

# ParkLANDS news

March 2012 Number 46



25TH ANNIVERSARY  
EDITION

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This 25th anniversary *Park Lands News* contains selected historical material from the Association's publications archives, reproduced in the main as originally printed. I thank Gunta and Philip Groves for their extensive contributions to the Association and for this valuable overview spanning and highlighting the Association's activities and advocacy for the Park Lands over the past quarter of a century. Philip brought the proposal before our committee, where its merit was immediately recognised and supported; Gunta undertook the monumental task of preparing this commemorative edition and her expert selection and presentation of articles and issues is greatly appreciated, as are the efforts of all of the original contributors, editors and newsletter volunteers who have assisted over the years in producing and distributing the Association's record of Park Lands issues. To each and to all, thank you.

On behalf of the Association, I would also like to thank all of the many other contributors to achieving the Association's aims over the past quarter of a century, whether as founder, patron, chairman/president, secretary, treasurer, deputy president, committee member, newsletter editor, member or supporter. With your assistance, the Association has advocated for the Park Lands without fear or favour, and will continue to do so.

Since the founding of the Association, it is evident that the more things change the more they remain the same. Today, the major threats to the integrity of Adelaide's Park Lands are governments, vested interests and ignorance—alienation for political or personal profit, thinly veiled with pragmatism or propaganda—and it was ever thus.

In the 175 years since William Light and Resident Commissioner James Hurtle Fisher became the first in a long history of Park Lands' protectors opposing misappropriation and maladministration, individuals and societies have seconded their efforts and citizens have banded together to petition and protest against abuses. Opposition to the illegitimacy of alienations has rung out in the Parliament, Royal Commissions and the press, and official recognition of, and deference to, the rediscovered truth of the existence of

a special Trust status protecting the Park Lands has often surfaced on the public record.

Public outcry against abuses has been detailed in the letters pages of South Australian newspapers, in the Parliamentary Hansard of the speeches of Hon Ian Gilfillan, Hon Mike Elliott and others, by Jim Daly's *Decisions and disasters*, still the most readable and comprehensive survey of the alienation of the Park Lands to 1987, and, in part, with an accompanying photographic feast in Patricia Sumerling's recently published *Adelaide Park Lands: A social history*. Thanks to decades of ongoing vigilance and advocacy by dedicated founders, office-bearers, members and supporters, our Association contributes to the ongoing record of Park Lands' protectors. It is an important independent source of information about the Park Lands.

Years ago, when I was first invited to join the Association, the importance of the organisation's aims struck me as eminently worthy of support, whilst bureaucratic denials of the existence of the Adelaide Park Trust that grossly twisted and warped public opinion showed me how vulnerable the Park Lands were.

John Stuart Mill, English philosopher, parliamentarian and member of the remarkable think tank that founded South Australia, warned of the social tyranny of prevailing opinion, more formidable than many kinds of political oppression, issuing 'wrong mandates instead of right' or mandates 'in things with which it ought not to meddle'.

Do attempts to shape prevailing opinion with platitudes of 'activation' and 'enhancement', often synonymous with rampant commercial exploitation, in concert with disparagement of the Park Lands, bear the hallmarks of political oppression and modern societal tyranny wrongly meddling in Park Lands? I believe so, and the inspiration of like-



minded advocates and the gleanings of history provide encouragement to persevere with securing recognition of our own inextinguishable truth—for the Park Lands' status as a Trust of freely accessible inalienable open space to be publicly acknowledged, and thereby finally escape persecution.

I hope that APPA's 25th anniversary will give everyone an opportunity to renew the determination to protect the Park Lands that brought the Association into being, and invite you all to participate in the Association's forthcoming celebrations. Perhaps individually and collectively we can envisage John Greenleaf Whittier's 'good hereafter', and withstand all attempts to suppress rediscovery of the simple truth that the only legitimate course to pursue is the full and final restoration of the Adelaide Park Lands.

*Happy he whose inward ear  
Angel comfortings can hear,  
O'er the rabble's laughter;  
And while Hatred's fagots burn,  
Glimpses through the smoke discern  
Of the good hereafter.*

*Knowing this, that never yet  
Share of Truth was vainly set  
In the world's wide fallow;  
After hands shall sow the seed,  
After hands from hill and mead  
Reap the harvests yellow.*  
(John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892),  
extract from *Barclay of Ury*)

## Kelly Henderson

*Left: Kelly Henderson with Kathleen Patitsas, member of APPA, teacher, artist, city resident and first nominator of the Adelaide Park Lands for State Heritage listing. Photo taken on 12 February 2011 at a function in Ayers House, hosted by the Adelaide and Inner Suburbs Branch of the National Trust of South Australia. Kathleen made the first nomination on 26 February 1986. The 25th anniversary of this nomination was recorded in the Park Lands News, June 2011, p 5.*

*Front cover: Avenue of Sugar Gums (Eucalyptus cladocalyx) planted in 1921 in Tulya Wodli (Park 27). The character of this park is threatened by plans that the Bowden Village developers, that is the state government's Land Management Corporation, have in mind for it. Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 29 January 2012.*



# THE BEGINNING: 1987

**Almost from the beginning of Adelaide as a settlement, the 'Parks Grounds' established by Colonel William Light have been eyed off as available land for whatever the latest perceived need was.**

The first group to be formed to protect the integrity of the Adelaide Park Lands was the Park Lands Defence Association, which existed in 1869–87 (or 1867–87, depending on the source of information). This was followed by the Parklands Preservation League, which had a broken existence. It first was active in 1903–24 and then in 1948–c57. Its last battle was to oppose the Adelaide Bowling Club getting a 20-year lease in the eastern Park Lands in its present position after it moved from what was to be the extension north of Kintore Avenue. Possibly because of the League's pressure on Adelaide City Councillors, in 1958 the club ended up with a 5-year lease.

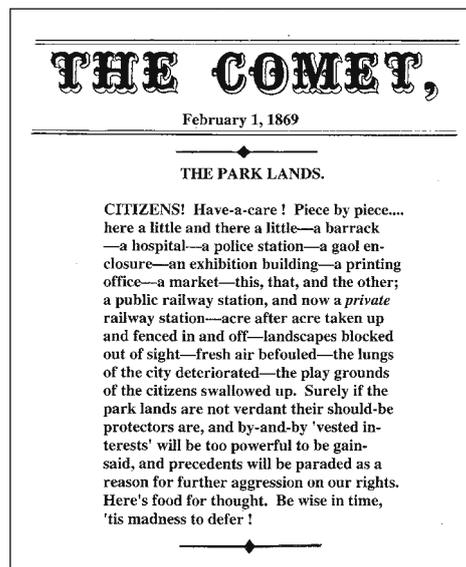
After a hiatus of some 30 years, concerns for the Park Lands increased once again, so much so that, in 1986, Liberal MLC Mr Murray Hill called for a Trust to be set up to ensure the return of alienated Park Lands and to keep state government hands off them. He was unsuccessful.

Then, another iteration of people protecting the Park Lands was created. The Hon Ian Gilfillan MLC became very concerned about Botanic Park's eastern edge being carved up for car parking for the bus depot, which was about to move anyway. As the SA Leader of the Australian Democrats, he introduced the City of Adelaide (Development of Parklands) Bill in early 1987 in the Legislative Council. One of the provisions of the Bill was a fine of up to \$50 000 for individuals or organisations undertaking unauthorised developments in the Adelaide Park Lands. At the time, South Australia had a Labor government with John Bannon as Premier. The Bill was

defeated on 8 April, 18 to 2, with Labor and Liberal MLCs voting against it. Ian Gilfillan accused both major parties of political opportunism and was reported in *The Advertiser* (9 April 1987, p 5) as saying that both parties had 'renege[d] on their political responsibilities'.

Meanwhile, Ian Gilfillan had taken other steps. *The Advertiser* of 9 March 1987 (p 12) reported that a public meeting was to be held on 10 March at Edmund Wright House, King William Street, at 7.30pm. It was to be a meeting of 'Friends of the Parklands', organised and entirely financed by Ian Gilfillan. Things to be discussed included overall plans for the Park Lands and who controls their future.

A crowd of 120 people turned up that evening to support Ian Gilfillan and to elect a steering group that included Ian Gilfillan as chairman, Judith Barr, Jim Daly, Kevin Hall and Damien Mugavin. In April, the Association was formed and Damien Mugavin, a lecturer in town planning, was elected as the first Chairman of the Adelaide Parklands Association. He was reported in *The Advertiser* of 2 May (p 8) as wanting the Torrens Parade Ground to be returned to Park Lands, and Government House to be a public place, perhaps becoming an art gallery, with free access to the grounds. He also expressed concern about all the hard paving in the Park Lands and the delays in restoring areas used for the Grand Prix. (The same concerns seem to be with us today.)



*Top right: Articles from The Advertiser on 2 May 1987 (p 8) and 12 March 1987 (p 17) announcing the formation of the new Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association. Above right: Beginning of the Parklands Defence Association's campaign to protect the Park Lands in 1869, recorded in The Comet.*

*Below left: Ian Gilfillan retired from the APPA Presidency in 2006, after long service in that role (1996–2006). His contribution was recognised by an award of an Honorary Life Membership at the 2006 AGM. Here, he is receiving a gift from Kyle Penick, another long-serving APPA committee member. The gift was a limited edition booklet published in 1939 commemorating the opening of a new section of Parliament House for the Legislative Council—most appropriate for a retired Member of the Upper House. Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 30 April 2006.*



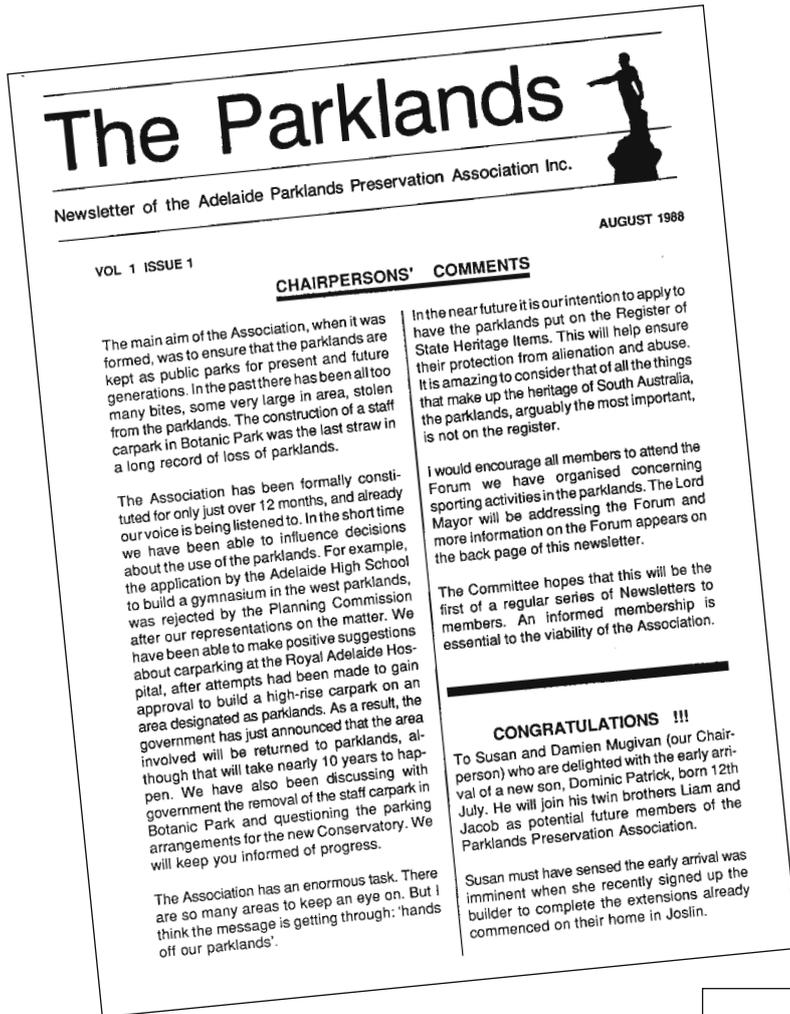
**This 25th anniversary edition of the *Park Lands News* was designed and formatted by Gunta Groves. All text not extracted from previous newsletters was written by Gunta Groves, unless otherwise attributed. Material from previous newsletters and Association publications was supplied by Kyle Penick, longstanding member and unofficial archivist of the Association.**

# THE FIRST NEWSLETTER ...

## AND THE FIRST CHAIRPERSON

On 27 April 1987, Mr Damien Mugavin, a lecturer in town planning at the SA Institute of Technology, was voted in as the first Chairperson of the newly formed Association. At the time, he was quoted in *The Advertiser* (2 May 1987, p 8) as saying 'I don't think the parklands should be a political football' and 'The association is really about the little people'.

Since then, Landscape Architect Damien Mugavin has become a professor with extensive academic and practice experience. Some of his teaching appointments have been at the University of Tasmania, the National University of Singapore and, most recently, the Seoul National University. Despite his peripatetic career, he has maintained his connection with Adelaide. In 2010, he presented at a conference in Budapest on 'Greenway landscape design: River Torrens Linear Park, Adelaide, South Australia—A process rather than an end state'. And, upon retirement in 2012, he returned to Adelaide.



## The Parklands

Newsletter of the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc.

AUGUST 1988

VOL 1 ISSUE 1

### CHAIRPERSONS' COMMENTS

The main aim of the Association, when it was formed, was to ensure that the parklands are kept as public parks for present and future generations. In the past there has been all too many bites, some very large in area, stolen from the parklands. The construction of a staff carpark in Botanic Park was the last straw in a long record of loss of parklands.

The Association has been formally constituted for only just over 12 months, and already our voice is being listened to. In the short time we have been able to influence decisions about the use of the parklands. For example, the application by the Adelaide High School to build a gymnasium in the west parklands, was rejected by the Planning Commission after our representations on the matter. We have been able to make positive suggestions about carparking at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, after attempts had been made to gain approval to build a high-rise carpark on an area designated as parklands. As a result, the area government has just announced that the area involved will be returned to parklands, although that will take nearly 10 years to happen. We have also been discussing with government the removal of the staff carpark in Botanic Park and questioning the parking arrangements for the new Conservatory. We will keep you informed of progress.

The Association has an enormous task. There are so many areas to keep an eye on. But I think the message is getting through: 'hands off our parklands'.

In the near future it is our intention to apply to have the parklands put on the Register of State Heritage Items. This will help ensure their protection from alienation and abuse. It is amazing to consider that of all the things that make up the heritage of South Australia, the parklands, arguably the most important, is not on the register.

I would encourage all members to attend the Forum we have organised concerning sporting activities in the parklands. The Lord Mayor will be addressing the Forum and more information on the Forum appears on the back page of this newsletter.

The Committee hopes that this will be the first of a regular series of Newsletters to members. An informed membership is essential to the viability of the Association.

### CONGRATULATIONS !!!

To Susan and Damien Mugavin (our Chairperson) who are delighted with the early arrival of a new son, Dominic Patrick, born 12th July. He will join his twin brothers Liam and Jacob as potential future members of the Parklands Preservation Association.

Susan must have sensed the early arrival was imminent when she recently signed up the builder to complete the extensions already commenced on their home in Joslin.



Above: Prof Damien Mugavin, 2011, in Yoido Park, Seoul, South Korea.

### PARKLAND PARS

One of the most effective 'watchdogs' of the parklands is David Morris, a member of our committee who takes the time to keep his eye on any unusual changes that occur in the parklands. He makes it his business to check into why areas are being neglected or what is the reason for work being done. We could do with more like David, who with his wife, Lily provide great lamingtons at our functions.

A report in the *Advertiser* recently referred to a heritage study now being prepared by consultants on ways to retain the cemetery as an historical record of colonial Adelaide. Also the report claimed that the government is considering legislation to return the cemetery to parklands after the leases on all plots expire in 44 years. What do you think of this?

Have you seen the size of the council depot off West Terrace? It is not only a dumping ground for council convenience, it is an eyesore and contains dangerous deep pools of stagnant water. If we want more areas returned to parklands, perhaps the council should set an example!

Back home again after travelling in U.S. and Canada - Elinor McCoy visited many cities including Vancouver, New York, Boston and Los Angeles. She said that, 'it is a fascinating experience to see Adelaide with 'fresh eyes. Compare such cities as the beautiful Vancouver (B.C.) with its beautifully maintained Stanley Park, New York's Central Park and Los Angeles, desperately sprawling and choking to death - so badly in need of open spaces. Our parklands are a wonderful inheritance well worth all our efforts to preserve them'.

### A.G.M. HIGHLIGHTS

At the annual meeting in April it was a time to share the results of the first hectic year of the Association.

Rosemary Wighton, Deputy Director General of the Community Welfare Department spoke on 'Small Community Living'. She pointed out the unique character of Adelaide.

The 50 members present raised a number of issues for the Committee to follow up. Some of these have been commented on in the Chairpersons remarks.

Changes in the Committee were: Resignations from Judith Barr who has been a tremendous help in publicising the work of the Association and John Kripner who although not well was prepared to take on some research into funding of the parklands.

A new member has joined the Committee, David Pisoni is keen to be involved in projects.

#### Committee for 1988/89

Damien Mugavin (Chairperson) Lecturer, Landscape Architecture, S.A.I.T.

Elinor McCoy [Secretary] Business Woman

Jeffery Chittleborough (Treasurer) Registrar, St Peters College

Vina Brailsford, Lecturer, Arts, C.A.E.

Jim Daly, Department Recreation & Sport

Ian Giffillian, M.L.C. Australian Democrats

David Morris, Voluntary Community Worker

David Pisoni, Eureka Furniture

# A DETAILED MIND: DAVID MORRIS

From September 1989 newsletter, page 1

## The Parklands



Newsletter of the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc.

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 1989

### CHAIRPERSONS' COMMENTS

When I was elected Chairperson of our Association I set certain projects that could be started but maybe not completed in my 12 months term of office.

One such, was the cleaning up of the parklands. As I walk around some of the precincts it is evident that a general clean-up is necessary to improve many of the areas.

My plan is to approach members of our Association who would be responsible to 'look after' a precinct or may be half a precinct. I have drawn up a document which can be used to carry out an 'Observation Survey', setting out briefly the areas and the nature of the work necessary. A map of the parklands with their precinct numbers is enclosed in this newsletter.

May I draw your attention to the visit of members to the Bi-Centennial Tropical Conservatory on Sunday 22 October at 2.00pm.

Our thanks to Jim Daly for arranging this guided visit just before it is open to the public. We are conscious of the popularity of this world class facility and ask you to limit attendance to yourself and partner. After the inspection, we would like as many as possible to return to the meeting place to have a chat and enjoy afternoon tea-coffee and lamingtons.

It would be advisable to park in the Hackney Road lay-by area and meet immediately opposite the entrance to the Conservatory no later than 1.45pm. Look for the 'Parklands' sign.

Put this date in your diary immediately and plan to be there.

David Morris  
Chairperson

### A.G.M. HIGHLIGHTS

At the second Annual General Meeting of the Association in April, three highlights were:

#### 1. Chairperson's Report

Damien Mugavin, the outgoing chairman highlighted the issue of the continuation of the Grand Prix in the parklands beyond the year 1991. He reiterated the policy of the Association which is to have the circuit relocated to a properly constructed track, and to 'have the parklands and the streets of Adelaide returned to proper care and management for public recreation'.

He raised a number of issues including the North Adelaide Railway Station, Tropical Conservatory carparking, a proposal to include the parklands on the State Heritage list, the return of the Post-Tel building site to parklands and the future of the West Terrace rubbish dump.

#### 2. The Address by Stephen Hill, Manager, Policy and Development, Department of Environment and Planning

Who spoke on the Metropolitan Open Space Strategy or what was previously called the second generation parklands.

The aim of the open space strategy is to combine open space vested in various government departments with private land that can be considered open space. The government has no intention of buying this land with only approximately \$400,000 available each year to purchase open space as part of the strategy. But private land owners will be encouraged to retain open space and the supplementary development planning process will give rights under law for the retention of open space.

P.T.O.

PARKLANDS NEWSLETTER

1.

Below: Mr David Morris in 2005, having received his Honorary Life Membership certificate. He was APPA Chairman 1989-1996 and Treasurer 1992. Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 30 October 2005.



### Item from the *Park Lands News*, December 2008, p 3 written by Ian Gilfillan

David Morris was a fearsome warrior for the Park Lands. He was President of APPA at a time of great need—numbers were down and we were struggling to survive.

David and his wife Lily opened their house in Collinswood for the APPA Committee meetings and provided the state's best lamingtons for supper! Immediately things turned around.

David was tireless in scanning the Park Lands for lack of care or unwanted intrusions of hard surfaces and/or buildings. He was a scourge for Adelaide City Council staff or Councillors if he felt they were slacking or, worse, putting at risk our beloved Park Lands.

APPa recognised his generous contribution by awarding him an Honorary Life Membership in 1996, and confirming it with a certificate ceremony in 2005.

Although David and Lily had moved to Littlehampton and then Mt Barker in later years, David kept his deep interest in the Adelaide Park Lands until the end.

Our sympathy goes to Lily and the family at the time of their deep loss. He died in July 2008.

To David from APPA: VALE AND MANY THANKS!

# THREE YEARS ON

From October 1990 newsletter, page 2

## **"WHERE ARE WE GOING"**

**Ian Gilfillan**

**One of the Associations  
Founding Members**

\*\*\*\*\*

As we are now 3+ years old let's have a look at where we are going.

Everybody agrees that The Parklands are a great thing, but for what? Recreation, rest, visual beauty, natural surroundings, sport, location for a zoo, Botanic garden and park, occasional circus and big style entertainment, alas sometimes car park!

Everybody has their own particular view of what The Parklands are for. But we are all agreed we do not want to lose any more of the precious hectares to buildings, roads, railways, dumps or Government Departments, (as has happened in the past).

Everybody wants to see The Parklands clean and tidy, not abused and despoiled.

The Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association is doing a great job in scanning The Parklands for blemishes and then presenting them to the Director of Parks and Gardens at the Adelaide City Council.

Our Chairman, David Morris, has established a reputation for finding misuse and despoilation in all sorts of corners and glades of The Parklands.

Street bin rubbish

Surplus galvanised iron dumped in creeks  
Graffiti; Rubbish dumps; Silt dumps

We are presenting these finds diligently to the Council's Director of Parks & Gardens, but with little response so far. We will approach the Lord Mayor and some councillors in an effort to get appropriate action.

## **The "Big Game"**

Untidiness and petty damage can be cleaned up with relatively little effort anytime. But where there is the fight to retain The Parklands area we must do so square metre by square metre! This involves resisting the helipad, the "Glass Mushroom", the extension of the Grand Prix facilities as well as fighting for the return of alienated land, eg unused railway yards, E & WS Depot, Police Barracks, car parking spaces, roads etc.

This is where the Association can stir up a considerable number of hornets even if not a whole nest! Take the Marquee at the SA Cricket Ground as an example:- Cricket = great game therefore nothing should get in the way of catering for patrons of such a great game so a "permanent" building is erected without planning approval on The Parklands alongside a grandstand.

Should the North Adelaide Station go or stay? If stay who should pay? And how is it justified as a masonry edifice on The Parklands?

Should we have more golf courses or netball courts? Should we have special car park areas all year round?

What about the multimillion dollar Grand Prix pavilion the Claytons movable office block?

When can we get the hospital car park areas back?

Should the wide open spaces be readily available for car parking for open air functions like machinery displays, Royal Show, footy, swimming centre, etc.?

Are the bush covered Parklands just an extensive sporting arena, with the remainder of it just waiting to happen?

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**PARKLANDS NEWSLETTER**

# MORE THAN A DECADE AGO

From April 1991 newsletter, page 5

## THE BIG BANG



Mum said Adelaide was a nice place to settle  
She said it would be very quiet on the Torrens River!

Mini Tattoo  
Military Bands  
Guns

Christmas Show  
Fireworks

What's Next  
Thank Goodness  
\*The War Has Ended

Symphony Orchestra  
Concert 1812 Overture

Sounds Like  
Popeye's Done  
a Big End

Helicopter  
Joy  
Flights

S.A.F.M.  
Skyshow

PARKLANDS NEWSLETTER

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# THE DEVIL WAS IN THE DETAIL

From January 1992 newsletter, page 2

*\*\* Never made the paper!*

APPA. 605

PAGE 2.-

## The Parklands

the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR... THE ADVERTISER...

TIMOTHY IS BREAKING THE LAW

The article on Adelaide being the fines capitol of the world, (Advertiser October 19th) and subsequent amendment (Advertiser October 20th)....

If our Tarzans are to be fined \$200 for climbing the trees in the Park Lands---the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association is anxious to know what the fine will be, which could be given to the Australian Formula One Grand Prix organisers for their misdemeanors....

Already there has been spirited debate about a tree being chopped down to enable a stand to be placed more strategically.... This Association has details of phone calls---letters and photographs about one such tree removed from the Victoria Park members car park---the tree has gone, the stand has been extended....

What about the branches from the trees in Wakefield Road-----a heap was there at 11 o'clock Tuesday when I took a photograph-----these obviously had been lopped from the trees because they would impair the view of race goers-----The question is, were they dead or healthy limbs? My photograph reveals all..

What about the wires which have been attached to trees by means of metal eyes! screwed into tree trunks?

What about the electric cables that are strung through the trees, from branch to branch.

The Adelaide City Council should be able to have a field day by replenishing the City Treasurer's coffers, if they treat the Grand Prix authority in the same way as they would our Tarzans...

If the Adelaide City Council is anxious for the trees to be protected and this Association believes they are, we think that there should be consistency and now is the time to prove this...

*David Morris*

David Morris,  
CHAIRMAN  
ADELAIDE PARKLANDS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION,  
No.26 Howard Street, COLLINSWOOD. S.A. 5081 344-1642 22.10.91 REF 605

This is just one of dozens of Letters to the Editor that David Morris wrote. Some got published, some didn't. This one on the left didn't make it into the mainstream press but got an airing in the Association's newsletter. His letter shows his eye for detail and his concern that little things matter.

This approach was also applied to how he ran his committee. The extract below provides evidence of his concern for communication and record keeping.

From January 1992  
newsletter, page 6

### COMMUNICATION

It has been necessary to improve the communication within the Executive. A weekly report sheet has been instigated. The Chairman completes this on a daily basis, it is finalised on Sunday and posted off on Sunday afternoon to each of the Executive members. This informs them of all the inward and outward phone calls to and by the President, any important newspaper clips and urgent action needed, the subject of letters inward and outwards, any comments on radio programmes etc.

The major subjects are tabled and discussed at our monthly Executive Meetings (a sample weekly report is in this PARKLANDS NEWS BULLETIN).



ADELAIDE PARKLANDS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

# CITY OF ADELAIDE PLAN 1991–1996

From April 1993 newsletter, pages 7–8

The newsletters of February and April 1993 carried details of the Association's response to the draft City of Adelaide Plan 1991–1996. There are many pages of detailed advice, observations and criticisms that must have taken committee members a long time to compile. The extracts below are from the 'Summary' and focus on Botanic Park.

More recently, a regular correspondent in *The Advertiser*, Mr Trevor Farrant, has been recording how the latest extensions to car parking in Botanic Park are taking over open space and requiring the removal of many, many trees. This latest expansion of hard surface for cars has been undertaken to accommodate visitors to the zoo to see the pandas. Ironically, because of the pandas, it seems, the

zoo is in financial strife and one could theorise that the visitor numbers have not eventuated and perhaps all the extra car parking was not needed. However, the zoo's director, Prof Chris West, claims that the pandas have drawn in the visitors but that a lack of sponsorship and federal money, and the Global Financial Crisis, are to blame. Where does the truth lie, and does it matter? What matters is that the Botanic Park has more hard surface, fewer trees and the Adelaide City Council is making more money out of car parking in the Park Lands.

*Right: Marker in Botanic Park, commemorating the beginning of the Salvation Army in Australia.  
Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 17 July 2011.*



## \*BOTANIC PARK

We were amazed to see this mentioned in the Plan. The S.A. Government has turned this into a commercial car park, and to achieve this it will bulldoze 3,500 square metres of exotic grass, pave same and use it for extra car parking. It will also relocate 18 immature plane trees which are part of the Centenary Memorial Avenue of trees planted by the Botanic Gardens on behalf of the Salvation Army in 1980. The Salvation Army paid \$15 for each of the 100 trees which were to be between 6 and 8 feet in height when planted.

### SUMMARY (Botanic Park) continued

At a recent stocktake it was revealed that

- 2 trees were never planted
- 9 trees are dead
- 21 trees are under 5 feet as at 11 May 1992
- 3 spaces appear where there are no trees at all
- 65 trees are O.K.

and this is the work of professional people who would have everybody believe that the Botanic Park can only exist because of their expert knowledge and experience. Even some of the trees they planted last year are dead.

They will move the 18 immature trees 3 to 4 metres south of the avenue to make room for car parking. Why are these trees immature after 12 years?

This is a Salvation Army sacred site, being the birthplace of the Salvation Army in Australia, and it is written into all of this organisation's history books throughout the world.

The A.C.C. should have included in its plan that as much land as possible be given back by the government which is occupied by them, because the S.A. Government is not a worthy custodian of it.

The A.C.C. should lead the charge against the government, as they would get plenty of support.

# THE FIRST RALLY

From February 1996 newsletter, page 2

## VICTORIA PARK THE NEW ACTIVITIES VENUE?

Once again the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association must fight for the dear old Parklands. This time the departure of the Grand Prix has left an opening for everyone who has ever wanted to get a toehold on the parklands to put their foot through the door!

Hassells have been engaged by the Adelaide City Council to give a report on future use of Victoria Park. Early versions have included car sprinting, country expo, rock concerts, circuses, cycling events, and many more.

The major lines of intrusion appear to be equestrian and all codes of racing, including greyhounds. It is no consolation to see the chairman of the committee Councillor Bert Taylor talking merrily of the Equestrian Federation of Australia making their headquarters at Victoria Park, as if that was good news.

All these people lose sight of why we have parklands at all. It certainly is not to have them as venues of racing! Petrol heads are to be replaced by "Chaff" heads!

We must rally to oppose further trespass on the Parklands. Please come to Victoria Park opposite Grant Avenue on Sunday the 25th of February (next Sunday) at 11:30am.  
**THIS IS URGENT! BRING FRIENDS! PLEASE BE THERE!**

We must insist that no legislation is passed to give carte blanche for major events to be held at Victoria Park or elsewhere on the Parklands.

We cannot afford to wait. If we wait we will be too late.

Soft honeyed words have always surrounded moves to alienate the Parklands.

Let's insist Victoria Park be a true park and return to the character of the parklands.

The Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association is the only ongoing watchdog of the Parklands. Founded 10 years ago it holds a respected place with the people of the wider city of Adelaide and the State Government.

Why not join us? Add strength to the protective arm of the Parklands.  
Come to the "user friendly AGM, BYO picnic, Botanic Park, opposite North Lodge Gate in Plane Tree Drive, at 11:30am as well as to the Rally next Sunday. See you there. **Mar 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Ian Gilfillan  
Chairman

MEMBERSHIP    single \$5  
                          family \$10

**1996 subs due**

Dulcie Jay (Treasurer)  
38 Fisher Street  
Fullarton 5063  
tel: 379 6366

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

... BUT CERTAINLY NOT THE LAST

# IAN GILFILLAN TAKES THE HELM

From December 1996 newsletter, page 1

## Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc

### Newsletter

Patron: Sir Walter Crocker

Adelaide South Australia December 1996

#### Greetings from your new President: Ian Gilfillan

1996 began with a threat to Victoria Park as a major issue. I chaired a group set up specifically to fight plans to "destroy" that area of the parklands - the 'Victoria Park Action Group'.

Together with APPA we won this battle. The frenzied plans to fill the "Grand Prix" gap with a lot of inappropriate activities have lapsed in the face of massive local and APPA opposition. We remain unconvinced that the "Three Day Equestrian Event" will have no ill-effects on the Parklands.

The future use of Victoria Park as a race-course is still uncertain. Government plans seem to lean towards selling Cheltenham Race-course and improving Victoria Park. This would mean more meetings per year, more demand for car parking and more buildings on the Parklands. APPA believes that Cheltenham and Morphettville should remain as race-courses and Victoria Park returned to open Parklands.

Some of you reading this will be Victoria Park Action Group supporters, but not members of APPA. I don't hold that against you! But please join APPA in the fight to save all the Parklands (see form in this newsletter). Hundreds of people have given their names as supporters, but we need more hands-on helpers please. If you can help in any way, particularly in joining our committee, there are always exciting new issues to be discussed and acted upon, get in touch with Joan Clark 8362 4246 or myself 8363 2011.

David Morris, who has served so well as your President for many years, felt he had to resign for several reasons, not the least of which was that he and his wife, Lily, have moved to Littlehampton. David continues to be a vigilant watchdog for the Parklands and is often quoted in the media, picking up relevant issues. City Hall still quivers on hearing his name linked with a Parklands issue.

At our AGM we resolved to offer David life membership in honour of his efforts (and the wonderful Lily's help as well of course). David accepted and therefore continues as one of us.

*Ian Gilfillan*

### World Heritage

As you may have already heard on radio or TV or read about in the newspapers, the Association has advanced the idea of nominating the Adelaide Parklands for World Heritage listing.

World Heritage not only encompasses scenic areas of outstanding natural beauty or ancient treasures and ruins representative of past cultures, but also includes a number of diverse areas such as Naracoorte Fossil Caves in the South East of this State. Australia presently has eleven sites on the World Heritage List. Most recently Sydney Opera House, Harbour Bridge and environs have been nominated for inclusion to the international body in Paris.

The Adelaide Parklands fall in the less well-known category of "Cultural Landscapes". The most easily identifiable is the defined landscape designed and created intentionally by man. This embraces gardens and parkland landscapes. The universal value of Adelaide Parklands lies in its unique character, the Association is claiming that Adelaide is the only city of significance in the world to have a belt of parkland totally surrounding the city centre. This view has been supported by local academics, internet and library research, and confirmed by the San Francisco-based Greenbelt Alliance, with a possible exception of Boulder, Colorado, USA. Research in regard to Boulder, and other sites as they are suggested, is continuing. (Latest information shows Boulder is not completely surrounded by parklands).

Unique character, although in itself very important, is not the only world class attribute of the Adelaide Parklands. which were listed on the National Estate in 1985. Other features in the Parklands are also found on the Canberra Register, eg Palm House *circa* 1876 in the Botanical Gardens is thought to be the

only remaining glass house of its type in the world.

Many of us recognise the need to protect our Parklands, not only for our own enjoyment but for the pleasure of those who may live here in the future. Unfortunately they cannot lend us their voices in support. History has shown, over the past 160 years, that these Parklands have been at risk from developments leading to alienation. World Heritage listing does not change ownership rights or alter compatible usage such as sport and recreation - parklands remain parklands. The Commonwealth Government, under the World Heritage Act 1983, can prohibit activities which are damaging to World Heritage values. Such authority could conceivably restrict proposed roadways or other major developments thought to alter the parklands' character. The National Estate, on which our Parklands are presently listed, has no such power.

We are fortunate to live in a city completely surrounded by parks. Imagine the pride of our community when people from overseas not only know about our famous system of parks, but also come here to see them. World Heritage Listing could provide a boost to tourism ( the Parklands are unlikely to move to Victoria!) with its economic benefits. Under less austere budgets Commonwealth funding would be a possibility.

Finally, I would like to add that past governments have spent millions on bids for Commonwealth Games, Multi Function Polis, with as yet no function, and non-existent bridges, with nothing to show for it. Money would be better spent on Parklands' improvement, thus increasing our chance of gaining World Heritage Listing. and ensuring the recognition world-wide of our Parklands as a valuable heritage item.

*Kyle Penick*

# POKIES FOR THE BOWLING CLUB

From December 1996 newsletter, page 4

## Adelaide Bowling Club

### Bistro and Pokies on the Parklands?

Members may have noticed a flyer circulated to houses in the inner suburbs early this year. In it the Adelaide Bowling Club advertised itself as a restaurant and bistro with poker machines, also providing free parking.

Our Association say this is an abuse of the Parklands for commercial use by the Adelaide Bowling Club and on 26 March 1996 our chairman wrote to the Lord Mayor, Henry Ninio, expressing our strongest objection.

On 12 August the chairman again wrote to the Lord Mayor concerning an application to the Licensing Court by the Club for extended trading hours.

In response to our first letter the Lord Mayor has assured us that the City Council will take "proper account of the constraints of the Club's lease" when considering any application.

The present position - we understand that the Club has already installed ten poker machines in its premises which are located entirely within the Parklands at Rymill Park. The Bowling Club did apply to the Licensing Court for an unrestricted license. The City Council objected to this but was unsuccessful. The application was approved and as a result the club can now serve drinks to anyone in the same way as any hotel. It will be interesting to see whether the "constraints of the Club's lease" will provide any control over what is turning into a commercial operation.

This unfortunate incident illustrates that what initially may seem to be a benign use of the Parklands can grow into an uncontrollable monster.

In the same way there are those who would have the so called "Wine Museum" grow into an entertainment centre.

*Joyce and Bill Gibberd*

## West Parklands

As a resident of the Western Suburbs I view with dismay some of the neglected and fenced areas of the West Parklands,

Removal of the Keswick Tennis Club-rooms was an improvement, but the erection of a fence to keep people from a contaminated "dump" has prevented ETSA from replanting trees until the area is cleared. It is taking far too long!

A group of residents have worked wonders adjacent to the cemetery of Burbridge Road, Park 23. A rubbish dump and unsightly drain have become a 'forest' and a small water-hole (which has already attracted duck families). A bush-tucker trail is planned. There is always a need for weeders etc. and regular working "bees" are held on the first Sunday in the month, 9 am to 12 midday. Take some gardening tools, cool drinks and friends. Enter via the Catholic Cemetery Road off Burbridge Road. Phone Jane Lomax-Smith for details on 8231 9254 (AH).

*Val Park*

## South Parklands

The Premier's "vision" of covering a large area of South Parklands with drainage ponds to help clean up the Patawalonga pollution problems fills APPA with horror. Firstly the Parklands are not a sink, and secondly they are not "wetlands". They are terra firma in the main, for people to enjoy, not polluted no-go areas.

## In Closing

During the year your Committee Members have attended a number of meetings concerned with issues likely to affect the Parklands. One such meeting was a "Labor Listens" forum led by Mike Rann. People were asked to comment on various environmental problems. Our Association stressed the need for legal protection for the Parklands preventing commercial development (particularly private).

What will be the impact of the Athletic and Netball Stadium in the Mile End, the Memorial Drive Tennis Complex grow too big for its present site? Will improved North Adelaide Golf Course, and the proposed Wine Centre in Hallett to the roar of racing cars? We hope not! Will our Parklands be covered in advertisements?

Already there are signs warning the general public to "keep off" in some areas. We have spoken to Council Parklands Administration about this matter - so keep your feet off!

Our rapport with the Parklands Administration staff has been good throughout the year.

We hope you find this newsletter interesting. Your comments would be most welcome. We hope your support they may not survive.

1996 was a busy year. We think 1997 promises to be busier.



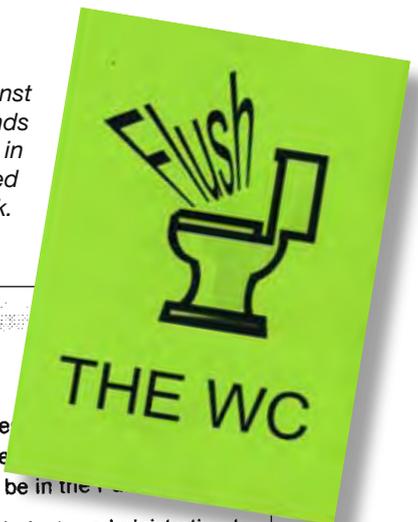
Right: Bill and Joyce Gibberd with Ian Gilfillan, on the occasion of Honorary Life Membership being awarded to Bill, a foundation member and long-serving Treasurer, in December 2005. Joyce was awarded the Order of Australia Medal on Australia Day 2000 for many years of environmental and community work.

Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 19 December 2005.

# WINE CENTRE WHITE ELEPHANT

From April 1997 newsletter, page 2

*Right: APPA's campaign against the Wine Centre in the Park Lands included posters that appeared in many places. This one was designed by Franca and Kyle Penick.*



## THE NATIONAL WINE CENTRE PROPOSAL

4 March 1997

On 24 February, the APPA, with the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, held a successful rally on Parliament House steps. Several distinguished speakers gave cogent reasons why the National Wine Centre, formerly referred to as the "Wine Museum", should not be established in the Parklands.

Members of both organisations were encouraged to contact the Premier, the Minister for Tourism, Local Government, Recreation and Sport (Mr Scott Ashenden), and their local Members of Parliament and protest that the Centre not be in the Parklands. Little information about the project has been made public. However it has been possible to glean some indications what is being planned and this is presented here so your protest will be as well informed as possible.

The whole of the former STA site was dedicated as Botanic Park and Gardens Reserve in 1993. The site, including the Goodman building and Tram Barn A, is owned by the Botanic Gardens. It is proposed that the whole site would be leased from the Gardens for the Centre.

The National Wine Centre is likely to house

- Administrations of the wine industry bodies that are currently located in Wine Industry House on The Parade at Magill, across the road from the Penfold's site. These include the Winemakers' Federation of Australia, the Wine and Brandy Corporation and the Australian Wine Export Council.
- Meeting rooms that would be used for industry meetings and training, also courses in wine appreciation.
- A promotion/interpretative centre to provide visitors with information on the industry and on enjoyment of wine.
- A wine tourism promotion/information centre.

It may or may not include a cafe and/or wine bar.

The Goodman Building would be restored and adapted. Tram barn A is not really suitable for the Centre's purposes. Construction of a new building South and West of the Goodman building is under consideration. If that were built Tram Barn A would not be wanted and, so far as the Centre is concerned, it would be best if it were demolished. The area from there North is likely to be planted with vines.

At this stage, the project appears likely to be wholly focused on the wine industry. Its income, other than that which might be obtained from the Government, is to be generated from rent from the industry bodies to be located there, from training fees and from payments from wine makers or regions that use Centre facilities for promoting their products or regions.

The Centre is a SA Wine Tourism Council project. There is a Steering Committee of wine industry and government people. Savant, a project management company, has been contracted to develop detailed plans etc. Little information is likely to be made public until those plans are complete.

Costs currently being incurred are being met by the Government. It announced that it would provide \$10,000,000 in start up funding. The level of continuing funding that may be required thereafter is yet to be determined. It is not known whether or not the Government will be committed to making up any unplanned shortfalls in income over expenses.

The project now envisaged is less obviously overcapitalised scheme proposed. Nonetheless it should not be in the Parklands.

There is no justification for locating industry administration in the Parklands, nor the industry training and conference facilities. These operations should be in commercial or industry facilities elsewhere. This is the case with other bodies such as the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Institute of Management. Locating industry administration and training facilities on the Parklands is without precedent and poses a new class of threat to them. No other areas have yet been alienated for such purposes.

Is Hackney a good location for the interpretative and wine tourism information facilities? These would have to be of exceptional quality and interest and regularly updated to attract people to seek them out there. Continuing substantial promotion expenditure would be required to maintain visitor numbers. There would be little scope for recovery of costs from visitors. Equivalent facilities would attract and influence more people if they were located in precincts already frequented by food and wine enthusiasts or people seeking tourism information, rather than in isolation at Hackney. If the interpretative and tourism information facilities fail to attract sufficient visitors, what then happens on the site? Might it then become an industry administration and training centre with token public facilities?

Those in charge of the project are committed to establishing the Centre on the Parklands by direction from the Government. It would be best if the direction to use the Parklands were reversed through a vision of the need to preserve and green the Parklands as a whole and to restore this particular site as part of the Botanic Gardens. In the absence of that vision, economic questions should be asked.

Is it necessary to consolidate all four of the functions above on one site in the Parklands? Would it be more effective to house these on other sites, each selected as the best for the function concerned?

Relative to other sites what will it cost to establish the Centre at Hackney and then to keep it running?

What benefits will accrue to the people of the State to justify taking part of the Botanic Gardens as the site for the Centre rather than using other sites?

Finally:

**TO KEEP THE NATIONAL WINE CENTRE OUT OF THE PARKLANDS, WRITE TO THE PREMIER, THE MINISTER AND YOUR LOCAL MEMBER AND EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS**

Richard Brown

# PLEAS TO POLLIES AND TO MEMBERS

From August 1997 newsletter, page 3

*Editor's note - although this letter is now dated, I thought it important that APPA members should see this example of your Committee's efforts (Dick and Ian worked particularly hard on this one). Since The Advertiser has apparently exercised its right to not publish the text, this may be your only opportunity! EMF*

## AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE AND FEDERAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

### USE OF A SITE IN THE ADELAIDE PARKLANDS FOR A PROPOSED NATIONAL WINE CENTRE

A Bill, at present before Parliament in South Australia, allocates a portion of the Adelaide Parklands for a National Wine Centre. Alienation of that site for commercial purposes as proposed would be the worst assault on the integrity of the Parklands in our time.

The Parklands, surrounding the City of Adelaide constitute Adelaide's most precious feature, defining its character and adding immeasurably to the beauty and amenity of the City. The Parklands surround the City with an unbroken ring of open space for the enjoyment of all South Australians.

The site concerned is located at Hackney on an area that was designated as Parkland in Colonel Light's plan for the City. It was open space until 1908. The Government of the day then allocated it for the use of the Municipal Tramways Trust which built upon the site. By 1992, it had been vacated, although two heritage listed buildings, the Goodman Building and Tram Barn A, remained. The Government then dedicated the site as Botanic Park and Gardens. This restored the status of the site as Parkland. Its dedication for this purpose was supported by all political parties and welcomed by the community at large.

The Bill now before Parliament establishes the National Wine Centre, nullifies the dedication of the site as Botanic Park and Gardens, and allocates it for the use of the Centre.

The functions of the Centre are;

- to serve as the national headquarters of the Australian wine industry,
- to promote the Australian wine industry,
- to promote tourism associated with the industry,
- to provide exhibits, tastings, classes etc for the public.

We support the idea of establishing a National Wine Centre in Adelaide for the purposes indicated in the Bill, but not in the manner proposed on this site.

Although the functions include provision of some public facilities, the Centre is to be a commercial self funding corporate body acting for the wine industry. Alienation of Parkland for commercial purposes in support of an industry is an unprecedented step. It establishes a new criterion for alienation of Parkland from the people of South Australia. All previous alienations have been for State purposes.

The Bill is not specific about developments on the site. Neither capital budgets nor business plans for ongoing operation of the Centre are public. However, the State government has allocated \$20 million and the State will seek a grant of a similar amount from the Commonwealth Federation Fund. The possibility of a \$5 or \$6 million contribution from the wine industry has been indicated.

Indications have also been given, that the Steering Committee for the Centre favours use of the Goodman Building, construction of a new building of approximately 5,000 sq m and planting a demonstration vineyard. These plus staff and visitor car parks would occupy about 4 hectares of the site, leaving about one third for landscaping etc.

Allocation of Adelaide Parkland to a corporate body established for commercial purposes in support of an industry would be a major assault on the integrity of the Parklands. Construction of a major new building will detract from the character of the Parklands as open space. We support the State initiative to establish the National Wine Centre in Adelaide with Federation Fund assistance but not if it were to be in the manner proposed on this site.

We request all South Australian members of both State and Federal Parliaments to consider their personal responsibility for protecting the open space character of the Adelaide Parklands for the people of South Australia, to consider the impact of this Bill on the Adelaide Parklands and to use their influence to have the National Wine Centre established in Adelaide with support from the Federation Fund but not on the site proposed in the Bill.

#### Signatories:

Ian Giffillan, Chairperson, Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association  
John Chappel, Acting Chairman Architecture Foundation of SA  
Ted Dexter, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects SA  
Margaret Lee, Secretary, Civic Trust of SA  
Jasmine Rose, President, Conservation Council of SA  
Necia Gilbert, President, Friends of the Botanic Gardens  
Phillipa Menses, Director, National Trust of SA  
Edgar Briedis, Chairman, North Adelaide Society  
David Butterworth, President, Preserve Kent Town Association  
Peter Balan, President, St Peters Residents Association  
Kim Voss, Chairperson, SA Council of Open Space Preservation Associations  
Paul Downton, Convenor, Urban Ecology Australia  
Rick Abbott, Committee, Victoria Park Action Committee

24 June, 1997

LIZ FITZGERALD

#### NEWSLETTER NEWS

With some trepidation, I agreed to edit the March Newsletter. For that issue, I acted as co-ordinator rather than editor. I then felt brave enough to volunteer to edit the Newsletter until the next AGM ie April 1998. I hope that this Newsletter is like APPA and that it will continue to evolve as it rises to meet new challenges.

In addition to news about APPA, I would like to include occasional items about the Parklands themselves. If you have any ideas write to me at the return address in the address box or ring on 8340 1548 - my answering machine is usually reliable if I cannot get to the phone.

This issue concentrates on the AGM - members who were unable to attend missed a delightful meeting with good company and inspiring addresses from the two lads - hope to see you next time!

... and note the the plea at the bottom by the editor of the newsletter for articles. This is a refrain that never ceases. Dear readers: consider what you can offer the membership from your experiences in the Park Lands.

# SO MUCH TO DO

From September 1998 newsletter, page 2

One can only admire a committee and a membership that is capable of such industry and organisation. Look at the list in the left hand column below. All the pressures on the Park Lands and some of the aspirations of the Association have been allocated to willing workers who not

only served on the 1998 committee but focused on particular tasks and led the charge. The issues included the Britannia roundabout land grab, an application to heritage list the Grand Prix track, the first designs on the south bank of Torrens Lake, the Memorial Drive leisure centre,

an inappropriate cycle track in Nanto Womma (Park 6), the National Wine Centre, World Heritage Listing, south Park Lands wetlands, and more. Some of these battles have been lost, a very few won, and many more are still with us today.

Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc Newsletter Sept 1998

page 2

## OFFICE BEARERS

**Patron**  
Sir Walter Crocker

**President**  
**Co-ordinator Memorial Drive Working Group**  
Ian Giffillan  
ph 8363 2011

**Treasurer**  
Bill Gibberd  
ph 8362 2622

**Secretary/  
Newsletter Editor**  
Liz Fitzgerald  
ph 8340 1548

**Bicycle Plan Review**  
Bob Whatmough  
8362 8786

**Co-ordinator National Wine Centre Action Group**  
Richard Brown  
ph 8272 1091

**Assistant Co-ordinator National Wine Centre Action Group**  
Vaike Aldridge  
ph 8332 2361(w) 8277 9596 (h)

**Co-ordinator Policy Development Subcommittee**  
Ted Dexter  
8339 1644

**Co-ordinator Membership Subcommittee**  
Grant Thorpe  
ph 8376 0158

**Co-ordinator World Heritage Subcommittee**  
Kyle Pencil  
ph 8336 6593

**Hon Auditor Tax Deductibility Review**  
Keith Christie-Ling

## EDITORIAL

While it is depressing to keep on having to fight the same old battles over and over again, we are beginning to be heard and to make a difference. As the item on Kyle and World Heritage published in *The Payneham Messenger* demonstrated, if the media can find a local angle, we can get good coverage outside the city. The North Adelaide residents got good coverage in *The City Messenger* which helped their fight against the damage being inflicted on Park 6 as the construction resulted in enormous damage to the tan track and a proposed bicycle track which was clearly inappropriate for the location.

Our bumper sticker slogan (also used on our letterhead and we are trying it in the *APPA Newsletter* for the first time) is having a real impact - some Adelaide City Council material calls our Parklands unique and a tradesperson (NOT yet an APPA member!) who came to do some work for me the other day described them as unique.

We can win the fight to gain respect for OUR Parklands, to keep them open for public use and with free access for all legitimate users.

## WINE CENTRE UPDATE

Although there have been significant changes to the location of the proposed Wine Centre within the Gardens, the Government has persisted in its decision to use the obviously inappropriate Botanic Gardens for this project. The APPA has kept up its opposition to the location of the Wine Centre and is beginning to have increased success in drawing media attention. You may have seen recent coverage in *The Advertiser* and *The Messenger Press* and heard us on local radio following our press conference on 28 August.

The APPA would support any site for the Wine Centre other than in the Parklands. For example, the Government's decision to close Glenside means that it now has access to a far more appropriate site with all of the purported advantages of the Botanic Gardens location (no prior association with the wine industry, land for a vineyard and other landscaping, close to the city) plus the opportunity to provide proper access for buses and other forms of transport. The major problems associated with the Botanic Gardens (improper use of Parklands to house industry offices, confusion with the Botanic Gardens, demolition of sound buildings to provide space for the Centre, moving the Herbarium down to a flood prone site, current design disproportionately large for the site, poor access for buses, very little parking etc) would not apply at Glenside.

To demonstrate that there is at least one other suitable site, we have developed a display which includes an artist's impression of a wine centre at Glenside. We thank the respective Councils for allowing us to erect our display at the St Peter's Town Hall and in the Adelaide Town Hall for comparison with the "Botanic Wine and Rose Display".

## You can help by

- visiting the "Botanic Wine and Rose Display" which is now at the Adelaide Town Hall (closes Friday 11.9.1998 which only open from 11.00am - 3.00pm) - be sure to fill in a questionnaire and say what you really think about the proposal;
- contacting me (Richard Brown on 8272 1091) or Vaike Aldridge on 8277 9596(h) or 8332 2361 if you want to help with the Action Group or are able to assist with displays etc;
- writing to *The Advertiser* and *The Messenger*, keep ringing talk back radio, ring/write to your TV/radio station; and
- writing to the Premier and the leader of the Opposition, as well as lobbying other politicians and any contacts that you have in the wine industry. ●

THE ADELAIDE PARKLANDS - UNIQUE IN THE WORLD

# WORLD HERITAGE LISTING WARRIOR: KYLE PENICK

From December 1998 newsletter, page 3

December 1998

page 3  
Kyle Penick

## Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc Newsletter WORLD HERITAGE UPDATE

Since my last article research has concentrated on **Victoria Square** – one of the largest city squares in the world. The chance discovery of a comment made by our knowledgeable former Mayor, Henry Ninio, (*City Messenger* 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1995) provided the impetus to determine our square's size relative to other world landmarks. Results of this study so far are displayed in the chart below: -

	Name and Location	Measurements	Area	Comments	Reference Sources
1	Tiananmen Square Beijing		98 acres		China Today and Her Ancient Treasures Joan & Jerome Cohen p184 Internet
2	Merdeka Square Kuala Lumpur		20.2 acres		
3	Place de la Concorde Paris	1080 x 660ft	16.6 acres	Largest square in Europe Contains roadways	-The City Square Michael Webb, p149 - Urban Development in Western Europe, France and Belgium by EA Gutkind V5 p274 - Internet,
4	Victoria Square Adelaide	1180 x 555ft	15.0 acres	Area confirmed. Measurements approx.	Lord Mayor's Committee on Victoria Square WH Hayes 1971
5	Red Square Moscow	1280 x 480ft	14.1 acres		The City Square Michael Webb, p168
6	Rynek Square Krakow	670 x 670ft	10.3 acres	Largest square in Eastern Europe – contains three structures	- internet, - The City Square Michael Webb p 58 - National Geographic, June 1939, p747, photo
7	Plaza de Constitution Mexico City	830 x 500ft	9.5 acres	Largest square in Americas	- The City Square Michael Webb p99-100 - Fodor's 98 Mexico p27
8	St Peters Square Rome	588 x 426ft	8.4 acres	Irregular shape – ellipse measurements	Urban Development in Southern Europe, Italy and Greece EA Gutkind p174-175
9	Plaza of Santa Fe Sante Fe New Mexico USA	800 x 400ft	7.6 acres		The City Square Michael Webb p113
10	Piazza San Carlo Turin	525 x 270-174ft	2.7 acres	Width narrows	Urban Development in Southern Europe, Italy and Greece EA Gutkind p256
11	Piazza San Marco Venice	505 x 228ft	2.7 acres		Urban Development in Southern Europe, Italy and Greece EA Gutkind V4 p132

Definitively part of the Adelaide Parklands, the six city squares represent additional concepts of Colonel Light's masterful design. They could be considered for inclusion in the World Heritage nomination.

A second reason for this article's attention on Victoria Square is due to the Association's position that the public toilets be relocated off the Square and the existing structure demolished. The Café Lu Lu proposal continues to hang around like a bad smell so comment appreciative of our Square's significance seems warranted.

In June 1855, according to Thomas Worsnop's "History of the City of Adelaide", pages 117-126, the Adelaide City Council successfully fought a court action to prevent a cathedral being built in the Square. Have times changed so drastically that the noble purpose then denied in 1855 shall now be replaced by a coffee shop? Hopefully our new Council will resolve not to let this lesser proposal go through.

Kyle Penick has been committed to the idea of achieving World Heritage status for the Adelaide Park Lands since 1995 when, on a visit to the Red Fort in Agra, India, he viewed a display about cultural World Heritage Listing. Since then, he has continued to do research about all things

Park Lands. In 1998, he contributed the article above which provides a perspective on Victoria Square's size and how that relates to other great squares in the world. (*The Advertiser* on 10/02/12, p 72, in 'What's your problem?' listed the world's largest squares. Victoria Square was 47th in that list.) Note, also, the

comments about the cathedral at the end of the article. Proposals to build on Park Lands are ever with us, it seems, with no consistency of approach evident in the state's governing bodies.

On 30 June 2003, Kyle was presented with a Centenary Medal by the Australian Government for 'services to the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association'.

# LAND BANK FURORE

From Issue Number 1, 1999 newsletter, pages 8–10

## APPA PRESIDENT, THE HON IAN GILFILLAN MLC SAID:

### News Release

Tuesday 9th March 1999

#### **PARKLANDS 'LAND BANK' A THIMBLE AND PEA TRICK**

The Adelaide Parklands will not be protected by the Government's proposed "Land Bank". Australian Democrats Spokesperson for the Adelaide Parklands, and the president of the Parklands Preservation Association, Ian Giffillan is suspicious of the Government's intentions.

"What new scheme is afoot to now plant another intrusive development onto Parklands?"

"The proposal is based on the assumption that the Government is planning to keep building on the parklands indefinitely, albeit in smaller size lots," Mr Giffillan says.

"The Government has failed to acknowledge that erecting any permanent building on the parklands at all is contrary to Colonel Light's vision for the city."

Minister Brindal admits it will not apply to buildings which have already been excised from parklands.

"What they are promising, in effect, is that future generations of South Australians will be robbed of their parklands 10% more slowly.

"In any case, this Bill will not stop a future government, (as long as it has the numbers in parliament) from amending the same Act, and renegeing on the limited promise made today."

## THE HON MARK BRINDAL MP AND THE HON MICHAEL ARMITAGE MP SAID:

Tuesday, 9 March 1999

### **PARKLANDS PRESERVATION BANK**

The State Government today announced the creation of the Parklands Preservation Bank to ensure the future of Adelaide parklands for all South Australians.

Local Government Minister Mark Brindal says the Local Member Dr Armitage will move an amendment to the Local Government Bill 1999 on behalf of the Government not only to protect existing levels of parklands but to increase their size.

"Under the Parklands Preservation Bank any Adelaide parklands acquired will have to be restored by 110 per cent," he says.

"For example if the Government wanted to build a permanent structure in the parklands which covered 100 square metres, the Government would have to return 110 square metres to the Parklands Preservation Bank.

"This means not only will our existing levels of parklands be protected but any permanent development will ensure that the parklands actually increase in size."

Member for Adelaide Dr Michael Armitage says it is vital for local Adelaide residents and the wider community to know that Colonel Light's vision is alive and well, and that it will be protected and restored over time by this Government.

"This legislation relates to recognising the importance of the parklands and the role they play in the everyday lives of Adelaide residents," he says.

"The parklands are the lungs of the city which keep it vibrant and alive. There are countless thousands of South Australians who enjoy the parklands every week and I am determined to see that this continues for future generations."

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## LORD MAYOR JANE LOMAX-SMITH SAID:

### **ACC REJECTS STATE GOVERNMENT LANDBANK**

The City of Adelaide today rejected proposed amendments to the Local Government Bill which creates a Parklands Preservation Bank.

Yesterday the Minister for Government Enterprises, Michael Armitage, tabled in the House of Assembly amendments which aim to "protect area of Adelaide Park Lands available for public use."

After a careful examination of the amendments the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, said the Corporation could not support them in their current form.

"History has taught me that when a thing is too good to be true, it generally is," the Lord Mayor said.

"The sceptic in me wonders what plans the State Government has for the Parklands.

"These amendments in effect allow a government to return an asset such as the Adelaide Goal, with its enormous liabilities, then acquire from open Parklands up to 90 per cent of the area returned.

"In other words the State Government will be given carte blanche to acquire land in the parklands for building and commercial use.

"The State Government in reality is fully aware the City is involved in a detailed Parklands Management Study. These amendments cut directly across this study and once again take away control of the parklands from the ACC and the community."

The City of Adelaide has 689 hectares of parklands of which 135 hectares are improved parks and gardens, 136 hectares are irrigated sports fields, 100 hectares are the golf courses at North Adelaide and 3 hectares are three playgrounds. A total of nearly 315 hectares are open parklands which includes tracks for cycling, jogging or horse riding.

The State Government has over time acquired 183 hectares of City parklands for government or educational purposes including the ASER project, the railway station and yards, educational and cultural institutions along North Terrace, the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the Festival Centre, the Zoological Gardens and the Botanic Gardens, the Adelaide Goal, West Terrace Cemetery, Thebarton Police Barracks and the SA Water Depot at Thebarton.

According to the ACC Chief Executive, Ms Jude Munro, a major concern of the proposed amendments is the lack of say the Council has in relation to land which may be returned to Parklands.

"Parklands used for Adelaide Goal, the SA Water Site, or the Thebarton Police Barracks would require extensive investment by ACC to put them in a form which is considered suitable for public use," Ms Munro said.

The CEO pointed out that under this scheme the return of such land to the Council generates "land bank credits" for the State Government which enables it to take back other land currently set aside as Parkland.

"There is no obligation to seek agreement or even consult with the Council," Ms Munro said.

"It also takes no account of the significant investment the Council may have made to a specific section of the Parklands or to future plans it may have for a site."

The Corporation also does not support the limitation on granting a long term lease linked back to credits which the Council may hold.

"A number of the current leaseholdings are long term leases (such as the Adelaide Oval) and the likelihood of the Council increasing its credit units in the short to medium term are therefore minimal," Ms Munro said.

"This provision will limit any potential to have any type of operation requiring a long term lease on our Squares or Parklands, even if it is requested by the general public, or identified as desired in our Management Plans or Urban Design Master Plans of the future."

The amendments propose that people or organisations proposing to undertake development on parklands must pay a "prescribed amount" of up to \$10,000 into the Adelaide Park Lands Fund before the development can proceed.

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If this money is not "for the time being required" it may be used by the Capital City Committee on projects to benefit the parklands and if the development does not proceed the Capital City Committee "may, in its absolute discretion," repay the prescribed amount to the person or organisation.

"As an unincorporated body which is an intergovernmental committee, the Capital City Committee has no power to undertake development, nor repay monies, nor is this consistent with its functions under the City of Adelaide Act, 1998," the CEO said.

"The appropriate bodies are the Council and the State Government which is in line with the Act. The Capital City Committee would only be able to recommend such action."

## LIZ FITZGERALD, APPA NEWSLETTER EDITOR SAID (Issue Number 2, 1999 page 2):

### **LAND BANK**

Liz Fitzgerald (ph 8340 1548)

This proposal has been the cause of considerable public disquiet for a number of reasons. In lobbying, APPA has followed the general principle that we are concerned about a proposal which claims to protect the Adelaide Parklands but does so in a format which sets out a process by which development can take place. Suggestions that the difficulties could be resolved by redrafting the proposals to exclude further alienation of the Adelaide Parklands seem not to have been taken up.

Others have been concerned that the proposal was inserted into the Local Government Bill 1998. Some regard the Bill as an inappropriate vehicle for the proposal. Others are concerned that, while the Bill itself has been the subject of detailed public consultation, this proposal was inserted without public consultation shortly before the Bill went before the House of Assembly.

Your Committee has written to MPs and members of the Adelaide City Council. Our direct lobbying of Parliamentarians and Councilors met with mixed success. While we believe our input influenced both the Adelaide City Council and the ALP's decisions to oppose the measure, we were unable to stop it passing the Legislative Council. The proposal itself has undergone a number of changes and is now known as the Land Trust. However, when the Bill was returned to the House of Assembly, there was sufficient unease for proposal to be defeated.

Minister Brindal has stated that he intends to return the proposal to Parliament but we do not yet know when or in what form.

### **You can help by**

- monitoring the media (paper, TV, radio) in case attempts are made to slip it through again without our knowledge;
- supporting the Adelaide City Councilors in their opposition to the Land Trust;
- lobbying for legislation which protects the Adelaide Parklands from further alienation while maintaining them as a as a freely accessible public resource; and
- ringing your local member and Legislative Councilors to reject proposals which claim to protect the Adelaide Parklands but which are contained in a framework which reinforces the inevitability of their alienation. 

The 'Land Bank' Bill (which was an amended Local Government Act 1999) was met with widespread opposition, petitions, lots of amendments and, finally and thankfully, disappeared.

# PATRONS 1987–2012

The first of the Association's illustrious Patrons during its 25 years was Sir Walter Crocker KBE, pictured below with Dame Roma Mitchell. Sir Walter was a diplomat and South Australian Lieutenant Governor. Dame Roma Mitchell AC DBE CVO QC,

was a lawyer, judge and state Governor and, in 1999, became the second APPA Patron. Sir Walter continued in the role of Patron for two years after Dame Roma's death in 2000. In 2002, Robert Champion de Crespigny AC took on the role for four

years. He was followed by the Lieutenant Governor Bruno Krumin AM from 2006 to 2008. From 2009, Dr Lynn Arnold AO, former state Premier and now Anglicare SA's Chief Executive, became the Association's current Patron.

ADELAIDE PARKLANDS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION Inc.

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 4 March 2000



Sir Walter Crocker kissing hand of Dame Roma Mitchell after her investiture with Cross of Merit With Crown medal of Sovereign Military Order of St John (of Jerusalem).

Picture Courtesy of "the Advertiser" Tricia Johnson.

### FAREWELL TO OUR PATRON

#### *Dame Roma Mitchell*

Since many people do not take 'The Advertiser' we are reprinting the notice we sent to the paper

– I hope that you find the wording fitting.

*Farewell from the members of the  
Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association.  
While you were not our Patron for long,  
you were an inspiration to us and we will miss you.*

As mark of respect to Dame Roma, we are retaining her name as Patron on our stationary (including this Newsletter) for a short time.

Eliza Bagley (ph 8340 1548) ✱

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

#### Dame Roma

*It is on a sad note that I acknowledge the terminal illness and death of our Patron, Dame Roma Mitchell.*

We hope and pray that she is at peace.. I had conveyed on your behalf our concern for her in our thoughts and prayers. Secretary Eliza arranged for flowers to go to her hospital room from APPA and subsequently an appropriate death notice to be lodged.

#### Consultation and Legislation

*It is a time pregnant with possibility in Parliament.*

The Government is seriously looking at legislation to protect and restore the Parklands. It has put out a consultation paper as a basis for community consultation.

The Adelaide City Council has put out the Parklands Management Strategy, which seriously addresses the various aspects of the Parklands including historic and visionary.

MP Mr Peter Lewis, already has a Bill before Parliament, which would comprehensively protect the Parklands and which I think has spurred the Government to act.

All these moves auger well for the future. Plus it has come to our ears that several Ministers including Dr Armitage are looking positively at a World Heritage listing for the Parklands.

Two scandals in Parklands terms are the one, caving into expediency over the permanently intrusive Adelaide Oval Lights and two, the Panoz Le Mans style motor event!

We have been chided by the "Opponents of Motor Racing in our Parklands" for not being pro-active in fighting this, and the North Adelaide Society (& Cr Moran) have been the most active body in fighting the lights.

*Does this reflect on our militant spirit?*

*Are we becoming bureaucratic and comfortable?*

Perhaps we need some "actions" as we have in the past.

Ian Gilfillan ✱

# MORE PARK LANDS LEGISLATION

From March 2000 newsletter, page 6

During the term of the Olsen Liberal Government, it began to think seriously about the need to respond to the calls for protection of the Park Lands and started the legislative process by putting out a consultation paper in preparation for tabling the City of Adelaide (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2000. The

Association organised a public meeting and also urged APPA members to put in submissions. The details of the the public meeting are shown below. In addition, in October 2000, a 'Parklands Alliance' group was formed, comprising APPA, the North Adelaide Society, the National Trust of SA and the Conservation Council.

Later, the Architecture Foundation of SA, the Civic Trust and the Norwood Residents' Association joined. (See more on the next page.) The Alliance provided a network for successfully fighting the badly flawed Bill. Not members of the Alliance but equally against the Bill were the Unley and Burnside councils.

## ADELAIDE PARK LANDS CONSULTATION PAPER

– Public Meeting

### MEETING ON THE ADELAIDE PARK LANDS CONSULTATION PAPER

Eliza Bagley (ph 8340 1548)

The meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> was very successful with over 22 people present. I think that is a good turnout for a meeting on a *Consultation Paper* which many present had not seen. This is just a summary – ring me if you want a copy of the fuller report.

The meeting was chaired by our President while the speakers were the Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal Affairs (Dorothy Kotz), the Lord Mayor (Dr Jane Lomax-Smith) and Kath Crilly. Mesdames Kotz and Lomax-Smith were asked to discuss the background to the *Consultation Paper* while Ms Crilly spoke on the foundation of our Parklands and custodianship. There were lots of questions.

#### Points raised in discussion included the following:

- ▲ congratulations on preparing the proposals and the belief that they represent a mechanism which could be used to protect the Parklands;
- ▲ the City Squares have been deliberately excluded – the proposals relate to the outer perimeter of the Parklands;
- ▲ heritage is not a feature of this proposal (neither State nor World);
- ▲ it is not intended that the resulting bill contain any limitation on the role of the major projects legislation in the Parklands (the Wine Centre and the Lloyd Leisure Centre were both referred to);
- ▲ nor does there appear to be any intention to limit major events such as the multiplicity of commercial, motor vehicle events;
- ▲ there is no real definition of Parklands; and
- ▲ repeated expressions of mistrust of both Government and Council including their duplicity (claiming to want to protect the Parklands while allowing abuses to take place) with deep concerns about their ability to act as custodians of the Adelaide Parklands and the inability of citizens to make a real contribution to their protection.

#### What next?

- ▲ the comment period closes on 24.3.2000;
- ▲ the draft bill will be discussed with the Council;
- ▲ there was no indication that other groups or individual who made submissions would be contacted;
- ▲ once the draft bill has been tabled in Parliament, the public should have 2 weeks to comment.
- ▲ The Minister wants the bill through Parliament by the end of this session.

#### Suggested actions from the Meeting:

- ▲ future action could concentrate on proposals for permanent buildings on Victoria Park including suggestions that Panoz could receive approval to establish a driving school there;
- ▲ persevere with World Heritage;
- ▲ survey candidates for the election; and
- ▲ **PUT IN COMMENTS BY 24.3.2000**

## ELIZA'S EARLY THOUGHTS ON THE CONSULTATION PAPER Eliza Bagley (ph 8340 1548)

### WHAT DO I WANT?

Legislation which

- ◆ includes the Squares;
- ◆ ties Government and Council to maintaining the Adelaide Parklands as freely available open space;
- ◆ ensures that any proposal for use of the Adelaide Parklands is open for public scrutiny and the decision subject to appeal.  
The grounds for rejection to include the cumulative effect of a series of activities even if an individual activity might be comparatively minor;
- ◆ does not allow commercial exploitation of the Adelaide Parklands  
(Council can run kiosks etc where they are really needed and not duplicating facilities found adjacent to the park);
- ◆ allows community events which do not require fencing and charging for admission – remember the fetes that used to be held;
- ◆ does not allow protective legislation to be set aside on grounds that the proposal a "major project"  
(especially not when the Government is funding a facility for private enterprise);
- ◆ on park management grounds, limits the use of any area of Parkland for large scale events to 2 days in any 3 month period  
(would need a definition in terms of anticipated patronage, area to be covered and type of use);
- ◆ ensures that the Adelaide Parklands are sufficiently well protected to be placed on the State Heritage list.

### IS THIS PROCESS WORTHWHILE?

I think it worth supporting at this stage – there is a possibility that lobbying and comments might achieve a good outcome.

# PARKLANDS ALLIANCE

From April 2001 newsletter, page 2

## The Parklands Alliance - how did it come about?

- ◆ The Parklands Alliance formed in October 2000 to call for the rejection of the *City of Adelaide (Adelaide Parklands) Amendment Bill 2000*. It comprises Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association, the North Adelaide Society, National Trust of South Australia, the Conservation Council, the Civic Trust, the Norwood Residents' Association and the Architecture Foundation of South Australia. Its aims also have the support of most Councillors at Burnside and Unley Councils and late last year both councils formally rejected the proposed legislation.
- ◆ The Alliance is not against motor racing, but rejects any proposals for the future erection of new buildings anywhere in the Parklands. **Among its concerns about the Bill are provisions for the erection of buildings in the Parklands and along the banks of the River Torrens; exclusion, removal or regulation of people using specified sections of the Parklands; imposition of admission or other charges; the granting of leases and licences to allow exclusive activities for up to 42 years per lease or licence; no parliamentary scrutiny of proposals which are less than 21 years and no public consultation for lease or licence applications of up to 12 months if they are 'consistent' with the *City of Adelaide Parklands Management Strategy*.** However, this strategy is a broad policy document and could be widely interpreted to suit the proponent.
- ◆ The State Government says that the Alliance is highlighting issues (such as the potential for future buildings and other facilities in the Parklands) which are not only peripheral to the major elements of the Bill, but are already allowed under other existing Acts, sections of which have been restated in this new Bill (one written in 1934 and another written in 1869).
- ◆ However, the Alliance believes that this very fact produces a Bill which presents a deeply worrying, dark cloud over potential future use of the Parklands. In particular, the Alliance has highlighted not only the proposed lack of parliamentary checks and balances for what might be major, long-term development on public land, but also the fact that the Bill looks to Adelaide City Council's recent *Parklands Management Strategy* for management guidance of Parklands affairs (including, it would seem, commercial development)!  
◆ Unfortunately this strategy is rather general, and its real teeth are yet to be revealed in Master Plans for each Parklands precinct. Only one or two have been written, none of which has been approved by Council. **In other words, the precise details that would illustrate exactly what developments might be appropriate for each precinct don't exist, yet the Government wants to make the Bill law in their absence.**
- ◆ In addition, when the Alliance was formed last year, the Government was at pains to claim that no major development in the Parklands was under consideration. However, on January 3 an announcement of a proposed \$24 million race track development for Victoria Park, featuring a major permanent Parklands extension of the track, and a large, permanent two-storey multi-purpose centre, indicated otherwise. **Indeed, the Advertiser announcement revealed that the Government had been presented with a major development proposal for Victoria Park last year, at the time the Parklands Bill was being prepared for public release.** The Bill would appear to be precisely what the Government needs to make the Victoria Park proposal legally possible, if it chooses not to use its other tactic of using the 'Major Development' provisions of the Development Act which over-ride all other checks and balances.

*Extract from a recent North Adelaide Society newsletter; supplied John Bridgland.*



# CONTINUING HERITAGE STRUGGLE

From January 2002 newsletter, page 2

## WORLD HERITAGE LISTING

The Civic Trust hosted a seminar on World Heritage in Edmund Wright House on December 2 last year - it was the first function to be held there since renovations. Fittingly this building was the site of APPA's inaugural meeting on 27th April, 1987.

ICMOS (The International Council on Monuments and Sites) representatives with experience in evaluating cultural World Heritage nominations who attended, provided us with encouragement and valuable insight into listing processes and topics for additional research.

World Heritage listing is a project that will take a number of years, even with government support at all levels. The International body in Paris has indicated that it wants to consider only one nomination from each member country per year. Our listing would have to be considered against other potential nominations from Australia. Current sites under official consideration are Purnululu National Park containing the Bungle Bungle Range in WA and an expansion of the Naracoorte/Riversleigh Fossil Caves listing. Unofficially there are the Sydney Opera House, Harbour Bridge and Environs, Convict Settlements of Port Arthur, the Melbourne Exhibition Hall and the Nullarbor Plain.

Delegates suggested we examine the following two applications:

La Plata, Argentina to learn from their mistakes as so far they have been unsuccessful in their application for listing as a colonial historic city and The successful nomination of Lunenburg, Canada.

Time constraints limited closer analysis of our research but the delegates stressed the importance of the linkage to the "universal ideas" of Bentham, Wakefield and others and the size of our parklands being of great social importance. Adversities faced by Light were supplemental to the end result of a design masterpiece.

Research update

We have been of the opinion that Adelaide is the only significant city in the world to be surrounded by a complete belt of parkland around the city centre. A number of cities come close to having this feature such as Boulder, Colorado, USA; Frankfurt, Germany and Wellington and Dunedin, New Zealand, but their belts of parkland are not fully encompassing.

Krakow Poland was identified as needing further study as it appeared that city may have a complete belt. With the assistance of some friends at the Dom Polski Centre this has now been clarified. Krakow (pop 800,000) is surrounded by a complete park belt on the area where the medieval city had its walls. The park called Planty is 52 acres (2-3% the size of Adelaide's) and encloses an area of 215 acres. A good photo of this may be seen at: [www.krakow.pl/en/miasto/wizytowka/?dzial=a\\_zlotup.html](http://www.krakow.pl/en/miasto/wizytowka/?dzial=a_zlotup.html)

*Kyle Penick*

# CONSULTATION OR CONFRONTATION?

From April 2002 newsletter, pages 6, 7

## CONSULTATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION

In a new spirit of consultation rather than confrontation, there are signs that the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association is being increasingly consulted about parklands issues. A few examples over the past few months -

### Adelaide Rowing Club Extensions

Consultation on the proposed internal extension of clubrooms to include bar facilities. The Office of the Liquor and Gambling Commissioner assisted with a conciliation hearing in which the views of the Parklands Preservation Association about extension of the premises were taken into account and it is now agreed that any application to redefine the area will be advertised.

### North Terrace Precincts Development

A special briefing of the Committee by the Project Director and staff of the North Terrace Precincts Development project was arranged to allow for our comments to be made on this project.

### Riverbanks Project

A meeting with the Major Projects Director, Department for Administration and Information Services took into account our comments that the walkway would not intrude on to the parklands and that there was a need for greater disability access. The future linkage across Morphett Road was a problem raised and needs sorting out in the next stage of the project.

### Lack of Consultation

Unfortunately not all proposals are open for input from the Parklands Preservation Association. For example there are ongoing difficulties about getting answers about the Victoria Park incursions by the Jockey Club and the Clipsal 500 Car Racing event. Also, the proposals to extend the Adelaide Oval have reared their ugly head again; after it was made clear that this would be an issue of confrontation when the last government rejected the architect's design.

### Future cooperation

As the quality of inputs by the Parklands Preservation Association are appreciated by various levels of government and proposers of projects, perhaps others will also consider our opinions early in the planning process - it would save a great deal of time and effort in the long run.

*Jim Daly*



Cartoon by Peter McWilliams,  
committee member 2000-01

# CELEBRATIONS 1987–2012

The President, The Hon Ian Gillfillan MLC invites you to:

## CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Botanic Gardens Lecture Theatre  
Goodman Building

Thursday 29th May at 7.30pm for 8.00pm

The inaugural meeting of the Adelaide Parklands Preservation League was held on Tuesday 19th May 1903 in the Adelaide Town Hall with the objective to:

*Protect the Parklands and to oppose all attempts to alienate any portion and to use every endeavour to conserve and enhance their natural beauties:*

These are similar to the objectives adopted by the present Association.

**Tickets: \$26.00 each**  
Includes pre – function drinks and appetizers and a gourmet supper  
Parking is available close to the venue  
BOOK EARLY

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
**HERBERT GIRARDET B.Sc. Econ (L.S.E)**  
Noted English International, Social Anthropologist & Cultural Ecologist  
**SUBJECT: GREAT CITIES—GREAT PARKS**  
He is a prolific Author and producer of TV documentaries on cultural and ecological themes  
See over page →

Unit 44  
Name: .....  
Address: .....  
Phone: .....  
Please Attach C

Times of celebration are opportunities to reconnect with each other as members and to reflect on wins, losses and what APPA stands for. However, celebrations have not been a frequent feature of the Association's activities. One reason is cost and another reason is that there have not been that many significant wins when it comes to protecting the Park Lands from the multitudinous onslaughts that would see the area diminished, the flora and fauna decimated, and the intent of Colonel William Light abused. APPA's 'celebrations' therefore were mostly information sharing events focused on the value of parks.

The Association's archived material records a number of celebratory events which include two 'Memorial Addresses' and a 'Centenary Celebration'.

The Memorial Address on 21 July 2004 included an update by Stephen Forbes, Director of Adelaide Botanic Gardens, on progress in drafting Park Lands legislation, and an address by Prof Lawrence St Leger on 'Healthy Parks Healthy People'. The event was sponsored by the Adelaide City Council and held in the Banqueting Room of the Adelaide Town Hall. Photos and details of the convivial evening were provided in the newsletter for September 2004. The Memorial Address on 30 October 2005 (see left) was given by Dr Ken Marriott on 'A Benefits Approach to Valuing the Adelaide Parklands'. It was held in the Goodman Building Lecture Theatre (which has since closed) and proved to be a very pleasant

Sunday afternoon, with refreshments and music as well as the address. The *Parklands News* of December 2005 recorded the event and provided a summary of the address (see pp 3, 10 of the newsletter). Jim Daly was the main organiser of this event as well as the Centenary Celebration. His organising skills have served the Association well over the years as he coordinated the functions described here and the many 'coffee mornings' that enabled APPA members to socialise and discuss their concerns.

The Centenary Celebration (see above) was held on 29 May 2003 to mark 100 years of preserving the Park Lands, starting with the Adelaide Parklands Preservation League, first active in 1903–24 and then in 1948–c57. As well as enjoying supper and drinks, APPA members listened to Herbert Girardet speaking on 'Great Cities—Great Parks'. Herbert Girardet is a noted social anthropologist and cultural ecologist who has written many books and articles, produced television documentaries, and is a frequent guest lecturer. The event was covered in the *Parklands News* of August 2003 (p 2).

ADELAIDE PARKLANDS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

The President, The Hon Ian Gillfillan MLC invites you to the:

## A Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

Botanic Gardens Lecture Theatre  
Goodman Building Hackney Road  
Sunday 30th October  
3pm to 5pm

Annual Memorial Address by:  
**Dr. Ken Marriott**  
Noted Parks and Recreation Planner  
'A Benefits Approach to Valuing the Adelaide Parklands'

Afternoon also includes:  
An update on the Park Lands Bill to establish Authority  
A Toast to the Parklands  
Pleasant live musical interlude

Tickets - \$15.00 each  
Includes pre-champagne, drinks and light refreshments  
Parking is available close to the venue  
Book early to avoid disappointment

APPA MEMORIAL ADDRESS  
Tickets Order Form

Return to: Brian Mitchell, Secretary APPA  
Unit 446/1075 Grand Junction Road  
Hope Valley SA 5090

Name - .....  
Address - .....  
Phone - .....  
Number of Tickets - .....  
Phone reservations - 8263 5168  
Please attach cheque

The Association plans another celebration for members in April 2012, which should prove to be just as convivial. Founding members who have had continuous 25 years of membership will be honoured. They are Jeffrey and Ruth Chittleborough, Anna Cox, Ian Gillfillan and Heather Southcott. Jeffrey Chittleborough was also APPA Treasurer 1987–90 and 1992–93.

# THREATS TO PARK LANDS ELMS

From August 2003 newsletter, page 3

The first decade of the 21st century saw the Park Lands affected by drought, the most obvious sufferers being the non-indigenous trees. Some of these form important avenues or are feature trees that deserve to be preserved as long as possible. Unfortunately, part of the

Adelaide City Council's management program during the drought consisted of withdrawing water that was once regularly applied. Trees stressed from changed watering regimes then became more vulnerable to insect attack and more likely to drop branches. The next step becomes

obvious: these trees were considered dangerous to the public or unsightly and they were cut down.

The article below illustrates what lies in store for our very special Park Lands elms if they are not looked after appropriately.

## Dutch Elm Disease

**In the last few months there have been some erroneous statements made about the presence of Dutch Elm Disease (DED) in Australia. A query by Kyle Penick sent to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry—Australia (AFFA) resulted in a very helpful reply by Robert Ingram, Information Officer and Greg McLindon of Technical and Administrative Services, Plant Biosecurity.**

On 12 June Robert Ingram reported that there was no Dutch Elm Disease in Australia. He thought, however, that the misunderstanding may have stemmed from a false alarm that was reported on 24 January 1997. Twigs from two trees (later removed and destroyed), showing DED-like symptoms, were submitted for testing for *Ophiostoma* spp. Extensive testing found no evidence of DED. Two trees were removed and destroyed. Further testing, also negative for DED, was carried out by Prof Clive Brasier at the Forest Research Station, Surrey UK.

Robert Ingram also described how the Dutch elm beetle (*Pyrhula pyrrhula*) was discovered in the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria in February 1989. Damage to Golden Elms there suggested that the beetle may have been there for 10 years. In 1992 it was causing major damage at Berwick. In 1994 it had reached Melbourne and was gradually spreading into its suburbs.

An Elm Leaf Beetle Liaison Committee was formed in September 1989, and the Victorian government imposed embargos on movement of elm material, provision of access for inspectors, and obligations on occupiers to treat trees. Biological control of the beetle was attempted with the release of a eulophid wasp egg parasitoid (*Tetrastichus gallerucae*) in 1990 and a tachinid fly (*Erynniopsis antennata*) in 1992.

In California, integrated pest management programs had been

developed and these have been implemented in Victoria. Two elm leaf beetle parasites were available and were imported and released into Victoria in 1990. *Bacillus thuringiensis* based biological insecticides are available for use against elm leaf beetle and are being trialled in Victoria. Bark banding with carbaryl is effective against larvae crawling down trees to pupate and can result in approximately 90 per cent mortality. Repeated treatments are usually necessary. Canopy fogging with insecticides such as malathion are effective although for the most part environmentally undesirable in urban areas. Potential control costs are estimated to be \$1 million annually.

The beetle was recorded in New South Wales and South Australia during 2002 and in February 2003 in Launceston, Tasmania.

AFFA provides interesting fact sheets on many aspects of their work (go to their Web site at <<http://www.affa.gov.au>>). Fact Sheet No 27 provided some of the details below.

### Some facts about DED

Dutch Elm Disease is caused by the fungus *Ophiostoma ulmi* which prevents the flow of sap within the elm's vascular system. It can kill a tree over just one season. The fungus is transmitted by two species of bark beetles or by root grafting and affects all elm species though the Chinese Elm is relatively resistant.

Beetle attack results in skeletonisation of the leaves and premature leaf drop. Beetle feeding weakens the trees and may make them subject to wind breakage. The two main types of bark beetle that spread DED are *Hylurgopinus rufipes* and *Scolytus multistriatus*.

DED was first identified in the Netherlands and northern France in 1919. It had been brought from the Dutch East Indies during the late 19th century, having been introduced there most probably from the Himalayas.

The disease originally spread from Europe in 1930 to North America and is still destroying millions of trees there. New strains of the disease appeared in the 1960s and has now killed 90 per cent of England's elms and 50 per cent of elms in Europe. In 1989 New Zealand's elms became infected.

Australia has one of the few disease-free populations of mature European elms in the world.

The Adelaide Parklands are a large repository for these trees and this may add another reason for World Heritage listing of the Parklands.

One of the most likely pathways that could lead to the introduction of the disease into Australia is through the importation of bark beetles concealed on imported pallets, but imported timber without bark and timber articles are also a risk.

There is a total prohibition on the importation of plants or parts of the plant of any member of the elm family (Ulmaceae).

*Gunta Groves and Kyle Penick*

#### Sources

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry—Australia <[www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au)> accessed 28 June 2003 and personal communication

Elmguard ArborScience Inc Toronto Canada <[www.elmguard.com/ded/history\\_of\\_dutch\\_elm\\_disease.htm](http://www.elmguard.com/ded/history_of_dutch_elm_disease.htm)> accessed 30 June 2003

# OPPORTUNITIES, OR NOT?

From August 2003 newsletter, pages 6, 7

## COMPETITION—MAKE HISTORY

Leave your mark on the history of the Parklands. In this centenary of preserving the Parklands, what have you been drinking? Celebrate the character of our unique Parklands with a 'signature' drink.

### Create a Parklands signature drink

There are three categories for you to enter:

**alcoholic**  
**non-alcoholic**  
**for mental stimulation only (not for drinking)**

The winner in each category will receive a set of inaugural Parklands button badges (see below), promoting our treasured resource. All entries will be judged by the editor and no correspondence will be entered into (and help in testing will not be needed).

Send your recipes to: Newsletter Editor, Parklands Signature Drink Competition, PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000

Competition closes on 31 October 2003. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

Parklands  
lovers have  
seen the  
*Light*

I am a  
Parklands  
lover

ParkLANDS  
NOT  
PARKing

There's a  
*Light*  
in the  
Adelaide  
Parklands

I am a friend  
of the  
Adelaide  
Parklands

Button badge designs ©2003 GG

In the 25 years of the Association's history, there have been many dedicated and hard-working members prepared to give of their time, resources and energy to further the aims of APPA. Most of these hard workers have ended up as office bearers and committee and sub-committee members. Some APPA members have been generous donors, thus providing extra financial resources for particular events or causes. This money has been essential in allowing the Association to fight some very expensive legal battles.

However, more is always needed: more commitment and participation from members, more money, more 'hands on deck'. It seems that when there is not a 'big' issue involved, the participation level of members falls away. Evidence for this is in the many repeated advertisements in past copies of the Association's newsletter for a newsletter editor and nominations for committee. Often, there are no takers and one person on committee has to take on several roles, which can be very onerous, or a task such as creating a newsletter or updating the website is just not done.

Another example of member complacency is the apparent lack of interest in more minor matters. The 'signature drink' competition (see above) resulted in only one reply, and the photo project (right) did not get off the ground because no-one was willing to participate. Members' articles for newsletters also have dried up in the last couple of years.

Currently, there is a need for a newsletter editor, website administrator and nominations for 2012-13 office bearers and committee members. Will it be the same old, same old?



ParkLANDS News March 2012-27

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR PHOTO PROJECT

Your Committee is considering a Parklands visual-history project that will need a long-term, low-level commitment from a hardy band of volunteers. The project involves the photographic documentation of the Parklands—now, and again, and again; at intervals that will be determined largely by the number of willing participants.

Digital photography, with its easy storage and retrieval of images, is the great tool that enables such an historically valuable project. We envisage full coverage of the Parklands by taking photos from a number of fixed points to record the changing vegetation, people, buildings, skyline, weather, and so on. Over a number of years such a record will become increasingly valuable for all sorts of reasons.

It needs a single step to start this journey—your commitment of a couple of hours, on a regular basis, to exercise your photographic talents. And your willingness to ensure someone else will act as a backup when you are away on holidays, for instance. Hopefully you will have a digital camera available, but if not APPA has one 'official' camera for sharing on a project like this.

This call for volunteers is to sound out our membership's support. If insufficient, the project will not happen, but we can only try! To register your interest, please e-mail <clamp@senet.com.au> with the words 'APPA Photo Project' in the subject line, or write a note to us at PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall Adelaide 5000. We will respond to all, after allowing three or four weeks for the news to spread.

Peter Austin

Left: Brian Mitchell is a man who has repeatedly grabbed the opportunities to serve on the APPA committee as Secretary for many years: 2001-06, 2007-08 (Treasurer as well as Secretary), and now 2011-12. He was awarded an Honorary Life Membership of the Association in 2010 at the AGM. His attention to detail is legendary. Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 10 December 2006.

# CLEANING UP THE PARK LANDS

From June 2004 newsletter, page 3

The Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association has certainly done its bit in cleaning up the Park Lands. Individuals such as Kyle Penick have done it for decades. Every time he walked in the Park Lands, which was frequently, he collected bagfuls of rubbish. It was expected of you, if you walked with him, to do the same. In the newsletter of May 2003 (p 4) he wrote:

*Over the past two years APPA has removed 4 to 5 tons of concrete, brick and bitumen from just one area of the Parklands between Fullarton and Hutt Roads.*

***Why?** If the City Council is spending so much money (\$12 million per year as stated on page 3 "Managing Light's Vision Community Consultation Booklet Management Options for Adelaide's Parklands") why is there so much junk out there? Stardroppers, holes, disused signs, piles of dirt, abandoned tennis courts and cricket pitches litter our landscape. Make a visit to Park 20 just over the tramlines from Peacock Road or have a gander into or along Parkland Creek. Much of this detritus has been there for a decade or more and passed by hundreds of council workers too busy perhaps to remove it or waiting for a job sheet to assign them the task. The Parklands need some good housekeeping. APPA's efforts have done a lot to freshen one area, though there is still much more to be done, but the knowledge gained from managing these clean ups has provided some valuable insight. Provided a burden of paperwork does not have to be shifted much of the Parklands could be tidied up with two dedicated people, a sturdy ute and the occasional assistance of Council's tip truck and front end loader. We invite the new Council to **clean** the Parklands, not just mow them. Interested parties may contact the writer for further information.*

According to the archives, APPA members participated in Clean Up Australia days for 14 years. The first occasion was on Sunday 24 March 1991, the last being in June 2005. The main two organisers were Kyle Penick and, later, Peter Austin. In some years, APPA coordinated with employees of Ricoh Australia Pty Ltd. In 2003, APPA and Ricoh people were responsible for collecting 350 kilos of assorted rubbish, 2.5 tonnes of concrete, bricks and bitumen, over 100 stardroppers and two truckloads of green waste. However, the effort of organising the event was not reciprocated by

members' enthusiasm to participate and it was often left to just some of the committee members to do the work—hence, the eventual cessation of APPA's official involvement in Clean Up Australia days.



Above: Peter Austin was Deputy President 2002–05 and committee member 2001–06 and again in 2008–09. Among his many other contributions, Peter was responsible for APPA's website until 2007.

Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 21 September 2004.

Clean Up Australia Day  
7 March 2004 in  
Wikaparndo Wirra Park  
(Park 22).  
Photo by Bob Laws.



## CLEAN UP BY APPA

APPA's cleanup effort this year was in Wikaparndo Wirra Park (Park 22), containing the netball courts and sometime Showgrounds parking, between Anzac Highway and Goodwood Road. Clement weather and an enthusiastic (nay, determined) band of APPA volunteers gave us a clean sweep for the day, with the entire area tidied and ten bags of rubbish under the gum tree for Council to collect.

Although an earlier site inspection showed a great deal of paper litter in this park, there was much less found on the day. Doubtless the prevailing winds had in the meantime moved it all closer to Victoria Park! However, there was plenty of other debris, large and small, to collect.

We were disconcerted by the vast number of cigarette butts and old bus tickets around the bus stops in the vicinity, and have written to relevant authorities in the hope that small litter/butt bins will be provided at some future date.

Photographic proof of our efforts, with a few satisfied volunteers, is below. We can hardly wait till next year!

Peter Austin

# VICTORIA PARK OPENING SALVOS

From December 2004 newsletter, pages 4, 5

The opening salvos in defence of Victoria Park began in September 2004. APPA's concerns centred on the tenant of Victoria Park, that is the SA Jockey Club, wanting to expand its activities, change the horse-racing course, and join forces with the SA Motor Sport Board to build a multi-storey permanent corporate facility in the middle of the Park. The SAJC's idea was to sell its Cheltenham Park racecourse and make the Victoria Park racecourse into a permanent setting for its racing, functions and other activities. The other beneficiary would be the SAMSMB because it would gain a quarter-kilometre long permanent corporate and media fixture on top of the pits for racing cars.



Left: Demonstration at Morphettville racecourse, 21 September, 2004. Photo by Hazel Douglas

Below: APPA banners were prominent at the ACC Community Lands Management Plan consultation on 10 October, 2004. Photo by Gunta Groves

These last few months have been very busy ones in defence of Victoria Park. APPA was supported by people who cared about the open spaces of Victoria Park and were outraged by the scandalous 'new concept' proposed for this community land. People from Cheltenham joined APPA on 21 September 2004 (see above) to voice their concerns about losing open space and facing dense urban development in their area when the SAJC sells its Cheltenham racecourse. On 10 October 2004 more than two hundred people came to the Adelaide City Council's display promoting the SAJC concept. APPA was there to balance the information given out.



The Adelaide City Council seemed hell-bent on facilitating some kind of permanent fixture for the SAJC and the SAMSMB in Victoria Park. APPA ensured that its contrasting ideas were presented to the public on 10 October 2004 when the ACC held a display in Victoria Park (see above). The APPA committee followed this up with a deputation to Lord Mayor Harbison (see below right). The APPA representatives included David Plumridge who had recently joined the committee and who added some 'weight' due to his previous achievements and AM award in 1993 for service to Local Government and to the community. One of his notable achievements was to facilitate the now world-famous Salisbury wetlands while he was Mayor of Salisbury.

Cheltenham residents were significant allies in APPA's opening salvos and the continuing battle against commercial horse-racing and motor-racing businesses. The sale of Cheltenham racecourse for housing meant less open space for the western suburbs and, most significantly, loss of the opportunity to turn the area into a significant stormwater storage and aquifer recharge site. Just as APPA continues to fight for Park Lands retention, the Cheltenham residents continue to make the point that the sale of Cheltenham for housing was misguided, to say the least.

Right: Protesters from Cheltenham joined with APPA to catch the attention of peak hour traffic outside Morphettville racecourse, 21 September 2004. Photo by Gunta Groves

Below: Extensive media coverage was achieved for the protest at the SAJC meeting of members to vote for the sale of Cheltenham. Photo by Gunta Groves



Members of the APPA committee have been busy writing letters to the government and seeing individual politicians such as Michael Wright and Jane Lomax-Smith. The Victoria Park issue was also discussed extensively with Michael Harbison and Mal Hemmerling. There is still much more to do. The threat remains. Many thanks to those APPA members and their friends who made banners, distributed leaflets (5250 at last count) and attended gatherings. This is a time to show solidarity in the face of menaces by state government, council and big business.



An APPA deputation met with Lord Mayor Michael Harbison and ACC CEO Mal Hemmerling on 22 October 2004 to discuss the threat to Victoria Park and request that other models than the one presented be considered, especially without the entrenchment of motor racing facilities in the Parklands.

Above from left: Mal Hemmerling, Ian Gilfillan, Gunta Groves, Michael Harbison, David Plumridge, Peter Austin

# CAR RACING IN THE PARK LANDS

From June 2005 newsletter, page 4

First it was the Formula 1 Grand Prix. Premier Bannon, at the time, promised that the bitumen track in the Park Lands would be covered over with turf between fixtures to soften the effect on Victoria Park. It never happened. Then, Mike Rann, in the lead-up to the 2002

elections, said '... without full and genuine commitment to the parklands at the State Government level, their future can never be adequately guaranteed'. For once, a politician that spoke the truth, it seemed. And then he proceeded to introduce legislation that ensured that nothing to

do with the Park Lands was 'guaranteed' except further desecration and alienation through car racing and more. He spent a lot of time promoting his 'green' credentials, but you can't go past the facts below to realise the split personality that the Labor Government has displayed.

## The Feral 500

**This year's car racing polluted the air, the ground and waterways. The 'Feral 500' (aka V8 touring car race and accompanying 'entertainments') in the city and Parklands was once again responsible for disruption, pollution, injury, increased costs and lost income.**

The lead from the petrol used over four days has been breathed in, laid down into the soil and washed into the waterways and sea. Fortunately and unfortunately, most racing cars use unleaded petrol these days, *but* there are no catalytic converters fitted. Therefore, the emissions from these cars contain extremely dangerous substances: hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, nitrogen tetraoxide and nitrous oxide—all trapped by cement barriers and city buildings so that spectators, race workers and nearby residents and business operators get a good, prolonged dose.

Another source of pollution is 'laying down rubber'. This is a pastime of both hoon drivers and motor racing drivers. The rubber deposited during the four days of the Feral 500 is one of the most carcinogenic substances known when it breaks down. It is on the city's streets, in its gutters and stormwater drains and, by now, lining the waterways all the way out to sea.

The noise pollution has diminished the hearing of 255 000 people (if you believe the attendance hype of the marketers) and made life unbearable for the residents of Adelaide living near the circuit. If they were unlucky

enough to live very close to the track and could not disrupt their lives to go away for four days, they endured noise levels requiring hearing protection most of the day and night. This was measured objectively by one household that volunteered to use industry standards and equipment. Even more worrying for spectators and residents, not to mention the workers employed by the SA Motor Sport Board, should be the fact that hearing damage is accentuated by the presence of emissions in a high noise environment.

It's a pity that Adelaide could not be as enlightened as Auckland NZ was in rejecting V8 touring car racing in the city's streets because it was considered too noisy. New Zealanders decided their motor racing should happen on the Pukekohe track, a proper motor racing circuit.

The Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd (CAMS), whose competition rules govern the Adelaide event, has set limits on the noise levels that can be emitted by the cars. These limits are not enforced and were exceeded significantly and regularly over the four days. Analysis of both peak and continuous noise levels at the event by an accredited hearing consultant indicated that the noise was indeed 'hazardous', an occupational health and safety description of noise requiring amelioration.

When all the negatives of a city race circuit are considered, any reasonable person would conclude

that car racing should be located away from urban areas. Labor's 'A Greener City' policy seemed to say that when it proclaimed: 'Labor will integrate strategies to protect open spaces and parklands, and will support energy efficient transport and resource utilisation that will preserve and enhance our city.' V8 motor racing in the city is certainly not an example of this.

*Gunta Groves*

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**Question: Where did the green in 'A Greener City' go?**



**Answer: It disappeared under the cars in Victoria Park.**

*Victoria Park—a gigantic car park, 20 March 2005, during the Clipsal 500. Photo by Gunta Groves*

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## The Adelaide Parklands

# *An historic public walk*

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Misconceptions regarding the basis for claiming World Heritage status demonstrate the urgent need to clarify the historical basis of Colonel William Light's dedication of Adelaide's Parklands for open space in 1837.

The Parklands are significant in their own right:

- as the superlative exemplar of a nineteenth century public walk for the recreation and health of a town's inhabitants, demonstrating a key phase in the history of town planning and urban open space and public health
- as the key exemplar of the aspirations and achievements of Britain's nineteenth century public health and green space pioneers, Owen, Roebuck, Slaney, Maslen and others, and a distinctive achievement of the Colonisation Commissioners for South Australia
- as the forerunner for the reservation of public walks in Australia, with authorisation being extended to all Australian colonies by British Act of Parliament in 1842<sup>1</sup>.

### **A walk in history**

In 1830, TJ Maslen advocated that:

*All the entrances to every town should be through a park ... a belt of park of about a mile or two in diameter, should entirely surround every town ... This would greatly contribute to the health of the inhabitants ...*<sup>2</sup>

In February 1833, a British House of Commons Select Committee was appointed to 'consider the best means of securing Open Space in the Vicinity of populous Towns, as Public Walks and Places of Exercise, calculated to promote the Health and Comfort of the Inhabitants'.<sup>3</sup>

In June 1833, this Select Committee on Public Walks, chaired by Robert E Slaney, reported:

*1st. That during the last half century a very great increase has taken place in the Population of large Towns, more especially as regards those classes who are, with many of their children, almost continually engaged in Manufacturing and Mechanical employments.*

*2d. That during the same period, from the increased value of properties and extension of Buildings, many inclosures of open spaces in the vicinity of Towns have taken place, and little or no provision has been made for Public Walks or Open Spaces, fitted to afford means of exercise or amusement to the middle or humbler classes.*

*3d. That any such provision of Public Walks and Open Places would much conduce to the comfort, health and content of the classes in question.*

Other records demonstrate enclosures were not limited to manufacturing towns. Between 1802 and 1844 some 1075 Private Acts of Parliament enclosed 1 610 302 acres of common field and waste land<sup>4</sup> throughout England.

The Select Committee Report recommended the subject to the earnest attention of the House, stating:

*... they hope and trust that the time is arrived when an earnest and growing interest in all that relates to the welfare of the humble classes is taking possession of the Public Mind. As one means of carrying these wishes into effect, they hope that Public*

*Walks may be gradually established in the neighbourhood of every populous Town in the Kingdom.*

Those 'humbler classes' were a key component of Wakefield's theory of systematic colonisation, on which South Australia<sup>5</sup> was founded and the instructions<sup>6</sup> of the Colonisation Commissioners for South Australia required Colonel William Light, first Surveyor-General of South Australia, to 'make the necessary reserves for squares, public walks and quays'.<sup>7</sup>

Light deliberately selected a 'difficult' site 'Because it was on a beautiful and gently rising ground, and formed altogether a better connection with the river than any other place'<sup>8</sup>, despite obstructions being 'greater on this particular spot than any other part of the plain'.<sup>9</sup>

Mindful of his duty, Light followed his instructions diligently. In creating a technical masterpiece, melding topographical sensitivity and trigonometrical survey, he reserved and dedicated vacant land facing the city and river—the park and public walk of idealists made reality as 'Park Lands'. Kingston wrote (12 November 1877):

*Colonel Light's original plan of the city ... showed ... that to the south of the river ... that to the north ... surrounded on all sides by a large area of vacant land, which Colonel Light in pursuance of his instructions and with the sanction of the Resident Commissioner ... described as parks ... to be dedicated as Park Lands for the use and recreation of the citizens.*

By 1839, the requirement for all land in South Australia to be sold<sup>10</sup> seemed to threaten Adelaide's Parklands. To prevent their loss to

*Continued from page 6*

private speculators, they were secured from enclosure by purchase in fee simple:

*I have obtained proof that the Park Lands and other reserves in and around the city were purchased for and in the name, and upon trust for the citizens of Adelaide.<sup>11</sup>*

The expenditure for the purchase of Adelaide's Parklands (£2,332) was consistent with the recommendations of the Public Walks Select Committee and foreshadowed the British Parliament's establishment of a fund for the purpose:

*Estimate of the Sum required to be voted in the Year 1841, to enable Her Majesty to issue Money in aid of Local Subscriptions, towards defraying the Expense of forming Public Walks in the Neighbourhood of Large Towns.<sup>12</sup>*

*Ten Thousand Pounds.*

In practical terms, by April 1843, of the monies voted by the British Parliament, £9,500 still remained in the Exchequer.<sup>13</sup> Of the monies expended, only £300 went to the Provost of Dundee and £200 to the Provost of Arbroath.

With Adelaide's Parklands having led the way in the provision of open space for the inhabitants of towns, the 1842 Waste Lands Act<sup>14</sup> provided authorisation for the reservation of land in all the Australian colonies for 'Places for the Recreation and Amusement of the Inhabitants of any Town or Village'.

Planned as neither a military measure nor as the lungs of a city, Adelaide's Parklands—an historic Public Walk—epitomise the nineteenth century campaign for public walks and health, and commemorate the collective determination by a town's inhabitants, then and since, to protect in perpetuity their right to freely accessible open space.

*Kelly Henderson*

#### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> 5 & 6 Victoria Cap XXXVI. An Act for regulating the Sale of Waste Land belonging to the Crown in the Australian Colonies [22<sup>nd</sup> June 1842]

<sup>2</sup> TJ Maslen, *Friend of Australia*, Hurst, Chance and Co, London, 1830, p 263

<sup>3</sup> Report from the Select Committee on Public Walks ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 27 Jun 1833

<sup>4</sup> JL & B Hammond, *The Village Labourer*, Guild Books 1948 p 35

<sup>5</sup> Termed the 'Great Experiment in the Art of Colonisation', and also referred to as the 'Great Experiment in Political Science, Humanity, and Religion' (*The South Australian Colonist*, 10 Mar 1840)

<sup>6</sup> Letter of Instructions by the Colonisation Commissioners for South Australia to Colonel William Light, 9 Mar 1836

<sup>7</sup> *ibid*, Instruction No 17

<sup>8</sup> Colonel William Light's Brief Journal republished with an Introduction and Notes by David Elder in *Brief Journal and Australian Diaries*, Wakefield Press, Adelaide 1984, p 95

<sup>9</sup> *ibid*

<sup>10</sup> 4 & 5 Wm IV Cap 95

<sup>11</sup> Thomas Worsnop to City Solicitors, Messrs Wilkins, Blyth & Dutton, 19 Apr 1884

<sup>12</sup> House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1841 (357–1)

<sup>13</sup> House of Commons Parliamentary Papers, 1843 (187), 'Return of the Manner in which the £10,000 voted for Public Walks, 1840, was expended'

<sup>14</sup> 5 & 6 Victoria Cap XXXVI

The foregoing article by Kelly Henderson was followed by another in the next newsletter (*Parklands News*, September 2005, p 8). In her introduction, Kelly stated that the second article explored in greater detail the cultural environment in Britain which led to the determination to establish 'Open Space in the Vicinity of populous Towns, as Public Walks and Places of Exercise, calculated to promote the Health and Comfort of the Inhabitants' (from *Report from the Select Committee on Public Walks ordered by the House of Commons to be Printed 27 June 1833*). This determination ultimately secured an enduring Trust with the purchase of the fee simple of the Adelaide Park Lands.

In her 'Postscript' to the second article, Kelly said:

*The preservation of Adelaide's Parklands was by no means accidental. In the history of their reservation, dedication and purchase lies the secret to their successful continuation, setting them apart from the myriad of commons and open spaces near towns which have long since been enclosed and converted for private profit.*

Unfortunately, recent actual and proposed alienations by the state government indicate a similar trend in Adelaide.

So, as well as Kyle Penick, the Association has had another champion of 'the Park Lands for World Heritage'. Kelly Henderson has devoted a significant part of her life to research about Adelaide and its Park Lands.

Two significant contributions to international exposure were recorded in the Association's newsletters. In April 2006, she presented a paper titled 'Adelaide: The ideal city of the Philosophic Radicals, and the great experiment in the art of colonisation' at the Ninth Conference of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies: 'The John Stuart Mill Bicentennial Conference, 1806–2006' in London (*Parklands News*, December 2005, p 8). In March 2007, she presented a paper titled 'Australia's heritage at risk and in crisis' at the 3rd Annual Eneme International Colloquium in Ghent, Belgium (*Parklands News*, June 2007, p 8). The international gathering of heritage experts at the Colloquium discussed 'The Future of Heritage'.

After Ghent, Kelly went to Paris to give information to the Asia Pacific section of UNESCO's World Heritage Unit and the International Scientific Committee on Interpretation and Presentation (ICOMOS), which assesses World Heritage nominations received by UNESCO's World



*Above: APPA's Victoria Park campaign shirts get an airing in Paris. Kelly visited UNESCO in Paris after the Colloquium in Ghent. The photo was taken by a friendly passer-by.*

Heritage Committee. Kelly commented in her article (*Parklands News*, June 2007, p 8) that neither body was aware of the significance or existence of Adelaide Park Lands or Light's Plan. She concluded with:

*Adelaide's Park Lands and the destruction of our heritage are no longer South Australian secrets.*

# ADELAIDE PARK LANDS ACT 2005

From March 2006 newsletter, page 4

Version: 26.4.2007

South Australia

## Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005

An Act to establish a legislative framework that promotes the special status, attributes and character of the Adelaide Park Lands; to provide for the protection of those park lands and for their management as a world-class asset to be preserved as an urban park for the benefit of present and future generations; to amend the *City of Adelaide Act 1998*, the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Highways Act 1926*, the *Local Government Act 1934*, the *Local Government Act 1999*, the *National Wine Centre (Restructuring and Leasing Arrangements) Act 2002*, the *Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991*, the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984* and the *Waterworks Act 1932*; and for other purposes.

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#### Part 1—Preliminary

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#### Part 3—Designation of Adelaide Park Lands

##### Division 1—Definition of Park Lands

- 14 Definition of Park Lands by plan

[26.4.2007] This version is not published under the *Legislation Revision and Publication Act*.

The information below, sent in a letter to APPA, provides the details of the committal, proclamation, and hold-ups to full commencement of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005*. The drafting process was long and tortuous and, despite extensive public consultations, the final product did not reflect the outcomes wanted, which included an independent Trust set up to manage the Park Lands. Apparently, the Adelaide City Council and the government did not want to lose control. We can all understand why when we look at the Adelaide Oval precinct and the railyards site.

## Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005

I am writing to advise that on the 25 January 2006 the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005* was committed to the Minister for Environment and Conservation and parts proclaimed to commence on the 1 February 2006. The Gazettal notices can be found on the SA Government Gazette website at <<http://www.governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/>>.

In particular, only Part 1 of the Act and Parts 1 and 7 of the Schedule to the Act have been brought into operation at this stage. These parts include preliminary statutory interpretive provisions and those related to the National Wine Centre.

The commencement of most other provisions will be dependant upon either the Authority, Regulations, funding agreement or the Plan (and its schedule) being significantly progressed. Given the detail and consultation required for all these arrangements you will appreciate that it will take some time before all remaining provisions of the Act come into operation. Nevertheless, the Department is endeavouring to try and progress these arrangements so that they can hopefully be brought into operation by the start of the next financial year.

For further information on this matter, please contact Russell Starr on 8222 9347 or <[starr.russell@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:starr.russell@saugov.sa.gov.au)>.

*Stephen Forbes*  
Director  
Science and Conservation  
Department for Environment and Heritage

Despite the Rann Labor Government coming to power in 2002 with promises to protect the Park Lands and to bring in legislation that was going to end the development debate forever, it took three long years to achieve a Bill, almost another year for the Bill to become an Act, and then another year for all the sections of the Act to come into force. Building upon the Park Lands still hasn't stopped.

The setting up of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority was a significant provision of the Act, and APPA became entitled to have a representative, appointed by the Minister for Environment and Conservation (now the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation), on the Board of the Authority because the Association 'has demonstrated an interest in the preservation and management of the Adelaide Park Lands for the benefit of the community'. The first APPA representative was Ian Gilfillan, for three years. The second is Gunta Groves, whose three-year term will finish early in 2013.

# JIM DALY STEPS UP

From June 2006 newsletter, page 2

Far right: Jim Daly commissioned the graphic of Colonel Light for his book *Decisions and disasters—Alienation of the Adelaide Parklands (Bland House 1987, cover design by Joe Benke) and it has appeared in the Association's newsletters and elsewhere ever since. Copies of the book can still be purchased from Jim.*

Below: Jim Daly presented Honorary Life Membership to outgoing President Ian Gilfillan at the 2006 AGM. Photo taken by Gunta Groves, 30 April 2006.



James (Jim) Daly has been a long-serving committee member and past President (2006–09) of APPA. His involvement with APPA began as Secretary in the very first committee formed in 1986. The Association has also benefited from his career as a sports administrator. It

was because of his interest in sport that he wrote *Decisions and disasters* as a Masters thesis. This book has become a staple reference work for anyone interested in the history of the Park Lands, their use and abuse. One of the graphics for that publication has been used, with

his permission, in APPA newsletters ever since. Jim has been closely involved with planning at the state level for sport and recreation and open space usage. This experience served APPA well in the tumultuous and long 'Save Victoria Park' campaign.

## President's letter

### Goodbye

Cheerio to all and farewell from your immediate past President. My swansong is to welcome in the new President, Jim Daly. He has earned a significant reputation already in concern for and knowledge of the Parklands from his Masters thesis now published as a book—*Decisions and disasters*. I suggest those of you who haven't already read it, please do so. It will give you a wider knowledge and boost your enthusiasm for our precious Parklands.

A wonderful committee was appointed at the 2006 AGM. This is just as well, as the unremitting threats and challenges need APPA's attention like never before. I do believe, however, that the government and the opposition are more 'Parklands aware' and even more protective than previous regimes—some of this is clearly due to the vigorous work of our Association.

The new Act and the new Parklands Authority, set up under the Act, will be very significant for the future of the Parklands. APPA will be deeply involved and vocal in discussing both as they come into effect.

### ISSUES ON THE TABLE

- Parklands legislation implementation
- World Heritage listing
- Land grab at Victoria Park
- Biodiversity survey
- Heritage listing of 1889 Arbor Day plantings
- Adelaide Bowling Club's activities
- Hurtle Square

Thank you all for your support in the ten years of my presidency and I guess it almost goes without saying I wish the Parklands and APPA all the best for the future.

Ian Gilfillan

### Hello

Greetings to APPA members and friends of the Parklands!

It is an honour to be your President and with the support of the newly elected committee our main task is to continue the ongoing work of being the public conscience of the Parklands. My challenge is to build on the outstanding work of Ian Gilfillan, the outgoing President who has lifted the public profile of the Association, and it is reassuring to know he is continuing as a member of the committee. As I said at the AGM when presenting him with his Life Membership, 'He has fulfilled admirably the role of leader of this organisation with the watchwords of "constant vigilance" for the Parklands'.

May I thank the members of the committee who are not continuing: Brian Mitchell who has admirably filled the role of Secretary over a number of years and as Treasurer over the last year; Peter Austin as Deputy President who will continue the role of Web Master, but outside the committee; and Kelly Henderson for her passionate advocacy and research into Parkland matters. Welcome to new members: Philip Groves who will become the Treasurer, Jan Davis, John Underwood and Julian Stefani. It is also good to have Kyle Penick back from overseas—he will take over as Secretary; Gunta Groves will continue as Editor of *Parklands News*, and continuing also are Tim Winter-Dewhurst and Michael Sando.

It is almost a cliché to suggest that we live in difficult times, but we do face unprecedented challenges in many areas, particularly to our environment. Closer to home, our particular concern is to retain for future generations the precious parklands heritage that has been passed on to us. This does not mean the Association should be seen as adopting an entirely reactionary approach to 'preservation of the Parklands for preservation's sake', and I hope the Association can become more proactive in encouraging the creative use of the Parklands by the people of Adelaide, within an underlying philosophy of maintaining its open space characteristics.



Over the past two years, I have been involved in researching how Australian sporting organisations are governed and I think there are similarities between these sporting organisations and our Association. A recent survey of key sports leaders indicated that 93.2 per cent believed that 'integrity' (ie holding to ethical principles such as honesty and fairness) was the most important quality for making decisions by sporting organisations and, I suggest, also by our Association.

Let me assure you that your committee will take this type of ethical approach to upcoming Parklands issues by taking into account the likely long-term effects rather than short-run expediency. For example, there is the future of Victoria Park and the conflict between the proposed development of substantial buildings for motor and horse racing facilities that will change the face of this area of the Parklands permanently. There are other ways of meeting the horse racing needs without encroaching further onto the Parklands.

Continuing the theme of 'integrity', it is interesting to note that the draft Charter of the proposed Adelaide Parklands Authority has a commitment to 'Ensuring ethical behaviour and integrity is established and maintained by Board Members in all activities undertaken by the Authority'. This is a good start, but it will be up to us as the organisation concerned with the preservation of the Adelaide Parklands to ensure that the Authority, Adelaide City Council and the state government all continue to honour this obligation.

We have Parklands worthy of world heritage status surrounding our beautiful city and they are constantly under threat. Ours is the *one* organisation outside government with a clear mandate to preserve the Adelaide Parklands against all sorts of pressures. I look forward to working with you in this challenging task.

Jim Daly

# SYMPOSIUM: THREE SIGNIFICANT DAYS

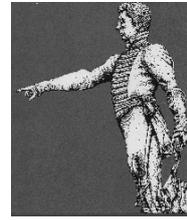
Conversation, consternation and celebration characterised the Symposium. The *Parklands News* of December 2006 (pp 3–4) carried the commentary on

this significant event. One of the prime movers was, once again, Jim Daly. The presentations on Friday 10 November were published by the Centre for

Settlement Studies and the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre University of South Australia (C Garnaut & K Round (eds), 2006) and make very good reading.



Adelaide Parklands  
Preservation  
Assoc Inc



## The Adelaide Parklands: A balancing act

**Friday 10 November—Sunday 12 November 2006**

**A weekend of events—Come to listen, learn and have your say!**

### SYMPOSIUM—Friday 10 November

**UniSA, City East Campus: Basil Hetzel Building, Mutual Community Theatre (off Frome Road)**

Registration is via Hawke Centre website at <[www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au](http://www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au)> or phone 8302 0371 for a registration form. The Symposium will be opened by Mr Allan Holmes, Chief Executive, Department for Environment and Heritage. The Symposium will feature 16 expert papers on topics ranging from settlement history to current planning, biodiversity and sustainability and is a must for APPA members.

### TOURS—Saturday 11 November

**A series of walking, coach and bike tours will take in aspects of the Adelaide Parklands**

Registration is via Hawke Centre website at <[www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au](http://www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au)> or phone 8302 0371 for a registration form.

### PUBLIC FORUM: Threats, challenges and solutions—Sunday 12 November, 2.30pm Free Public Forum at the Adelaide Town Hall

Forum bookings are essential via Hawke Centre website at <[www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au](http://www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au)> or phone 8302 0371.

The Forum aims to encourage broader community commitment to valuing, protecting and taking practical ownership of the Adelaide Parklands, and APPA members should book now.

The Forum will be opened by the Lord Mayor, Mr Michael Harbison. There will be a brief address by the Minister for Adelaide, Jane Lomax-Smith, then Ms Sarah Whyte, Chair of the Centennial Parklands Foundation (NSW) will speak. In the closing session Mr Jim Daly, President of APPA will invite the audience to pose questions on current issues.

Why did the City of Adelaide Plan (1837) include parklands? How have the Adelaide Parklands been used in the past and how might they be used in the future? What are their benefits and significance? Can the community be more broadly engaged in supporting them? What will be the role of the Adelaide Parklands Authority (currently being formed) in the future management of the Parklands? In determining future visions for the Parklands, a range of matters need to be considered and balanced.

APPA members are warmly encouraged to register for the Friday Symposium, Saturday Tours and to book their place at the free Sunday Forum.

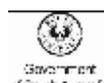
Registration for the Symposium and Parklands Tours can be done online at:

[www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au](http://www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au)

OR telephone: **8302 0371** for a registration form.

**Co-presented by The Centre for Settlement Studies, Louis Laybourne Smith School of Architecture and Design and The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre at UniSA; and the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc**

**Supported by the South Australian Government (Department for Environment and Heritage, Planning SA), Capital City Committee Adelaide, and the Adelaide City Council**



# CAMPAIGN TO SAVE VICTORIA PARK

From June 2007 newsletter, pages 4, 5

## Saving Victoria Park

*Right: Jim Daly addressing the APPA public meeting on Tuesday 20 March 2007.*

*Below: Symbolic white elephants gathered outside the TPI hall as people entered for the meeting.*



**The threats to Victoria Park were revealed fully by the Rann government just before Christmas last year. Since then, APPA has been very active in opposing the intended land grab.**

During the last few months, APPA committee members have been meeting with individuals and groups to gather support in APPA's fight to save Victoria Park. APPA has also organised protests and a major public meeting to publicise the issues.

Most Adelaide City Councillors and many state politicians have been lobbied for support, and numerous media releases and letters to editors written. Significant print and television coverage was achieved.

One prominent event in Rundle Mall on 18 February resulted in accusations by Treasurer Foley that could not be substantiated. For the record, no APPA member disparaged Mr Foley's then

girlfriend, Emma Forster, or touched a staff member at the government display. Also for the record, an APPA member was physically removed from camera shot by one of Mr Foley's party.

The presence of APPA members at this display was legitimate and peaceful and, given the style of presentation of the government's case for a commercial development in Victoria Park, entirely necessary to ensure that the public got a more balanced message about the proposal.

The public meeting in the TPI hall in March, organised by APPA, was attended by over 260 people who unanimously endorsed the following three resolutions:

1. This meeting supports the Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association (APPA) in its fight against this proposed permanent multifunction complex in Victoria Park.
2. This meeting calls on Premier Rann to withdraw his government's plans

for the development of Victoria Park and to assure us of his government's continued commitment to the preservation of Adelaide's Parklands.

3. This meeting calls on the Lord Mayor and the City Council to oppose the construction of the proposed permanent multifunction complex in Victoria Park and requests that the City Council not grant a lease to the government for the construction of this building.

Jim Daly, John Letts, Steve Condous and Stephanie Johnston were impassioned speakers arguing against the multifunction, multi-storey building.

More recently, at Colonel Light's birthday celebrations on 27 April in Light Square, APPA members and friends, especially from the South East City Residents Association, mounted a passive protest to highlight the hypocrisy of the Lord Mayor celebrating Light's legacy while undermining it in Council by voting *for* the proposed development.



*Left: APPA members and friends from like-minded groups campaigning at Light's birthday celebrations.*

*Right: Jim Daly in the media scrum in Rundle Mall on Sunday 18 February 2007.*



# SAVE VICTORIA PARK FIGHTING FUND

The campaign to save Victoria Park from the development aspirations of the government, Adelaide City Council, the Motor Sport Board and the South Australian Jockey Club is going to be long and expensive.

The APPA committee members have already put in their own resources and will continue to do so, and some people have donated previously. However, some aspects of the campaign will cost money, and lots of it.

APPA has received generous and significant donations recently, due to the 'masterplan' being revealed. More money is needed, so please consider donating to ensure that APPA puts up the best fight possible.

**You can donate by:**  
**sending a cheque or money order, made out to**  
**'Adelaide Parklands Preservation Assoc Inc', or**  
**making an electronic payment into the APPA bank account:**  
**BSB: 015-310 Account no: 4063-53172**

**Postal address: The Treasurer, APPA, PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000**

*The Adelaide Parklands and future generations  
will thank you*

*Continued from page 4*

At the same time as keeping up a public protest, APPA is also seeking legal opinions and working at the level of the planning approval processes to make sure the land grab does not go ahead. Compared with the entities APPA is opposing (ie the state government and horse and car racing businesses), we have very limited financial resources but are rich in passion. We will continue to mount an opposition frugally but with dedication.

Your continued support as an APPA member will be important. Please continue to write letters, lobby your Members of Parliament, respond to our calls for help when we need bodies at protests and, of course, continue to make generous donations to enable us to preserve the Parklands for future generations.

*Gunta Groves*



*From left: Philip Groves, Kelly Henderson and Kyle Penick, in Rundle Mall Sunday 18 February during the government's public consultation display.*

*All photos on pages 4 and 5 by Gunta Groves.*

Towards the end of 2007, the Adelaide City Council held a public consultation on its planned lease to the Rann government so that the corporate multifunction complex could be built. The public

consultation resulted in one of the greatest number of responses ever. Of the 766 submissions, 744 opposed the draft lease. The largest number of objections focused on the undesired building and

the need to conserve the Park Lands. The ACC Councillors then voted 9-2 against giving a lease to the government, but left the door open for further negotiations. History tells us these came to naught.

# INFLUENCING ACC ELECTIONS 2007

## Dear members



**A new Adelaide City Council will be elected in October. There are crucial issues related to the Parklands and, in particular, Victoria Park that interest APPA members and city ratepayers. They need to know how the candidates will vote on these crucial issues at future Council meetings.**

I make no apology for the direct nature of the questions. Some candidates considered the questions were weighted in favour of Parklands preservation. However, they are framed that way to, as one candidate suggests, 'avoid back flips'. By publishing the results attached, your Association plans to hold the successful candidates accountable to their declared positions.

It was encouraging to note that all but 3 of the candidates who responded to the questionnaire supported the preservation of the Parklands, free and unrestricted access of the general public to the Parklands, and the return of alienated areas to open space available to the general public (ie questions 1–3).

While by far the majority supported national and world heritage listing of the Parklands, there was some hesitation about what conditions would apply to such listing. Also, there was overwhelming support for the question dealing with a review of the Development Plan, which included the protection and restriction of the use of the Parklands for major commercial events and permanent structures for commercial use. All candidates supported an overall vision statement for the future of the Parklands in the management policy. Graph 1 summarises the replies.

**Table 1**  
**Victoria Park 'grandstand'—Candidates' responses**  
**Vote AGAINST 'grandstand'**      **Vote FOR 'grandstand'**

Francene Conner	Michael Harbison
Arnie Rossis	Jeffrey Wheare
Ralph Clarke	David Campbell
Sue Clearihan	Richard Hayward
Joe Cullen	Ben Norman
Michael Dilettoso	
Arna Eyers-White	
Kelly Henderson	
Michael Henningsen	
Creston Magasdi	
Sue McKay	
Anne Moran	
Sharon Mosler	
Grant Noble	
David Plumridge	
Joan Russell	
Phil Sutherland	
Howard Williams	
Sandy Wilkinson	
Stephen Yarwood	
Bill Zaharis	

### Victoria Park proposed 'grandstand'

Only 5 candidates supported the proposal by the government for a 'grandstand' for use by motor racing and horse racing businesses, with a long-term lease, while 21 candidates were against the proposal and 3 did not directly answer the question. Graph 2 dramatically highlights the strong response against the proposed building, and Table 1 provides the names of candidates and their responses.

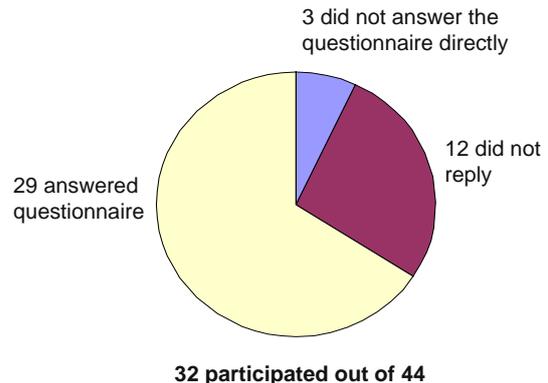
Therefore, the new Council is put on notice that the proposed 'grandstand' is likely to be voted down, leaving the opportunity for another proposal to be considered that allows refurbishment of horse racing facilities, improved landscaping and continuation of the present arrangements for 'picnic' style horse racing and temporary facilities for motor racing.

A detailed breakdown of the results is also provided to assist your voting preferences at the upcoming Council elections. By necessity, respondents' comments have been abbreviated.

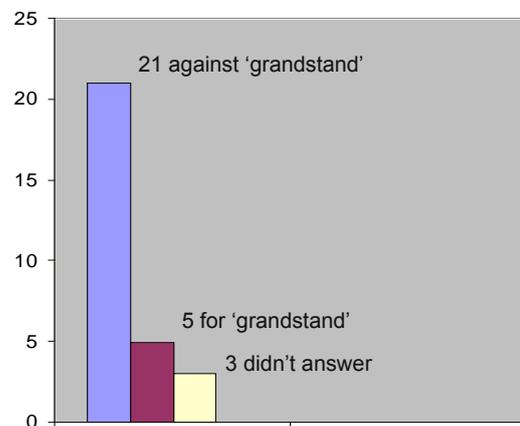
*Jim Daly*  
**President**

19 September 2007

**Graph 1**  
**Summary of replies**



**Graph 2**  
**Q7 Victoria Park 'grandstand'**



**Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc**  
**PO Box 3040, Rundle Mall, Adelaide 5000**  
**www.adelaide-parklands.org**

# MONEY WELL SPENT

From June 2008 newsletter, pages 5, 8

## There WAS a conflict of interest!

On Friday 11 April 2008, Judge Barrett of the District Court revealed his decision in the conflict of interest case. APPA was one of three parties involved in challenging the ability of Adelaide City Councillors to vote on motor sport matters in Council while the Councillors were government-appointed members of the SA Motor Sport Board.

APPAs perceived such Councillors to have a conflict of interest. This argument was presented to Judge Gordon Barrett on 20 September and 10 October 2007 by Dr Steve Churches on behalf of APPA, Michael Henningsen and Heather Nimmo.

The relevant Council meetings in which Councillors Moran and Hayward, the ACC representatives on the SA Motor Sport Board at the time, took part occurred on 29 March and 14 August 2007. The two Councillors voted for 'in principle' support for the then proposed permanent building in Victoria Park. Because this was only 'in principle' support, the Judge said that the plaintiffs had no 'standing' (ie they were not affected) but would have standing if they could demonstrate that the resolutions were going to affect them. But he also said that the Councillors did have

a conflict of interest and *should not have voted*. The Court did not annul the vote because Judge Barrett considered the matter 'moot'; that is, subsequent events had overtaken the outcome of the vote. No costs were sought or awarded.

Since the Court's judgment, ACC CEO Stuart Moseley claimed victory for the ACC based on the fact that the vote had not been annulled. He seemed to ignore the broader implications of the judgment for the future behaviour of ACC Councillors on the SA Motor Sport Board. (The current ACC representatives on the SA Motor Sport Board are Richard Hayward and Francis Wong.)

The judgment's effect goes beyond the ACC as it will affect how councillors in all local governments behave in similar situations. The Local Government Association's Executive Director, Wendy Campagna, was reported as saying that legislation may have to be amended.

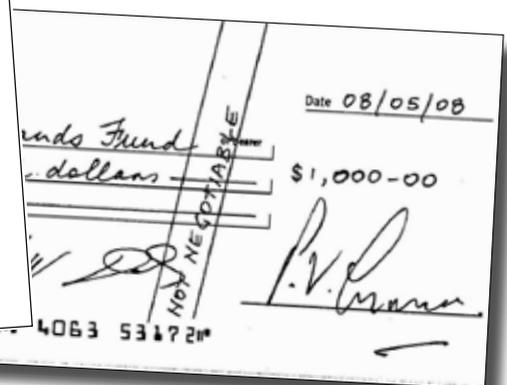
APPAs committed much time, effort and members' money to this case to achieve this landmark decision.

Gunta Groves

The Association has always been very careful about how it spends its money. It receives only membership dues and occasional donations and does not get grants or government subsidies. In this way, it can remain an independent, uncompromised voice for the Park Lands. However, there have been some occasions when more money has been required to establish a principle or to make a difference. The conflict of interest case (left) was one such occasion and, significantly, APPA was vindicated in its stand. Members and other supporters who donated towards this case deserve all our gratitude.

The historic cheque (below) is still the only money given to the Adelaide Park Lands Authority for its Park Lands Fund. Every annual report of the Authority carries a reminder of that fact. For its normal functions and any special projects, the Authority relies on the allocated budget from the Adelaide City Council. The Council's funds come mostly from the City of Adelaide's ratepayers.

## RIC CHEQUE



Above: APPA's longest serving Treasurer, Philip Groves (2006-2012), was a co-signatory to the historic cheque which originated in the brain of Kyle Penick. Philip presided over APPA's funds and memberships when both were at an all-time high. Philip Groves and Gunta Groves, APPA's longest serving newsletter editor (2003-2009), were awarded Honorary Life Memberships at the 2010 AGM. Photo taken by Kelly Russ, 18 April 2010.

**When the Park Lands legislation was written, specific provision was made for the 'Adelaide Park Lands Fund' which was to be used by the Adelaide Park Lands Authority to support its work.**

The members of the 2007-08 APPA Committee felt that the Fund should be supported, something that had not yet happened. The Committee's information was that no money had been given to the Fund. Consequently, a cheque was prepared and sent to Mr Michael Harbison, Chair of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority. The accompanying letter said, in part:

*We understand that the donation is the first gift made by a non-government organisation to the Adelaide Park Lands Fund and we recommend that the donation is applied to one of the following purposes:*

- Increasing or improving the use or enjoyment of the Adelaide Park Lands for the public benefit; or*
- Increasing or achieving the beautification or rehabilitation of any part of the Adelaide Park Lands; or*

*c. Promoting or increasing the status of the Adelaide Park Lands; or*

*d. Providing for, or supporting, research into any matter relevant to status, use or management of the Adelaide Park Lands; or*

*e. Supporting the improved management of the Adelaide Park Lands.*

*It is our hope that the donation might be used by the Authority to stimulate corporate, private, public and government support for the Park Lands. The great parks of the world are better protected if they have wide financial support. We encourage the Park Lands Authority to actively seek other donations for specific Park Lands causes.*

The amount of \$1,000 might appear to be modest when compared with the budgets that the Adelaide City Council and the state government work with but, for an organisation such as APPA, it represents a very significant amount. For APPA it is a meaningful investment in the future of the Park Lands.

Gunta Groves

# MEMBERS' WIDE-RANGING INTERESTS

From September 2008 newsletter, page 4

## Where is Colonel Light really buried?

**The recent (and controversial) exhumation of one of South Australia's earliest Premiers from his West Terrace resting place has prompted APPA committee member Mike Hudson to revive his interest in the remains of an even more illustrious participant in Adelaide history.**

A few light years ago, when I had the (sometime) pleasure of being the City of Adelaide's publicity officer, publicist and editor of a short-lived but highly successful monthly Council newspaper, I immersed myself in the history of our capital. One of my jobs was to bring into the (then) twentieth century, the Council's year book—not an easy task, as its contents had not been revised for a couple of decades. It had all the fascinating facts, such as the actual weight of each of the bells in the Town Hall tower, which were still listed in imperial measures, as were the widths of roads, the areas of open space, etc. And monuments and statues erected in the interim had to be included.

What did not need any revision, it seemed, were the facts relating to the impressive, water-girt, stone obelisk in the northern part of Light Square. Beneath the monument (the bronze tablet on its northernmost face asserts), lies the body of Colonel William Light, reputedly the only person given the distinction of being buried within the city's 'square mile'.

Fast forward to the present day, and the 2008 ceremony dedicated to honouring the memory of the good Colonel's foresight in choosing the site of our capital. (A brief pause is needed here, out of respect for those, myself included, who maintain that it was another—Kingston—who suggested the Torrens-side location.)

In a far cry from the cramped and formal ceremony that was once held in the Town Hall's Colonel Light Room, this year's marquee setting a few metres south of the above-mentioned Light memorial strayed spectacularly from the events I used to attend in my municipal staff capacity. Yes, the traditional port and birthday cake were still handed out to the eager throng, and there were still the obligatory speeches, but the whole celebration had taken on a theatrical atmosphere. Kaurua artists performed a smoking ceremony to cement their claim as the original inhabitants of the Adelaide Plains, and actors presented a cameo version of the 1830s committee meeting at which the names of various streets and squares were decided, and the Torrens escaped the ludicrous suggestion of being named the Nile!

But for those with an inquiring and historical bent, the crucial moment came when Lord Mayor Harbison got down to the nitty gritty of the morning—the Colonel Light dedication.

Standing with his back to the towering stone monument on the square's Currie Street frontage, Mr Harbison spoke of Light's lifetime accomplishments, his immeasurable contribution to our State's history and his final resting place 'just behind me'. Given that he was facing south towards the assembled throng of dignitaries, descendants of the original inhabitants of the city, assorted school groups and lesser mortals such as mere mayors and councillors, this was an obvious reference to what is always claimed as our founder's final resting place.

Which is where it all gets somewhat interesting. And, for those of us who feel that history isn't history without accuracy, disturbing.

For, one way or another, the history of Colonel Light's last resting place is shadowed by serious doubts. He is, we are always told, buried where the Lord Mayor so recently re-asserted: beneath the Light Square plinth. What's more, his is the only 'square mile' grave.

If the personal experience of one highly esteemed local historian is to be believed, one or other of these 'facts' cannot be true.

On the understanding that I did not reveal his identity ('I'm way too old to get involved in this sort of controversy'), he told me that his father had been a member of Adelaide City Council's parks and gardens staff between the two World Wars.

*My father always said that some time during those two decades it was decided to tidy up the squares. This included the demolition of some unsightly sheds where the staff kept their tools. In Light Square, the shed was near the northern boundary. While demolishing the building and cleaning up the site, my father's crew uncovered a lead coffin. Nothing was reported about the incident, and the coffin was quickly re-interred. Which means one of two things: that it was either Light's last resting place, or someone else's coffin. One way or another, what is now generally regarded as historical fact is wrong.*

The mystery of the whereabouts of the good Colonel's grave is unlikely to be

solved and, therefore, some of South Australia's history, it has to be said, falls into that category of ambiguity. Along with Light's grave, there is the annual face of Glenelg's Proclamation Day ceremony, for example. The wrong place. The wrong time. And the wrong speech. No wonder the descendants of the pre-dating Kangaroo Island settlers keep reminding us of their claim to fame. Then there's the Mount Barker memorial which asserts that the town was named in honour of Barker's visit to the area, when in fact he did not step foot there. The Barossa mis-naming is another example. Ditto Unley. Etc, etc.

Some time ago, slightly tongue-in-cheek, I proposed the formation of SASHA, the South Australian Society for Historical Accuracy. Perhaps, given all of the above, it is time to exhume the idea.

Mike Hudson

## Letter to the editor

**Carbon credits and carbon crime:** I have not been able to find a single person, on asking around, who has been able to answer my simple question as to the relation between the carbon burnt as fuel and the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced. This is surely basic to the whole discussion on climate change, as the rules of chemistry have to be obeyed, inconvenient as they may be. The rule is that 12 tons of carbon as coal or gasoline or whatever, burnt to CO<sub>2</sub>, will produce 44 tons of that product, which is a lot. Not only that, but 32 tons of oxygen are lost in the process, which is worth contemplating.

Applying fairly elementary chemistry to the V8 race, the weight of carbon consumed is 37.059 x 0.75 (specific gravity) x 0.85 (fraction of carbon in fuel), and the weight of CO<sub>2</sub> is approximately 37 x 0.75 x 0.85 x 44/12 = 86 tons. Of course some of the carbon is converted to other products like carbon monoxide etc, but the lesson is clear.

Applying the same to the country, we can make a crude estimate that Australia produces about a million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per day (the error may be as high as 50 per cent, but I doubt it).

Carbon neutrality is a very long way away if we hope to achieve it by taxing it or burying it. Real solutions are needed.

Peter Stobie

# NATIONAL HERITAGE LISTING

From December 2008 newsletter, pages 4, 7

## Garrett gives the good oil on Park Lands listing

On 7 November 2008, a number of APPA members were privileged to be present at the historic announcement conferring National Heritage listing for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout. Fittingly, and movingly, the Federal Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts Peter Garrett made the announcement beneath 'Light's Vision', the statue of the design's creator and surveyor, Colonel William Light, whose image looks out over the City of Adelaide from the Montefiore Hill vantage point.

The Minister's media release acknowledged the influential urban design of Adelaide, and that the granting of Australia's highest heritage honour recognises the 1837 Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout as a technical masterwork which went on to influence the planning of other towns in Australia and overseas. 'The vision behind the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout remains true today with the 1837 plan an integral part of the contemporary cityscape of this great Australian city,' Mr Garrett said. 'The mature and picturesque parklands here in Adelaide are an enduring treasure for the people of South Australia and the nation as a whole, and their inclusion on the National Heritage is a fitting recognition of their value.'

Mr Garrett said the Adelaide Park Lands were the most extensive and intact 19th century parklands in Australia today and that 'The Adelaide Park Lands also enjoy longstanding links with the local community as a hub for recreational and civic activities for well over 150 years. It was a focal point for community groups campaigning for its protection as far back as 1869. From today the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout will be afforded the highest protection under the Australian Government's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act*'. Mr Garrett said appreciation, recognition and protection of our investment in our National Heritage sites is essential as they are important to our history, our future and to the local economy of many parts of Australia.

The Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout listing joins more than eighty other places on the National Heritage List. The other South Australian places on the list are the Australian Fossil Mammal sites at Naracoorte, the Ediacara Fossil site at Nilpera near Lake Torrens, and the Old and New Parliament Houses. (The Australian Fossil Mammal sites at Naracoorte are South Australia's only place on the World Heritage List.)

The Australian Government's website (accessed at <[www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)>

<[www.environment.gov.au/heritage/laws/national.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/laws/national.html)> 09/11/08) explains the importance of national heritage and the laws covering it:

*The National Heritage List is a list of places with outstanding heritage value to our nation, including places overseas. These places are protected under the Australian Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) ... By law, no one can take any action that has, will have, or is likely to have, a significant impact on any of these matters without approval. There are penalties for those who do. An action includes a project, development, undertaking, an activity or series of activities.*



There are seven national management principles that provide a guiding framework for managing heritage properties. They set the standard and scope for the way places should be managed in order to protect heritage values for future generations. The following principles are sourced from

*Above: Peter Garrett congratulating Ian Gilfillan, below Light's Vision.*

*Right: (from left) Kyle Penick (APPA), John Bridgland (North Adelaide Society), Jane Lomax-Smith (Minister for Adelaide), Jim Daly (President, APPA).*

*Photos taken by Philip Groves, Montefiore Hill, 7 November 2008.*



the Department of Environment website at <[www.environment.gov.au/heritage/management/national/principles.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/management/national/principles.html)> (accessed 09/11/08).

**Principle 1:** The objective in managing National Heritage places is to identify, protect, conserve, present and transmit, to all generations, their National Heritage values.

**Principle 2:** The management of National Heritage places should use the best available knowledge, skills and standards for those places, and include ongoing technical and community input to decisions and actions that may have a significant impact on their National Heritage values.

**Principle 3:** The management of National Heritage places should respect all heritage values of the place and seek to integrate, where appropriate, Commonwealth, State, territory and local government responsibilities for those places.

**Principle 4:** The management of National Heritage places should ensure that their use and presentation is consistent with the conservation of their National Heritage values.

**Principle 5:** The management of National Heritage places should make timely and appropriate provisions for community involvement, especially by people who: (a) have a particular interest in, or associations with, the place; and (b) may be affected by the management of the place.

**Principle 6:** Indigenous people are the primary source of information on the value of their heritage. The active participation of indigenous people in identification, assessment and management is integral to the effective protection of indigenous values.

**Principle 7:** The management of National Heritage places should provide for regular monitoring, review and reporting on the conservation of national heritage values.

*continued page 7*

*National Heritage continued from page 4*

Each of the principles has detailed explanations and advice as to how the principles need to be interpreted and enacted and can be read in more detail on the abovementioned website.

The Department of Environment website also explains how National Heritage places are protected by the EPBC Act: 'National heritage is one of seven matters of national environmental significance (NES matters) specifically protected by the EPBC Act'. Anyone proposing to 'take an action that will have, or is likely to

have, a significant impact on the National Heritage values of a National Heritage place and/or any other NES matter, that action must be referred to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment ...'.

APPA pays tribute to the Federal Government and, in particular, to the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, for conferring National Heritage status on the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout. Not only has one aspect of APPA's most important and lobbied for objectives

finally been achieved, but the way is now clear for APPA to continue the pursuit of World Heritage listing for the Adelaide Park Lands.

APPA thanks the other organisations and the committed individuals who have done so much to contribute to this National Heritage Listing outcome. The next stage in the listing process will be to ensure that appropriate funding is made available to care for and nurture this important national asset.

*Philip Groves*

# KELLY HENDERSON TO THE FORE

From June 2009 newsletter, page 2

## President's letter

In my first letter as President I would like to welcome our new committee members and thank our immediate past President Jim Daly, retiring committee members, and continuing committee members for their efforts. There can be no doubt that our Park Lands would have been significantly diminished if not for the previous committee's efforts and the support of the Association's membership and other Park Lands protectors.

I hope that members who were not able to attend the AGM will forward ideas and suggestions to the committee, and I thank members who put their recommendations forward, including: advocacy for resting areas which regularly suffer from high impact events; applauding positive outcomes; following up on the RAH/Railyards Hospital proposal; addressing car-parking issues; and taking a leadership role in the formation of a South Australian coalition of Protectors of Public Lands.

The Adelaide Park Lands remain in clear and present danger. State Heritage nominations of Adelaide's Park Lands have been languishing, unprocessed for decades (in one instance for 23 years), and the Adelaide Oval and Surrounds nomination joined them more than half a decade ago. The failure to process

nominations for these sites and act upon requests for emergency protection seems inexcusable, particularly in light of these sites' potential World Heritage values.

The Government, having originally come into office with a stated intention of protection, has proven to be a serious threat to the integrity and conservation of the Park Lands. The Coast to Coast Light Rail (Tram) Extension Project has resulted in the destruction of trees at Bonython Park and the western end of North Terrace, and long-term alienations are proposed. Premier Rann's 'million trees' seem to be turning into a million broken promises. The Government's leavings along North Terrace—dismal drifts of wood chips instead of significant red gums and historic plantings—is not 'protection' in anyone's language, and the annihilation of several trees is stated to have been carried out for the purpose of facilitating access to the 'Marjorie Jackson-Nelson Hospital'.

The area of alienated Park Lands north of the Newmarket Hotel (proposed for conversion from railyards to hospital) is extremely significant. It was painted by William Light (*The Commencement of Colonization in South Australia, 1837*) and was the site of the 'Colonial Camp' occupied by William Light, South Australia's first Surveyor-General and founder of the City of Adelaide, James Hurtle Fisher, first Resident Commissioner, and the Survey and Land Office during Light's survey of the City of Adelaide and its Park Lands. This area has long been identified as high priority for return to Park Land, and clearly identified as such in the Council's Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy and more recently in that area's Community Land Management Plan.

In a few short years (2011–2012) South Australia will celebrate the 175th anniversary of Light's founding of the City of Adelaide. Current Government and Opposition proposals would taint the foundation anniversary of Adelaide and its Park Lands with massive constructions on Park Lands and ill-conceived alienations. Nevertheless, the Government has done us the service of



placing it beyond doubt that large areas are no longer required for the railways' use, and the Opposition's proposals for the existing Royal Adelaide Hospital include options for some return of Park Lands. This is welcome news, and in the lead up to the forthcoming State election it places within our reach an unparalleled opportunity for restoring Light's 'Park grounds'. Rather than further alienations, the site of Light's camp and its vistas are worth reclaiming.

The late John Dowie, whose renowned sculptures grace the dedicated Park Lands of the City of Adelaide, stated in his foreword for *Colonial Architecture in South Australia* (1980):

'History is like the wake of a ship. It stretches back, revealing the way we have come, and it indicates to us where we are going. A people without history is one without any sense of direction ... it is easy to see around us that our own destruction of our civic heritage approaches that of a major war ... the pressures of developers remain, to say nothing of the whims of politicians.'

It is time to get the restoration of William Light's remarkable 'Adelaide Park' back on course.

**Kelly Henderson**

### NEXT NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE:

31 July 2009  
Always in search of pithy articles,  
educational information and comment on  
current issues

### ISSUES ON THE TABLE

World Heritage listing

Land grabs at RAH site, railway yards and for tram extensions

Biodiversity survey

Heritage listing of 1889 Arbor Day plantings

Adelaide Bowling Club's activities

Hurtle Square redevelopment

Britannia intersection land grab

Dying elms and other trees

SACA car park push and



Left: Kelly Henderson in front of the microphone, a position she occupies frequently. Apart from presentations in international forums, she is often sought out by the Adelaide media for comment on Park Lands issues. Kelly has a degree in science, a post-graduate qualification in telecommunications and is currently studying law part-time. Photo taken by Gunta Groves.

# JURY STILL OUT ON PURPLE WATER

From March 2010 newsletter, page 8

## Water flows through the GAP

The Glenelg to Adelaide Pipeline (GAP) project has now been completed, with water flowing for the first time on 11 January 2010. (Previous editions of *Park Lands News* in September and December 2008 and March 2009 have carried stories on this project.) The Commonwealth- and State-funded project consists of a thirty-two kilometre pipe network bringing recycled water from the Glenelg Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Adelaide Park Lands.

Note the use of the term 'recycled water', which has replaced the less glamorous but more accurate descriptor, 'treated effluent'. Some cynics have suggested this is the only tangible new water initiative the government has been able to deliver—returning our own sewage to irrigate the Park Lands. Check out the Park Lands during certain events and you can see numerous examples of people bypassing the treatment process!

According to a government press release, several 'off-takes' were added to the eight-kilometre long trunk main during the construction stage to enable other

customers to draw water for irrigation purposes. The City of West Torrens and the City of Unley have indicated they intend signing up in March 2010 to draw water for their ovals and reserves. A twenty-four kilometre pipe network runs from the trunk main throughout the Park Lands, providing water to about a third of all the irrigated areas. There is the potential to deliver up to 5.5 billion litres of recycled water annually from the treatment works.

APPA remains concerned about the potential for harming the Park Lands, as opposed to the obvious benefits this initiative will deliver, unless thorough baseline studies are completed before irrigation programs are commenced. APPA has been unable to verify the existence of comprehensive baseline data, although we are advised the Adelaide City Council has carried out 'initial baseline monitoring' and arranged for 'twenty soil and groundwater monitoring sites around the Park Lands'.

It should be borne in mind that treated effluent is much more saline and nutrient-

rich than mains water. There is a time lag of up to ten years between actions and outcomes related to salinity changes in soil, emphasising the need for exacting baseline data across the Park Lands supported by regular and comprehensive monitoring. This will provide the basis from which harm-minimisation strategies can be implemented. After all, the Adelaide Park Lands are the city's greatest asset and must be treated accordingly.

Although APPA is generally supportive of and grateful for this Commonwealth-State initiative, the GAP project should not be seen as a panacea that will redress all of the issues besetting the Adelaide Park Lands. Providing the Adelaide City Council develops and resources an appropriate Park Lands watering program, GAP water will assist in revitalising and even saving some of the flora. However, no amount of water will save the Park Lands from the degradation brought about by the inappropriate and unsustainable use of South Australia's finest National Heritage List attraction.

Philip Groves

## GLENELG PIPELINE ISSUES

***The recycled water that is to come from Glenelg may not be as good an idea as it first appears. Issues of salinity and pipeline installation have caused concern.***

Michael Sando, APPA committee member and native grass proponent, is very concerned about the impact of salinity on the Park Lands. There have been inconsistent projections regarding irrigation volumes and overall salt application.

- Existing salinity level of mains water is about 300–700 parts per million (ie 300kg of salt being applied to the Park Lands every year). The recycled water would have a higher salinity than this.
- Irrigation induces salinity problems, including stress on plants and increased salinity of ground water. (This also undermines the integrity of infrastructure such as roads and buildings.)
- In the Riverland, several reforms have had to be introduced to reduce salinity effects on plants, including reduced irrigation. The Murray at Berri and Renmark has lower levels of salinity than the water coming to Adelaide.
- Trees are more sensitive to salinity than grasses, and stressed trees and grasses are more sensitive again.
- Emerging salinity problems have been evident in the Park Lands for more than 14 years, but no reports are available identifying wide-ranging salinity monitoring. Affected soil can present visible symptoms, but extensive grass

cover can mask these.

- There is a long time lag (eg 10 years) between actions and outcomes related to salinity changes.
- Environmental Management Plan actions to reduce irrigation have not progressed and the use of more suitable grasses has stalled for a decade. A Park Lands demonstration of native grasses would have relevance to all Mediterranean landscapes in Australia. One of Adelaide's most widespread wallaby grass is a water efficient turf.

David Plumridge, APPA committee member and Adelaide City Councillor, is concerned that the jump from concept plans to construction starting in September 2008 has been sudden, and he has identified issues that need close and continuing attention.

- For future reference and for any damage claims, survey drawings need to be accurate and an arborist report needs to identify the pipeline location in relation to all significant trees and their canopies.
- Trenching and pipe laying need to be controlled by strict instructions to, and supervision of, contractors. Vehicle movements on, and vehicle access to, the Park Lands are of particular concern.

As is the case with many government projects, multitudinous 'consultations' are worthless if major issues are not addressed.

Gunta Groves

From September 2008  
newsletter, page 6

# BEGINNING OF THE END FOR ADELAIDE OVAL

From June 2010 newsletter, page 4

## McAdelaide Stadium and the sounds of silence

At the time of writing (early May 2010), the silence from the players in the Adelaide Oval redevelopment proposal is deafening—deafening, that is, in terms of providing the taxpayers of SA, the sporting public and the cricket and football fraternities any detail that would enable them to assess this 'proposal'. There is a surfeit of spin emanating from the State Government and the SACA and SANFL managements who, at every opportunity, refer to the proposal as if it is a fait accompli. This is aided and abetted by a compliant media, some members of which have vested commercial interests. This deprives their readers, listeners and viewers from any serious and detailed examination of this proposal. How depressing it is to observe the Rann Government's style of spin over substance permeating the management of the SACA and SANFL organisations.

### McDodgy Funding

When announcing the development proposal in early December 2009, the government said the \$450 million budget would be financed through a \$100–\$150 million contribution being sought from the Commonwealth Government, \$200 million by deferring the proposed tramline to West Lakes for two years, and the \$100 million already earmarked for Football Park upgrades to be withdrawn and applied to the Adelaide Oval proposal. Treasurer Foley said this development proposal was affordable and would not affect the budget. Is the \$100 million earmarked for Football Park the same \$100 million removed from SANFL after the State Government withdrew its guarantee in October 2008 due to the global financial crisis?

### More McDodgy Funding

By 8 April 2010, Treasurer Foley was saying the Rann Government is committed to providing no more than \$450 million for the upgrade and that the Commonwealth is considering chipping in some money. So, in the space of four months, the State Government has committed the taxpayers of SA to an increase of \$150 million for this proposed development. Are we to assume this won't affect the state budget either? Treasurer Foley has not confided where this extra \$150 million is coming from. Perhaps it is coming from the \$750 million in government spending cuts the Sustainable Budget Commission has been ordered to find over the next three years, or is Barnaby Joyce now a consultant to the State Government?

### Letter to SACA

Meanwhile, APPA has written to the president of the South Australian Cricket Association seeking clarification of media reports that SACA may be intending not to adhere to the existing Park Lands Management Strategy and Community Land Management Plan for Park 26, where the Adelaide Oval is located. Our letter sought to clarify SACA's position on the following matters:

1. Does the stadium redevelopment proposal intend an expansion of the current 'footprint'? If so, what area of expansion is intended and where would this be intended to occur?
2. In particular, does the stadium proposal intend to expand into the Park Lands to the east of the existing boundary? If so, could you indicate what area is expected to be involved and to what extent this would protrude from the existing fenceline?
3. How consistent are SACA's current plans with the Strategy, CLMP and the Adelaide Oval Conservation Plan?
4. Has SACA's membership been consulted about conversion of Adelaide Oval into a stadium, and any departure from the Strategy, CLMP and Conservation Plan? If so, what was the result of that consultation?
5. Has SACA's membership been consulted about World Heritage nomination of the Adelaide Park Lands and/or Adelaide Oval?
6. Do SACA's plans for Adelaide Oval intend continued, or increased, use for carparking on or under Park Lands, or does the stadium plan intend Park Lands carparking?

The letter made the point that 'Although SACA may be just one of the parties involved and the new Stadium Management Authority would be the body managing the process of converting Adelaide Oval into a stadium, the Association expects SACA would take to the negotiating table its current publicly stated commitments to retaining the heritage values of the Adelaide Oval and the integrity of the Adelaide Park Lands'. It also drew SACA's attention to the fact that there are several sites near the city which may provide a more appropriate stadium location.

We are not expecting a reply to our letter anytime soon, realising that we are dealing with a SACA Board of Management so secretive that SACA's thousands of members have been told little or nothing of the most radical plan in the 139-year history of SACA. Perhaps the board is struggling with how it is going to break the news to SACA members that they will be travelling to Glenelg for Sheffield Shield, State One Day and 20/20 matches if they approve this development, leaving only Test Matches and One Day International matches to be staged at Adelaide Oval.

*Philip Groves*

## Do you want fries with that?

On 7 May 2010, SACA and the SANFL finally broke their silence, sending more than 80 000 members of SACA, the SANFL and the Adelaide and Port Adelaide Football Clubs a 28-question survey that supposedly canvasses views on whether fans would be more likely to go to AFL matches at Adelaide Oval, their opinions on Football Park, where they go before and after matches and what membership options they might take up if matches are played at Adelaide Oval. The survey states 'The views of members and supporters are central to our planning for the future and in making important decisions about the proposed development'. It consists of throwaway, simplistic and obscure questions that would defy the ability to form qualitative conclusions, even if the questions were relevant to the proposal, which in the main they are not. There is also clearly no way of controlling who responds to this survey—redolent of some Rann Government survey techniques witnessed in the past.

Any serious survey for this plan should be placed before the entire memberships of the parties concerned. The survey would require complete disclosure of all the facts, relative to each of the parties concerned, and then an independent ballot of all the members should be conducted. Somehow I suspect SACA and SANFL managements do not willingly want to go down this informed, democratic path.

*Philip Groves*

# ENGAGING WITH YOUNG MINDS

From June 2010 newsletter, page 8

APPA was approached in 2009 by Naracoorte residents who wanted to set up their own parkland protection group. They were threatened with the loss of a park by commercial development in Naracoorte. Members of the APPA committee advised them on how to set up an incorporated body and provided them with APPA's constitution as an example of the type of document that they needed to develop. The article on the right describes Kelly Henderson's talk to the Annual General Meeting of the Naracoorte Parklands Preservation Association.

As a by-product of APPA's involvement with the community group, there was an opportunity for Kelly, at the invitation of teachers, to speak with Naracoorte South Primary School students about Colonel Light's legacy. She added to their knowledge of South Australia's history and the Adelaide Park Lands.

APPA does not often get or create opportunities to engage with young minds, so this was a rare event but a successful one. As an organisation, APPA needs to involve itself in succession planning to ensure continuation of the organisation and to recruit young people as members to ensure ongoing awareness in the wider community of the importance of the Adelaide Park Lands. Both of these tasks are challenges that need to be met by more than just the current committee members. They are challenges for all people who say they care about heritage and, in particular, the preciousness of our Park Lands.

## Kelly Henderson speaks to NPPA

**Re-printed with permission from Naracoorte Herald.**

*A strong turnout heard an excellent guest speaker at Naracoorte Parklands Preservation Association's annual meeting on 22 April 2010. Adelaide Park Lands Association president Kelly Henderson, who had also visited some local schools, addressed the gathering, which included several guests who had come to hear her speak.*

*The meeting re-elected Anne Hannaford as president, with the rest of the committee comprising Treasurer Chris McDonald, Secretary John Flynn, Eugene Dunstan, Ted Limbert, Heather Kriesl, Jan Malpas, Brian Sherlock and Jane Waters.*

*Mrs Hannaford in her annual report urged people to continue their support 'so the parklands, this marvellous heritage we have, is maintained for future generations'.*

*Secretary Mr Flynn wrote the following report on the meeting:*

*'Ms Henderson gave a brief historical perspective as to how Adelaide, and for that matter most government-planned SA towns, were planned to feature parks. The role of Colonel William Light, the first Surveyor General, who was also one of the first parklands protectors, figured prominently in this part of her address.*

*Her next focus of attention was on the APPA itself, its objectives and where it had been successful. She stressed it was only because of ordinary people being prepared to organise and act that we had as much of our parks remaining as we do.*

*Some other colonies, later to become cities, have not been so fortunate. Christchurch,*

*New Zealand, for example, established on similar principles as Adelaide, has lost most of its parks. A previous government had seen fit to use parklands as a ready source of land for inner urban housing.*

*Ms Henderson then went on to explain some of the immediate problems threatening the Adelaide parklands. She was able to give insight into the machinations involved with Adelaide Oval development, the alternative Royal Adelaide Hospital sites being proposed and the harmful effects of recycled water delivered via the Glenelg Adelaide Pipeline.*

*Proposals are in the air for using the Park Lands for stormwater mitigation and developing the River Torrens area into a precinct similar to Melbourne's Southbank. Administrative changes have been implemented allowing more and more of this type of development to occur without it being open to public scrutiny.*

*Ms Henderson has only recently returned from Sydney where she was a contributor to the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Congress, speaking on the potential World Heritage values of William Light's plan at the pre-congress history workshop, and exhibiting her poster on 'Colonel William Light's Adelaide: the genius of place and plan'.*

*This was first presented at the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Scientific Symposium, Quebec 2008, and most recently displayed at the NPPA annual meeting.*

*With her enthusiasm, commitment and use of images to illustrate the point being made, she maintained the interest of those present.'*

*Kelly Henderson speaks to the grade 3/4 class of Naracoorte South Primary School. Photo taken 22 April 2010; used with permission from Naracoorte Herald.*



# UNIVERSITY'S DESTRUCTIVE EXPANSION

From December 2010 newsletter, pages 8, 9

## The destruction of Union Hall

The death knell for the University of Adelaide's Union Hall was sounded on 3 September 2010, when the Environment and Heritage Minister Paul Caica distinguished himself and the Rann Government by overruling the February 2010 provisional listing of Union Hall on the State Heritage List. Many people were confident Union Hall would receive permanent State Heritage Register protection after more than 100 submissions were received through the public consultation process, and notables such as one of Australia's leading architectural historians, Dr Ross Thorne, found that the building had state and national heritage values.

The hall was designed by well-known South Australian architect, Louis Laybourne Smith, and constructed in 1958. The University of Adelaide had been using the hall as a lecture theatre for some years, even though the hall was one of Adelaide's few still-standing purpose-built theatres. The University of Adelaide plans to replace Union Hall with a seven-storey, \$75m Photonics Institute. Apparently, the University of Adelaide is so short of space it has nowhere to accommodate staff and students if an existing building was to be demolished and replaced. That seems to be the basis on which Union Hall has become expendable. If the University treats its

own heritage with such disdain, how safe is Bonython or Elder Hall?

You might ask, what has the loss of Union Hall got to do with the Park Lands? Within a few days of the unfathomable decision by Minister Caica to overrule the provisional heritage listing of Union Hall, an Adelaide company suggested it could 'relocate' Union Hall for a figure of between \$2.5m and \$6m. The company suggested it could move the hall directly across Frome Road to Botanic Park, or the new Frome Park/Nellie Raminyemmerin, which had only just been officially opened on 20 September 2010! (See the June 2010 edition of *Park Lands News* for details on the return of alienated Park Lands, to be called Frome Park/Nellie Raminyemmerin.) It was even suggested the hall could be moved to areas being vacated by the intended move of the Royal Adelaide Hospital to the alienated Park Lands railyards!

When the University of Adelaide was founded in 1874, it was allocated five acres of the Government Reserve fronting North Terrace. In his book *Decisions and disasters—Alienation of the Adelaide Parklands*, author Jim Daly said this was the first occasion that a section of the Government Reserve in the Adelaide

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(Continued from page 8)*

Park Lands was allocated to an institution by an Act of Parliament. The book recounts that, even then, there was resistance to the use of the Park Lands for this exclusive purpose. The Honorable J Fisher became quite emotional on the subject when the Bill was before Parliament when he said that:

*... the Park Lands which were intended to be the glory of the colony were being alienated, acre by acre, so that young men amongst us would not improbably live to see almost every acre of them alienated, and the city deprived of the advantages which they were intended to have.*

Since its 1874 founding, the University of Adelaide has expanded far beyond the original five acre (2.02 hectares) allocation. In fact, the University of Adelaide is the recipient of a PhD in 'Park Lands creep', which has seen it expand its campus to the entire area of Park Lands bounded by North Terrace, Frome Road, Victoria Drive and Kintore Avenue, excepting those areas of Park Lands occupied by the Library, Museum and Art Gallery. North of the River Torrens, the University has the exclusive use of many hectares of Park Lands for playing fields in Park 12 (Karrawirra), Park 11 (Tainmudilla) and Park 10 (Warnpangga).

The University has even crossed Frome Road to the east with buildings on Park Lands south of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. And of course we should not overlook the white elephant that is the National Wine Museum, which has fallen into the hands of the University for use as offices. If the University has to be in the bulldozing business, they could start by ridding the Park Lands of the National Wine Museum, which would enable the Botanic Gardens to increase the size of its proposed wetland.

*Philip Groves*

# PARK LANDS NOT YET WASTELANDS

From June 2011 newsletter, page 8

## RARE BUTTERFLY RE-DISCOVERED

**The discovery of the Grassland Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) in Victoria Park/ Bakkabakkandi is major news.**

Many years ago, as a member of Butterfly Conservation SA Inc (BCSA), I had learnt about this butterfly, which has a Conservation Status of 'Rare' in South Australia.

I first saw the butterfly's only native food plant, Native Sorrel (*Oxalis perennans*) when I worked as a Trees For Life Bushcarer in the adjoining Tuttangga (Park 17). In a fascinating symbiotic relationship, small ants attend the larvae as they feed on the host plant above ground and both the larvae and the pupae in the tunnels and galleries below.

I had long felt that I would never see this butterfly alive in my lifetime.

In late February this year, no protection had been provided for the valuable remnant vegetation in Victoria Park during the Clipsal 500 preparations so I went to look for the expected emergence of the delicate flowers of the remnant Garland Lily (*Calostemma purpureum*). There, to my utter amazement, feeding on the tiny yellow flower of a Native Sorrel plant, I saw a butterfly that I knew must be the Grassland Copper, but I just could not believe my eyes! In my state

of stunned disbelief, rather than fumble with a camera, I did a quick annotated sketch, jumped on my (green) bicycle, raced home and grabbed my BCSA book, *Attracting butterflies to your garden*, to see that my sketch exactly matched the photo of the Grassland Copper! The photographs taken on the following day and visits by BCSA's expert lepidopterists confirmed the identification of *Lucia limbaria*, and its wondrous presence in the CBD of Adelaide.

Soon after, the Grassland Copper was found in an area further to the south (and with several other species of butterflies) where it is likely that the Grassland Copper had been established but unseen for some time.

The location of my find is in an area that the Adelaide City Council is landscaping into playing fields. It is unlikely that Adelaide would be remembered for the loss of a sports field, but it could be celebrated for the careful conservation of this rare and beautiful butterfly.

### Janet Subagio

Right: Grassland Copper (*Lucia limbaria*) in Victoria Park. The top photo shows the butterfly on Native Sorrel (*Oxalis perennans*). Photos taken by Bima Subagio, February 2011.



Editor's note: Other common names for *Lucia limbaria* are Chequered Copper and Small Copper.

## The old, and the older still

The Lord Mayor's Sunday morning Park Lands rambles are a good opportunity to become more familiar with particular sections of the Park Lands and also to ask questions of the Lord Mayor and/or other Adelaide City Council representatives. The ramble on 7 June covered the northern and middle parts of Victoria Park and revealed the passing of the old and the emergence of the older still!

In June, the start-stop demolition of old SA Jockey Club structures at Victoria Park was finally achieving more significant results. The removal of the betting ring, stables, restaurant and jockey facilities was followed by the more significant action of taking down the grandstand. It started in the first week of June with the stripping down of all the seating before the bulldozers moved in for some crashing and bashing.

The ramble included a visit to the centre of Victoria Park where significant remnant vegetation is struggling to survive. Despite insults of varying degrees for over 170 years (which have included annual trampling by patrons and cars for the V8 car races), there are a few plant species surviving. In some cases, they are the only remaining specimens on the Adelaide Plains. One had managed to put out a flower as if to prove that it did exist, because its presence is normally very hard to

detect. The tiny white flowers, barely a centimetre across, were of the native plant called Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*, previously *Anguillaria dioica*). There was no 'crashing and bashing' by the Sunday rambles as we all picked our way carefully through the tiny flags marking delicate plants and unseen bulbs of species existing from before European settlement.

A major recent concern over the survival of these remnant species has been the plan to establish playing grounds in the same area. This concern is easing because the ACC, as reported by Martin Cook on the ramble, is altering the location of the planned sports fields so that the remnant vegetation is not obliterated.

### Gunta Groves



Above: (From left) David Plumridge, Michael Harbison and Michael Sando inspect the tiny flowers of Early Nancy, a remnant plant species in Victoria Park.

Left: The flowers of Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*) hide their miniature beauty amongst the onion weed and clay of Victoria Park.

Both photos taken by Gunta Groves on 7 June 2009.

In 2011, after much agitation by APPA members and others, a management agreement between the Adelaide City Council and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources resulted in two hectares of remnant vegetation in Victoria Park being protected. Also, the route of the running track was altered to avoid damaging the Grassland Copper butterfly habitat.

From  
September 2009  
newsletter,  
page 11

# RANN GOVERNMENT LEGACY: MORE BAD LEGISLATION

From September 2011 newsletter, page 8

***'The parklands are our heritage, our inheritance from Colonel William Light. If we destroy them, we destroy the essence and cultural life of our city.'*—Mike Rann**

## The Adelaide Oval Redevelopment and Management Act 2011

***The Adelaide Oval Redevelopment and Management Act 2011, announced by Infrastructure Minister Patrick 'Cow Pat' Conlon on 18 May 2011, passed all stages of both Houses of Parliament in late July, was assented to by the Governor and now awaits proclamation.***

This Bill was announced only 16 days after the SA Cricket Association vote on 2 May, indicating it must have been drafted months earlier. All the secret discussions and consultations between the State Government and the Adelaide City Council were nothing but a sham, it seems.

Over 40 amendments to the Bill were introduced to the Parliament by the Opposition Liberal Party, minor parties and Independents. Notwithstanding some of the well-intentioned but mostly innocuous 'feel good' amendments, none of them had any effect on altering the principal intent of the Bill, which was to remove the ACC from its role as custodian of the Park Lands with responsibility for the care, control and management of most of Park 26 being the Adelaide Oval and the remaining open space Park Lands surrounding the Oval.

### Adelaide Oval Core Area

The Act prescribes that the ACC must, at the request of the Minister, grant a lease to the Minister over all of the Adelaide Oval Core Area (being the Adelaide Oval proper) or any part of that area specified by the Minister. The Minister is authorised to grant a lease of up to 80 years over any part of the Adelaide Oval Core Area to the Adelaide Oval Stadium Management Authority. The previous maximum leasehold period of 42 years, which required the approval of both Houses of Parliament, is now bypassed. An 80 year lease of community owned Park Lands is, to all intents and purposes, handing effective freehold title to private commercial sporting bodies. Any development within the Adelaide Oval Core Area will be taken to be

complying development under section 35 of the *Development Act 1993*, with the Development Assessment Commission taken to be the relevant authority in relation to any proposed development.

### Adelaide Oval Licence Area

The Act prescribes a licence to the Minister in the same manner as the Core Area prescribes a lease. The licence period must be a term of up to 20 years at a time, with the total term of a licence not exceeding 80 years. The licence area is effectively all of the remaining open space Park Lands surrounding the Adelaide Oval, with the exception of Creswell Garden and Pennington Gardens West. Given that the eastern boundary of the Adelaide Oval expansion will absorb more than 8000m<sup>2</sup> of Creswell Garden and Pennington Gardens West, there is no comfort in their exclusion from the Licence Area. The Act provides for the existing Community Land Management Plans (CLMPs) to remain in force over the nominated Licence Areas, although it is hard to see how the CLMP provisions will have any further relevance in practical terms. The main effect of the Licence Area is for the Minister to be able to sub-lease the areas to the SMA for the purposes of car parking on event days. Both the Core Area and the Licence Area have been declared 'designated land' and is, therefore, exempt from rates under the Local Government Act 1999. There is no doubt that the Minister will create a sub-lease to the SMA which will enable private commercial sporting bodies to charge and retain car parking fees and revenue from community owned Park Lands.

### Special annual sub-lease fee

The Act stipulates that the SMA pays an annual sub-lease fee for its use of the Adelaide Oval Core Area. The initial lease fee of \$200,000 for the 2015–2016 financial year will rise by \$200,000 annually until the 2019–2020 financial year when the lease is fixed at \$1,000,000 (indexed) thereafter. The Act requires the State Treasurer to pay all amounts received from the SMA

sub-lease into the Sport and Recreation Fund. Again, the Park Lands are reduced to a government cash cow rather than the money being paid into the Park Lands Fund managed by the Adelaide Park Lands Authority. (To see Minister Conlon's response to this provision, refer to the last paragraph in 'The Minister For Not Accepting Anything' elsewhere in this edition.)

The Act even provides for the temporary use of adjacent areas during the construction period of the Adelaide Oval redevelopment. Instead of the Adelaide Oval surface being utilised for construction purposes, expect to see the Creswell Garden and Pennington Gardens West laid waste for a few years. Any other development would have to confine its activities to its existing footprint.

Astoundingly, some ACC councillors and the Lord Mayor are satisfied with these outcomes.

This Act embodies the blackest day in the history of the Adelaide Park Lands. By removing the Adelaide City Council from its historical role as custodian of the Park Lands from this important Adelaide Oval precinct, our Parliament is complicit in handing over community owned Park Lands to private commercial sporting bodies. The Act not only breaks down and undermines the integrity of our National Heritage Listed Park Lands, it places the rest of the Park Lands at grave risk of similar State Government adventures in the future.

**Philip Groves**

**NEXT NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE:**

31 October 2011  
Always in search of pithy articles, educational information and comment on current issues

# EVERYONE WANTS A PIECE ...

AND WHEN THEY'VE GOT SOME, THEY WANT MORE

And so we have come full circle. This issue of the APPA newsletter started with the beginnings of the Association in 1987. The motivation was the fight to retain the Park Lands and fend off the developments that would alienate open space and open access to the public.

The SA Cricket Association and the Australian Rules football fraternity are the latest opportunists who have grabbed pieces of the Park Lands.

The sinister likely outcome of the Adelaide Oval redevelopment proposal was captured with great prescience by cartoonist Ross Bateup (see below) before some of the Moreton Bay figs at the northern end were marked for cutting down. The Memorial Oak, all the Moreton Bay figs and the views to the cathedral and hills—some of the things

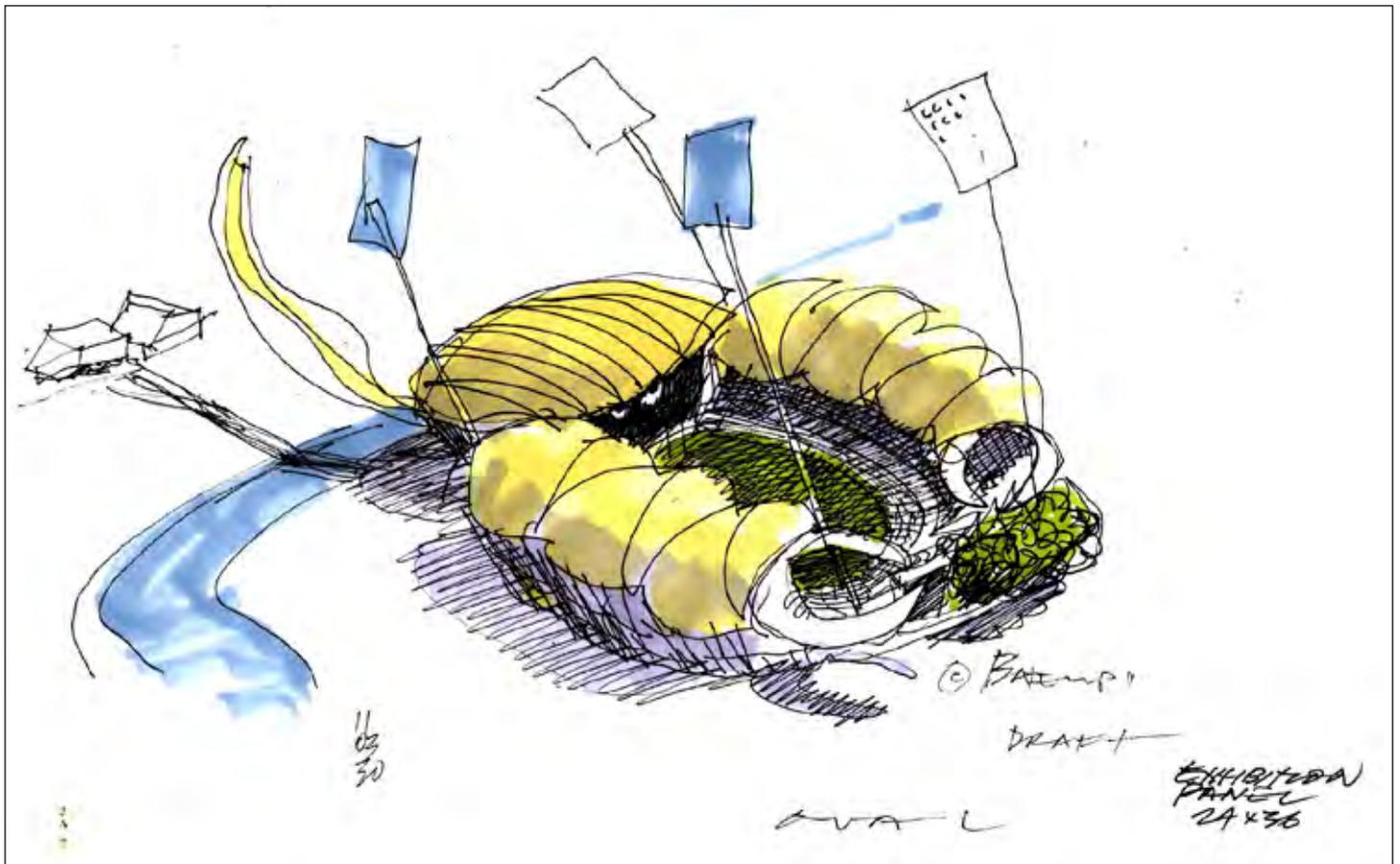
that make Adelaide Oval special—are all compromised by the redevelopment.

The next big challenges for Park Lands preservationists include the state government's proposals for what is now commonly termed the 'Riverbank Precinct'. Very tall, multi-use buildings will fill the space between the river and the 'Institutional Precinct', leaving a narrow walk along the river. The uses of these buildings are proposed to be an expansion of the casino, offices, hotel and apartment accommodation, retail outlets, cafes and restaurants. During February 2012, we saw the latest artist's impression of SkyCity's ambitions. (Remember, this is a casino owned by New Zealand commercial interests who obviously consider themselves already an 'institution' in South Australia, one that gets significant preferential treatment by

the current government.) The government is inviting commercial interests to participate in the 'development' so that we can possibly look forward to more 'public-private partnerships'—just like the new hospital on the alienated railway yards area. Apart from taking away Park Lands, the PPP for the hospital is going to cost SA taxpayers more than the State Bank disaster. And the current plans for the hospital include the provision for a 30 per cent expansion, so more of the Park Lands will go.

The government wants a new 'Authority' to oversee the Riverbank Precinct, which will no doubt require more bad legislation to enshrine private commercial interests on the Park Lands, just as the Stadium Management Authority is enshrined in the *Adelaide Oval Redevelopment and Management Act 2011*.

## I'm coming to get you! From December 2011 newsletter, page 4



Ross Bateup is an architect with Masters Degrees in Urban Design and City Planning from Penn University. He is also internationally known for his political and urban cartoons. His work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *London Times*, *The Australian*, *The Bulletin*, *The*

*Advertiser* and the *Sunday Mail*. Ross Bateup consults as an Urban Design specialist and is currently researching the use of cartoons as observation, commentary and criticism in urban design and environmental issues. He is a great friend of the Adelaide Park Lands.

BATEUP URBAN CARTOONS  
© Ross Bateup

# APPA COMMITTEES 1987–2012

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CHAIRMAN: Damien Mugavin SECRETARY: Jim Daly TREASURER: Jeffrey Chittleborough  
COMMITTEE: Judith Barr, Vina Brailsford, Ian Gilfillan, Elinor McCoy  
PATRON: Sir Walter Crocker KBE HON AUDITOR: J Mead

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**DON'T FORGET THE 2012 AGM**  
**Sunday 15 April 2012 – 10.30am to 12 noon**  
**North Adelaide Community Centre**  
**Institute Building (behind the North Adelaide Library)**  
**176 Tynte Street, North Adelaide**

**Committee 2011–2012**

*President:* Kelly Henderson  
*Secretary:* Brian Mitchell  
*Treasurer:* Philip Groves (Deputy President)

*Committee members:*  
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Kyle Penick  
Michael Sando

**Auditor**

David Carver, BK Partners

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**Next newsletter copy deadline:**  
30 April 2012

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Kelly Henderson (President)  
Telephone: 0432 989 676

**Membership:**

Membership of the Association is open to all who support the objectives of the Association. Members receive the *Park Lands News* four times a year.

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30 April 2012

Always in search of pithy articles, educational information and comment on current issues

