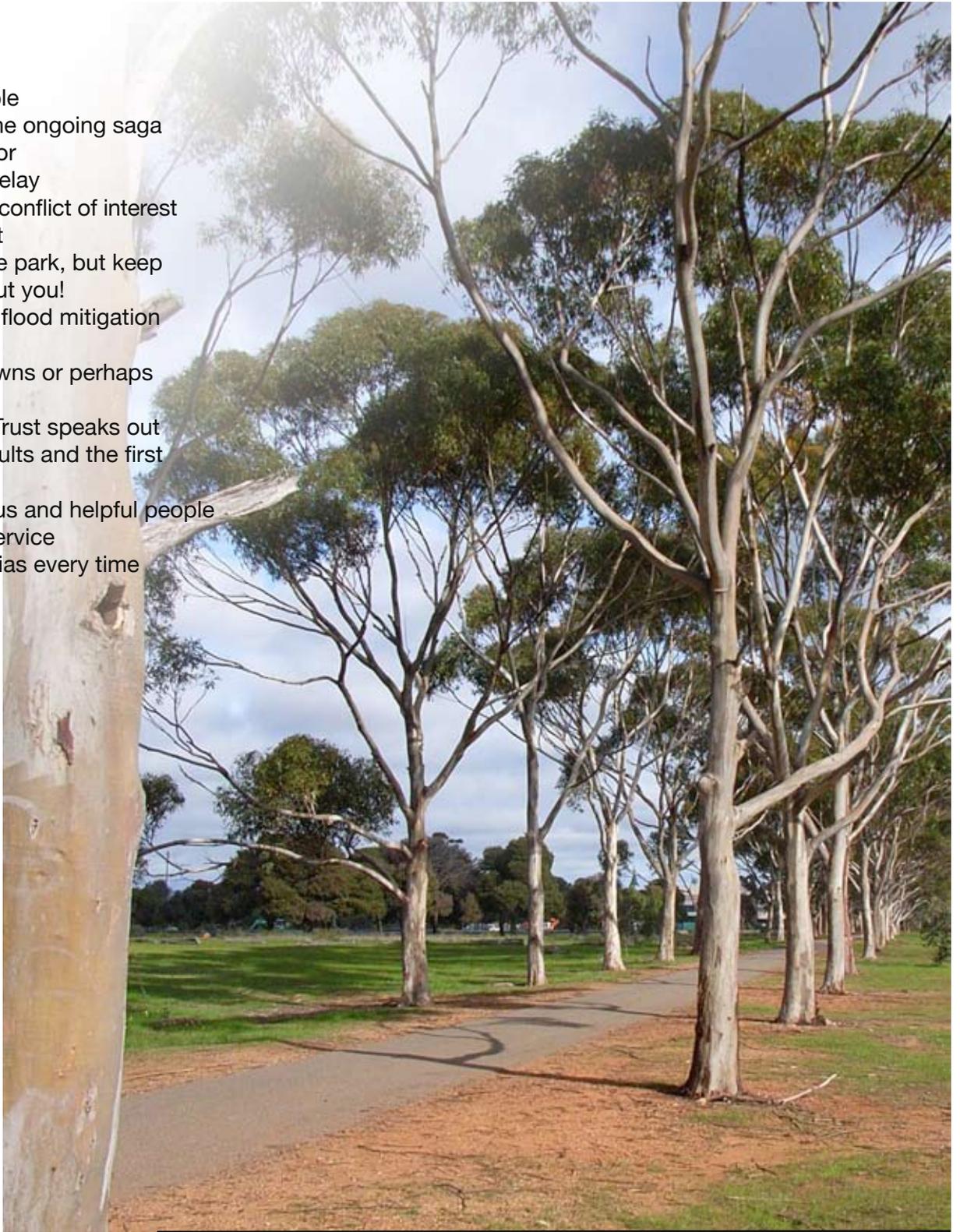


# PARKLANDSNEWS

December 2007 Number 29

## Contents

President's letter  
Issues on the table  
Victoria Park – The ongoing saga  
Letter to the editor  
Heritage listing delay  
Judgment in the conflict of interest  
case imminent  
Take a walk in the park, but keep  
your wits about you!  
South Parklands flood mitigation  
plans  
Is this Roxby Downs or perhaps  
Andamooka?  
Australian Civic Trust speaks out  
ACC election results and the first  
meetings  
So many generous and helpful people  
Use our e-mail service  
Given a helpful bias every time



# President's letter

As we draw near to the end of the year and with Christmas nearly upon us, I wish you all the season's greetings.

The following comments are offered so that we can all take stock and reflect on what has become one of the most important years in the history of APPA because of the radical stand we have taken on alienation of our Parklands.

## Congratulations

We offer our congratulations to the newly elected Lord Mayor and members of the Adelaide City Council. They face the challenge of creating a balanced city development that provides living sustainability as more people move into the city. They will require public open space, thus throwing much more pressure on the spaces of the Parklands. We hope and expect the nine Councillors who signed statements opposing the Victoria Park corporate entertainment development to stand up and be counted each and every time the matter is raised.

## Victoria Park progress report

At the moment, everything seems to be 'on hold' as we await three decisions. First, will the newly elected Adelaide

City Council members hold their line and continue to oppose a corporate box in the Parklands? Second, will the court rule favourably in the conflict of interest action we have taken against the voting status of two previous Council members on the Victoria Park corporate entertainment facility? And, thirdly, will the Rann government pick up its 'bat and ball' regarding Victoria Park and go home?

In reality, the government has three clear choices. One is to withdraw the proposal and heed the growing opposition against the development; another is to overrule Council and the public by seeking legislation through Parliament; or, thirdly, *go back to the drawing board* and look at the proposal again in the light of re-furbishing the existing SAJC facilities on the Fullarton Road side and continuing the Clipsal 500 car race using the temporary facilities, as laid down in the Motor Sport Act.

It was interesting to note that the Victorian government is having second thoughts about the viability of the Formula 1 Grand Prix. Former Victorian Premier, Jeff Kennett, suggests the race should be relocated to Sandown to save on costs. It would be unfortunate if Adelaide was to build expensive permanent facilities in our Parklands to find in the future that car racing is not viable on a park and street circuit, as seems to be the case in Melbourne.

## Vision for Adelaide—Australian Civic Trust

Your Committee, at its meeting on 17 October received a presentation from Darian Hiles, Chair of the Australian Civic Trust, on a vision for Adelaide. Part of this vision is a proposal to develop major facilities on railway land west of the Adelaide Parklands on which there are already major sports facilities, including the ETSA netball and Santos athletics stadiums.

Among other proposed additional public facilities suggested by the Trust is a car racing circuit for the Clipsal 500. While APPA is not opposed to the present Clipsal 500 arrangements until the lease runs out in 2015, it might be worthwhile considering this proposal by the Civic Trust as a long-term solution. Also, another feature of the Civic Trust Vision is to provide for other sports that require hard surfaces or indoor facilities and free the Parklands for use by sports and recreation activities requiring natural, that is soft, surfaces.



## Heritage Listing progress

The previous Environment Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, made a statement before the federal election about the heritage listing of the Adelaide Parklands. He 'extended the period for either including or not including the Adelaide Park Lands and City layout in the National Heritage Trust List from the current period end date of 22<sup>nd</sup> November to the new period end date of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008'.

One cannot help thinking that the federal elections and other political considerations may have had something to do with postponing this decision (see Kelly Henderson's article).

## Other matters

Your Committee has raised with ACC Park Land officers the following items:

1. The proposals for the south Parklands flood management strategy.
2. Return of the former netball courts along Anzac Highway to useable open space.
3. Key issues related to the Parklands Management Strategy.
4. Input into the Parklands events policy.

## Finances

Due to the expenses of two court cases and the Messenger Press publicity to raise public awareness of the ACC consultation regarding the proposed lease for Victoria Park, APPA is very low on funds and any additional support from members would be gratefully received. It is amazing how generous some people have been and this has encouraged us to fight hard for our principles—but the fight goes on.

Have a happy and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*Jim Daly*

## ISSUES ON THE TABLE

World Heritage listing

Land grabs at Victoria Park, RAH site and railway yards

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

Alienated Parklands

Flood mitigation works

Watering regime during drought

*Front cover: Sugar Gum (Eucalyptus cladocalyx) avenue in Minno Wirra (Park 21 West) in the south Parklands. Photo taken June 2007 by Gunta Groves.*

# Victoria Park — The ongoing saga

***The fight to save Victoria Park from the hands of the despoilers has been going on for far too long, spearheaded by APPA and supported by many like-minded organisations and concerned citizens.***

The threat to Victoria Park had its genesis in an action taken by the Adelaide City Council—the custodian of the Parklands—when it adopted a Parklands Management Strategy in 1999. Amongst the Strategy's many proposals for better management of Adelaide's precious Parklands, it made provision for two major events areas: one at Bonython Park (of Cirque du Soleil fame) and the other at Victoria Park.

This was followed in 2003 by a Council-funded 'Landscape Plan', which proposed a 'double-sided grandstand' in the middle of the park. Troppo Architects' concept was for a separation of the tracks for motor sport and horse racing. Clipsal was well-established and causing not only public disruption but also restrictions on SAJC activities over the five month period of Clipsal occupation of the park for its four days of gas-guzzling glory. A public consultation on these plans as some sort of bizarre community land management plan process evinced strong community opposition and was aborted by the Adelaide City Council in 2005.

All went quiet but, clearly, secret talks were being held by the government and Town Hall officials. In 2006, Council re-wrote its Development Plan, dismissing APPA requests for stronger policies to protect the Parklands—an ominous move.

The *Adelaide Parklands Act 2005* was enacted progressively during 2006 and we were led to believe that this would give strong protection against inappropriate developments in the Parklands. But the storm clouds were gathering and, in December 2006, Deputy Premier Kevin Foley unveiled his grand plan for the 'Redevelopment of Victoria Park'. A 'consultation' period of three months was announced. An open and transparent process was promised but never delivered; APPA led the charge to 'Save Victoria Park'.

The Adelaide City Council turned its back on its role of custodian and, in March 2007, voted to support the plan 'in principle'. This was achieved by bringing a councillor back from prolonged sick leave (who voted for the plan) and the casting vote of the Lord Mayor, Michael Harbison.

Since then, APPA has been fighting the proposal on a number of fronts. APPA joined with a number of private citizens in challenging the validity of the Council's March decision at which two councillors who were also members of the SA Motor Sport Board, a major beneficiary from the plan, voted in support. This case was heard in the District Court and the Judge's final decision is eagerly awaited.

The Development Application for the proposal was classified as Category 1, which gave limited rights of public submission and no rights of appeal. APPA, in support of an affected East Terrace resident, challenged this in the Environment, Resources and Development Court. In the face of prominent legal representatives working for the SA Motor Sport Board and the SAJC, APPA was forced to withdraw the appeal because it could not afford to engage the necessary legal expertise.

**The Development Application for the proposal was classified as Category 1, which gave limited rights of public submission and no rights of appeal.**

However, APPA, assisted by legal and specialist planning advice, made a strong submission against the proposal to the Development Assessment Commission (DAC), but all to no avail. The DAC approved the 'masterplan' and 'corporate box' development on 8 November. Again, the Adelaide City Council was missing in action to save the Parklands from such desecration. Clearly, the current City of Adelaide Development Plan fails to protect the Parklands adequately.

With all planning remedies denied to the public at this stage, the last remaining

hope was that the Council would oppose the long-term lease of Victoria Park sought by the government. The issue was a major factor in the Council elections held in October. Many Parklands supporters worked with candidates to ensure that Parklands protection was at the forefront of their thinking. A majority of newly-elected councillors made the courageous decision to oppose the lease at their first meeting held on 12 November. The Council has left the door open for other plans to be considered as part of a more comprehensive and visionary plan for Victoria Park—a plan

**Many Parklands supporters worked with candidates to ensure that Parklands protection was at the forefront of their thinking.**

that retains temporary facilities for motor sport and includes a refurbishment of SAJC facilities within its existing footprint.

The future of Victoria Park now lies in the balance; the campaign has shaken many people's faith in the government's Parklands credentials, and has seriously challenged the Adelaide City Council to fulfil its rightful role as custodian. APPA's resources have been seriously stretched but, rest assured, we will continue to be the champions for the protection of our Parklands for the enjoyment of future generations of South Australians and visitors alike.

*David Plumridge AM  
Committee member, APPA  
Committee member, South East City Residents Association (SECRA)  
Adelaide City Council Councillor (Area)*

---

***Editor's note: For more information, see John Bridgland's article in The Adelaide Review (23 Nov–6 Dec, p 9) for a detailed analysis of the remarkable results of the ACC public consultation on the Victoria Park lease.***

---

# SAVE VICTORIA PARK FIGHTING FUND

## URGENT!

## Maintain the rage

Despite recent events that have delayed the government's plans, the campaign to save Victoria Park has to continue.

More money is needed, so please give generously 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*

## Letter to the editor

In response to the article on mozzies by Mike Hudson (*Parklands News* September 2007):

1. I acknowledge the angst Mike has suffered and hence his valid concern about mosquitoes and 'wetlands'.
2. The suggested infrastructure works are six 'water areas' in the South Parklands to address flooding associated with Parklands Creek. As I understand the proposal, five of these would be DE-tention basins and one would be a RE-tention basin (a permanent body of water). A detention basin is a temporary holding back of water for up to 48 hours in order to slow the volume of water entering the creek system so that it is not overwhelmed, thus reducing the risk of flooding. Detention basins can also be combined with aquifer recharge. They are not 'wetlands' and care must be taken to make the distinction so as not to confuse their purpose and merit. The provision of detention basins in the Parklands can be
3. subtle; not conspicuous or alienating of space.
3. It is ironic that in a drought some of us are concerned about flooding. Certainly, most of us are extremely concerned about water use and reuse. Indeed, it is often in the driest months that a heavy rainfall can cause problems: the soil is too dry and compacted to absorb a sudden downpour, as the November 2005 floods showed.
4. As a resident adjacent to Parklands Creek for 32 years, I have seen literally millions of litres of stormwater flow past my property. What a waste!
5. Thirty-two years ago, in discussion with the then E&WS Department, it was acknowledged this was wasteful and there were plans for 'basins' in the Parklands with possible reuse of the water on the Parklands. For water reuse, there needs to be suitability for aquifer recharge. I am not clear if that exists in all areas of the Parklands.
6. Mike Hudson's article actually provides the clues to addressing the issue: 'expert advice on the potential
7. hazards ... and the options ... should be sought and carefully considered'.
7. Salisbury Council has addressed its stormwater issues creatively. It has areas of 'open water'. It is acknowledged as having 'best practice' in dealing with stormwater. That surely means they have addressed the mosquito issue.
8. And, in relation to wetlands, those at Urrbrae, where there are also animals nearby, do not have an issue with mosquitoes.
9. I am not a scientist. I do not pretend to have all the answers. However, the outcome of this debate (which should have been resolved *many* years ago) surely can provide a 'win, win, win' solution—water is detained to avert flooding downstream, water can be used on the dry Parklands and, with appropriate scientific input, there are no mozzies!

*Robin Donaldson  
APPA member and Secretary of RESS Inc  
(Residents for Effective Stormwater Solutions)*

# Heritage listing delay

**Andrew Faulkner wrote in the Australian recently about the possible political motivations for delaying heritage listing of the Adelaide Parklands.**

**Kelly Henderson fills out some of the details and corrects some of Faulkner's assertions.**

Colonel William Light's survey of Adelaide, along with the Adelaide Park Lands and City Squares which Light planned, were identified as early as 1996 as having the potential to meet several World Heritage criteria.

Australia's appalling record in failing to protect sites such as this was recently highlighted at an international colloquium on the future of heritage, held in Gent, Belgium. Political interference and lack of adequate resourcing for independent identification, assessment and registration of Australia's heritage were highlighted as major threats facing Australia's potential World Heritage sites.

when a member of the public nominated the site for inclusion on South Australia's State Heritage Register. The land has been nominated at least seven times since then, including by the National Trust of South Australia and APPA. With

nomination has never been assessed. This may be considered an implicit refusal to include the Park Lands on the State Heritage Register. However, no explicit rejection has been made. One must wonder if this is a record for bureaucratic procrastination!

**The office of [the then] federal Environment Minister Malcolm Turnbull is reported by Faulkner as saying the delay is at the request of the South Australian Government.**

For over 21 years, the Adelaide Park Lands nomination has languished while Park Land values continue to be destroyed by the very government that is supposed to process heritage nominations for such sites. This land does not belong to the government and it is time that due process and fair play are afforded to the nominators and to our state's potential World Heritage sites.

**'Heritage listing would very likely foil the grandstand bid.'**  
**Faulkner**

a State Heritage Authority (now known as the South Australian Heritage Council) appointed by government and reliant upon a government agency secretariat which is chronically under-resourced, the

*Kelly Henderson*

*Editor's note: The newly elected federal government's Environment Minister is Peter Garrett. His stance on this issue has not yet been tested.*

The case is, therefore, far worse than outlined by Andrew Faulkner in the *Australian* in his article 'Heritage listing delay "politically motivated"' (28 Sep 2007, p 8). To correct some of his assertions: APPA did not lodge an application for National Heritage listing of the Park Lands; an application for inclusion of the whole of the Adelaide Park Lands (2332 acres or in excess of 900ha) was made in October 2004 by a member of the public.

The Park Lands have been languishing in limbo since, at least, February 1986

## JUDGMENT IN THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST CASE IMMINENT

**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 members of the SA Motor Sport Board.**

Board at the time, took part occurred on 29 March and 14 August 2007.

Since then, a new Council has been elected and new ACC representatives have been nominated for the SA Motor Sport Board. They are Richard Hayward and Francis Wong.

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

On 10 October, judgment was said to be 6-8 weeks away. At the time of this newsletter going to print, Judge Barrett had not brought down his decision. Whatever that ends up being, it will have implications for how all local government operates, not just the ACC.

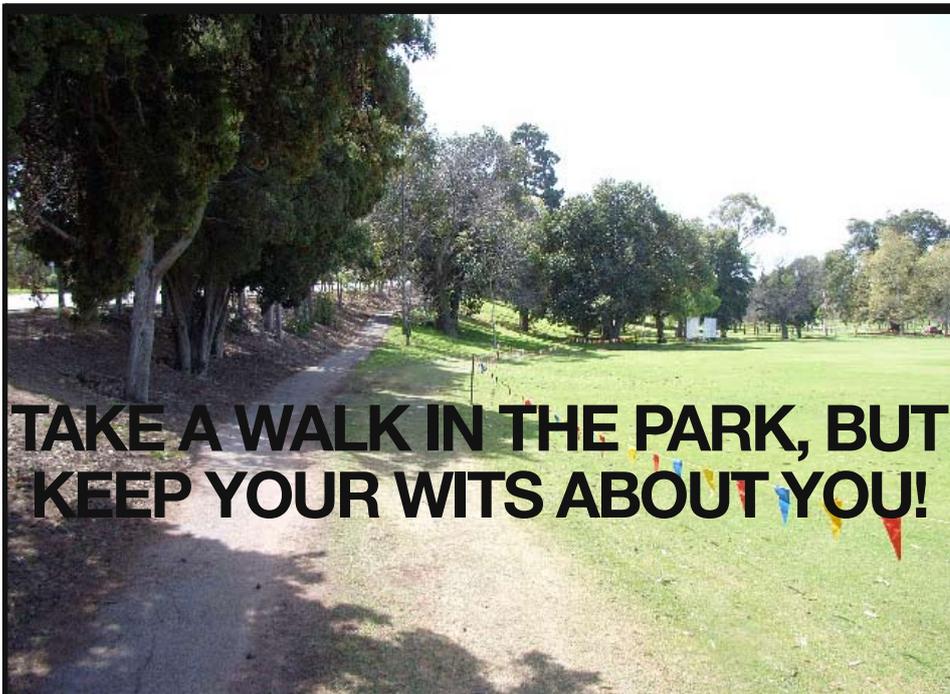
The relevant Council meetings in which Councillors Moran and Hayward, the ACC representatives on the SA Motor Sport

*Gunta Groves*

**NEXT NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE:**

**31 January 2008**

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



**TAKE A WALK IN THE PARK, BUT  
KEEP YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU!**

On Sunday 16 September, Adelaide Oval played host to a 'double header' fixture for the South Australian National Football League's finals competition. The first match was the qualifying final between North Adelaide and the Eagles, followed by the elimination final between Glenelg and Sturt.

The lessees of the Adelaide Oval, the South Australian Cricket Association, refer to the Parklands at the northern end of the oval as the northern car park. APPA prefers the more appropriate descriptor Park 26, or Tarndanya Womma.

Car parking on the Parklands is a contentious issue at the best of times, but on this weekend the Adelaide City Council's U-Park staff created another problem when they employed their own solution to deal with two separate audiences on the day.

Rather than patrons and their vehicles leaving Park 26 after completion of the first match in the same way that they arrived, U-Park staff contrived for these vehicles to depart the oval in a southerly direction. They directed vehicles around the western perimeter of Adelaide Oval No 2 by means of exit signs and flagging to an exit onto the three-lane Montefiore Road (see photo above).

The last 100 metres of this makeshift exit road incorporated the pedestrian-cyclist pathway which runs parallel to Montefiore Road, thus placing pedestrians and cyclists at risk of being run down from behind, or having vehicles coming at them head on in what is meant to be a shared and safe pedestrian-cyclist pathway!

Needless compaction and turf damage also resulted from this exercise, not to mention the serious traffic hazard created

by vehicles entering a three-lane roadway without warning to vehicles travelling down Montefiore Road. The actual exit point was extremely dangerous, as the exiting drivers had poor visibility due to the stand of trees obscuring their view of vehicles coming down Montefiore Road, and drivers descending Montefiore Road had no warning of cars coming from an unexpected quarter.

With a little bit of common sense, this situation could have been avoided. Patrons attending the first match could have been directed to park on one side of Park 26, and those attending the second match could have parked on the other side. Of course, this might have required council to employ a couple of extra staff members.

On Sunday 23 September, another 'double header' between Central District and North Adelaide in the second semi-final and Eagles and Glenelg in the first semi-final was played.

Again, the same irresponsible and dangerous (if not illegal) exit strategy was employed by U-Park staff.

Small wonder many people believe the Adelaide City Council is not the most responsible or desirable manager of the Parklands when it continues to treat the Parklands with such contempt.

Council has been availing itself of a good deal of legal advice lately; perhaps it should obtain a legal opinion on the risk exposure to Council over this matter also.

*Philip Groves*

*Photo at top: Adelaide Oval No 2.  
Photo taken by Philip Groves, September 2007.*

# **South Parklands flood mitigation plans**

I offer the images below as further information to those in the ACC who want to push ahead with retention and detention basins in the areas now used as playing fields in the south Parklands. After rain in early November, there was proof of what just a modest earth berm of under a metre high will do. The berms near the SA Dog Obedience clubroom did exactly what they are meant to do. They stopped water flowing away into other areas. Well, excellent, you say. That is exactly what berms are designed for. Unfortunately, when they are located on playing fields, the effect will be to make those playing fields unusable on a regular basis. What plans are there to create new playing fields elsewhere in the Parklands, and have the landscaping and water costs been factored into the equation?

*Gunta Groves*



*Above and below: Earth berms on the east and south of the SA Obedience Dog Club in Tuttangga (Park 17).  
Photos taken by Gunta Groves, November 2007.*



# Is this Roxby Downs or perhaps Andamooka?



Above: Bonython Park after Cirque du Soleil left it this year.  
Photo taken by Gunta Groves, August 2007.

Once again, despite all the talk and the evidence, Cirque du Soleil occupied Bonython Park and left it desecrated as usual. Sure, Cirque du Soleil pays for remediation, but that is not the point. The point is that the kind of repeated scouring and compaction of the park that is brought about by the circus's activities is not sustainable for the park. Every time Cirque du Soleil uses that bit of Parklands, the grass takes 18 months to get back to its previous condition. Given the scarcity of water, the remediation this time may take longer or not be successful at all.

Cirque du Soleil requires a hard, even surface—the kind that has to be created artificially in the Parklands, and the kind that is available in the Wayville Showgrounds. It's time that the ACC got its priorities right and started to take an interest in the long-term health of the Parklands and not in short-term profit.

*Gunta Groves*

## AUSTRALIAN CIVIC TRUST SPEAKS OUT

***Darian Hiles is Chair of the Australian Civic Trust, a community organisation established in 1969 to encourage quality in urban, social and environmental projects. The annual Awards and Brickbats program has brought public attention to many projects since that time and, on 14 July 2007, in order to consolidate the lessons learned and build on the enthusiasm of the public in contributing to our environment, the Trust launched a Public Vision project to develop a shared vision for Adelaide and South Australia. Darian Hiles writes here about one aspect of the vision.***

The first stage of this vision focuses on the west side of the city and the inner western suburbs and suggests a plan to integrate the Parklands as a natural and essential complement to a future healthy lifestyle, including recreation and sports, sustainable living and public transport.

Parks are generally uncontentious, often simply woodlands big enough to create a feeling of separation from a city or town—places where people can relax in a natural setting.

Any modifications are typically unobtrusive and minimal, put there only to give reasonable access and amenity. Safety is usually left to common sense; the visitor is the observer in the park, not the focus of it.

Games are a common activity from time immemorial. Even animals play games as a key part of learning how to relate to their environment and for teaching their young ones.

Yet, today, we have a major deficit of natural settings and this deprives a large part of the community and its children from experiencing the natural environment. In this way, many games have become disconnected from learning about the world and have evolved into simply competitions between people, between individuals and machines, or even encouraging people to become further disconnected by leading them into simply observer status. Pure competition has value but it needs to be balanced by activities where the individual can learn to grow and relate to the real world.

A key part of our disconnection from the natural environment is the move from the natural soft surface to the artificial hard surface, and from fresh air and an open sky to a controlled atmosphere and enclosing roof.

The Parklands are Adelaide's greatest natural asset and give the city a major advantage in open-air recreation and soft-surface sporting activities. A precinct approach, which enhances the Parklands for these activities and develops adjoining areas, including Keswick and Mile End for hard surface activities, gives the best of both worlds and maximises their value for Adelaide residents and visitors alike.

Car racing is a hard-surface sport and there is room at Keswick for a track. This would need to be highly flexible, as the nature of the car is certain to change fundamentally very quickly and, in today's environment, the cost-benefit aspect beyond one or two years may be difficult to justify. This is a hidden advantage of the temporary track at Victoria Park.

Many other sports are also feasible at Keswick. Cycle racing, for example, is almost certain to have more viable economic projections and would not threaten Adelaide's future value as a city.

But regardless of the types of activities, we need both precincts, and the Parklands as Adelaide's defining feature is by far the most valuable one.

*Darian Hiles  
Chair, Australian Civic Trust*

# ACC election results and first meetings

Adelaide City Council held its investiture of councillors on 31 October and the new Council met for the first time on Monday 12 November. Momentously, they voted 9–2 against giving a lease to the government over Victoria Park (Councillors Hayward and Wong voted ‘for’). The public gallery erupted in spontaneous applause at the result.

Unfortunately, instead of leaving it there and thereby shutting the door in the faces of Rann, Foley et al, Councillor Plumridge moved a four-part motion clarifying the Council’s position but, at the same time, in the fourth part, left the door open for a meeting with the government. This has led to compromise talks on the development proposal and a typical ultimatum by Kevin Foley to come up with a new proposal in three days! In an emergency ACC meeting on 27 November, only three councillors voted against any kind of compromise: Sue Clearihan, Joe Cullen and Michael Henningsen. (Councillors Wilkinson and Wong were absent.)

To remind you about what the current councillors said in APPA’s questionnaire, their responses are summarised top right.

## SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES AND THEIR QUESTION 7 RESPONSES

Position	Name	If elected, will you vote against the government’s proposed development of Victoria Park and, in particular, the proposed permanent ‘grandstand’ structure and an associated lease?
Lord Mayor	Michael Harbison	No
Area Councillors	Ralph Clarke Richard Hayward Anne Moran David Plumridge Francis Wong	Yes No Yes Yes Did not reply to questionnaire
North Ward Councillors	Sue Clearihan Sandy Wilkinson	Yes Yes
Central Ward Councillors	Stephen Yarwood Bill Zaharis	Yes Yes
South Ward Councillors	Joe Cullen Michael Henningsen	Yes Yes

### Corrections and updates to APPA questionnaire results:

1. Jeffrey Wheare, after consideration and after results were compiled, ticked ‘yes’ instead of ‘no’ to questions 5 and 7 in the survey.
2. Bernadette McAlary returned answers to the questionnaire after the results were compiled.
3. Sharon Mosler gets an unreserved apology for a misinterpretation of one of her responses: her 10-year vision included ‘sports club houses surrounded by trees and shrubs’.

Gunta Groves

# SO MANY GENEROUS AND HELPFUL PEOPLE

***One could be forgiven for losing faith in the goodness of humanity when one is dealing with some politicians, governments and bureaucracies. But then there are all the other people who have helped APPA over the last couple of years.***

APPA and its helpers have been variously described recently as ‘a powerful lobby group’ (Lainie Anderson in the *Sunday Mail* 18 Nov p 19) and people who give Mr Foley ‘the sh\*\*s’ (Kevin Foley during the launch of the Clipsal 500). I am happy to be included in both of those categories.

The most prominent campaign has been the ‘Save Victoria Park’ effort, which has been long and hard and continues still.

I thank all the interested and caring people who have joined up, written letters and submissions, given of their time to hand out leaflets and wear white elephant heads, and donated money and professional time. There have been people prepared to use their e-mail networks, their families, friends and neighbours to spread the word. Evidence of the reach achieved has come recently from the published results of the ACC public consultation on the Victoria Park lease. The Council’s Web site reveals that responses were received from perhaps predictable areas such as the City of Adelaide, North Adelaide, Rose Park, Norwood, Unley and other near-city suburbs, *and also* less predictably from places such as Port Willunga, Cheltenham, West Croydon, Nuriootpa, Port Elliot and Kangaroo Island.

It would be nice to be able to name everyone who has helped but two things prevent this. One is that people may be left out unintentionally and the other is that some people would prefer to remain anonymous. To this last group, in particular, I extend a heartfelt thank you through this newsletter because there is no other way that I can contact them. Their friends, I am sure, will pass on this message.

I ask you all to continue to help when the call goes out, as it surely will. In particular, join up some more APPA members—use the form on the back of this newsletter or the form on the APPA Web site. There is always greater strength in numbers.

Gunta Groves

# USE OUR E-MAIL SERVICE

Some people have already seen the light (pun intended) and sent in their e-mail addresses. If you would like to receive the *Parklands News* by e-mail as a PDF, fill in the form below and mail it to the following address:

Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc  
PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall  
Adelaide 5000.

You can also download PDFs of the current and past newsletters from our Web site at  
<[www.adelaide-parklands.org](http://www.adelaide-parklands.org)>.

E-mailing newsletters to members saves us printing and mailing costs.

*Gunta Groves*

**I would like to receive the *Parklands News* by e-mail instead of in the post.**

My e-mail address is: .....

Name ..... Signature .....

Address .....

## Given a helpful bias every time

**... and the Adelaide Bowling Club still wants more. Its activities, beyond delivering a few bowls down the green, have been a continuing concern for APPA.**

The Club has a long history in getting a helpful bias in maintaining its activities.

The Adelaide Bowls Club was established in 1897 on a Government Reserve in the Adelaide Parklands. The Club occupied almost an acre, or 0.41ha, on land that became the northern end of Kintore Avenue in 1958. The Club's central location was a coup that, together with an extraordinary 24 hour liquor licence, ensured its popularity. Its favoured treatment may have had something to do with members of Parliament using the Club facilities after sittings in the House. When the Club had to move because of the extension of Kintore Avenue to connect with Memorial Drive, it was given an eastern Parklands home of nearly twice the size (*Decisions and disasters* by Jim Daly, 1987, Bland House).

Despite the privileged location and favourable treatment, the Adelaide Bowling Club has succumbed to falling membership over the years. Specific figures for the Club are not available but Bowls Australia reports ([www.bowls-aust.com.au](http://www.bowls-aust.com.au)) that there are now only 18 183 members in 227 clubs across South Australia (of which 55 are in the

metropolitan area). This is an average of just 80 members per club.

To attract more members and to improve its bottom line over recent years, the Adelaide Bowling Club has been promoting itself as restaurant cum function centre, in direct competition with restaurants and cafes in the eastern Adelaide CBD. However, the competition is biased because the Club does not pay commercial city lease rates and has decided that the hard surface space adjacent to the clubhouse is 'their' car park even though it is the Parklands.

The latest incarnation of the Club's restaurant is 'Ernie's Restaurant'; it is

'under new management' and advertising 'corporate functions, birthdays, weddings, social gatherings'. You don't even have to be a 'social' member to participate. What commercial arrangements are in place and who profits from the Club's activities are unknown and unknowable by the general public. What is known is that the Parklands are not benefiting from the income and that the Club's fencing excludes us from 0.6ha of community land.

*Gunta Groves*

*Below: Adelaide Bowling Club with no-one on the greens but plenty of action at the bar. Photo taken by Gunta Groves, lunchtime, September 2006.*



## NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2007-08

Adelaide Parklands Preservation Assoc Inc PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone ..... E-mail ..... Date .....

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 single (full rate)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Send <i>Parklands News</i> via e-mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 family (full rate)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Donation \$.....                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 corporate           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 single (concession) |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 family (concession) |  |

### Method of payment

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Money order attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Tick if receipt required |
|--|---|---|

### OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE TO ENSURE THAT:

- the Parklands be available for use by the general public
- the public should, so far as practicable, have free and unrestricted access to the Parklands
- the Parklands should be reserved as a place for public recreation, leisure and enjoyment
- alienated areas of the Parklands are restored for recreational use, preferably as open space
- the character of the Parklands as a place dividing the City of Adelaide from the suburbs should be preserved
- the Parklands should be preserved and maintained in a manner that enhances their special place in the design of the City of Adelaide
- the amenity of the Parklands is not impaired by inappropriate development of nearby lands.

I agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Association. Signature .....

Please make cheque/money order payable to: Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc (*not* 'APPA')  
Send to: Adelaide Parklands Preservation Assoc Inc, PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000

12/07

### Committee 2007-2008

*President:* Jim Daly  
*Deputy President:* Ian Gilfillan  
*Secretary:* Brian Mitchell  
*Treasurer:* Philip Groves

#### Committee members:

Gunta Groves  
Mike Hudson  
Stephanie Johnston  
Kyle Penick  
David Plumridge AM  
Michael Sando  
John Underwood

### Auditor

David Carver, BK Partners

### Web administrator

Gunta Groves

### DISCLAIMER

The information in this publication is presented in good faith to members of APPA Inc. While the information is believed to be correct, APPA Inc takes no responsibility for its accuracy. No liability is accepted for any statements of opinion or any error or omission. Although advertising material is accepted for this newsletter, such acceptance does not imply endorsement by APPA Inc.

**Season's Greetings  
to all our loyal  
members**

**And a very special  
wish for a  
Happy New Year  
to the Adelaide  
Parklands**

**May the trials and  
tribulations of 2007,  
both natural  
and Rann-made, not  
be repeated**

### Contact

#### News, comments, articles and Web site suggestions:

Gunta Groves (Newsletter Editor)  
PO Box 3040 Rundle Mall  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Telephone/facsimile: 8223 1360  
E-mail: ggroves@chariot.net.au

#### Next newsletter copy deadline:

31 January 2008

#### Advertising:

Brian Mitchell (Secretary)  
Telephone: 8263 5168

#### Information about APPA:

Jim Daly (President)  
Telephone: 8267 4192

#### Membership:

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