

Banksia Park Normanville



Photograph of the flowerhead of *Banksia marginata*, (otherwise known as *Silver Banksia*)- This photograph is reproduced with kind permission of the *South Australian Seed Conservation Centre*, (Dept Environment and Water).



Banksia Park is a public reserve of approximately 2.2 hectares located in Normanville. It can be accessed from any of the park entrances along either Mountain Drive, or Edmund Street, or Mary Street, or James Street, or Banksia Court.

Originally it was part of a larger area of scrub land, located on the red Permian sandhills to the east of the Normanville township and remnants of the original scrub remain on farm land to the west of the juncture of Brooke Place and Norman Avenue. However, over the course of time most of the scrub land, known as Banksia Scrub, became replaced by housing and a small part of the overall housing estate was set aside as the reserve known now as ***Banksia Park***.

It should be noted that the original scrub site on which ***Banksia Reserve/ Banksia Park*** now stands had long been of interest to botanists because it contained stands of the rarer form of ***Tree Banksia marginata*** (aka ***Silver Banksia*** or ***Honeysuckle Banksia***). No doubt part of the decision to proclaim an area for public space and reserve was for the protection of the stands of the tree form *Banksia marginata* that grow on *Banksia Park* and other endemic species, (of which one such species is apparently the sub species *Acacia retinodes* (*Normanville Variation*)). In fact, the significance of the remaining stands of ***Tree form Banksia marginata*** were recognised when the area existing within the confines of the park was awarded a National Trust Significant Tree Classification No. 380 -Issued 22/3/1990. (Original printed copy is attached or reference to the classification can be found online).

Banksia Park is maintained as a public reserve by District Council of Yankalilla, and past and present community involvement by the voluntary groups formed by Dr Maurice Carter and Ian Main in 1991, and '***Friends of Banksia Park***' formed by Gilbert Dashorst and Judith Sweetman in May 2019, have each had as their aims a large degree of goodwill and intent to, not only foster the protection of the rare endemic species growing in the park, but to also improve the overall amenity for all people who visit and use the park.

To that end, the infrastructure and maintenance contributions by council and the introduction of trees and plants by Dr Carter and his volunteers have all ensured that the park has continued to exist in the spirit of what was intended back in the 1980's. However, the passage of time has seen the previous community efforts dissolved, and therefore Judith Sweetman, a local resident, expressed a desire in 2019 to revive a community spirit for the park. Hence, the voluntary group '***Friends of Banksia Park***' was formed in May 2019.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO BANKSIA PARK BY THE LATE MAURICE CARTER AND OTHERS:

Banksia Park, consists of a small parcel of land, (20,000 m2 or approx. 2.2 hectares), much of which was originally set aside as a public reserve in the mid 1980's as there was, in this instance, a requirement of the land developer of the adjacent residential area to allocate 1/8 of the total developed land area for this purpose. A further parcel of land, (of area 7023 square metres), was also added in April 1986, when land adjacent to the reserve became available for purchase. The purchase was made possible due to substantial financial contributions by local resident Dr Maurice Carter, the District Council of Yankalilla, the receipt of a substantial financial donation from a Public Parks Grant, and various contributions from the Yankalilla Historical Society (\$1000) and members of the local community. (It should be noted that a condition of Dr Carter's generous contribution was that an encumbrance be placed on the land to the following effect- '*To be held in perpetuity by the District Council of Yankalilla as a Reserve for the conservation of indigenous Australian flora and maintained in its present natural state*').

NATIONAL TRUST CLASSIFICATION FOR *BANKSIA* PARK:

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NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA - TREE REGISTER      NO. : 380
                                                    CLASSIFIED
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1.TOWN/PLACE : Normanville                POST CODE : 5204
  NO./STREET : ---
2.COUNCIL    : Yankalilla
3.COUNTY     : Hindmarsh                HUNDRED : Yankalilla  LOT : ---
4.LONGITUDE  : ---E                    LATITUDE : --- S
5.MAP SHEET  : YANKALILLA                SCALE : 1:50,000  GRID REF : 565/742
6.LOCATION   : New sub-division immediately E of township. Nomination =
  Portions of stands in reserves

7.BOTANIC NAME: Banksia marginata          ID BY : P J Lang
8.COMMON NAME : Silver banksia
9.LOCAL NAME  : Banksia Scrub
0.LOCAL SIG.  : A unique and localised occurrence. Reputedly on Permian sands
1/12.CATEGORY : ---                      of outstanding dimensions ht./trunk/canopy
                                           rare or representative remnant of vegetation
                                           ---
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3.BACKGROUND  : Lange,R.T. (1976) "Vegetation" in Natural History of the
  Adelaide Region - Royal Society of SA pp105/7. Refers to com
4.OTHER ENQS. : ---                      TEL : ---
5.WILD/CULTD. : Wild
6.DATE PLANTED: ---                      or EST.AGE : ---
7.PLANTED BY  : ---

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DESCRIPTION - FOR A STAND OF TREES
8.NO OF TREES : 50+                      19.MAX.HEIGHT (m) : 10
  - FOR SINGLE SPECIMENS
0.CIRC.AT 1.4m: ---cms                    21.HEIGHT : ---m  22.SPREAD : --- m

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3.CONDITION   : ---                      24.POT.THREAT? : Y  IMM. THREAT? : N
5.THREAT FROM : a c d
  May be susceptible to fertilisers & competition from other plants

7.OWNER : District Council                Peter Lang
  ---                                         4 Grandview Ave
                                           Urrbrae 5064
EL.      : ---                             796373(Hm) 216 7711

8.ACCESS: un-restricted

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REE PANEL MET : 22.03.90
T              : AYERS HOUSE
ITATION       : CARE-Any seedlings should be noted and staked nearby to prevent
  mowing over.P.J.Lang will write covering letter with letter of
  notification.New subdivision immediately East of Normanville.
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