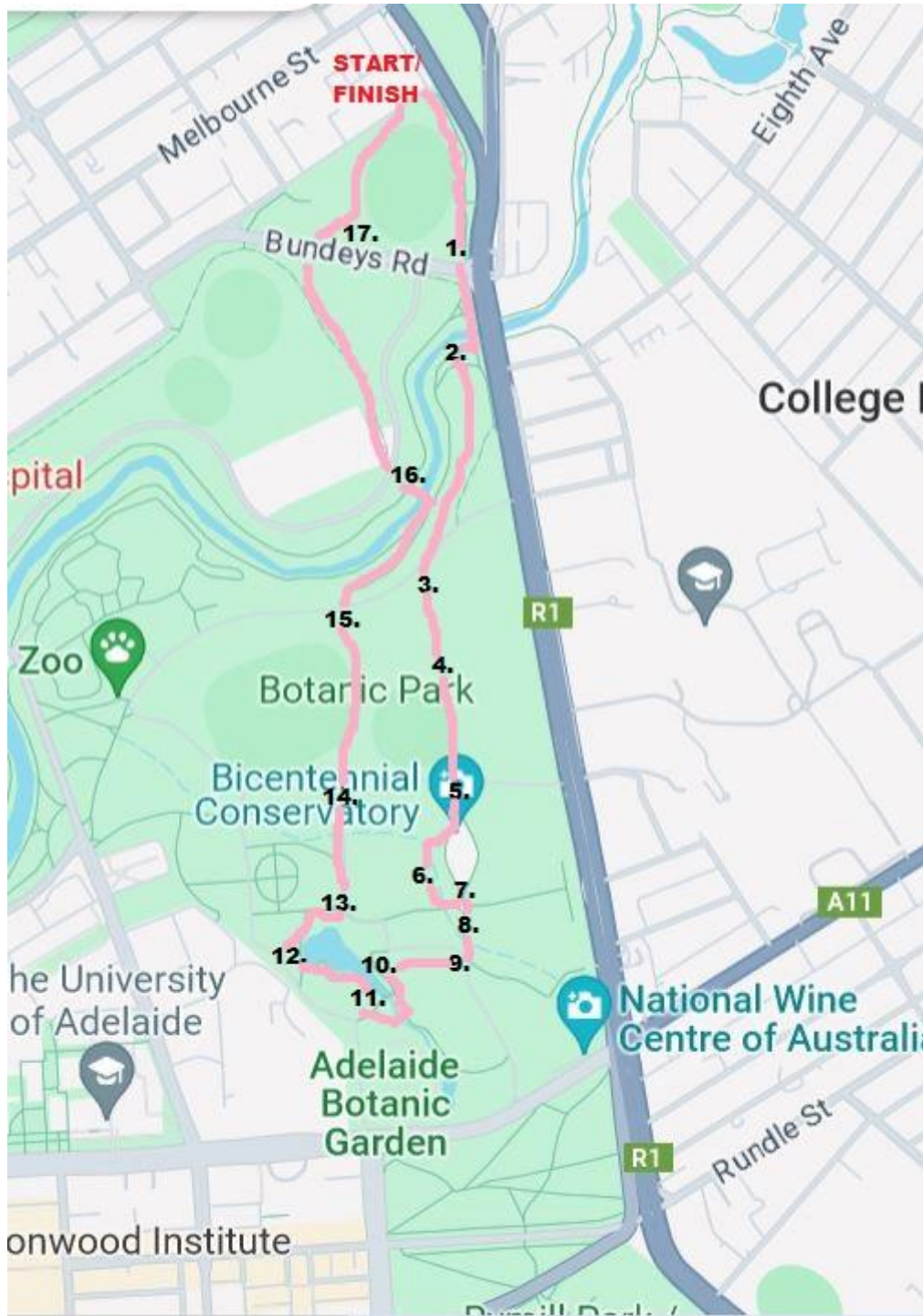


## U3A Botanic Park and Garden Monday Stroll – directions and information

4 km



Meet at the corner of Mackinnon Parade and Mann Terrace in Lower North Adelaide.

Park on Mackinnon Parade close to the corner with Mann Tce. There is free 3hr car parking along the Parade. Alternatively there is more free parking in the Dunn Street carpark close by.

### START

1. Take the Adelaide Parklands Trail (an asphalt path between Hackney Rd and **Bundey's Paddock \*1 Oval**) and follow it as it crosses Bundeys Rd at the pedestrian

lights. Before crossing the road look at the information board with historical information about the part of the Parklands you have just walked through.

2. Cross Bunday's Road at the pedestrian lights and take the pedestrian/bike bridge over the River Torrens. Look at the "rock pool" ☺ on your left (below) and river views on your right. After crossing the bridge turn right to go to an abandoned viewing platform. From here take an earthen path through mounds of dirt. It becomes a wider council service road that goes past Moreton Bay Figs on your left
3. Cross Plane Tree Drive and walk on the grass to a tree with a plaque for a **River Red Gum \*2**
4. Walk south amongst magnificent mature trees and spot another tree plaque for the **Ukrainian community settlement in South Australia \*3**. See whether you can identify the 5 trees which were planted here in October 1998 to celebrate 50 years (1948 – 98) of Ukrainian settlement in our state
5. Continue on the grass and cross Plane Tree Drive (on the zebra crossing) to enter Adelaide Botanic Garden towards the Conservatory. Adelaide Botanic Garden purchased the land for the park in 1866. From 1890 onwards, lively public debate was to be had at Speaker's Corner on a Sunday. This gave Botanic Park/Tainmuntilla a reputation as Adelaide's version of Hyde Park, the celebrated locale for free speech in London.
6. Take a bush path on the right of the **Conservatory \*4** which leads to an unusual wooden shade house. Walk through it and turn left after exiting it on the other side
7. Cross the bridge on your left and stop at the **Glass Fountain \*5**
8. Turn right at the fountain and look at **an ancient tree \*6** on your right and then go across the path to the **Sentinel and the Pump \*7**
9. Continue on the path and go over the asphalt bridge. Walk straight ahead to the **Brownies sculpture \*8**. At this spot look around to take note of the **Dead House \*9** and a beautiful Dahlia filled triangular garden.
10. Walk left of the Dahlia garden across the lawn until you reach an asphalt path. Turn left into the path to walk into a bamboo forest. Take the wild path through the bamboo on your right to the creek and the "swamp forest"
11. Return to the asphalt path and continue to the first bridge on your right. Cross and turn right to walk to the **Nelumbo Pond of sacred lotuses \*10**
12. Take the signed path along the pool to the Kiosk. Sometimes there are turtles in the pool just before the kiosk. Nice public toilets here.
13. Walk through the alley of **Moreton Bay Fig trees \*11**
14. Leave the garden through The Friends Gate, cross on the zebra crossing and walk straight into Botanic Park. Continue on the grass to Plane Tree Drive and take the zebra crossing. Note the Salvos sign.
15. Take the middle asphalt path to your right (Adelaide Parklands Trail) and go down to **the Nicholls pedestrian bridge \*12**. There is an information board before and after the bridge.
16. Take a short "wild" path (opposite the bridge) up to the top and cross War Memorial Drive to walk on a gravel road past the green waste recycling centre on your left and an outdoor gym on your right. As you continue the Archery Club fence will be on your right and an oval on your left.

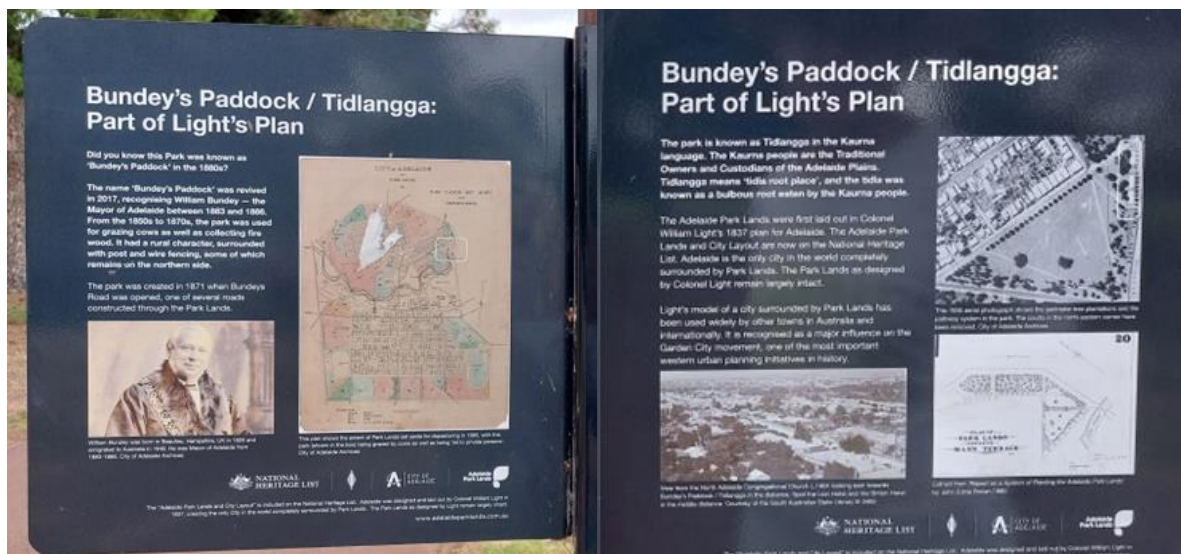
17. Go off the path through trees to cross Bunday's Road and enter Park 10 at the tennis courts to follow a narrow path towards a picnic shelter. Skirt the oval with it to your right to end up back at the cars on MacKinnon Parade. Take note of the view of Mt Lofty across the oval.

FINISH

## Annotations:

### \*1 Bunday's Paddock

William Bunday was Adelaide's Mayor for 3 years (1883-86). This area was a paddock in the 1800s. You would have seen cows grazing and people collecting wood for fires. The paddock was surrounded by post and wire fencing.



### \*2 River Red Gum

One of 700 types of eucalyptus growing in Australia. The most widely planted gum in the world. This one is in memory of Donald Scott Young, a member of the Botanic Garden board for 14 years.



### **\*3 Ukrainian community settlement in South Australia**

In late 1945 over 200,000 Ukrainians were allowed to resettle elsewhere. More than 20,000 Ukrainians came to Australia as Displaced Persons under an agreement between the International Refugee Organisation and the Australian government. Approximately 2,000 settled in South Australia.



### **\*4 Bicentennial Conservatory**

Built in 1988 and designed by South Australian architect Guy Maron, it is the largest single span conservatory in the Southern Hemisphere.

In 2010 it was rated the 9th best building in Australia in a poll by The Australian and it became the 'youngest' building in SA to receive Heritage Listing (2014).

The building is curvilinear in shape – 100 metres long, 47 metres wide and 27 metres high.

### **\*5 Glass Cascade**

Sergio Redegalli built the Cascade to celebrate Australia's Bicentenary in 1988. The sculptural fountain was built with five hundred precision cut pieces of 6mm thick glass in the shape of a cascading wave.



## **\*6 An Ancient Tree**



It is a River Red Gum; it lived about 1500-2000 years ago and died at the age of 500. Forestry staff recovered the tree from Mt Crawford area and brought the 15 tonne tree here

## **\*7 The Sentinel and the Pump**

An automated solar powered device captures flying insects and particles to monitor the threat to plants in the Botanic Garden and shares the knowledge with other growers. The pump and the filter draw water from 100m below the surface to water the gardens and feed the neighbouring wetlands. This pump sucks 1800 litres of water per minute, equivalent to 120 taps going at full speed. A mature tree can suck 400 litres per day.

## **\*8 The Brownies monument**



The Brownies monument, featuring a toadstool and owl, commemorates Mrs Henry Rymill who was the Commissioner for Brownies from 1935 to 1942. Made of unpolished fawny pink Macclesfield marble in 1935 and bearing the Brownie motto. "Lend a hand and play the game."

Advertiser (Adelaide) on 21 October 1942 describes the monument dedication event: *Brownies will sing hymn. "All Things Bright and Beautiful." Special prayers will be offered, and the significance of the ceremony explained to Brownies. Following the dedication, Brownies will form the Fairy Ring and give the Grand Salute, and the ceremony will conclude with the Brownie Taps.*

### **\*9 Dead House Dwelling**



Built 1882-3. Historically, a surviving relic associated with the Lunatic Asylum established in 1852. Now used as a tool shed for the Botanic Garden. Architecturally, a simple coursed cut bluestone rectangular building. This structure together with Yarrabee House, East Lodge and some stone walling are all that remains of the Asylum that operated for forty years.

### **\*10 Nelumbo Pond of sacred lotuses**

Lotuses bloom in summer. For centuries, the lotus has been a divine representation of sexual purity and non-attachment and a symbol of fertility, beauty and prosperity. Sacred lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*) is an aquatic herb with submerged horizontal stems. It has an amazing self-regulating thermometer. No matter what the air temperature is, the flower can maintain a very warm temperature of 35 degrees Celsius. Very similar to us humans. It is believed that the flower needs to stay warm to attract the insects needed to pollinate it.

The rhizomes and seeds are eaten in some Asian countries. The stamens are used in some medicines and the milky juice from the stalks is used in India to help with diarrhoea.

### **\*11 Moreton Bay Fig trees - Murdoch Avenue**

The trees were planted (*Ficus macrophylla*) in 1866 (158 years ago in 2024).

### **\*12 The Nicholls pedestrian bridge**

Named after a man of many “firsts”, Sir Douglas Nicholls, the first Australian Aboriginal to be knighted, the sole Aborigine in the Victorian Football Association, Nicholls contested assimilation policies and used film to raise awareness of issues in 1950-60s, he was crowned Melbourne’s 1973 King of Moomba