

Monday 1st June, 2026
For immediate release

Revealed: the ‘Mystery Public Servant’ & Parklands Plaintiff taking the Department of Premier and Cabinet to Court

The ‘mystery public servant’ who is taking the state government to court in order to save the Adelaide Park Lands from chainsaws and bulldozers, has been revealed as 36 year old Edwin Kemp Attrill, a Brompton resident who works for a state government department.

Mr. Kemp Attrill faces bankruptcy and losing his home if his injunction to have the Federal Environment Minister protect Adelaide’s public parklands fails, given Government lawyers will likely hit him with paying their fees. He plans to lodge an injunction in the Federal Court this week.

Mr. Kemp Attrill is being represented on a pro-bono basis by Ted Hui of Nathan White Lawyers.

This action is undertaken in Mr Kemp Attrill’s private capacity as an issue of public interest.

Quotes attributable to Edwin Kemp Attrill, Injunction Applicant:

“I’ve been told this could bankrupt me, but I feel strongly that someone has to do what’s right. These parklands belong to all South Australians and no one is above the law, even the Premier. We need transparency and accountability.

“Our parklands belong to the public and they are protected by law for a reason. My legal action will call on the Government to abide by the law and protect the environment and heritage, because our public parks need to be protected from further destruction.

“I live in Brompton and work in the CBD. I’m just a public servant and I regularly walk through Possum Park / Piltlawadli on my way to work and on weekends. It’s a very special place to me - I find it beautiful, calming, and precious. We are so lucky to live in a city inside a park. It’s a national heritage site for a reason.

“I had no idea about the extent of the destruction until the trees were being chopped down. There was no consultation. I was walking to work and I could hear the sound of chainsaws, and looking over the fence I could see incredibly large, significant trees, some of which must have been 100 years old or more, being destroyed. These trees could have lived to over 200 years.

“This is a place which is dedicated to the protection of nature. I just feel it’s not right and I needed to do something.

“There have been many people that have been telling me not to do it. They are concerned about the risk. I’m concerned as well, but I also know the risk if we do nothing: we’re going to continue to lose our parklands, one piece at a time.

“I don’t know why it should be me, but it needs to be someone. I can’t win this alone. I hope that as many people can support me by joining the campaign to peacefully protest, donating to the legal defence fund, writing to their local MP and signing the petition to Stop the Chop and save the Adelaide Park Lands.

“My friends and family are setting up a GoFundMe as a defence fund.”

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The online petition for Stop the Chop has amassed more than 49,000 signatures. Sadly the State Government will not accept it. A printed petition is currently being circulated to take to the South Australian Parliament.

The Adelaide Parklands Association is organising a mass demonstration on Saturday 6th June, 2026 from 10:30am at Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).

Mr. Kemp Attrill first met lawyer Ted Hui at a meeting of Protect Our Parklands, a peaceful grassroots community movement working alongside the Adelaide Park Lands Association and broader community advocates to help protect Adelaide's heritage-listed Park Lands for future generations. They are calling for volunteers, donors and supporters to join their growing movement.

<https://www.protectourparklands.com.au/>

Quote attributed to Callum Fox, spokesperson for the Protect our Parklands grassroots movement:

"We are bringing together community members from all walks of life. This is about more than just Possum Park / Pirltawardli - piece by piece our park lands are being eroded by more and more developments.

"While this injunction plays out in the courts, Protect Our Parklands is building a movement of peaceful community protest. The voices of everyday South Australians are calling for this government to stop the irreversible damage to the Adelaide Park Lands."

For verification and background information, contact Callum Fox on hello@protectourparklands.com.au or 0461459562

Quotes attributable to Ted Hui, Lawyer:

"While my client faces significant risk, he's committed to doing it for the wider community, and for future generations.

"Court scrutiny is needed to determine if the actions of the South Australian government have been consistent with Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth). This action will require the government to answer this question properly in court."

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Image pack: [Google Folder](#)

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