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e-Gazette No. 038 - May, 2018.

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DITCH THE SHONKY FESTIVAL PLAZA CONTRACT - GOVERNMENT URGED



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APPA: "WALK AWAY FROM THE POISON FESTIVAL PLAZA DEAL"

The new Liberal State Government must walk away from the shonky contract entered by the previous Labor State Government to PAY a private developer to take over Festival Plaza.

The State Auditor-General last year [issued a scathing indictment](#) of the procedures and governance, under which taxpayers were lumbered with a \$180 million bill so that Walker Corporation would be required to build a car park, an office tower, and commercial hub alongside the Festival Centre.

The Auditor-General found:

"fundamental shortcomings in key areas of the procurement process including the basis for key decisions, governance, application of planning, risk and probity management"

Well before this year's election, the Liberal's then-Shadow Attorney-General Vickie Chapman [called on the previous State Labor Government to release critical but secret documents](#) related to the deal.

Ms Chapman is now Attorney-General and is in a position to do something about this to protect taxpayers and of course also protect the public's interest in the Festival Plaza which is part of the Adelaide Park Lands.



APPA acknowledges that tearing up a signed Government contract will have consequences for taxpayers. Paying out the Walker Corporation to get out of this deal, may have a multi-million dollar price tag.

But this liability would be comparatively small, compared to the cost of losing not only \$180 million but also part of Adelaide's priceless public land heritage, to enrich a billionaire interstate property tycoon.

The new Liberal Government owes it to current and future generations of South Australians to get them out of this nightmare scenario.

The Auditor-General's report can be downloaded here:

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

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ARCHITECTS HAVE GOOD ANSWERS TO WRONG QUESTION

A few months ago the outgoing State Labor Government asked a collection of architects to come up with bold designs for what might be built on the Old Royal Adelaide Hospital site.

We featured that story in [our newsletter of February 2018](#). At the time we pointed out:

There are four heritage-listed buildings on the old RAH site. A good architect could come up with a brilliant plan for adaptive reuse of those buildings.

But the six design teams haven't been asked to do that. Rather, they've received funding to create "concept designs" for a new Adelaide "icon".

So here are some of the concept plans that the "design teams" have now produced:



Unfortunately, no-one told the design teams that the law requires an entirely different question to be asked.

What law?

Section 23 of the Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (See below.)

The correct question is: **"HOW DO WE RETURN THE SITE TO PARK LANDS?"**

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23—Steps regarding change in intended use of land

- (1) If land within the Adelaide Park Lands occupied by the Crown or a State authority is no longer required for any of its existing uses, the Minister must ensure that a report concerning the State Government's position on the future use and status of the land is prepared within the prescribed period.
- (2) A report under subsection (1) must include information on the condition of the land and on the action (if any) that would be required in order to make the land suitable for public use as park lands.



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OLD RAH SITE - NOT JUST FOR THE DEVELOPERS

The old Royal Adelaide Hospital site is part of Park 11, and as such, it is included (along with nearby sites) in the Park Lands video of the month which takes you on a virtual tour of Park 11 (see below).

We hope that the video will prompt an awareness among Members of Parliament that the old RAH site is not just another development opportunity. It could actually become [an "icon" as Park Lands, although not with new buildings on it.](#)

We hope that you have signed our petition to the Premier Steven Marshall, calling on him to 'Keep Public Land Public' and not have commercial interests overtake the old RAH site. <https://www.change.org/p/steven-marshall-mp-keep-public-land-public>

We've also written to Mr Marshall directly about this. To make this point even clearer, we've dissected the policy that the Liberal Party took to the March 2018 State election. We've pointed out how incongruous it is that no part of the Liberal policy provides for returning ANY of the old RAH site to Park Lands.

Read our letter to the Premier [here.](#)

And see the old RAH site, in the context of Park 11, in the video below.

To appreciate the dangers facing this section of the Park Lands refer to [the story in last month's e-Gazette.](#)

Not sure what we mean about "icons" and Park Lands? Have a look at [our animated video "Vibrancy".](#)

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Whether you want the site returned entirely to Park Lands, or whether you support some new public buildings on the site, there is a fundamental principle at stake; a line in the sand that must not be crossed by any State Government.

If any new buildings replace the old RAH, this public land (Park Lands) should not be commercialised or privatised. It cannot be merely exploited for private profit. It must remain in public hands, for public (not private) benefit.

If you haven't already, then please sign the petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/steven-marshall-mp-keep-public-land-public>

and/or TAKE OTHER ACTION:

www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/take-action



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VIDEO OF THE MONTH - PARK 11, the "PATCHWORK PARK"

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Park 11 includes Mistletoe Park, the Adelaide Zoo, Botanic Park, the Adelaide Botanic Garden and the old RAH site. Spend a few moments exploring.....

A HERITAGE ASSET IS AN ECONOMIC BENEFIT

One of the world's leading thinkers on the economic benefits of heritage conservation paid a visit to Adelaide earlier this month.

Donovan Rypkema's visit was sponsored by the National Trust and the Adelaide City Council. Mr Rypkema gave a public lecture on Thursday 3rd May. His talk was mainly about the economic benefits of built heritage, with examples from around the world showing how heritage zones in other cities attract greater tourist dollars compared to new developments.

But in answer to a question about Adelaide's strengths he was unequivocal in pointing to the Park Lands enclosing the city and North Adelaide, as a unique asset that we need to cherish. [Photo: Rodney Twiss]

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SURVEYING ADELAIDE - 181 YEARS ON



This historical marker has been placed at the corner of North Terrace and West Terrace, outside the Newmarket Hotel.

What is it and why?

It's called "Trig Station A" and it marks the point where Colonel William Light began his trigonometrical (trig) survey of Adelaide, 181 years ago. The bronze plaque is large - 800mm across.

The professional practices established by Colonel Light were of such a high standard that they are still in use today. The data recorded in 1837 was so accurate that the nail which marks the precise point of Trig Station A was driven into Light's original peg hole.

Surveyors and historians are lobbying to have this marker recognised on the World Heritage list.

The Lord Mayor, Martin Haese attended the National Trust's plaque ceremony at the start of the SA History Festival on Friday 27 April.

You can read more about Trig Station A here: http://www.fig.net/news/news_2017/05_adelaide.asp



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MAY 2018 CONSTRUCTION SITE BULLETIN

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the Park Lands.

Here's just a few of the projects currently under way, with pictures taken recently, in April–May 2018.



Park 11 – Botanic High School

As featured in this month's Park Lands video (see above) the new 7-storey Botanic High School, in Park 11, is nearing completion.



Peppermint Park / Wita Wirra (Park 18)

Installation of a stormwater gross pollutant trap near the corner of Hutt Road and South Terrace. This is part of the ongoing [South Park Lands Creek rehabilitation works](#). Most of this work is being done further south-east near the corner of Beaumont Rd & South Tce



New railway crossing from JE Brown Park (Park 27A) to War Memorial Drive.

Constructed as part of the Torrens Rail Junction Project, the crossing appears to be finished but at last report had not yet been opened to allow pedestrians through.

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New pathways and plantings are being laid near the corner of West Terrace and Sir Donald Bradman Drive.

Since our last newsletter, work has been completed on the [new 'activity hub'](#) in Pelzer Park /Pityarilla (Park 19)

Apart from the sites pictured above, there is ongoing work that we have featured in other recent newsletters to:

- landscape much of Gladys Elphick Park / Narnungga (Park 25) between Port Rd and Glover Avenue;
- construct [a new 3.5 million sports hub in Ellis Park /Tampawardli \(Park 24\)](#) off West Tce



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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. This month's featured opportunities are:



The [RSPCA's "Million Paws" walk](#) - Sunday 20 May A fundraiser – with proceeds going to the RSPCA to fight animal cruelty.

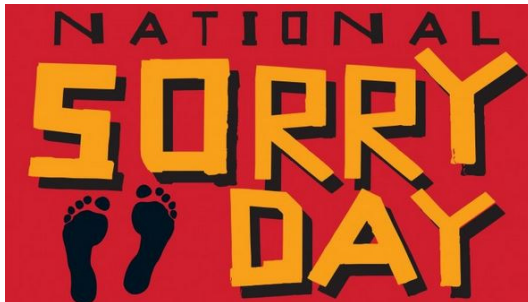
The two-kilometre walk starts at 10am from Bonython Park Tulya Wardli (Park 27). There will be stalls and entertainment before and after the walk.

More details here:

<https://www.millionpawswalk.com.au/locations/SA/adelaide>

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Sunday 27 May 7am to 3pm Adelaide Oval
Full marathon, half-marathon, 10km and
5km running events, with courses through
the Adelaide Park Lands. More details here:
<https://adelaidemarathon.org.au/>



[Sorry Day commemoration](#)

Friday 25 May 2018 - Victoria Square /
Tarntanyangga Saturday 5 May, 10.30am -
2.30pm.

Show your support for the Stolen
Generations. The event includes guest
speakers and music. Free BBQ, salads
Click the picture for more info.



[Orchid Fair](#) - Torrens Parade Ground, Red
Gum Park / Karrawirra (Park 12) Saturday
and Sunday 9 and 10 June. Enjoy a relaxing
day amongst spectacular exhibits from SA's
Orchid Clubs best growers. Potting
demonstrations and free advice available
from experienced growers. Orchids for sale
and refreshments available



[Guided walk through Lefevre Park / Nantu
Wama \(Park 6\)](#). Sun 10 June 2.00pm to
3.45pm. Gold coin donation. (Free for APPA
members). Meet at the corner of Kingston
Tce and Jerningham St. Children and dogs
most welcome. Click the photo for details.



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ADELAIDE OVAL LIQUOR LICENSING EXTENSION BACK IN COURT

There is a directions hearing listed at 1.30pm on Thursday 17 May. Some of the community objectors have applied to be heard by the Court. The legal battle may take some months more to resolve.



JUDGING UNDER WAY FOR PARK LANDS ART PRIZE

When entries closed for the 2018 Park Lands Art on 1 May, a total of 185 entries had been received.

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Judges are now assessing all the works, to nominate those worthy of going on display as finalists at the Festival Centre.

Those selected as finalists will be notified by 1 June, after which the works will be collected for display at the Festival centre over a six-week period commencing on 4 July.

The official opening on 4 July will also be the occasion for prize-giving, with winners sharing in \$33,000 Prize Money

- \$20,000 First Prize
- \$2,000 APPA Young Artist Prize
- 10 x \$1,000 Highly Commended Prizes
- \$1,000 Royal Adelaide Show People's Choice Prize



One of this year's entries, from artist Grace Delaney

This is a non-acquisitive Art Prize, meaning that works chosen as finalists (and therefore on display at the Festival Centre) will be for sale. This is an excellent opportunity for all artists whose work is selected among the finalists – not just the prize winners.

For more information about the Art Prize, go to www.parklandsart.com or visit the Park Lands Art Prize on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/parklandsart/>



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AGM DECISIONS ON APPA'S COMMITTEE AND MEMBERSHIP FEES

Our Annual General meeting on Sunday 29 April resulted in only one change to our

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replaced by Stephanie Johnston. Ms Johnston is also APPA's nominee on the Adelaide Park Lands Authority.

Here's our 2018-19 Committee. Contact details for our office-bearers are here:
www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/contact

President Shane Sody 	
Secretary Damien Mugavin 	Treasurer Bruno Zeni 
Immediate Past President Ian Gilfillan 	Sarah Gilfillan 
Edward Jennings 	Stephanie Johnston 
Hamish Ramsay 	Maggie Fletcher 
[Not pictured] Hero Weston	Valdis Dunis 

The AGM also approved increases in the fees for some categories of APPA membership. Members who are due for renewal on 1 July will be receiving an invoice at about that time.

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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](#);
- eligibility to become a Park Ambassador and lead an annual [guided walk through one Park](#);
- the responsibility to help guide APPA's activities through the Annual General meeting; and
- a printable PDF membership certificate (see above for the new 2018-19 certificate).

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BRIEFLY, IN OTHER PARK LANDS NEWS

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Health Minister Stephen Wade have foreshadowed taking away even more of Park 27 to construct a new Women's and Children's Hospital. No costings and no precise location has been specified, but it's clear that Park Lands are in the Government's sights.

<https://indaily.com.au/news/local/2018/04/18/questions-unanswered-womens-childrens-hospital-rebuild/>



The Park numbers are back!

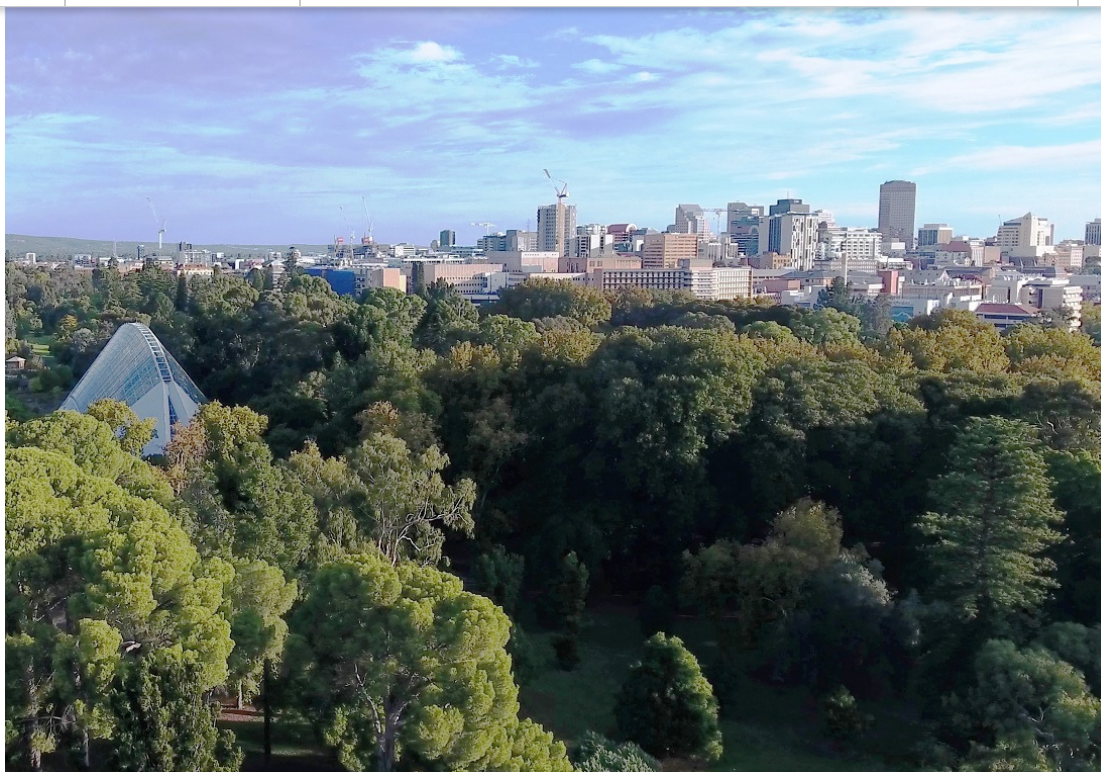
In September 2017 the City Council inexplicably decided it would dump the more-than-century old convention of referring to Adelaide's 30 Parks by their numbers. APPA [highlighted the issue in our January newsletter](#) and wrote to the Lord Mayor about it. Now, without fanfare, the Park numbers have been [quietly restored to the Council's website](#). Some Park signage that was produced in the previous six months might need to be re-done.



A new resident's society for Park 9?

Locals who live in the vicinity of Bunday's Paddock / Tidlangga (Park 9) are being invited to consider forming a new residents' society. A meeting is scheduled for this Saturday (May 19th) at 8am at The Store 157 Melbourne Street. For more details contact: park9@internode.on.net

PHOTOS OF THE DAY - RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

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From the top:

- a) Treetops in the Botanic Garden, seen from Botanic Park (Park 11)
- b) Band setup for medical students party in Red Gum Park / Karrawirra (Park 12) off Victoria Drive
- c) Possum sculpture by Silvio Apponyi in GS Kingston Park / Wirraninthe (Park 23) off Catholic Cemetery Rd;
- d) Avenue of kurrajong trees in Blue Gum Park / Kurangga (Park 20)
- e) Tai-chi class in Wellington Square / Kudnartu

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Lands photos gathered over four years now numbers over 1,450. We maintain (and gradually grow) more than 40 separate albums: one for each one of our 30 numbered Parks, six squares (and several albums for 'Alienations'). To browse the photos follow the link below to '[Our photos on Flickr](#)'.

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