](#), to campaign along with 56 other organisations for better environmental protection laws.



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Here at APPA, we hate marketing (spam) emails. That's why we deliver news about the Park Lands, in this email format, only once per month. If you're after more regular information, please [follow us on Facebook](#) where we are posting every day.

Unlike marketing emails, we're not trying to sell you anything, so we hope you'll forgive this intrusion to your InBox.

Nevertheless, if you'd rather not hear from us in future, you can [unsubscribe here](#).