

e-Gazette No. 028 - July, 2017.

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Message from the President, Shane Sody

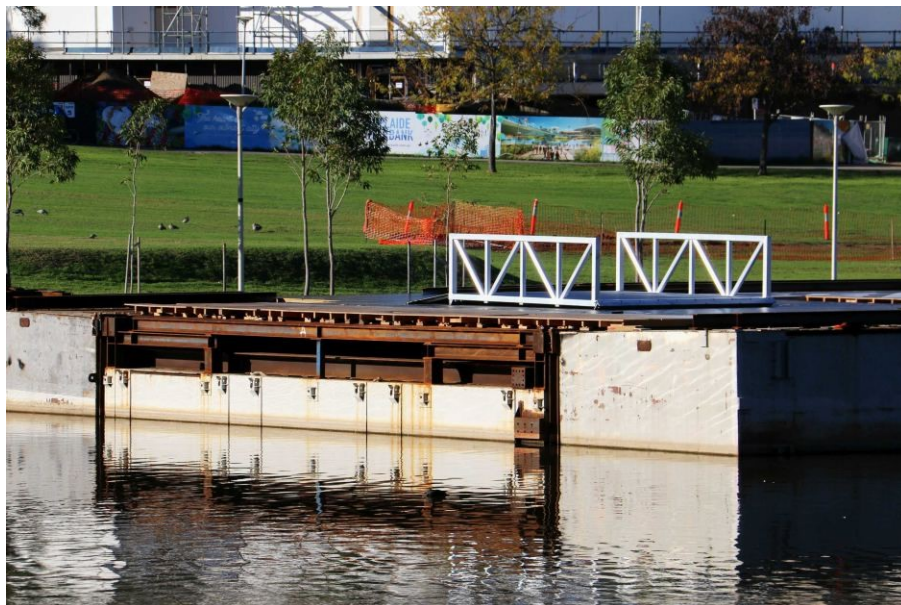
The Adelaide City Council deserves a lot of credit for its custodianship of the Adelaide Park Lands over the past 177 years.

It devotes a large part of its annual budget to the gardening and maintenance works required to make the Park Lands safe, attractive and welcoming for locals and tourists. In this *e-Gazette*, we highlight favourably some of the creek and river stabilisation works and revegetation that the Council has under way. (See the story 'Projects Nearing Completion' below.)

Proposals to alienate the Park Lands and restrict them from public use originate much more often from the State Government, rather than the City Council. (See the story below about the State Budget, for example.) However, this month APPA finds that the boots are on both feet, and the Park Lands are being kicked by both Governments.

Two recent strangely out-of-character decisions by the City Council have undermined its usually good practice in managing the Park Lands for community benefit. These are the first two stories in this newsletter, immediately below. There are opportunities for the Council to revisit these two recent decisions, to give more priority to the public interest in protecting our world-unique cultural and social heritage.

DUMP RUBBISH IN THE RIVER - GET REWARDED!



The maximum penalty for dumping rubbish in a public place is \$5,000.

But there's a more serious offence: "Obstructing a watercourse or lake" punishable with a fine of \$70,000 for a corporation or \$35,000 for an individual.*

The Adelaide Festival has left its detritus obstructing the River Torrens, in a very public place, without approval, for several months.

If you did that, you would be issued with a fine very promptly. However the Adelaide Festival is not being prosecuted. Its organisers say they just miscalculated how much it would cost to get rid of their floating platform. Their incompetence has now been rewarded.

The Adelaide Festival has been granted valuable approval to do the same thing again next year, and again the year after. The City Council, at its meeting on 11 July actually rewarded the Festival for failing to clean up its mess. It voted to give permission for another 'floating hub' in 2018 and 2019.

<http://indaily.com.au/news/2017/07/12/removing-pontoon-now-would-kill-floating-venue-festival-director/>

Thank goodness no-one suggested turning this eyesore into a helipad!

* (Section 127 of the Natural Resources Management Act)



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HELICOPTER ASSAULT ON BONYTHON PARK



The Adelaide City Council meeting on Tuesday 25 July will determine whether you will need to wear ear plugs, in future, while walking the Torrens Linear Path through Bonython Park.

That's the evening on which the Council will determine whether it hands over a section of Bonython Park on a lease of at least 5 years to commercial helicopter joyflight operators.

The proposed lease was the subject of a very brief period of "consultation" which ended on 4 July. This could be the most poorly-thought-out proposal that the City Council has ever had for the Park Lands.

This proposal would be:

- **Illegal:** Park Lands leases "for business purposes" are prohibited by law unless they're envisaged in a community land management plan. (*Local Government Act 1999* at section 200) This one is NOT envisaged in the Bonython Park plan.
- **Very Noisy:** affecting thousands of rowers, golfers, and tennis players nearby, and almost deafening joggers, cyclists, and pedestrians. How noisy? A helicopter's sound levels when 30 metres overhead would be comparable to that of a kitchen food blender (about 90 decibels). It would be even louder on takeoff and landing. The Council's own environmental assessment of this site indicates that helicopter noise would exceed acceptable levels even as far away as North Terrace. They have no idea how bad it would be on the Torrens Linear Path.
- **Delaying commercial flights:** Our aviation expert tells us that a helipad in Bonython Park would be "in controlled airspace (Class C) and directly under the ILS (main flight path) to Runway 23 at Adelaide Airport. Any operation to the proposed helipad would infringe on the aircraft landing sequence at Adelaide Airport"
- **Unnecessary** as there are helicopter landing facilities less than 5km away at Adelaide Airport, and other landing pads at the old RAH and New RAH
- **Contrary** to the recommendations of an independent expert hired by the Council whose "social and environmental assessment" found two better helipad sites in the City
- **Contrary** to the principles of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005* which says "activities that may affect the Park Lands should be consistent with maintaining or enhancing the environmental, cultural, recreational and social heritage status of the Park Lands for the benefit of the State".



Essential equipment to walk the Torrens Linear Path

100 db overhead - enjoy your walk!



In addition the Council's public consultation documents were:

- **Ambiguous** – because the area to be leased was not defined in the Council's "consultation pack"
- **Incomplete** The consultation documents did not reveal the extent of the "fencing, car parking and supporting infrastructure" that would be required.
- **Misleading** – because the documents said that the landing pad would be constructed in 2017-18 but in fact construction began earlier this year. A fenced, raised earth mound (with flat top) first emerged as a dump for dredged river soil. It has been capped with clay and topped with a fresh metal (stone) layer. This 'change of use' might, under the *Development Act 1993*, already constitute illegal (not approved) development.

Here's the submission that APPA made to the City Council:

http://archives.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/Submissions%20and%20Letters/Submission%20re%20Helipad%20in%20Park%20Lands_v2.pdf

Please turn up at the Adelaide Town Hall at 6pm on Tuesday 25 July to show your support for keeping Bonython Park for the public, not for privatised joyflight operators. As the Council's own advice suggests, there are better sites available for this type of business, such as at the airport or on top of a tall commercial building.



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HERITAGE ASSESSMENT - YOUR SAY!



The year-long assessment of the Adelaide Park Lands for possible State Heritage listing has reached the stage where [you are being asked for comment](#).

The lengthy process has two separate streams:

1. A Government-appointed consultant (with [an obvious conflict of interest](#)) is undertaking a formal "heritage assessment"; and
2. You are now [being asked for your views](#) about the "social and heritage value" of the Park Lands including the City Squares.

There are three ways to provide your views. By:

- completing the [online survey](#). *This will take about 5 minutes*
- joining the [discussion](#) - *which needs only a moment to add a comment*
- sending in a written submission via hamish.angas@sa.gov.au or post to: Hamish Angas, Senior Heritage Officer, State Heritage Unit, Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources, GPO Box 1047, ADELAIDE SA 5001.

Make sure you provide your feedback before comments close at 5.00 pm on Friday 29 September.



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PARK LANDS VIDEO OF THE MONTH - PIRLTAWARDLI (Park 1)



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TWO MORE PARK LANDS LOSSES IN ONE STATE BUDGET

The State Budget, handed down on 22 June by Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis, revealed the Government's intention to further reduce the remaining shreds of Park Lands between North Terrace and the railway line through Bonython Park.

The Budget included \$44 million towards the construction of a second South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) building, alongside the existing ("cheese grater") SAHMRI building in Bonython Park off North Terrace.

The Budget also included plans to put yet another hospital in Bonython Park. A new "Women's Hospital" is being planned for the same precinct, and will be "physically connected" to the new RAH. However, construction has been put off until at least 2019.

<http://indaily.com.au/news/local/2017/06/20/a-new-womens-hospital-but-where-are-the-children/>

The State Budget also revealed how cheaply the Government might have improved the O-Bahn commuting experience, without ever needing to trash Rymill Park (as it has).

The State Budget committed \$15 million over two years for the construction of new, multi-level Park'n'Ride facilities at the Klemzig and Tea Tree Plaza bus interchanges. This compares to the massive \$160 million cost of digging up Rymill Park and putting an emerging busway alongside the Rymill Park lake.

JOIN OR RENEW with APPA - WIN AN iPad MINI2



The new financial year is just two weeks old, and APPA is calling on supporters, past and present members, to [join or renew membership for 2017-18](#).

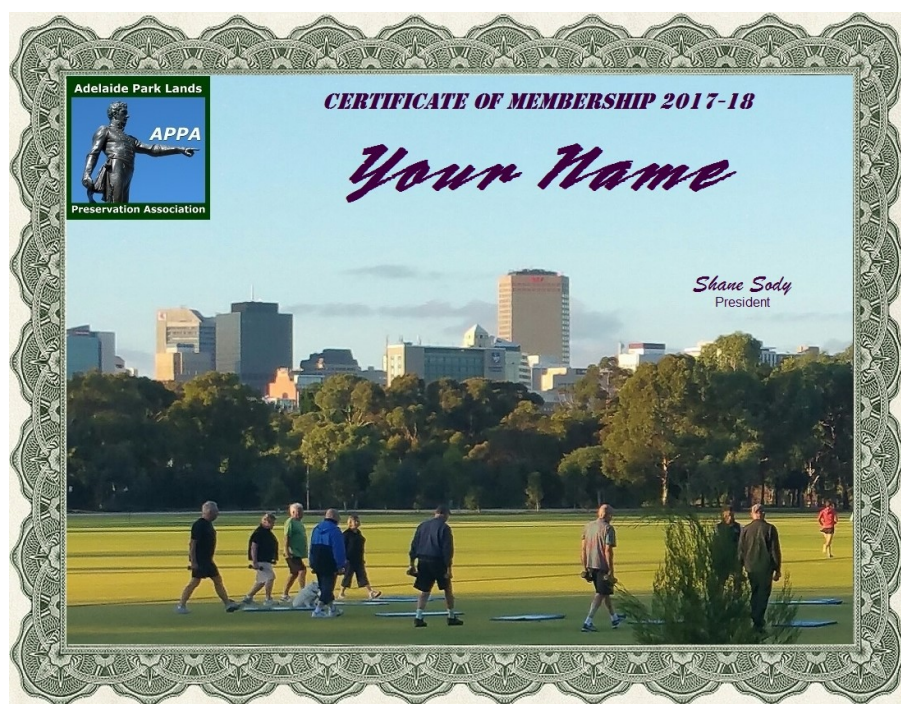
As a financial member of APPA, you get:

- the priceless satisfaction of supporting APPA's work;
- free participation in our monthly guided Park Lands walks;
- discounted tickets to our supporters movie event (see below);
- the responsibility to help guide APPA's activities through the Annual General meeting;
- a printable PDF membership certificate (see below); and
- **entry into the draw for an iPad Mini2 Wifi 32Gb but only if your membership fees are received by 6 August 2017.**

The winner of the iPad will be chosen at random from current APPA financial members (i.e. those who by 6 August have joined or renewed membership for the year expiring 30 June 2018.) Family memberships will have two entries into the draw.

The random draw for the iPad Mini2 will take place at the APPA Committee meeting at 6pm on Tuesday 8 August at the Box Factory Community Centre, Regent Street Adelaide. Committee members and their immediate families are ineligible for the prize. The winner will be notified by email within 24 hours and the result published in next month's (August) e-Gazette.

The iPad Mini2 Wifi 32Gb [retails at Officeworks for \\$364](#). The prize cannot be exchanged for cash.



Join, rejoin or renew your membership at
www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/membership



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SUPPORTER'S MOVIE SCREENING



APPA supporters, family and friends are invited to a social gathering at the Mercury Cinema, 13 Morphett Street, at 4pm on Sunday 13 August.

The critically acclaimed "Viceroy's House" is a British-Indian historical drama set in 1947 just before the end of the British empire's 300-year rule, the partition of India and the creation of the new nations of India and Pakistan. ("The End of an Empire and the Birth of Two Nations"). It stars:

- Gillian Anderson (best known as Dana Scully in "The X-Files");
- Hugh Bonneville (best known as Robert Crawley in "Downton Abbey") as Lord Mountbatten;
- Michael Gambon (best known as Albus Dumbledore in the Harry Potter movies);
- Indian stars Manish Dayal, and Huma Qureshi

Tickets for APPA members are only \$10.

Non-members pay the regular Mercury price of \$15. Children or concession card holders \$13. You can become an APPA member or renew your membership before the movie, to get the discounted seats. However seats at the Mercury are limited – so don't delay.

To join APPA or renew your membership for 2017-18 visit: www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/membership.

Then book your movie tickets here: www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/supportersmovie

Proceeds from the screening will go towards [APPA's Objectives](#).

(Our apologies to Port Power supporters. This event clashes with Port v Collingwood at Adelaide Oval!)



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WHAT'S ON IN THE PARK LANDS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

There are always events scheduled in the Park Lands, many of them free, and there are always opportunities to explore the Park Lands on your own, or with friends or family. Take a look at [our picture gallery](#) for hints about interesting spots to visit.

Many of our listings this month have a "school holiday" emphasis. Some things you (or your children) might like to try over coming days or weeks include:



Lord Mayor's North Park Lands 'Ramble' - 9am Sunday 16 July

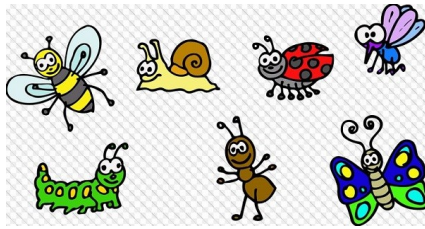
Meet at corner of Barton Tce East & O'Connell St. Join Lord Mayor, Martin Haese and City Councillors, to walk into Kangatilla (Park 4), Ngampa Yarta (Park 5) & Nantu Wama (Park 6) to explore the horse paddocks. From there walk back towards Barton Tce East and then into O'Connell St for coffee. Free, but registrations required.



Bubble Soccer - Victoria Square / Tarntanyangga - FREE !

Thursday 20 July or Friday 21 July 11am - 2pm each day.

For children - put on an inflatable bubble suit: run, bounce, roll and spin, while playing a game of soccer, and bumping into other bubbles!



Garden Critters (for 6-12 year olds)

Thursday 20 July 1.30 to 2.30pm

Botanic Gardens. bookings essential - spaces limited.

Take a guided walk in the Botanic Gardens to collect curious botanic bits such as seedpods and leaves, then create a cute critter to take home. Due to use of hot glue gun during workshop, parents/carers must work with their children at all times; children under 6yrs cannot be admitted.



Wild Imagination Nature Play in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) right next to the Kiosk. Kids get to spend their day outside, playing, and making their own adventures. There is a cost - bookings are essential.

FAMILY FUN SESSIONS

Sun 16 July Sat 22 July 10am to 1pm

KIDS ONLY FULL DAY DROP & GO

Tues 18th, Thurs & Fri 20 & 21 July 8:15am - 5:15pm



"Green Gym" at Wirraninthe (Park 23)

An outdoor activity to work on your own health and fitness, while helping to transform and restore areas of the Park Lands for the whole community. A fun and free outdoor program run by Conservation Volunteers Australia, targeted at ages 50 to 80. Any Wednesday or Thursday - either morning (10am to 1pm) or afternoon (1:30pm - 4:30pm) starting on 2 August. Bookings are essential. Call 8352 4111 or email adelaide@cva.org.au



Guided walk through Rundle Park/ Kadlitpina (Park 13)

Saturday 12 August 2017 at 2pm to 3pm

Meet at the corner of East Terrace and North Tce at the Light Horse memorial (pictured) More details here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/254187274986073/>



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THE PARK THAT NEVER EXISTED?



You may remember that last year the Education Minister Susan Close, denied that any Park Lands would be lost by construction of the new so-called "Botanic High School" in Tainmuntilla (Park 11) off Frome Road.

We were incredulous then (and remain astounded) that such a bald-faced lie could be told, without any effort to later correct the record. So for the record, here's what that part of Tainmuntilla (Park 11) looked like on 25 August 2016 and what it looked like on 4 July 2017.

The two pictures are taken from opposite directions but the existing Reid building in both photos makes it clear that this is yet another Park Lands assault by the State Government.

When will it ever end?



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AN ICON - WE NEED TO BUILD AN ICON! (YES, AGAIN)

Stop us if you've heard this joke before. Someone says we should build "an icon" on the Park Lands, with a "world class design". Yes, really.

This time it's the Art Gallery of South Australia, and there is funding of \$1.9 million for "an international search and selection of a design team for this ambitious project."

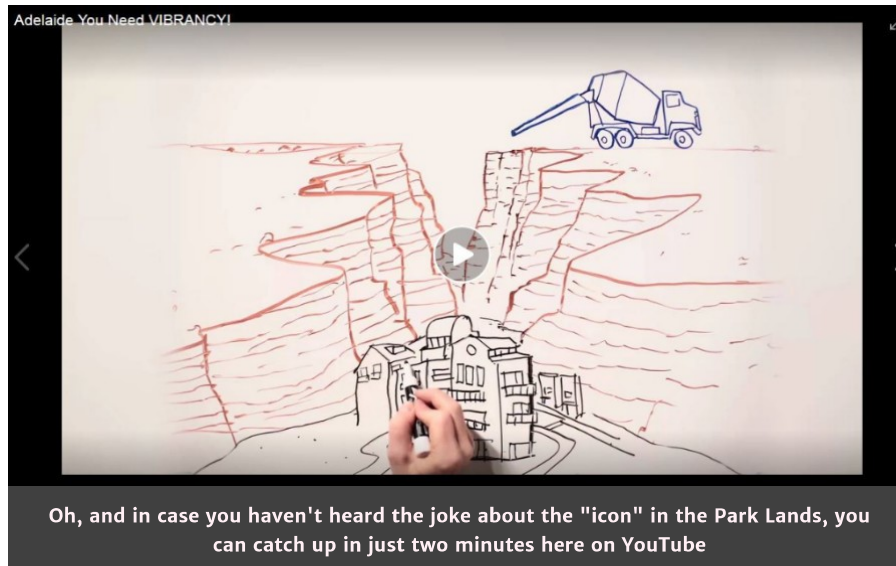
<http://mailchi.mp/artgallery/8z0g6rj12b-152397?e=2922cee934>



To be fair, it's not the worst suggestion for the old RAH site. It's not nearly as bad as the current proposal for 1,080 apartments in a building of 17-storeys (or higher) overshadowing the Botanic Gardens.

Have you signed our petition, calling for this huge tower block to at least be referred to a Citizen's Jury? 31 eminent South Australians call the proposal for housing on Park Lands a "gross breach of trust." Sign the petition here:

<https://www.change.org/p/renewal-sa-head-bronwyn-pike-1-080-private-apartments-and-a-hotel-on-park-lands-at-least-put-it-to-a-citizens-jury>



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PROJECTS AT OR NEAR COMPLETION

Several long-running building or maintenance projects in the Park Lands are either finished or will be completed within the next few weeks.



Alongside Hackney Road, a new [shared-use bicycle and pedestrian bridge over the Torrens has been opened](#).



The River Torrens Linear Path, underneath Hackney Rd has finally been re-opened (on both sides of the River Torrens) after about 12 months closed due to the construction works.



After more than six months of digging up Tampawardli (Park 24), Narnungga (Park 25), Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) and Pirltawardli (Park 1) the \$11.4 million **'Western Adelaide Wastewater Network Upgrade'** will be finished construction by the end of July. The contractor's former works compound at the corner of West Terrace and Glover Avenue (in Park 25) has now been dismantled, and other construction camps will be "demobilised" in early August. SA Water will then undertake pipe testing. Reinstatement of Park Lands is scheduled for September, subject to weather.

As [we reported in the May 2017 e-Gazette](#), riverbank stabilisation works have been carried out on the northern banks of the Torrens off War Memorial Drive (on the opposite side of the river

from the Zoo and Botanic Park). The work was required because there was some danger of the sheer high cliffs collapsing. These works should be complete and a new re-aligned path opened by the end of July. Extensive re-planting of indigenous vegetation will commence within one to two weeks.



The Torrens riverbank cliffs of Tainmuntilla (Park 11) opposite the Zoo



The new rock retaining walls on the cliff face, completed a little further upstream



Likewise, the nearly year-long program of riverbank and footpath stabilisation works in Karrawirra (Park 12) near Angas Gardens is also nearing completion. Work has required new pilings on the river's edge and boardwalk construction, because the land was becoming too narrow. A works compound is still on the north side of War Memorial Drive near the Adelaide University Boat House.

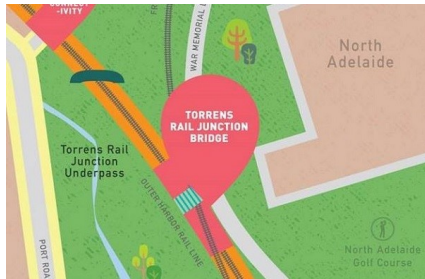


As we foreshadowed [in last month's e-Gazette](#), a new urban forest has now been planted alongside West Terrace and Sir Donald Bradman Drive in Tampawardli (Park 24). Fences are still protecting the young trees, for now, but this area will be a wonderfully shady refuge in coming years for those who use the adjacent Ellis Park sporting fields and students from Adelaide High School, among others.

BRIEFLY, IN OTHER PARK LANDS NEWS



Work is proceeding rapidly on the SA Cricket Association's three-storey pavilion in Narnungga (Park 25) just off Port Rd. Contractors have not yet started demolishing the old red brick building also on this site, which was one of the conditions of approval for this project. For the background, see [this story from our e-Gazette of December 2016](#).



Major works on the Torrens Rail junction Project are affecting Pirltawardli (Park 1) near War Memorial Drive and the soccer fields near Park Terrace.

The latest works update is available [by clicking here](#).



Dequetteville Tce near Botanic Rd is currently closed to all traffic as asphalt is being laid for the O-Bahn City access project. See [details at this link](#). The State Government has released this artist's impression of the O-Bahn trench emerging alongside the Rymill Park lake, but of course it will take years for newly-planted trees to grow to the sizes shown in this artwork.



Work is underway to improve public safety and biodiversity along the South Park Lands Creek. This is a five-year rolling program of works to be carried out between Beaumont Rd and Unley Rd. The first stage of the works, currently under way in Wita Wirra (Park 18) involves widening and broadening the creek, as pictured. Significant new plantings will also occur. More details here: <https://yoursay.cityofadelaide.com.au/south-parklands-creek-rehabilitation>



Plans are being drawn up to revamp the BMX dirt bike trails in Kurangga (Park 20) off Unley Rd. Adelaide-based firm "The Trail Collective" has been hired by the City Council to come up with plans for the BMX trail area. For more details, [follow this link](#).



There's a fight brewing between the Unley City Council and the Adelaide City Council over plans to move this 1918 World War One monument (the first in Australia) from its present location in Lundie Gardens, Mirnu Wirra (Park 21W) off South Tce to the new Anzac Memorial Walk on Kintore Avenue off North Tce. APPA member Walter Dollman whose grandfather Colonel Walter Dollman is one of those honoured by the memorial, says its current location has "great significance". [More details at this link](#).

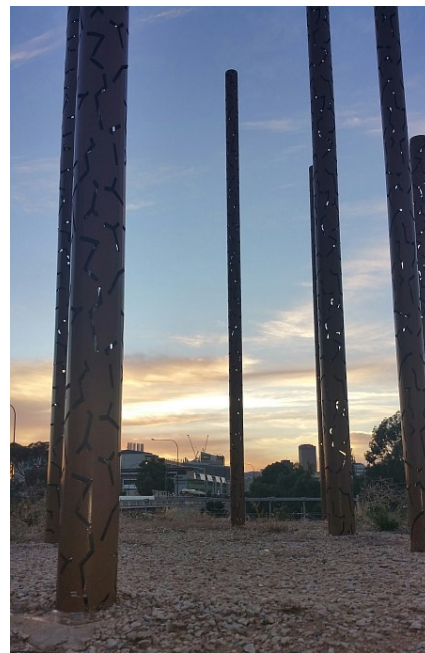


PARKS OF THE WORLD
Showcasing other World Urban Parks.

A regular feature in [World Urban Park News](#).

This month, the spotlight is on [Hagley Park and Botanic Garden, Christchurch, New Zealand](#).

PHOTOS OF THE DAY – RECENT HIGHLIGHTS





From the top:

- a) The Ewin Arboretum (dating from the 1920's) off War Memorial Drive near the University playing fields, Karrawirra (Park 12)
- b) Rainbow lorikeets at the 1861 Owen fountain in the Botanic Gardens, Tainmuntilla (Park 11)
- c) "Eucalyptus Alive" by Marijana Tadjic (2012) steel and LED lighting. Narnungga (Park 25) off Port Rd
- d) Sprint training on the "sweat track" in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16)
- e) Black ducks, Rymill Park/Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)

The Park Lands 'photo of the day' series has been running since May 2014, and **the collection of Park Lands photos now numbers more than 1,180**. We maintain (and gradually grow) 37 separate albums for each one of our 30 Parks, six squares (and one album for 'Alienations'). To browse the photos follow the link below to '[Our photos on Flickr](#)'.



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@adelparklands



APPA website



Our photos on Flickr



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